

Alaska State Legislature

Representative Tom Brice

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New Safe Schools Legislation Introduced

Juneau – Representative Tom Brice (D-Fairbanks) introduced Alaska's first comprehensive safe schools legislation, House Bill 210, "Disciplinary and Safety Program in Public Schools."

Over the last few years, there has been an escalation of violent crime committed in schools and on school grounds. HB 210 allows Alaska to set an example and be proactive in order to protect two of the state's most valuable resources, children and educators.

"Our students and teachers deserve to feel secure in the classroom and on school grounds. The School Disciplinary and Safety Program bill will help address this problem," Representative Brice said.

HB 210 addresses school related violence by allowing schools to:

- Create training programs in conflict resolution and violence prevention.
- Develop and implement conduct and discipline standards.
- Develop in-school suspension programs and behavioral intervention plans for disruptive students.
- Gain information from parents of children who have been suspended expelled or adjudicated for crimes pertaining to weapons, assault, drugs and alcohol.

The bill also allows the state to publish an annual report regarding statistical and other applicable information, regarding safety issues in schools.

HB 210 has been referred to the House Health and Social Services and Finance Committees.

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