



25th ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE SENATE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 108

Contact: Dave Stancliff, 465-4797

Bill Version: SB 108

Sponsor: Senator Gene Therriault

Short Title: VIDEO SURVEILLANCE OF LEGISLATIVE SPACE

Summary:

- Specifies that security video surveillance of legislative space is to be used to avoid security risks, and to deter unauthorized entry, theft, equipment destruction or other criminal activity.
- Requires security video surveillance to be conducted consistent with law and with respect for the privacy of persons using legislative facilities.
- Prohibits camera operators from monitoring individuals based on personal interest or on characteristics of race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation, or other factors not based on legitimate security or law enforcement goals.
- Specifies that footage and other materials produced through the use of security video surveillance are confidential, and not public records.
- Allows only security officers to access footage, screen shots, and printouts of screen shots except when the security officer determines a security risk or law enforcement issue may exist, and outlines procedures to follow under such circumstances.
- Permits inspection and removal by a peace officer if it is determined that the material reveals a serious security risk or criminal activity.
- Requires destruction of material produced by security surveillance cameras after 30 days unless retention is ordered by Legislative Council because material is, or may become, relevant to a criminal investigation or court proceeding.

Benefits:

- Ensures that security cameras and the records they provide are used with discretion and only to deter and resolve legitimate security concerns.

Background:

- Government officials and visitors to Alaska's State Capitol deserve assurance that the security camera system will not be used to violate their privacy. SB 108 is a starting point to formulate and fine tune a security camera policy that protects people and property, while ensuring that footage, screen shots, or printouts of screen shots are not used inappropriately.