

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES STANDING COMMITTEE

April 23, 2007

1:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Bettye Davis, Chair
Senator Joe Thomas, Vice Chair
Senator John Cowdery
Senator Kim Elton
Senator Fred Dyson

MEMBERS ABSENT

All members present

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 136(FIN)(title am)

"An Act relating to the supervision of dental hygienists by dentists, establishing a restorative function license endorsement for dental hygienists and allowing collaborative agreements between licensed dentists and dental hygienists."

MOVED CSHB 136(FIN)(title am) OUT OF COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 8

"An Act relating to a mental health patient's right to choose the gender of hospital staff providing intimate care to the mental health patient and to the duties of hospital staff in caring for patients receiving mental health treatment."

MOVED SB 8 OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 136

SHORT TITLE: DENTAL HYGIENISTS

SPONSOR(s): REPRESENTATIVE(s) STOLTZE

| | | |
|----------|-----|--|
| 02/14/07 | (H) | READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS |
| 02/14/07 | (H) | HES, L&C |
| 03/06/07 | (H) | HES AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 106 |
| 03/06/07 | (H) | Moved Out of Committee |
| 03/06/07 | (H) | MINUTE(HES) |
| 03/07/07 | (H) | HES RPT 5DP |
| 03/07/07 | (H) | DP: CISSNA, FAIRCLOUGH, GARDNER, ROSES, WILSON |

03/07/07 (H) FIN REFERRAL ADDED AFTER L&C
03/19/07 (H) L&C AT 3:00 PM CAPITOL 17
03/19/07 (H) Moved Out of Committee
03/19/07 (H) MINUTE(L&C)
03/21/07 (H) L&C RPT 7DP
03/21/07 (H) DP: GARDNER, NEUMAN, BUCH, LEDOUX,
GATTO, RAMRAS, OLSON
03/27/07 (H) FIN AT 1:30 PM HOUSE FINANCE 519
03/27/07 (H) Moved CSHB 136(FIN) Out of Committee
03/27/07 (H) MINUTE(FIN)
03/28/07 (H) FIN RPT CS(FIN) 5DP 6NR
03/28/07 (H) DP: FOSTER, NELSON, STOLTZE, KELLY,
MEYER
03/28/07 (H) NR: GARA, CRAWFORD, HAWKER, JOULE,
THOMAS, CHENAULT
04/11/07 (H) TRANSMITTED TO (S)
04/11/07 (H) VERSION: CSHB 136(FIN)(TITLE AM)
04/13/07 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
04/13/07 (S) HES, L&C, FIN
04/23/07 (S) HES AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

BILL: SB 8

SHORT TITLE: MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT RIGHTS:STAFF GENDER
SPONSOR(s): SENATOR(s) DAVIS

01/16/07 (S) PREFILE RELEASED 1/5/07
01/16/07 (S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
01/16/07 (S) HES, JUD, FIN
04/18/07 (S) HES AT 2:00 PM BELTZ 211
04/18/07 (S) Heard & Held
04/18/07 (S) MINUTE(HES)
04/23/07 (S) HES AT 1:30 PM BUTROVICH 205

WITNESS REGISTER

Jim Towle, Executive Director
Alaska Dental Association
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Commented on HB 136

ACTION NARRATIVE

CHAIR BETTYE DAVIS called the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Standing Committee meeting to order at [1:33:25 PM](#). All members were present at the call to order.

HB 136-DENTAL HYGIENISTS

CHAIR DAVIS announced HB 136 to be up for consideration. [Before the committee was CSHB 136(FIN)(title am).] She added that there was no opposition on the bill and no one signed up to testify, and so asked for a motion from the committee.

[1:34:23 PM](#)

SENATOR COWDERY moved to report CSHB 136(FIN)(title am) from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s). There being no objection, the motion carried.

SB 8-MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT RIGHTS:STAFF GENDER

CHAIR DAVIS announced SB 8 to be under consideration. She said that there were no testifiers signed up, and that her desire was to move the bill from committee.

[1:35:30 PM](#)

SENATOR COWDERY made a motion to move SB 8 from committee with individual recommendations and attached fiscal note(s). There being no objection, the motion carried.

CHAIR DAVIS said that there were no other bills to come before the committee, and asked if anyone in the audience had anything to say. [Discussion on HB 136 ensued.]

[1:36:44 PM](#)

JIM TOWLE, Executive Director of the Alaska Dental Society (ADS), said he was prepared to comment on HB 136 but he understands the committee already did its due diligence and passed it from committee.

CHAIR DAVIS apologized and explained that public testimony had been taken at a previous hearing. She asked if he would like to send testimony to the committee.

MR. TOWLE replied he wanted to tell the committee that the ADS has concerns about the bill in its current form. "Having done that, I've done my duty," he said.

CHAIR DAVIS asked if he said he is opposed to the bill because she understood that ADS supported it.

MR. TOWLE replied ADS is not opposed to the bill but it has concerns with certain provisions.

CHAIR DAVIS explained that amendments had been considered but the sponsor and the people who proposed the amendments decided they were not needed. The lobbyists also said they would not seek amendments at this time.

MR. TOWLE said he appreciates that he simply wanted it on the record that ADS supports the basic tenets of the bill but it had reservations about certain portions. "We'll seek to take appropriate steps as it moves forward," he said.

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at [1:39:20 PM](#).