

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 346(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/6/00

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES JOULE, Brice, Dyson, Morgan, Davis, Kapsner, Kerttula, Smalley, Berkowitz

SENATORS Pearce, Wilken, Ellis, Lincoln, Elton

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act requiring the Department of Health and Social Services to establish a
2 waiting list for state-funded services for persons with developmental disabilities and
3 requiring the department to submit an annual report concerning the waiting list
4 and persons with developmental disabilities."

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 47.80.130 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 (d) When state funding is not adequate to meet service needs, the department
8 shall establish a waiting list for persons with developmental disabilities who would be
9 eligible to receive state-funded services under AS 47.80.100 - 47.80.170 if adequate
10 state funding were available. The department shall, on an annual basis, review the
11 waiting list and submit a report to the governor containing the information required
12 under this subsection. The department shall send a copy of the report to the persons
13 chairing the house and senate finance committees and the persons chairing the house
14 and senate health, education and social services committees and shall notify the full

1 legislature that the report is available to all legislators. The report must

2 (1) describe the purpose for the waiting list and the strategies used to
3 notify persons about the waiting list, and must include a copy of the information used
4 by the department to inform individuals and families about their rights and
5 responsibilities under AS 47.80.100 - 47.80.170;

6 (2) explain how an individual is placed on the waiting list, what criteria
7 determine rank on the list, and how the waiting list is used to select individuals
8 equitably and fairly across the state;

9 (3) give the basic demographic information across all regions about the
10 age, sex, and racial and ethnic background of the individuals on the waiting list;

11 (4) identify the level of need and preferences of the individuals and
12 families on the waiting list for the services and the supports that may be necessary to
13 meet their needs and project an annual cost to meet this need;

14 (5) identify how many individuals were removed from the waiting list
15 during the 12 months covered by the report, why they were removed from the list, and
16 how long the individuals had been waiting for services or supports before they were
17 removed from the list;

18 (6) list the number of individuals who have been on the waiting list for
19 90 days or more with an account of the department's steps to regularly review each
20 individual's status while waiting for services or supports;

21 (7) report annual data from the Department of Education and Early
22 Development about the number of students in special education with developmental
23 disabilities graduating from high school, dropping out of high school before reaching
24 age 22, or reaching age 22 without graduating from high school; and

25 (8) indicate that written or electronic copies of policies, manuals, and
26 procedures used by the department to implement AS 47.80.100 - 47.80.170 are
27 available.

28 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
29 to read:

30 **TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; FIRST REPORT.** The Department of Health and
31 Social Services shall prepare the first annual report required under sec. 1 of this Act so that

- 1 the report is available to the governor and the legislature by November 15, 2000, and is based
- 2 on the waiting list existing from October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000.