

Introduced: 1/17/77
Referred: Health, Education
and Social Services

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

2 SENATE BILL NO. 54

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to adoption assistance for hard-to-
7 place children in foster homes; and providing for an
8 effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 20.15.080(b)(6) is amended to read:

11 (6) that the petitioner has facilities and resources,
12 including those available under a hard-to-place [HANDICAPPED] child
13 subsidy agreement, suitable to provide for the nurture and care of the
14 minor to be adopted, and that it is the desire of the petitioner to
15 establish the relationship of parent and child with the person to be
16 adopted;

17 * Sec. 2. AS 20.15.190 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 20.15.190. ADOPTION ASSISTANCE. A hard-to-place child
19 [HANDICAPPED MINOR] in the permanent custody of the department in a
20 foster home for not less than one year may not be denied the opportunity
21 for a permanent home if the achievement of this depends on continued
22 subsidy by the state.

23 * Sec. 3. AS 20.15.200 is amended to read:

24 Sec. 20.15.200. INVESTIGATION. Persons who are caring for a
25 hard-to-place child [HANDICAPPED MINOR] on a foster parent basis and
26 who have applied to adopt the hard-to-place child [MINOR] and to
27 receive payments for the care and support of the hard-to-place child
28 [HANDICAPPED MINOR] shall be evaluated as to their suitability as
29 adoptive parents by means of an adoptive home study. This home study

1 shall be made by the commissioner's adoption staff or on his behalf by
2 an authorized agency which provides adoption services.

3 * Sec. 4. AS 20.15.210 is amended to read:

4 Sec. 20.15.210. AMOUNT AND DURATION OF SUBSIDY PAYMENTS. The
5 monthly payment and the length of time for which a subsidy for a hard-
6 to-place [HANDICAPPED] child is granted are left to the discretion of
7 the commissioner and may vary from a small monthly sum to an amount
8 not exceeding the existing rate for foster care until the child
9 reaches the age of majority, if the need continues to exist. Subsidies
0 shall be paid from the same public funds and in the same manner as
1 foster care payments.

12 * Sec. 5. AS 20.15.240(7) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

13 (7) "hard-to-place child" means a minor who is not likely
14 to be adopted by reason of physical or mental disability, emotional
15 disturbance, recognized high risk of physical or mental disease, age,
16 membership in a sibling group, racial or ethnic factors, or any combi-
17 nation of these conditions;

18 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS
19 01.10.070(c).
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