

# **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

## **Senate Bill 109 Increase Fine For School Zone Violations**

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Senate Bill 109 doubles the fine assessed for motor vehicle or traffic offenses committed in a school zone identified with flashing lights. The double fine will only apply when the school zone lights are actually flashing. This bill mirrors the law passed by the Alaska State Legislature in 1998, which doubled the fine for violations committed in a highway work zone. Senate Bill 109 not only elevates the seriousness of school zone violations, but also reconfirms our commitment to the safety of children.

Because of the high concentration of children walking to and from school, most often in poor visibility conditions, drivers need to be ever vigilant in a school zone. Appropriate Department of Transportation signage will alert drivers of the double fine and will remind them to slow down and be extra cautious.

Please join me in protecting our children by endorsing and passing Senate Bill 109.