



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: www.akrepublicans.org

Sponsor: Senator Fred Dyson
Current Version: SB 47
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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 47

Short Title: FAILURE TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT

Summary:

- Increases penalties for failure to report child abuse/neglect from a Class B misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor.

Benefits:

- Increases protection for at-risk children.
- Motivates child care workers to vigilantly protect children at risk of abuse or neglect.

Background:

- AS 47.17.010 requires child care providers, teachers, peace officers and certain other professionals to report cases of suspected child abuse, including sexual exploitation. Significant evidence indicates that statutory rape is one instance of abuse that is under-reported in Alaska. Extensive research documents the harm statutory rape causes in the lives of its victims. SB 47 reinforces similar efforts by the executive branch to ensure that statutory rape is consistently reported, predators stopped and Alaska's young women protected.