

Introduced: 3/17/67
Referred: Health, Welfare
and Education and Judiciary

BY BOARDMAN BY
REQUEST

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 300

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to reports of injuries to children
7 caused by abuse, neglect or starvation."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 11.67 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 11.67.005. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. In order to protect
11 children whose health and welfare may be adversely affected through the
12 infliction, by other than accidental means, of physical injury or
13 physical neglect requiring the attention of a practitioner of the heal-
14 ing arts, the legislature hereby provides for the reporting of these
15 cases by practitioners and others to the appropriate public authorities.
16 It is the intent of the legislature that, as a result of these reports,
17 protective services shall be made available in an effort to prevent
18 further abuses, and to safeguard and enhance the general welfare of the
19 children in this state.

20 * Sec. 2. AS 11.67.010 is amended to read:

21 Sec. 11.67.010. PERSONS WHO SHALL [MAY] REPORT. (a) A physician,
22 resident, intern or nurse who, during the examination or treatment of
23 a child, has cause to believe that the child has suffered physical in-
24 jury as a result of abuse, [OR] neglect or starvation shall [MAY]
25 report the injury in accordance with sec. 20 of this chapter.

26 (b) A school teacher or social worker who, while acting in an
27 official capacity, has cause to believe that a child has suffered
28 injury as a result of abuse, [OR] neglect or starvation shall [MAY]
29 report the injury in accordance with sec. 20 of this chapter.

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1 * Sec. 3. AS 11.67.020 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 11.67.020. REPORTS. (a) An immediate oral report of the
3 injury shall [SHOULD] be made to the nearest office of the department
4 and [, OR, IF AN OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT IN THE VICINITY WHERE
5 THE INJURY IS DISCOVERED, AN ORAL REPORT SHOULD BE MADE] to the
6 nearest law enforcement authority. All oral reports shall be followed
7 within 24 hours by written reports. In areas of the state where it is
8 impractical to make an oral report, a written report shall [SHOULD] be
9 made.

10 (b) Oral and written reports shall [SHOULD] contain

11 (1) the names and addresses of the child and the parents or
12 guardians, if known;

13 (2) the child's age and the nature and extent of the injury,
14 including evidence of previous injuries, if known;

15 (3) information which might assist in determining the cause
16 of injury and the identity of the person or persons responsible for
17 the injury.

18 * Sec. 4. AS 11.67 is amended by adding a new section to read:

19 Sec. 11.67.065. CENTRAL REGISTRY. Copies of all written reports
20 received by the department shall be forwarded to the largest hospital
21 in the vicinity where the injury is discovered. Reports and other
22 pertinent information received from the department shall be made
23 available to any licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, resident,
24 intern, chiropractor, religious practitioner, or probation officer,
25 and to any agency offering child protective service.
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