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Referred: Judiciary and
Finance

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AND SCHAEFFER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 195 am S

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 minority
7 judicial sentencing practices; and providing for an
8 effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY JUDICIAL SENTENCING PRACTICES

11 There is established the Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing
12 Practices as a temporary committee to assist the Judicial Council in its
13 review, investigation, and formulation of responses to problems and concerns
14 arising out of the Judicial Council's findings of apparent discrimination in
15 the sentencing of minority persons convicted of crimes in the courts of the
16 state.

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

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

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

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

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

26 (b) Appointments shall be made with due consideration to the availa-
27 bility and willingness of an appointee to devote the time and efforts neces-
28 sary to permit the committee to function effectively, and with regard to the
29 degree of commitment of an appointee to the principle of equal justice under

1 law for all people. Appointments shall be without regard to political affil-
2 iation, and shall be made, if possible, within 20 days of the effective date
3 of this Act, or of the effective date of any vacancy in the membership of the
4 committee.

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

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

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

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

19 * Sec. 6. DUTIES. The Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing
20 Practices shall

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

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

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

1 to the Judicial Council, the governor and the presiding officer of each house
2 of the legislature not later than February 1, 1980.

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

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

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