

Introduced: 4/1/81
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY CLOCKSIN

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 451

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a prisoner treatment program; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. (a) The legislature finds that
10 persons who are convicted of violent crimes or sexual offenses are likely to
11 commit acts of violence in the future. Physical and sexual violence is
12 learned behavior which can be altered through counseling and rehabilitation.
13 In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of all persons in the
14 state, it is necessary to provide treatment to persons convicted of violent
15 crimes or sexual offenses or who exhibit violent behavior before they are
16 released into the community.

17 (b) It is the purpose of this Act to

18 (1) establish a program of treatment for persons convicted of
19 violent crimes or sexual offenses who are serving terms of imprisonment;
20 (2) help control violent behavior by providing continuing treat-
21 ment for persons released from imprisonment who have been convicted of vio-
22 lent crimes or sexual offenses.

23 (3) authorize the Department of Health and Social Services to
24 admit persons convicted of offenses who exhibit violent behavior into the
25 program when the department determines the treatment will be beneficial.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 33.30 is amended by adding new sections to read:

27 ARTICLE 4. PRISONER TREATMENT PROGRAM.

28 Sec. 33.30.400. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. There is established the
29 prisoner treatment program to provide treatment to prisoners in state

1 prison facilities located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. The
2 program shall include

3 (1) education about violent behavior and methods of control-
4 ling violent behavior such as stress management training, anger manage-
5 ment training, assertiveness training, and sex education;

6 (2) individual and group therapy and counseling;

7 (3) assistance in preparing for release from the prison
8 facility;

9 (4) counseling after release or providing for counseling
10 after release from other agencies.

11 Sec. 33.30.410. QUALIFICATIONS. (a) To qualify for admission to
12 the prisoner treatment program a person shall

13 (1) meet qualifications established by the department; and

14 (2) be serving a sentence in a state prison facility located
15 in Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau for conviction of a felony under
16 AS 11.41; or

17 (3) be serving a sentence in a state prison facility located
18 in Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau, and have a history of at least one
19 prior conviction in this or another jurisdiction of an offense having
20 elements substantially identical to a felony under AS 11.41.

21 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a person may be accepted
22 into the prisoner treatment program at the discretion of the department
23 and his participation in the program may be terminated at any time.

24 Sec. 33.30.420. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The department shall

25 (1) administer the prisoner treatment program;

26 (2) determine qualifications for personnel and hire personnel
27 to conduct the prisoner treatment program;

28 (3) adopt regulations necessary to carry out the provisions
29 of AS 33.30.400 - 33.30.420;

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(4) present a report on the prisoner treatment program to
the legislature within 30 days of the beginning of each regular session.
* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1981.