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IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. BRONSON
BY REQUEST

HOUSE BILL NO. *45*

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act prohibiting the displaying, selling, offering for sale, distributing, lending or giving away to any person or to any firm, corporation, or other party of any horror comic book, crime comic book, sexually indecent comic book, or comic book portraying deeds of brutality and violence; providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this Act; and declaring an emergency."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS.

(a) "Comic Book" refers to any narrative, story, tale, romance or account of events or happenings, fictional, factual or historical in which the successive steps in the development of the action or plot are pictorially or graphically illustrated by drawings or photographs and in which the legend, narrative or dialogue is printed adjacent to or on the pictorial illustration, whether or not in balloons proceeding out of the mouths of the characters portrayed. This definition includes all publications of the nature described, regardless of whether they partake of the elements of comedy or humor.

(b) A "Horror Comic Book" is a comic book, as

1 hereinbefore described, the theme or plot of which is devot-
2 ed primarily or in substantial part to matter which is
3 gruesome, debasing, monstrous, vile, demonic, ghoulish,
4 weird, horrible, vicious, depraved, inhuman or otherwise
5 calculated to inspire in readers feelings of horror, fear,
6 revulsion, disgust or morbid curiosity.

7 (c) A "Crime Comic Book" is a comic book, as herein-
8 before described, the theme or plot of which is devoted
9 * primarily or in substantial part to the portrayal of the
10 planning and/or commission of criminal deeds such as
11 murders, rapes, armed robberies, burglaries, thefts,
12 kidnapings, arsons, the peddling, sale or use of narcotics
13 or other felonies or conspiracies or attempts to commit such
14 felonies.

15 (d) A "Sexually Indecent Comic Book" is a comic book,
16 as hereinbefore described, the theme or plot of which is
17 devoted primarily or in substantial part to sexually
18 indecent subject matter such as adultery, homo-sexuality,
19 sadism, masochism or other perversions or in which male
20 and female characters are depicted in lewd, lascivious or
21 suggestive amorous embraces or in which male or female
22 characters are scantily or indecently clad or in which the
23 breasts of female characters or the genital organs of male
24 or female characters are exposed or partially exposed.

25 (e) A "Comic Book portraying deeds of brutality and
26 violence" is a comic book, as hereinbefore described, the
27 theme or plot of which is devoted primarily or in substantial
28 part to deeds or acts of brutality or violence such as
29 assaults, cuttings, stabbings, beatings, sluggings, floggings,

1 eye-gougings, brutal kickings, burnings, dismemberments
2 and other reprehensible assaults and batteries on the
3 person.

4 Section 2. OFFENSES.

5 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation,
6 or other party to ^{Knowingly} display, sell, offer for sale, distribute, lend
7 or give away or otherwise make available to any person, or to any
8 firm, corporation or other party any horror comic book, crime
9 comic book, sexually indecent comic book, or comic book portraying
10 deeds of brutality and violence, as defined in Section 1 hereof.

11 Section 3. PENALTIES.

12 Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provision
13 of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon
14 conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than
15 \$300.00, by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, or
16 by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day during which a
17 violation continues, or violations continue, shall constitute an
18 offense.

19 Section 4. SEVERABILITY.

20 If any portion or part of this Act be for any reason
21 held unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent
22 jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the
23 remaining portions of this Act, but such remaining portions shall
24 remain in full force and effect.

25 Section 5. EMERGENCY.

26 An emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act
27 shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.
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Page 3, Line 6: Between word "parts" and word "to" insert word "knowingly"

Page 3: New Section 4: "Section 4. Enforcement. The governing body of each municipality may provide by ordinance for the enforcement of the provisions of this Act."

Renumbered Section 5.

Renumbered Section 6.