

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE STANDING COMMITTEE**

January 24, 2001

3:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

OVERVIEW: DIVISION OF INSURANCE

TAPES

01-4, SIDES A & B

01-5, SIDE A

CALL TO ORDER

REPRESENTATIVE LISA MURKOWSKI, Chair, called the House Labor and Commerce Standing Committee meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Committee members present were Representatives Murkowski, Halcro, Rokeberg, Meyer, Kott, Crawford, and Hayes.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

BOB LOHR, Director, Division of Insurance, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), presented an overview of the division. He reported that the mission of the division is to protect and serve the state by regulating all aspects of insurance, and to protect and educate the consumer by enhancing the state's business environment.

MR. LOHR reported that all persons transacting insurance in Alaska are required to be licensed by the state. Over 10,000 people are currently licensed and the division issued over 5,500 licenses in fiscal year 2000. He reported that they responded to over 500 consumer complaints and 1,200 inquiries. Additionally, they have recovered over \$400,000 in insurance payments to Alaskans.

MR. LOHR discussed legislative priorities for the 2001 session and noted that the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA), a federal law, breaks down barriers among banking, insurance, and securities

industries. The Act establishes a framework for the responsibilities of federal and state regulators. Enactment promotes reciprocity in all aspects of licensing requirements, procedures, and applications.

MR. LOHR reported that the committee can expect proposed legislation that confirms the director of insurance's authority to adopt privacy standards consistent with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) model regulation.

LINDA BRUNETTE, Licensing Supervisor, Division of Insurance, DCED, responded to general questions from the committee.

KATIE CAMPBELL, Life/Health Actuary, Division of Insurance, DCED, spoke to upcoming legislation and answered general questions from the committee.

SARAH MCNAIR-GROVE, Property/Casualty Actuary, Division of Insurance, DCED, answered general questions from the committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

COMMITTEE ACTION

CHAIR MURKOWSKI appointed a subcommittee to investigate insurance pooling for Alaska air carriers. Representatives Halcro, Kott, and Hayes were named to the subcommittee. Representative Halcro, who was appointed as the subcommittee chair, stated that he would report back to the committee in two weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

CHAIR MURKOWSKI adjourned the meeting of the House Labor and Commerce Standing Committee at 5:07 p.m.

NOTE: The meeting was recorded and handwritten log notes were taken. A copy of the tape(s) and log notes may be obtained by contacting the House Records Office at State Capitol, Room 3, Juneau, Alaska 99801 (mailing address), (907) 465-2214, and after adjournment of the second session of the Twenty-Second Alaska State Legislature this information may be obtained by contacting the Legislative Reference Library at (907) 465-3808.