



Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police
PO Box 3734
Seward, Alaska 99664
www.aacop.org

March 4, 2020

The Honorable Senator Gray-Jackson
The Honorable Senator Begich
Alaska Senate

Dear Senator Gray-Jackson and Senator Begich,

On behalf of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP), I am writing to convey our opposition of SB2, "An Act relating to reporting acts of misconduct by peace officers; relating to de-escalation procedures used by peace officers; relating to peace officer certificates; and relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council."

The AACOP board of directors recently reviewed this bill. We believe that de-escalation is a vital part of policing. We also believe that individual police agencies have policies and procedures in place to promote de-escalation and to deal with officers that violate those policies and procedures. The statute, as written, is too broad and does not take into account the many nuances that can be involved in an incident where de-escalation was not used properly. The only fair way to deal with de-escalation issues is to let the individual agency investigate and take action as appropriate.

Thank you for your commitment to public safety and efforts to address public concern related to the police use of force. AACOP shares your commitment and respectfully offers our assistance in developing and implementing these important policies.

Very respectfully,

The Board of Directors of AACOP



Steve Dutra, President; Ed Mercer, Vice President; Greg Russell, Secretary; Tim Putney, Treasurer; Pete Mlynarik, Board Member; Robert Baty, Board Member; Ken McCoy, Board Member, RJ Ely Board Member, Steve Adams, Board Member.

