

Sponsor Statement

SB 169

Hate Crimes: Automatic Waiver of Minors

“An Act relating to nonapplicability of the delinquency laws to certain minors accused of certain crimes directed at certain victims.”

(4/6/01)

SB 169 amends AS 47.12.030(a) to include a crime that is a felony or class A misdemeanor crime against a person directed at a victim because of that person’s race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, ancestry, or national origin. This addition would require a minor accused of a serious, violent “hate crime” to be tried as an adult.

Violent hate crimes are particularly dangerous and destructive to our communities. This legislation ensures public accountability of those persons accused and increases deterrence of such future crimes. The juvenile justice system has no public accountability. We need public accountability for such crimes so Alaskans can be sure that justice is accomplished.

DD/kk