

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE JUDICIARY STANDING COMMITTEE**

February 7, 2025

1:01 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Andrew Gray, Chair
Representative Chuck Kopp, Vice Chair
Representative Ted Eischeid
Representative Genevieve Mina
Representative Mia Costello
Representative Jubilee Underwood

MEMBERS ABSENT

Representative Sarah Vance

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

HOUSE BILL NO. 48

"An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund."

- MOVED HB 48 OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 48

SHORT TITLE: CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) HANNAN

01/22/25	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
01/22/25	(H)	JUD, FIN
01/31/25	(H)	JUD AT 1:30 PM GRUENBERG 120
01/31/25	(H)	Heard & Held
01/31/25	(H)	MINUTE(JUD)
02/07/25	(H)	JUD AT 1:00 PM GRUENBERG 120

WITNESS REGISTER

LAUREE MORTON, Deputy Director
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 48.

REPRESENTATIVE SARAH HANNAN

Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: AS prime sponsor, gave final comment on HB 48.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[1:01:52 PM](#)

CHAIR ANDREW GRAY called the House Judiciary Standing Committee meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Representatives Underwood, Costello, Mina, Eischeid, and Gray were present at the call to order. Representative Kopp arrived as the meeting was in progress.

^#hb48

HB 48-CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND

[1:02:47 PM](#)

CHAIR GRAY announced that the only order of business would be HOUSE BILL NO. 48, "An Act relating to appropriations to the civil legal services fund."

[1:02:56 PM](#)

CHAIR GRAY opened public testimony on HB 48.

[1:03:26 PM](#)

LAUREE MORTON, Deputy Director, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), testified in support of HB 48. She said the Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC), the Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ), and ANDVSA all work with the Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) to serve as many victim survivors as possible when they seek assistance in navigating the civil justice system. She stated that a strong, well-funded ALSC is needed to participate in this joint endeavor. Furthermore, access to legal services can prevent future violence by obtaining, renewing, and enforcing protective orders in the court. She acknowledged that the legislature faces competing funding concerns; however, increasing the funding amount from 10 to 25 percent of court filing fees would increase the number of victims who receive these live-saving services.

[1:06:12 PM](#)

CHAIR GRAY closed public testimony on HB 48.

[1:06:34 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE SARAH HANNAN, Alaska State Legislature, as prime sponsor, reiterated the importance of accessing legal services and referenced the services provided by the Teal Street Center in Juneau. She encouraged the committee's support for HB 48.

[1:08:36 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE KOPP moved to report HB 48 out of committee with individual recommendations and the accompanying fiscal notes. There being no objection, HB 48 was reported from the House Judiciary Standing Committee.

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[1:09:10 PM](#)

The committee took an at-ease from 1:09 p.m. to 1:11 p.m.

[1:11:41 PM](#)

CHAIR GRAY made closing comments.

[1:12:03 PM](#)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, the House Judiciary Standing Committee meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.