



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: www.akrepublicans.org

Sponsor: Senator Lyda Green
Sponsor: Senator Charlie Huggins
Current Version: CS SB 216 (JUD)
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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 216

Short Title: BAIL RESTRICTIONS

Summary:

- Makes unlawful evasion a felony for anyone being held on a felony charge and a misdemeanor for anyone being held on a misdemeanor charge.
- Bans the temporary and periodic release of inmates being held at a pre-trial facility.

Benefits:

- Increases public safety by preventing potentially dangerous suspects from fleeing state custody.
- Saves law enforcement the time and money used to capture escapees.

Background:

- In October 2005, a man being held on five felony charges that included kidnapping, assault and burglary was temporarily released by a judge to attend his father's funeral. The suspect fled while in his mother's custody during the funeral. When authorities caught him several weeks later, he had two stolen handguns and was baby sitting a young child. SB 216 puts an end to the practice of releasing suspects, who were previously denied bail, on a temporary basis from pre-trial facilities. This closes a loophole in the judicial system and keeps potentially dangerous criminals off the streets.