

**HOUSE BILL NO. 232**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

Introduced: 1/10/14

Referred: Prefiled

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to a voluntary disability designation on a state identification card and a**  
2 **driver's license; and relating to training in recognizing disabilities."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 18.08 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 18.08.091. Training in recognizing disabilities.** An emergency medical  
6 services system shall provide to its employees training that meets the requirements of  
7 AS 18.65.350.

8 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 18.65.310 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (m) The department shall provide a method for a person to designate  
10 voluntarily on an identification card that the person has a disability, including a  
11 cognitive, mental, neurological, or physical disability, or a combination of them. The  
12 method must provide a means by which the person may cancel the designation. To  
13 receive the designation, the person shall provide proof of the disability from a person  
14 licensed as a physician or physician assistant under AS 08.64, as an advanced nurse

1 practitioner under AS 08.68, or as a licensed psychologist under AS 08.86.  
 2 Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department may charge a fee of \$5 for  
 3 replacement of a valid identification card with a new identification card with a  
 4 disability designation and may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement of an identification  
 5 card with a disability designation with a new identification card without a disability  
 6 designation.

7 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 18.65 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Article 4A. Training in Recognizing Disabilities.**

9 **Sec. 18.65.350. Training in recognizing disabilities.** (a) Each police training  
 10 program established under AS 18.65.230 or village public safety officer training  
 11 program established under AS 18.65.670 shall provide training that instructs peace  
 12 officers in

13 (1) the recognition of a person with a disability;

14 (2) appropriate interaction with a person with a disability; and

15 (3) resources available to persons with disabilities and peace officers  
 16 interacting with persons with disabilities.

17 (b) In providing a training program under this section, each agency or  
 18 institution offering a police training program shall consult with the Governor's Council  
 19 on Disabilities and Special Education established under AS 47.80.030.

20 (c) In this section,

21 (1) "disability" includes a cognitive, mental, neurological, or physical  
 22 disability, or a combination of them;

23 (2) "peace officer" has the meaning given in AS 01.10.060.

24 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 18.70.020 is amended to read:

25 **Sec. 18.70.020. Duties of Department of Public Safety.** The Department of  
 26 Public Safety shall

27 (1) aid in the enforcement of all laws and ordinances and the  
 28 regulations adopted under AS 18.70.010 - 18.70.100 and all other laws relating to fires  
 29 or to fire prevention and protection;

30 (2) encourage the adoption of fire prevention measures by means of  
 31 education;

1 (3) prepare or have prepared for dissemination information relating to  
2 the subject of fire prevention and extinguishment; and

3 (4) administer the state fire-service training program, including the  
4 administration of grants for fire-service training; **the training program must include**  
5 **training in recognition of a person with a disability that meets the requirements**  
6 **of AS 18.65.350.**

7 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 22.20 is amended by adding a new section to article 1 to read:

8 **Sec. 22.20.038. Training in recognizing disabilities.** The administrative  
9 director of the Alaska Court System shall provide to judicial officers and employees  
10 training that meets the requirements of AS 18.65.350.

11 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 28.15.111 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

12 (b) The department shall provide a method, at the time that a driver's license is  
13 issued, by which the owner of a license may voluntarily designate on the license that  
14 the owner has a disability, including a cognitive, mental, neurological, or physical  
15 disability, or a combination of them. The method must provide a means by which the  
16 owner may cancel the designation. To receive the designation, the person shall provide  
17 proof of the disability from a person licensed as a physician or physician assistant  
18 under AS 08.64, as an advanced nurse practitioner under AS 08.68, or as a licensed  
19 psychologist under AS 08.86. The department may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement  
20 of a valid driver's license with a new driver's license with a disability designation and  
21 may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement of a driver's license with a disability  
22 designation with a new driver's license without a disability designation.