

Introduced: 4/4/77
Referred: Health, Education
and Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY CROFT

2 SENATE BILL NO. 299

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Social Services and Public Assis-
7 tance Advisory Commission."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 47 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 47. SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

11 ADVISORY COMMISSION.

12 Sec. 47.47.010. CREATION OF COMMISSION. There is established in
13 the Department of Health and Social Services the Social Services and
14 Public Assistance Advisory Commission.

15 Sec. 47.47.020. COMPOSITION. The commission consists of 12
16 members appointed by the governor. Each of the six regional office
17 service areas into which, on the effective date of this Act, the divi-
18 sion of social services has divided the state for purposes of the in-
19 ternal management of the division shall be represented by at least one
20 member. Each of the five regions into which, on the effective date of
21 this Act, the division of public assistance has divided the state for
22 the purposes of the internal management of the division shall be repre-
23 sented by at least one member. For the purpose of attaining a diversity
24 of background among the members of the commission, the commission shall
25 be constituted as follows:

26 (1) four members shall be consumers of services provided by
27 the divisions of social services and public assistance in the depart-
28 ment;

29 (2) four members shall be professionals;

1 (3) four members shall be citizens at large.

2 Sec. 47.47.030. TERMS OF OFFICE. (a) Members of the commission
3 shall be appointed for overlapping terms of three years.

4 (b) The governor shall appoint the initial members of the commis-
5 sion within 30 days of the effective date of this Act. Of the 12
6 initial appointees to the commission, four shall be appointed for
7 three-year terms, four for two-year terms, and four for one-year terms.

8 (c) Subsequent terms for all board members are three years.

9 (d) A vacancy occurring in the membership of the board shall be
10 filled by appointment of the governor for the unexpired portion of the
11 vacated term.

12 (e) Board members serve at the pleasure of the governor.

13 Sec. 47.47.040. COMPENSATION, PER DIEM, AND EXPENSES. Members of
14 the commission receive no salary, but are entitled to per diem, reim-
15 bursement for travel and costs of child care consequent to service on
16 the commission, and other expenses authorized by law.

17 Sec. 47.47.050. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at the call
18 of the chairman not less frequently than twice a year. A majority of
19 the members constitutes a quorum.

20 Sec. 47.47.060. DUTIES. (a) The commission shall undertake and
21 maintain a continuing study of the programs of the divisions of social
22 services and public assistance in the department to determine whether

23 (1) the services which those divisions are authorized to
24 provide are being effectively delivered;

25 (2) the services of those divisions are being provided in
26 sufficient quantity to meet the needs of the people of the state;

27 (3) the programs of those divisions are being operated in
28 coordination with other programs of the department and those of other
29 service agencies.

1 (b) The commission may hold public hearings if necessary to carry
2 out its duties under (a) of this section.

3 (c) Acting in an advisory capacity, the commission shall annually
4 transmit the findings of the study authorized by (a) of this section to
5 the commissioner and to the director of the divisions of social services
6 and public assistance in the department, together with any recommenda-
7 tions for administrative or legislative changes it considers appropriate.

8 (d) The commission shall review the budget of the divisions of
9 public assistance and social services in the department for the suc-
10 ceeding fiscal year, and also review any transfers or changes between
11 objects of expenditure, allocations, and appropriations for the current
12 fiscal year, to determine if expenditures will effectively implement
13 those divisions' goals and objectives.

14 (e) The commission shall review the state plan prepared in accor-
15 dance with AS 47.75.040.

16 Sec. 47.47.070. SUPPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT. The department shall

17 (1) provide the commission with technical and other assis-
18 tance, including secretarial and clerical services;

19 (2) submit to the commission, simultaneously with transmittal
20 to the division of budget and management in the Office of the Governor,

21 (A) the budget of the divisions of public assistance and
22 social services in the department for the succeeding fiscal year;
23 and

24 (B) any transfers or changes in those divisions between
25 objects of expenditure, allocations, and appropriations for the
26 current fiscal year;

27 (3) send representatives to public hearings held by the
28 commission when the commission so requests.

29 Sec. 47.47.080. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

1 (1) "commission" means the Social Services and Public Assis-
2 tance Advisory Commission;

3 (2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department
4 of Health and Social Services;

5 (3) "department" means the Department of Health and Social
6 Services.

7 * Sec. 2. AS 47.75.040(b) and (c) are amended to read:

8 (b) At least 90 days before the first day of each regular legis-
9 lative session, the department shall publish and make available to the
10 public, the Social Services and Public Assistance Advisory Commission,
11 and members of the legislature the proposed state plan for the following
12 fiscal year.

13 (c) The department shall conduct public hearings for the purpose
14 of obtaining comment on the proposed state plan as provided for in the
15 Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) and receive written comment on
16 the plan.