

Original sponsor: Josephson

Offered: 3/30/71  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE  
AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 118

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Board of Child Develop-  
7 ment."

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

9 \* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that:

10 (1) there exists a demand within the state for preprimary educa-  
11 tional opportunities for children and that lay and expert opinions hold that  
12 the availability of preprimary learning experience in small groups can be a  
13 significant and positive factor in the development of adult personality,  
14 talent and character;

15 (2) too little is known about the optimum type and content of  
16 such experience and in fact realizes that there may be no optimum, but  
17 rather a need for a variety of programs tailored to fit the needs of children  
18 from diverse backgrounds;

19 (3) because Alaska is geographically remote from major United  
20 States population centers where much existing research is in process in the  
21 field of early childhood development, it is vital that Alaska provide  
22 various, diverse models for preprimary education and that there needs to be  
23 established a clearinghouse for the exchange of information and ideas, and  
24 periodic state conferences on early childhood development, and that progress  
25 be made towards periodic evaluation of model projects in this field; and

26 (4) availability of preprimary day care centers and learning  
27 centers will permit more parents to participate in the economic life of the  
28 community, will thus make available new talent in our economic life, and will  
29 relieve some households from a cycle of economic dependency upon government.

1 \* Sec. 2. AS 44 is amended by adding new sections to read:

2 ARTICLE 7. ALASKA BOARD OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT.

3 Sec. 44.19.461. ALASKA BOARD OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT. There is  
4 created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Board of Child Develop-  
5 ment.

6 Sec. 44.19.466. COMPOSITION OF BOARD. The board consists of  
7 13 members appointed by the governor and serving at his pleasure. In  
8 making his appointments the governor shall appoint five members who  
9 are parents of children participating in child care programs and at  
10 least

11 (1) one representative of organized labor;

12 (2) one professional psychologist, pediatrician, psychia-  
13 trist, or social worker;

14 (3) one certificated elementary educator;

15 (4) one employed mother;

16 (5) two members of minority groups;

17 (6) one member who is within the "target" or "recipient"  
18 community served by a Community Action or Model Cities agency;

19 (7) one person actively engaged in the operation or manage-  
20 ment of a nonprofit preprimary day care or educational center;

21 (8) one professional nutritionist;

22 (9) one person actively engaged in the operation or manage-  
23 ment of a private preprimary day care or educational center.

24 Sec. 44.19.471. POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD. The board shall

25 (1) identify available funding sources for day care and  
26 educational centers;

27 (2) administer grants the legislature may from time to time  
28 appropriate for educational or day care programs not otherwise funded  
29 by the state, at the prekindergarten level, as well as act as the

1 state agency for channeling federal funds that may become available;

2 (3) provide an informational clearinghouse for parents  
3 and communities wishing to start providing local day care or preprimary  
4 educational service on a nonprofit or cooperative basis;

5 (4) provide technical assistance to local communities,  
6 citizen groups, nonprofit corporations, Community Action agencies,  
7 and other similar groups with respect to early childhood training;

8 (5) at least biennially, conduct a statewide Governor's  
9 Conference on Early Childhood Development;

10 (6) submit to the legislature an annual report, including  
11 recommendations for possible legislation pertaining to prekindergarten  
12 children;

13 (7) develop coordinated estimates of need for day care,  
14 preschool and related programs;

15 (8) develop joint training programs for nonprofessional  
16 and professional personnel; and

17 (9) do all other things necessary to develop a well-  
18 coordinated system of preprimary day care and educational centers for  
19 the state.

20 Sec. 44.19.476. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES. Members of the board  
21 receive no salary, but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses  
22 authorized by law for other boards and commissions.  
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