

Introduced: 2/16/70  
Referred: Health, Welfare  
and Education and Finance

IN THE SENATE

BY JOSEPHSON AND BEGICH

SENATE BILL NO. 494

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to preschool education for one- to three-year olds; and providing for an effective date."

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

\* Section 1. AS 14 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 32. PRESCHOOL PROGRAM.

Sec. 14.32.010. PURPOSE. The legislature recognizes that there is an urgent need in the state for services meeting the requirements of young children; that the plight of the working mother with young preschool children is one of overall concern to the state since these youngsters are, due to a lack of adequate facilities, placed in day care centers with poorly conceived programs often as not enforcing outmoded or discredited educational procedures; and that young children who must be away from the educational environment of the home due to their mother's employment outside the home need a well-conceived and empirically researched program fitted to children of this age if they are to be disposed to adjusting well once they enter a more formalized educational situation.

Sec. 14.32.020. PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The commissioner shall negotiate a contract with an appropriate institution for the purpose of conducting a pilot program in early childhood education.

(b) Children chosen for the program shall be between one and three years of age and should come from families representing a socio-economic cross section of Alaska residents.

(c) Initial enrollment in the program should not exceed 30

1 children divided, according to the individual maturity of the child,  
2 into two age groups.

3 Sec. 14.32.030. AUTHORITY OF COMMISSIONER. The commissioner  
4 may review plans submitted by institutions in the state for the conduct  
5 of the pilot program provided for in this chapter and may accept a  
6 plan he considers will meet the needs of preschool children and provide  
7 the information necessary to determine the future course of early  
8 childhood educational programs.

9 \* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect on July 1, 1970.