

Introduced: 3/11/81
Referred: Judiciary

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 266

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 an official policy of using
7 neutral pronouns in Alaska Statutes; and providing for
8 an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. POLICY. The constitution and laws of Alaska prohibit
11 discrimination because of sex. In keeping with the spirit of those pro-
12 hibitions the legislature now recognizes the inherent bias our laws oc-
13 casioned by an official policy calling for the use of the masculine pronoun
14 in the Alaska Statutes. The legislature finds that the interest of all
15 Alaskans would be best served by eliminating all vestiges of sexual dis-
16 crimination. The legislature declares a step in that endeavor by establish-
17 ing in this Act the official policy of eliminating, whenever possible, the
18 use of sexually explicit pronouns in the Alaska Statutes.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 01.05.031(b)(10) is amended to read:

20 (10) change all sections, when possible, to read in the
21 present tense, indicative mood, active voice, [THIRD PERSON, AND SIN-
22 GULAR NUMBER,] or any other necessary grammatical change in the manner
23 generally followed in the Alaska Statutes;

24 * Sec. 3. AS 01.05.031 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 (c) The revisor shall edit and revise the laws enacted by the
26 legislature, without changing the meaning of any law, so as to eliminate
27 sexually explicit pronouns.

28 * Sec. 4. AS 01.10.050(c) is amended to read:

29 (c) Words of any gender may, when the sense so indicates, refer

1 to any other gender [THE MASCULINE GENDER INCLUDE THE FEMININE AND THE
2 NEUTER AND WHEN THE SENSE SO INDICATES, WORDS OF THE NEUTER GENDER MAY
3 REFER TO ANY GENDER].

4 * Sec. 5. The revisor is directed to implement the policies established
5 by this Act by eliminating sexually explicit pronouns in the Alaska Statutes
6 as they are scheduled for reprinting.

7 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
8 070(c).

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