

Original sponsor: Buchholdt

Offered: 4/2/82  
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 412 (HESS)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to dental disease prevention programs  
in schools; and providing for an effective date."

7

8

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

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

\* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that an overwhelming percentage of children in the state have dental disease in the form of dental caries and periodontal disease. Dental disease in childhood can and does result in significant lifetime disability, pain, missing teeth, and the need for dentures. Poor nutrition in childhood is a major contributing factor in lifetime dental disability. The legislature also finds that dental disease in children and the resultant abnormalities in adults can be prevented by education and treatment programs for children. It is the intent of the legislature in enacting this Act to establish a dental disease prevention program for children under 13 years of age that will be financed and have standards established at the state level but that will be operated at the local level.

21

\* Sec. 2. AS 18 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

22

CHAPTER 09. DENTAL DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.

23

Sec. 18.09.010. DENTAL DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOLS.

24

(a) A school district or regional educational attendance area may offer a dental disease prevention program for school children under 13 years of age. The program shall include

25

26

27

28

29

(1) educational programs that promote dental health and are focused on development of personal practices by pupils; the educational programs shall include instruction in the causes and prevention of

1 dental diseases, nutrition and dental health, and the need for regular  
2 dental examinations and appropriate repair of existing defects;

3 (2) preventive services, including plaque control and super-  
4 vised application of topical or systemic prophylactic agents, or both,  
5 for caries prevention; services may include an information program for  
6 parents in nutrition and in the use of topical and systemic flouride  
7 treatment; services may not include dental restoration, orthodontics, or  
8 extraction of teeth.

9 (b) An act performed or service provided under this chapter that  
10 constitutes the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene shall be per-  
11 formed, provided by, or subject to the supervision of a dentist licensed  
12 in accordance with the provisions of AS 08.36 or AS 08.32.

13 Sec. 18.09.020. ADVISORY BOARD. A school district or regional  
14 educational attendance area may establish an advisory board consisting  
15 of representatives from education, dental professions, and parent groups,  
16 or may use an existing health advisory body to advise on dental health  
17 programs under this chapter. An advisory board or body shall hold a  
18 public meeting at least twice a year so that interested persons may  
19 provide testimony on the dental health needs of the community.

20 Sec. 18.09.030. STANDARDS. The Department of Health and Social  
21 Services shall by regulation establish standards for the dental disease  
22 prevention program.

23 Sec. 18.09.040. PROGRAM PROPOSALS. A school district or regional  
24 educational attendance area in cooperation with a local advisory board  
25 or body shall submit a proposal for a dental disease prevention program  
26 to the department by July 1 of each year. The proposal shall include  
27 the methods by which the program will be implemented in the school  
28 district or regional educational attendance area.

29 Sec. 18.09.050. APPROVAL OF PROGRAM. The department shall review

1 program proposals submitted under AS 18.09.040 and approve those pro-  
2 grams that meet standards established under AS 18.09.030. The depart-  
3 ment shall reimburse a school district or regional educational attend-  
4 ance area that has an approved program for expenses incurred for the  
5 programs and services described in AS 18.09.010.

6 Sec. 18.09.060. JOINT PROGRAMS. The school district or regional  
7 educational attendance area may contract with public and private non-  
8 profit agencies, as well as with other school districts and regional  
9 educational attendance areas, in conducting a dental disease prevention  
10 program.

11 Sec. 18.09.070. ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. The  
12 Department of Education may assist the department and school districts  
13 and regional educational attendance areas in developing in-service  
14 training programs in dental health and dental disease prevention for  
15 teachers and parents of children under 13 years of age. The technical  
16 content of the training programs shall meet standards set by the depart-  
17 ment under AS 18.09.030.

18 Sec. 18.09.080. WITHDRAWAL BY PARENT. The parent or guardian of a  
19 child may withdraw the child from participation in all or a portion of a  
20 dental disease prevention program by giving written notice to the school  
21 district or regional educational attendance area.

22 Sec. 18.09.090. PARTICIPATION BY PRIVATE SCHOOLS. The standards  
23 established by the department under AS 18.09.030 shall include proce-  
24 dures by which a child in a private school in the state may receive the  
25 benefits of the dental disease prevention program.

26 Sec. 18.09.100. REPORTS. (a) By January 1 of each year the  
27 school district or regional educational attendance area shall submit to  
28 the department a report on a dental disease prevention program estab-  
29 lished by this chapter. The report shall contain information specified

1 by the department and shall include the number of children who

- 2 (1) participated in the program;  
3 (2) were examined;  
4 (3) required dental care;  
5 (4) were treated;  
6 (5) require further treatment.

7 (b) By February 1 of each year the department shall submit to the  
8 legislature a report on all activities under the dental disease preven-  
9 tion program including a summary of the information submitted under (a)  
10 of this section.

11 Sec. 18.09.110. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "department" means  
12 the Department of Health and Social Services.

13 \* Sec. 3. (a) The Department of Health and Social Services shall, by  
14 March 1, 1983, adopt regulations required by AS 18.09.030.

15 (b) The initial program proposals of the school districts and regional  
16 educational attendance areas under AS 18.09 shall be filed with the Depart-  
17 ment of Health and Social Services by July 1, 1983.

18 (c) A school district or regional educational attendance area shall  
19 submit the initial report under AS 18.09.100(a) by January 1, 1984.

20 (d) The Department of Health and Social Services shall submit the  
21 initial report under AS 18.09.100(b) by February 1, 1984.

22 \* Sec. 4. The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee shall conduct an  
23 evaluation of the dental disease prevention program provided by sec. 2 of  
24 this Act during the fourth year of the program. The committee shall evaluate  
25 the cost effectiveness of the program and the impact of the program on state  
26 expenditures for medical and dental care. The committee shall submit its  
27 report to the legislature by January 15, 1988.

28 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1982.