

Report Highlights

Why DLA Performed This Audit

The purpose of this audit was to determine if there is a demonstrated public need for the commission's continued existence and whether its termination date should be extended. Currently the commission will terminate on June 30, 2016, and will have one year from that date to conclude its administrative operations.

What DLA Recommends

1. The commission's executive director should implement and follow procedures to public notice all commission meetings.
2. The commission's chairperson should review and approve the legislation watch list prior to distribution.

A Sunset Review of the Department of Health and Social Services, Alaska Commission on Aging

April 10, 2015

Audit Control Number 06-20090-15

REPORT CONCLUSIONS

Overall, the audit concluded that the Alaska Commission on Aging (commission) is serving the public's interest by helping older Alaskans lead dignified, independent, and useful lives through advocacy, outreach, and education. Furthermore, the commission meets the federal requirement that each state establish an advisory council to advise the state on aging matters. We recommend that the commission's termination date be extended eight years to June 30, 2024.

ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC NEED

The commission has operated in the public's interest by formulating and approving a comprehensive statewide plan — the *State Plan for Senior Services*. The plan identifies and addresses the concerns and needs of older Alaskans, and fulfills a federal requirement necessary to receive Administration on Aging grant funding.

The commission has also operated in the public's interest by serving as an advocate for, and educator on, the needs of older Alaskans. The commission submitted over 50 recommendations to the legislature and governor regarding legislation and appropriations for programs or services that benefit older Alaskans. Furthermore, the commission collaborated with several state and local organizations on commission projects including development of the *State Plan for Senior Services* and sponsoring educational and outreach events.

The audit identified two operational changes that would allow the commission to better serve the public's interests.

Full audit available at <http://legaudit.akleg.gov/docs/audits/sunset/dhss/20090rpt-2015.pdf>

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