

Keeping Alaska Families Strong

Families are the foundation of society, and the Republican-led Majority believes that state government should support, but not replace, the central role that families play in society. Family-friendly legislation passed this session includes efforts to reduce tax burdens, to support family-friendly activities, and to use education to discourage behavior that can hurt families.

House Bill 113: Health Care Insurance Payments

Sponsored by Rep. Joe Green

House Bill 113 protects health insurance clients from inappropriately lengthy delays in claim processing, by requiring insurers to pay interest on outstanding claims if they did not process them within 30 working days of receipt.

House Bill 118: Senior Citizen/Veterans Property Tax Exemption

Sponsored by Rep. Jim Whitaker

House Bill 118 allows municipalities to free senior citizens, disabled veterans, and others receiving state-mandated local property tax exemptions from a requirement that they annually reapply for such exemptions.

House Bill 164: Grandparents' Rights Regarding CINA

Sponsored by Rep. Fred Dyson

House Bill 164 encourages state courts to consider placing children from troubled families with their grandparents, by assuring grandparents the opportunity to be heard at their grandchildren's Child in Need of Aid hearings or child custody hearings.

House Bill 200: Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day

Sponsored by the House Judiciary Committee

House Bill 200 establishes July 3 as Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day in Alaska, to help preserve the memories of Alaskans whose lives were cut short by drunken drivers and honor others who have suffered as victims of drunk drivers, and to serve as an occasion for all drivers to reflect on the consequences of getting behind the wheel after consuming alcohol.

House Concurrent Resolution 7: April 2001 Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sponsored by Rep. Kevin Meyer

House Concurrent Resolution 7 proclaims April 2001 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Senate Bill 72: Take A Child Hunting Season

Sponsored by Sen. Pete Kelly

Senate Bill 72 allows the Board of Game to create special hunting seasons before the start of the school year, allowing children to go hunting with their parents without having to miss school.

Senate Bill 93: Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska Trust

Sponsored by Sen. Randy Phillips

Senate Bill 93 establishes the Arctic Winter Games Team Alaska Trust to provide a consistent funding source for the state's ongoing commitment to the Arctic Winter Games and Team Alaska, ensuring Alaska families may continue to participate in this circumpolar amateur sports competition.

Senate Bill 105: Victim's Rights/Prisoners PFDs

Sponsored by Sen. Rick Halford

Senate Bill 105 creates an Office of Victims' Rights and a Victims' Advocate, designed to help guide crime victims through the legal process in the aftermath of a violent crime. Funding for the office would come from Permanent Fund Dividends forfeited by repeat criminals.

Senate Bill 198: Statewide Suicide Prevention Council

Sponsored by Sen. Rick Halford

Senate Bill 198 creates the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, with members representing rural and urban Alaska. The fifteen member council will be tasked with developing a plan to address Alaska's alarming suicide rate, enhancing suicide prevention services and programs throughout the state, and increasing public awareness of suicide warning signs.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 2: Sobriety Awareness Month

Sponsored by Sen. Jerry Ward

Senate Concurrent Resolution 2 declares March 2001 as Sobriety Awareness Month.

Senate Joint Resolution 5: NCAA Basketball Preseason Tournaments

Sponsored by Sen. Loren Leman

Senate Joint Resolution 5 urges the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to preserve preseason basketball tournaments, including the Great Alaska Shootout at the University of Alaska-Anchorage, and the Top of the World Classic at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

Senate Joint Resolution 12: Eliminate Marriage Tax Penalty

Sponsored by Sen. Loren Leman

Senate Joint Resolution 12 urges the United States Congress to amend the federal tax code to reduce the marriage tax penalty. Under the current code, married couples pay an average of \$1,480 more in taxes each year than two unmarried people with the same total income.

Senate Joint Resolution 21: Extend Federal TANF Grants

Sponsored by the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee

Senate Joint Resolution 21 urges the United States Congress to extend the authorization date for supplemental block grants to the State of Alaska under the Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program.