

HOUSE BILL NO. 316

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE COGHILL

Introduced: 5/10/03

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the construction of certain statutes relating to children; relating to
2 the scope of duty and standard of care for persons who provide services to certain
3 children and families; and providing for an effective date."

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

5 * **Section 1.** AS 47.10.005 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 47.10.005. Construction.** The provisions of this chapter shall be
7 liberally construed to

8 **(1) recognize that parents possess inherent, individual rights to**
9 **direct and control the education and upbringing of their children; and**

10 **(2) achieve** the end that a child coming within the jurisdiction of the
11 court under this chapter may receive the care, guidance, treatment, and control that
12 will promote the child's welfare **and the parents' participation in the child's**
13 **upbringing.**

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 47.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1 **Sec. 47.10.961. Duty and standard of care; regulations.** The department
2 shall adopt regulations that establish the scope of the duty owed and the standard of
3 care that must be met by the department's employees with regard to the children and
4 families being served under this chapter. The regulations must be consistent in all
5 relevant respects with the code of professional ethics and the standards of practice for
6 social work adopted by the Board of Social Work Examiners under AS 08.95.

7 * **Sec. 3.** AS 47.10.960 is repealed.

8 * **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

9 * **Sec. 5.** Section 3 of this Act takes effect 180 days after the effective date of sec. 2 of this
10 Act.