



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

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Drug Site Cleanup Bill Moves to Senate Judiciary

Putting Alaskans First, Moving Alaskans Forward

JUNEAU – Senator Gretchen Guess (D-Anchorage) won strong approval today from the Senate State Affairs Committee for Senate Bill 9, her “Cleanup of Illegal Drug Sites” bill. SB 9 sets standards for the cleanup of illegal drug manufacturing sites before reoccupation can occur.

“If we don’t set requirements for the cleanup of illegal labs found by law enforcement,” said Sen. Guess, “Alaskan families will be senselessly exposed to dangerous chemicals.”

Currently Alaska has no standards or requirements for the cleanup of illegal drug manufacturing sites before reoccupation occurs. Under the provisions of this bill, property owners will be notified if a drug lab is found on their property and provided materials outlining how to test and properly decontaminate the property. SB 9 also makes it illegal for a property owner to re-rent or allow the property to be reoccupied before it is properly cleaned-up and contamination levels are shown to be below DEC-set limits.

“When considering an apartment or home with toddlers you would never think the wood trim, carpeting and paint might be leaching out deadly drug-lab poisons,” said Sen. Guess. “My bill ensures these properties are disclosed and cleaned up, or that they’re boarded up.”

The Anchorage Police Department, the Alaska Municipal League, and the Alaska State Troopers strongly support SB 9.

The “Cleanup of Illegal Drug Sites” bill will be heard next in Senate Judiciary.

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