



# Representative Tom Brice

## ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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### **Sponsor Statement** **House Bill 210** **Disciplinary and Safety Program in Public Schools**

If we are to offer our kids the best educational opportunities possible, they and their teachers must feel safe in the classroom. Preventing tragic situations is much better than reacting to them. HB 210 takes a proactive approach to stemming school violence. By ensuring school boards, parents, and teachers have the tools available to keep our classrooms safe, we can take a large step in providing our children the education they need.

HB 210:

1. Establishes a discipline and safety program in each school. This will include training and instruction in violence prevention and response, minimum discipline standards, a conflict resolution program for grades 1-8, and an annual program review.
2. Creates an in-school suspension program for disruptive students.
3. Develops a behavior intervention plan for disruptive students who have been removed from class upon the third time in a semester. A team consisting of the student, parent, teacher, principal and a school psychologist will create the plan and modify it as needed.
4. Establishes a policy that requires written notification be given to every teacher or school administrator who has contact with a student who was found guilty or adjudicated of a felony, was expelled, was suspended due to involvement with weapons, alcohol, drugs or assault.
5. Requires an annual report be written and distributed that contains statistical and other applicable information regarding safety issues in schools.

This Safe Schools Program will allow Alaska to be proactive in protecting two of the state's most valuable resources: children and educators. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.