February 8, 2023

The Honorable Senator Wilson Alaska Senate

Dear Senator Wilson:

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA), I am writing to convey our support of SB38 "An Act establishing the crime of interference with emergency communications."

Emergency communications are an integral part of our public safety system. Every second counts in a life and death situation, but when dispatchers are repeatedly harassed or verbally abused after an individual has been advised not to abuse the 911 system for non-emergency issues, it can slow response times. This legislation provides a clear and legal statute to arrest an individual for interference of emergency communications. Thank you for re-introducing this important issue in the current legislative session.

Please contact the APOA office in Anchorage at 907-277-0515 if there is anything our organization can do to help with the passage of this bill. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our state.

Sincerely,

Kirt Stage-Harvey State President

Alaska Peace Officers Association

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About APOA

The Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) is a dynamic, professional and non-partisan organization. Our membership consists of law enforcement, corrections, prosecutors, security professionals and others at the local, state and federal levels. APOA has served as a voice for peace officers and issues impacting the law enforcement profession for over half a century. We are one of the oldest and largest 501c(3) charitable, nonprofit organizations in Alaska. www.apoaonline.org