

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ryan Tunseth, Assembly President
Members, KPB Assembly

FROM: Dale Eicher, Assembly Member *DE*

DATE: April 13, 2026

SUBJECT: Resolution 2026- 024 , Urging the State Senate to Pass House Bill 101 Raising the Age of Consent to 18 (Eicher)

I support this bill because it creates consistency where Alaska law currently does not. Different statutes use different age thresholds, especially 16 versus 18, when defining a minor. This bill standardizes that definition to under 18 across a wide range of laws, which makes the system more uniform and easier to apply.

It also reduces gaps where similar conduct can be treated differently depending on the statute. By aligning the age threshold, the bill will help protect children who are under the age of 18 and will ensure more consistent outcomes with clearer guidance for law enforcement and the courts.

From a basic standpoint, it also reflects what most people already believe is right. Individuals under 18 are still minors, and the law should treat them that way consistently. This bill aligns the statute with that understanding.

In addition, it updates provisions involving authority relationships and expands civil remedies for individuals who were abused as minors using the same under-18 standard. Overall, it is a structural cleanup that improves clarity and consistency while reinforcing a straightforward principle about protecting minors.

Your consideration is appreciated.