

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Judiciary Committee



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Chairman

State Capitol, Room 429

Juneau, AK 99801

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Senator Jesse Kiehl, Vice Chair

Senator Cathy Giessel

Senator James Kaufman

Senator Löki Tobin

The Way Forward

Report of the Alyce Spotted Bear & Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

Congress created the independent Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children in 2016 to conduct a comprehensive study of the programs, grants, and supports available to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians from birth through age 24. The Commission was tasked with making recommendations about how this overall system could be strengthened, improved, and transformed to better help Native children and youth thrive. The Commission's research addressed issues of child welfare; juvenile justice; education from early childhood through post-secondary and vocational training; and physical, mental, and behavioral health. It presents multiple ways in which these different areas intersect to challenge life circumstances for Native children and youth. *The Way Forward* provides both broad principles and actionable steps to achieve the Commission's goals to improve outcomes for Native children and youth and set them on the path to thriving.

You can find the digital report here: <https://commissiononnativechildren.org/news/the-way-forward-report-of-the-commission-on-native-children/>