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Referred: Judiciary and  
Finance

BY ANDERSON, FULLER,  
HURLBERT, MARTIN, MILLER,  
MUNSON, OSTERBACK, PARR  
AND SCHAEFFER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 195 am

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for an advisory committee on judicial  
7 sentencing practices; and providing for an effective  
8 date."

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

10 \* Section 1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL SENTENCING PRACTICES. There  
11 is established the Advisory Committee on Judicial Sentencing Practices as a  
12 temporary committee to assist the Judicial Council in its review, investiga-  
13 tion, and formulation of responses to problems and concerns arising out of  
14 the Judicial Council's findings of apparent discrimination in the sentencing  
15 of minority persons convicted of crimes in the courts of the state.

16 \* Sec. 2. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The Advisory Committee on Judicial Sentencing  
17 Practices is composed of nine members, selected as follows:

18 (1) three members, appointed by the Judicial Council, who shall be  
19 broadly representative of criminal justice agencies;

20 (2) three Alaska Natives, one appointed by the governor, and one  
21 by the presiding officer of each house of the legislature;

22 (3) two Blacks, one appointed by the presiding officer of each  
23 house of the legislature; and

24 (4) one member from another minority, appointed by the governor.

25 (b) Appointments shall be made with due consideration to the availa-  
26 bility and willingness of an appointee to devote the time and efforts neces-  
27 sary to permit the committee to function effectively, and with regard to the  
28 degree of commitment of an appointee to the principle of equal justice under  
29 law for all people. Appointments shall be without regard to political affil-

1 iation, and shall be made, if possible, within 20 days of the effective date  
2 of this Act, or of the effective date of any vacancy in the membership of the  
3 committee.

4 (c) Vacancies in office shall be appointed in the manner provided in  
5 (a) of this section.

6 \* Sec. 3. COMPENSATION. The members of the Advisory Committee on Judi-  
7 cial Sentencing Practices do not receive compensation for their services, but  
8 they are entitled to the same travel pay and per diem as state officials and  
9 employees.

10 \* Sec. 4. CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN. The members of the Advisory Com-  
11 mittee on Judicial Sentencing Practices shall elect a chairman and vice-  
12 chairman from the members of the committee.

13 \* Sec. 5. MEETINGS. The Advisory Committee on Judicial Sentencing Prac-  
14 tices shall meet at least once every two months to carry out its duties under  
15 this Act. The first meeting of the committee shall be convened at the call  
16 of the chairman of the Alaska Judicial Council not later than 20 days  
17 following appointment of the nine members of the committee.

18 \* Sec. 6. DUTIES. The Advisory Committee on Judicial Sentencing Prac-  
19 tices shall

20 (1) receive and review reports concerning sentencing, correction,  
21 probation, and parole practices and procedures, with particular regard to the  
22 treatment of individuals who are members of racial or cultural minorities;

23 (2) hold public hearings and meetings to determine whether racial  
24 or cultural minorities are being unfairly disadvantaged in their involvement  
25 with the criminal justice system; and

26 (3) complete a report with recommendations for the correction of  
27 abuses and violations of the civil rights of racial or cultural minorities  
28 that may be found to exist in the criminal justice system, furnishing copies  
29 to the Judicial Council, the governor and the presiding officer of each house

1 of the legislature not later than February 1, 1980.

2 \* Sec. 7. TERMINATION. The Advisory Committee on Judicial Sentencing  
3 Practices terminates February 29, 1980.

4 \* Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately in accor-  
5 dance with AS 01.10.070(c).

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