

Original sponsor: Banfield

Offered: 2/29/68  
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 and  
7 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. The  
14 commissioner shall appoint a coordinator for mental retardation programs  
15 to be responsible for carrying out the purposes of this chapter. The  
16 coordinator shall be a person with professional knowledge and experience  
17 in the field of mental retardation. He shall act in an advisory and  
18 consultative capacity to the commissioner in matters pertaining to  
19 mental retardation. The coordinator shall serve as an ex officio  
20 member of the Advisory Council on Mental Retardation in order to pro-  
21 vide technical assistance, consultation, and serve as liaison between  
22 the council 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 commis-  
25 sioner requests concerning the progress, activities and plans of the  
26 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

30 CSHB 305 (Finance)

1 include all services and programs for the mentally retarded which will  
2 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 infor-  
5 mation, facts, statistics, and special studies on the subject of mental  
6 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) An  
14 Advisory Council on Mental Retardation composed of seven members shall  
15 be appointed by the governor. In his appointments the governor shall  
16 include representatives from the Alaska Medical Association, the Alaska  
17 Rehabilitation Association, and private associations for retarded  
18 children.

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

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

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

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

28 (1) make recommendations to the coordinator for improvement  
29 in the state mental retardation program;

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

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

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

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

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

15 Sec. 18.07.110. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

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

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

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

22 (4) "department" means the Department of Health and Welfare.  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29