

Sponsor Statement for CSSSHB 68

Immunity: Cabbie Driving Drunk's Car Home

An Act relating to accidents involving the vehicle of a person under the influence of an alcoholic beverage; and providing for an effective date.

Released: February 1, 2002

Contact: Representative Norman Rokeberg's office at (907) 465-4968

CSSSHB 68 (JUD) (efd am) is a "Good Samaritan" bill. It provides protection for taxicab and limousine drivers or owners, holders of taxicab or limousine permit, or owners or employees of a company dispatching taxicabs or limousines who, at the request of a motor vehicle owner or law enforcement officer, drive the motor vehicle of a person under the influence. Additionally the owner, agent or employee of licensed premises would not be liable for an accident arising from this activity. A person engaging in this activity would not be civilly liable for damages unless gross negligence or reckless or intentional misconduct was involved.

The legislation also states that a motor vehicle owner is considered to have given consent to drive the owner's motor vehicle.

One of the problems facing Alaskans is when they are out drinking; they want to drive home even when they shouldn't. Additionally, these persons are worried about leaving a vehicle parked in a location other than their home. This legislation would allow the person under the influence and his or her vehicle to get home safely without the taxicab or limousine operator fearing liability from this activity.

Your support would be appreciated.