

## PRESS RELEASE



### **Assembly Budget Committee Leadership Introduces Omnibus Amendments to Reverse Bronson Cuts to Public Safety, Prevent His Planned Increase in Middle Management Positions**

**November 23, 2021**

At tonight's Assembly meeting, Assembly Members Forrest Dunbar and Austin Quinn-Davidson, the budget committee co-chairs, will lay on the table an amendment package to the general operating budget to fund critical public safety items that were cut in Mayor Bronson's proposed budget.

The amendments will restore school resource officers at the Anchorage School District, fully fund the mobile crisis team at the fire department, restore building safety inspectors in the building department, and continue the municipality's investment in domestic violence prevention and pre-K education through the alcohol tax. Simultaneously, these amendments will reduce the number of middle managers and political appointees, which have been significantly expanded by Bronson, and use those savings to help fund services for Anchorage's residents.

"We heard loud and clear from our community that they want public safety fully funded and the alcohol tax managed in the way that was approved by the voters," said Dunbar. "This amendment package is based on that feedback, as well as the suggested amendments from our colleagues that were introduced last week."

"Our Public Safety Alternative Budget proposal makes our city safer and continues critical services that our community has come to expect," said Quinn-Davidson. "Our plan also reduces new middle-management and political positions, so that those funds can instead be directed to front-line staff and the services they provide."

These amendments keep the operating budget under the tax cap and will likely be accompanied by amendments to the capital and utility budgets, made by both Assembly Budget leadership and other Assembly Members.

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