



ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

"Walking Alaska's Toughest Beat"

April 17, 2017

The Honorable Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
State of Alaska
Room 411 Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: Letter of Support for HB 235

Representative Kreiss-Tomkins,

The Alaska Correctional Officers Association supports your proposed amendment of AS 44.09.095, to recognize Correctional Officers, other Peace Officers, Firefighters, First Responders, or members of a volunteer search and rescue group who die or are seriously injured in the line of duty and who have displayed exceptional bravery or heroism while performing their duties. As Peace Officers, Alaska's Correctional Officers place their lives on the line 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Unfortunately, at times Correctional Officers and other Law Enforcement Officers around the State are seriously injured on duty, and in rare instances, lose their lives while performing their jobs. While nothing can replace a brave life lost or one that has been forever altered significantly by substantial on-the-job injuries, public recognition of the sacrifice that they have made will provide some consolation to surviving relatives and the injured workers who are recipients of the North Star Medal.

We appreciate the steps this legislation takes to recognize our brave and selfless women and men who work in public safety.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Randy McLellan
ACOA President