

SENATE BILL NO. 90

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS KELLY, Austerman, Ellis, Taylor

Introduced: 2/14/01

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the Office of Citizenship Assistance; and providing for an effective**
2 **date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 24 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

5 **Chapter 52. Office of Citizenship Assistance.**

6 **Sec. 24.52.010. Office created.** (a) There is created in the legislative branch
7 the Office of Citizenship Assistance.

8 (b) The office shall

9 (1) provide information, including referrals to public and private
10 resources, to persons in the state who have become naturalized citizens of the United
11 States or are about to become naturalized citizens of the United States;

12 (2) act as a liaison, upon request, between a naturalized citizen and the
13 office of the ombudsman established under AS 24.55; and

14 (3) act as a liaison, upon request, between a naturalized citizen and the

1 State Commission for Human Rights established under AS 18.80.

2 (c) The ombudsman appointed under AS 24.55 shall appoint a director for the
3 office. The director may contract with other persons to perform the duties of the
4 office.

5 **Sec. 24.52.020. Persons eligible for services.** The following are eligible to
6 request information and referrals from the office:

7 (1) persons who live in the state who have become naturalized citizens
8 of the United States; and

9 (2) persons who live in the state who are eligible for United States
10 citizenship and who can demonstrate that they are actively in the process of becoming
11 naturalized citizens of the United States.

12 **Sec. 24.52.030. Information available.** A person who is eligible for the
13 assistance of the office under AS 24.52.020 may request information and referrals for
14 services, including information and services relevant to the following areas:

15 (1) immigration services, including how to help the person's relatives
16 or friends to obtain visas, to immigrate to the United States, or to become naturalized
17 citizens;

18 (2) employment services, such as job placement services and
19 information about how labor unions, administrative agencies, and court actions may be
20 used to deal with claims or charges of job discrimination, illegal termination of
21 employment, sexual harassment, and unsafe working conditions;

22 (3) affordable legal services;

23 (4) affordable medical care;

24 (5) affordable housing;

25 (6) education, including the availability of scholarships and loans;

26 (7) credit counseling and disputes with credit card companies;

27 (8) law enforcement.

28 **Sec. 24.52.090. Definition.** In this chapter, "office" means the Office of
29 Citizenship Assistance established under this chapter.

30 * **Sec. 2.** AS 24.52.010, 24.52.020, 24.52.030, and 24.52.090 are repealed June 30, 2006.

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