

# Senator Peter A. Micciche

*Alaska State Legislature*

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## **Sponsor Statement**

***SB 137- An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Parole; and providing for an effective date.***

SB 137 extends the Board of Parole termination date of June 30, 2020 until June 30, 2025.

I encourage everyone to review the Legislative Audit summary and the full audit report. You will see that in the opinion of our auditors, the Board of Parole is serving the public's interest.

The Alaska Board of Parole serves Alaskans in three major capacities with the overarching goal of keeping Alaska safe by preparing offenders for success. Those capacities include the conduction of discretionary parole hearings, revocation hearings, and the imposition of individualized parole conditions.

The Parole Board serves a vital role as an independent quasi-judicial body that evaluates the accomplishments of individual inmates housed by the Department of Corrections. One of the main goals of the board is to evaluate whether an individual has earned the opportunity for early release by dedicating themselves to rehabilitation programs which in turn will reduce their risk to the public. Extending the Parole Board will allow the agency to continue its vital role in keeping Alaskans safe by preparing offenders for success.

Auditors recommend the Legislature extend the board's termination date five years, which is three years less than the eight-year maximum allowed by statute. The reduced extension allows for review of recent changes to the board's statutes, impacts, and responsibility revisions related to HB 49 and the need for continued oversight.

We respectfully request your support for this important extension to the Alaska Board of Parole.