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BY MILLER, ANDERSON, COTTEN,  
DUNCAN, ELIASON, FREEMAN, MILES,  
MUNSON AND GARDINER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 361

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a State Committee on Services to  
7 the Elderly."

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

9 \* Section 1. The legislature finds that:

10 (1) the state provides more than 25 different services and bene-  
11 fits to senior citizens, administered by 11 different state agencies;

12 (2) the state spends nearly \$50 million on services and benefits  
13 for more than 15,000 citizens over 60 years of age;

14 (3) many of these senior citizens were pioneers who devoted their  
15 best years to the making of Alaska, are now facing the disabilities and  
16 financial limitations of their retirement years, and deserve the best that  
17 the state can provide them; and

18 (4) our elderly population could perhaps be more conveniently,  
19 economically, and effectively served by consolidating and coordinating the  
20 administration of these various state services and expenditures.

21 \* Sec. 2. There is established a State committee on Services to the  
22 Elderly composed of the following members to consider the problems and make  
23 recommendations regarding improved delivery of benefits and services to  
24 elderly Alaskans:

25 (1) the chairman of the standing House Health, Education and  
26 Social Services Committee, and one other member of the house, appointed by  
27 the speaker;

28 (2) the chairman of the standing Senate Health, Education and  
29 Social Services Committee, and one other member of the Senate, appointed by

1 the president;

2 (3) two representatives of the executive branch appointed by the  
3 governor; and

4 (4) five members appointed by the governor representing elderly  
5 citizens, including appropriate geographic and cultural diversity.

6 \* Sec. 3. The State Committee on Services to the Elderly shall

7 (1) explore possible alternative means to improve the efficiency,  
8 economy, and effectiveness in the delivery of state services and benefits to  
9 elderly citizens, including such alternatives as administrative consolida-  
10 tion, local administration and control, substituting cash benefits for direct  
11 services, and alternatives to institutionalization;

12 (2) consult with all state agencies currently providing services  
13 or benefits to elderly citizens, and solicit public input throughout the  
14 committee's investigations; and

15 (3) report to the legislature and make recommendations, including  
16 draft legislation and proposed funding levels, if appropriate, no later than  
17 January 15, 1980.

18 \* Sec. 4. This Act terminates at the end of the second session of the  
19 Eleventh Legislature.

20 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-  
21 070(c).

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