



# Representative Tom Brice

## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

119 N. Cushman, Ste. 205  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
907-456-7423 / Fax: 451-9293  
*While in Juneau*  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801  
907-465-3466 / Fax: 465-2937

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### **Sponsor Statement for House Bill 19**

Currently there are more than 40 million Americans that have some kind of physical, sensory, cognitive, or mental disability. In Alaska we have over 87,000 disabled citizens. These numbers tell why the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 were enacted. These two acts were established to ensure all citizens of the United States equal unobstructed access to employment, state and local government, transportation, public accommodation, and telecommunications.

HB 19 would give state law enforcement officers the authority to issue \$100 citations to governmental entities and private businesses that fail to maintain pedestrian ramps and curb cuts on their property. The intent of House Bill 19 is to help our disabled community move another step closer to clear and equal access in Alaska.