

Sponsored By: Assemblymembers Leonard, Mayfield, and Kowalke
Amended: 11/07/17
Adopted: 11/07/17

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 17-080**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE REPEAL OF SB-91 AND RECOMMENDING THAT STATE BEGIN ANEW WITH CRIMINAL REFORM.

WHEREAS, the stated goal of SB-91 was to reduce jail time for non-violent offenders and use the savings to invest in probation and alcohol/drug treatment; and

WHEREAS, experience with SB-91 over the last year has proven to make it difficult or impossible for law enforcement and prosecutors to protect the public from reoccurring crime; and

WHEREAS, SB-91 is viewed by the majority of citizens as a soft on crime bill in a State that leads the nation in violent crimes, is experiencing a rise in non-violent crimes and appears to be counter intuitive to curbing criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, seeing the widespread impact of the "catch and release" provisions of SB-91 and the application of bail scheduling, neighborhoods are arming themselves and organizing into Neighborhood Watch organizations without proper support or training which, in turn, creates a public safety hazard to those good citizens who merely desire safe neighborhoods to live in; and

WHEREAS, SB-91 is clearly not working as a deterrent to crime and giving SB-91 or its proposed revisions contained in SB-54 more

time to work, simply means that criminals have more time to engage in their craft to the detriment of public safety; and

WHEREAS, California and other states enacted similar reforms and those reforms are considered to be a driver behind a spike in violent and other property crimes; and

WHEREAS, it would be a breach of trust for the state of Alaska to continue to support legislation that directly endangers its citizen's public safety and financial security; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly hereby supports the repeal of SB-91 and urges the Executive and Legislative branches of the state of Alaska to begin anew on criminal reform with appropriate considerations that deter crime, serve public safety, and assure the financial security of its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature should enact separate legislation and provide funding to promote access to substance and mental health treatment and support effective transitional programs to reduce recidivism.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 7 day
of November, 2017.


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Sykes, Beck, McKee, Leonard, Mayfield, Doty,
and Kowalke