

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 96(HES)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/4/01**

**Referred: Finance**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE LANCASTER**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to acquisition and development of the Jesse Lee Home; and providing**  
2 **for an effective date."**

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

4 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
5 to read:

6 FINDINGS; INTENT. (a) The legislature finds that the Jesse Lee Home in Seward  
7 has historical significance for all the people of the state because John Ben (Benny) Benson,  
8 Jr., lived at the home when he designed the state flag.

9 (b) The legislature further finds that the Jesse Lee Home is currently in such  
10 dilapidated condition, having been vacant since it was damaged by the 1964 earthquake, that  
11 the home's renovation is beyond the means of the local community.

12 (c) It is the intent of the legislature that the Jesse Lee Home and the real property on  
13 which it is located be acquired by the state and managed in a manner that recognizes its place  
14 in the state's history. Appropriate management would include the erection of a monument

1 honoring Benny Benson for his role in designing the state flag and development of the site as  
2 a place where community events and ceremonies could be held.

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

5 JESSE LEE HOME. (a) The Department of Natural Resources shall determine the  
6 costs and procedures necessary for the state to acquire, develop, and manage the Jesse Lee  
7 Home. The department shall report to the governor and the legislature by November 1, 2002,  
8 concerning its recommendations as to the procedures to be used and an estimate of costs  
9 involved for state acquisition of the home, erection of an appropriate monument, development  
10 of the site for future appropriate uses, and ongoing management.

11 (b) In addition to determining the costs and procedures for state acquisition and  
12 management of the Jesse Lee Home, the Department of Natural Resources may also consider  
13 whether there are other options that would protect the historical value of the home and include  
14 in the report required under (a) of this section the department's findings as to the costs and  
15 procedures that could be used to implement the other options.

16 (c) Subject to the availability of an appropriation specified as being for the acquisition  
17 of the Jesse Lee Home, the Department of Natural Resources shall acquire the Jesse Lee  
18 Home and develop and manage it consistent with the intent of this Act.

19 \* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2001.