



25th ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE SENATE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 31

Contact: Jane Alberts, 465-4843

Bill Version: SB 31

Sponsor: Senator Con Bunde

Short Title: TRUANCY

Summary:

- Requires a school district to include a definition of "unexcused absence" in its truancy policy, and to provide for the following interventions:
 - for one unexcused absence in a month, notify the parent or guardian;
 - for two to four unexcused absences in the same month, hold a conference with the parent or guardian to discuss solutions;
 - for seven or more unexcused absences in a month or 10 or more unexcused absences in a school year, petition the court for a determination of juvenile delinquency under AS 47.12 or protection as a child in need of aid.

Benefits:

- Assists parents, school administrators and students in tackling school absence issues.

Background:

- Chronic truants are often vulnerable to recruitment into gangs. School districts around the state are calling for more help to deal with chronic truancy.