

Original sponsor: Banfield

Offered: 2/22/68
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 305

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Office of Mental Retardation
7 and an Advisory Council on Mental Retardation."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 18 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 7. OFFICE OF MENTAL RETARDATION.

11 Sec. 18.07.010. CREATION. There is an Office of Mental Retarda-
12 tion created within the department.

13 Sec. 18.07.020. COORDINATOR FOR MENTAL RETARDATION PROGRAMS.
14 The commissioner shall appoint a coordinator for mental retardation
15 programs to be responsible for carrying out the purposes of this
16 chapter. The coordinator shall be a person with professional knowledge
17 and experience in the field of mental retardation. He shall act in
18 an advisory and consultative capacity to the commissioner in matters
19 pertaining to mental retardation. The coordinator shall serve as a
20 member of the Advisory Council on Mental Retardation in order to provide
21 technical assistance, consultation, and liaison between the council
22 and the commissioner.

23 Sec. 18.07.030. REPORTS. The coordinator shall submit to the
24 commissioner an annual report and such interim reports as the com-
25 missioner requests concerning the progress, activities and plans of
26 the office.

27 Sec. 18.07.040. FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF MENTAL RETARDATION.

28 (The Office of Mental Retardation shall)

29 (1) develop a comprehensive coordinated state plan to

1 include all services and programs for the mentally retarded which
2 will make economical and maximum use of funds and manpower available;

3 (2) keep informed of the latest developments in the field
4 of mental retardation and collect and disseminate to the public in-
5 formation, facts, statistics, and special studies on the subject of
6 mental retardation;

7 (3) develop and expand cooperative working relationships
8 with federal, state and private mental retardation agencies;

9 (4) encourage and assist local communities in the develop-
10 ment of services for the mentally retarded;

11 (5) develop and coordinate public and professional educa-
12 tional programs relative to mental retardation.

13 Sec. 18.07.050. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL RETARDATION. (a)
14 An Advisory Council on Mental Retardation composed of nine members
15 shall be appointed by the governor. In his appointments the governor
16 shall include representatives from the Department of Health and
17 Welfare, the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the
18 Alaska Medical Association, the Alaska Rehabilitation Association,
19 and private associations for retarded children.

20 (b) The council shall meet at least twice a year.

21 Sec. 18.07.060. TERM OF OFFICE. Members of the council shall
22 be appointed for a term of three years, except that initially one-
23 third of the membership will be appointed for a term of one year, one-
24 third for a term of two years, and the remaining one-third for a term
25 of three years. Members serve at the pleasure of the governor.

26 Sec. 18.07.070. CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL. The council shall elect
27 one of its members as chairman.

28 Sec. 18.07.080. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL. The council shall

29 (1) make recommendations to the coordinator for improvement

1 in the state mental retardation program;

2 (2) seek ways of providing a comprehensive program on
3 mental retardation with avoidance of duplication of services;

4 (3) consider, develop, and execute a plan for coordination
5 of state efforts in behalf of the mentally retarded between state,
6 federal and private agencies;

7 (4) consider and research specific problems and concepts in
8 regard to mental retardation such as prevention, health care, pre-
9 school services, job training, recreation, personal care in own home,
10 foster homes and group homes.

11 Sec. 18.07.090. REPORTS. The council shall report annually to
12 the governor and the legislature concerning the work of the council.

13 Sec. 18.07.100. COMPENSATION. The members of the council are
14 authorized per diem and travel expenses allowable to members of other
15 boards and commissions.

16 Sec. 18.07.110. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

17 (1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of health and
18 welfare;

19 (2) "coordinator" means the coordinator of mental retarda-
20 tion programs;

21 (3) "council" means the Advisory Council on Mental Retarda-
22 tion;

23 (4) "department" means the Department of Health and Welfare.
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