

Introduced: 3/7/75  
Referred: Health, Education  
and Social Services and  
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL  
SERVICES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

2 SENATE BILL NO. 244

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Pioneers' Home."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 47.25.010(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The state shall maintain [AN INSTITUTION] for the care of  
10 needy persons a residential care facility, known as the Alaska Pioneers'  
11 Home. The principal home shall be maintained at Sitka, and a branch  
12 may be maintained at a site or sites designated by the commissioner of  
13 administration north and west of Yakutat.

14 \* Sec. 2. AS 47.25.010(c)(1) is amended to read:

15 (1) cooperate with the federal government in matters pertain-  
16 ing to the welfare of Alaskan pioneers, make the reports in the form  
17 and containing the information the federal government from time to time  
18 desires, and accept [ACCEPTS] funds allotted by the federal government,  
19 its agencies or instrumentalities, in establishing, extending and  
20 strengthening services for pioneers of Alaska;

21 \* Sec. 3. AS 47.25.010(c)(3) is amended to read:

22 (3) perform all executive or administrative duties necessary  
23 and advisable to carry out the purpose of secs. 10 - 110 of this chapter,  
24 [INCLUDING THE POWER TO] make contracts, including contracts with  
25 hospitals and nursing facilities to provide financial assistance for the  
26 care of those Alaska pioneers who are eligible for admission to the home  
27 under sec. 20(a) of this chapter, but are transferred to another insti-  
28 tution or facility under sec. 40 or sec. 45 of this chapter, and [TO]  
29 make disbursements on vouchers against funds for the purpose of secs.

1 10 - 110 of this chapter, within the limit of funds available;

2 \* Sec. 4. AS 47.25.010(d) is amended to read:

3 (d) The Department of Administration shall appoint a Director of  
4 the Alaska Pioneers' Home and may employ [THE NECESSARY] subordinate  
5 officers and employees as it considers necessary and advisable. The  
6 department [, AND] shall prescribe methods for operation of the Pioneers'  
7 Home, standards of care and service to guests [INMATES], and rules  
8 governing personnel and rewarding employees on a merit basis.

9 \* Sec. 5. AS 47.25.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (e) The Director of the Alaska Pioneers' Home shall

11 (1) supervise the operation of the Pioneers' Home and the  
12 conduct of the employees of the home, and implement the policies and  
13 enforce the regulations established by the Department of Administration  
14 for the conduct of the business of the Pioneers' Home;

15 (2) promptly investigate each applicant to determine the  
16 applicant's eligibility for admission to the home under sec. 20 of this  
17 chapter or to determine whether the applicant is eligible for transfer  
18 to another institution or facility under sec. 40 or sec. 45 of this  
19 chapter and notify the applicant of his decision;

20 (3) review as frequently as is necessary the eligibility of  
21 guests regularly admitted to the home to determine whether circumstances  
22 warrant the transfer of a guest to another institution or facility  
23 under sec. 40 or sec. 45 of this chapter.

24 \* Sec. 6. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

25 Sec. 47.25.015. APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION. A person requesting  
26 admission to the home shall apply for admission, either for himself or  
27 by another in his behalf, to the Director of the Pioneers' Home upon  
28 forms furnished by the Department of Administration and under regula-  
29 tions prescribed by the department.

1 \* Sec. 7. AS 47.25.020(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) Every [WORTHY] person residing in the state who has been a  
3 resident of the state continuously for more than 15 years immediately  
4 preceding his application for admission, and who is destitute and in  
5 need of the aid or benefit of the home because of physical handicap  
6 [DISABILITY] or other cause, is entitled to admission to the home under  
7 the conditions, limitations and penalties prescribed by the regulations  
8 of the Department of Administration. No person shall be admitted as a  
9 guest to the Alaska Pioneers' Home under the provisions of secs. 10 -  
10 110 of this chapter, if that person is eligible for transfer to another  
11 institution or facility under sec. 40 or sec. 45 of this chapter, or  
12 if the support and maintenance of the person is imposed by law upon a  
13 relative or member of the family of the person.

14 \* Sec. 8. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 Sec. 47.25.035. APPEAL. An applicant whose application for admis-  
16 sion to the home is not acted upon, or is denied, discontinued, or  
17 modified, shall be granted an opportunity for fair hearing before a  
18 representative of the department appointed for that purpose. The hearing  
19 shall be held within a reasonable time after demand for it is made. The  
20 representative shall be governed by the regulations prescribed for that  
21 purpose by the department.

22 \* Sec. 9. AS 47.25.040 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 47.25.040. TRANSFER OF INSANE GUESTS [INMATES] TO ASYLUM OR  
24 SANITARIUM. A person regularly admitted into the home who is found to  
25 be insane shall [MAY] be transferred to an institution provided for the  
26 care and custody of insane persons for the state in the manner provided  
27 by law for the admission of other persons to the institution.

28 \* Sec. 10. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 Sec. 47.25.045. TRANSFER OF GUESTS INCAPABLE OF FUNCTIONAL

1 INDEPENDENCE. A guest regularly admitted to the home, or an applicant  
2 eligible for admission to the home under sec. 20(a) of this chapter, who  
3 has been determined by a licensed and qualified physician to be incapable  
4 of functional independence due to a mental, physical or psychological  
5 disability shall be transferred by contract to a qualified hospital or  
6 nursing home as expeditiously as is practicable. The receiving facility  
7 shall be licensed by the state as an intermediate, skilled or acute  
8 care facility and shall comply with all federal and state standards.

9 \* Sec. 11. AS 47.25.050 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 47.25.050. MAINTENANCE FUNDS. The legislature shall [EACH  
11 SESSION] appropriate the necessary funds for the maintenance of the home  
12 and the care and custody of those Alaska pioneers transferred by con-  
13 tract to another institution or facility under sec. 40 or sec. 45 of  
14 this chapter to be expended by the Department of Administration and that  
15 department may receive funds, donations and bequests from private indi-  
16 viduals, societies or organizations, and funds from the federal govern-  
17 ment for the support and maintenance of the home.

18 \* Sec. 12. AS 47.25.070(b) and (c) are amended to read:

19 (b) Money left in charge of the Department of Administration by  
20 a deceased guest [INMATE] of the Pioneers' Home may be used for the  
21 burial and funeral expenses of the deceased guest [INMATE] and for the  
22 improvement of the burial plot of the Alaska Pioneers' Home.

23 (c) The clothing and other personal effects left by a deceased  
24 guest [INMATE] of the home may be used for the benefit of other guests  
25 [INMATES], or may be given to relatives or sold and the proceeds applied  
26 in the manner provided for money left by a deceased guest [INMATE].

27 \* Sec. 13. AS 47.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

28 Sec. 47.25.120. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 10 - 110 of this chapter

29 (1) "department" means the Department of Administration;

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(2) "functional independence" means the ability of a person to care for himself or herself with respect to mobility, bodily functions and activities of daily living;

(3) "residential care facility" means a facility which provides safe, hygienic, sheltered living to guests capable of functional independence; a residential care facility provides supervision needed by the elderly, mildly confused or physically handicapped person, while affording him or her the freedom to conduct his or her daily living in a more personal way.