

Offered: 4/20/82  
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Fischer

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION  
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 799 (HESS)

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Alaska senior citizen employ-  
7 ment team program and fund; and providing for an effec-  
8 tive date."

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

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\* Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The legislature finds that the wealth  
11 of experience, expertise, and wisdom of older Alaskans constitutes a valuable  
12 state resource. It is the intent of the legislature that this resource be  
13 developed in order to address the needs and problems of Alaskans, to enable  
14 older Alaskans to earn a reasonable wage, and to improve the general welfare  
15 of the people of the state.

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\* Sec. 2. PURPOSE. This Act provides for the Alaska senior citizen  
17 employment team (ASCET) program of full-time and part-time employment in  
18 community volunteer service. The purpose of this Act is to strengthen and  
19 supplement efforts to eliminate human, social, and environmental problems in  
20 Alaska by encouraging and enabling Alaska residents 60 years of age and older  
21 from all walks of life to perform meaningful and constructive service to  
22 their communities, and, if they have business experience, to assist persons  
23 in small business enterprises.

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\* Sec. 3. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. The Alaska senior citizen employment team  
25 program is established under the Older Alaskans Commission, Department of  
26 Administration. The executive director of the Older Alaskans Commission is  
27 the director of the program.

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\* Sec. 4. FUND ESTABLISHED. (a) The Alaska senior citizen employment  
29 team fund is established in the Department of Administration and consists of

1 money appropriated to it by the legislature.

2 (b) The fund shall be administered by the director for the following  
3 purposes:

4 (1) to reimburse participating program sponsors for wages paid to  
5 an enrollee and expenses incurred on behalf of an enrollee under terms of  
6 this Act;

7 (2) to employ or contract for staff and services necessary to  
8 accomplish the purposes of this Act.

9 \* Sec. 5. ENROLLEES. The director shall recruit, select, and enroll  
10 Alaska residents 60 years of age and older to perform full-time and part-time  
11 service in eligible programs under sec. 6 of this Act. The director may  
12 provide short-term training necessary to make the most effective use of the  
13 skills and talents of enrollees.

14 \* Sec. 6. CONTRACTS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF ENROLLEES. (a) The director may  
15 contract

16 (1) for the employment of an enrollee by a nonprofit organization,  
17 by a unit of local government, or by the sponsor of an older Alaskans service  
18 program under AS 47.65 to accomplish a purpose of this Act;

19 (2) with a person engaged in small business for the employment of  
20 an enrollee with business experience related to that small business; a con-  
21 tract under this paragraph shall provide that the enrollee is employed only  
22 to advise and assist in establishing or conducting the small business.

23 (b) A contract under (a) of this section shall provide for the employ-  
24 ment of an enrollee at a wage of not less than \$5 an hour and may provide  
25 that an enrollee may work full time or part time, may share the job with  
26 another person, and may arrange to work on a "flex-time" basis. The contract  
27 shall require an employer of an enrollee to establish a procedure for an  
28 enrollee to present and obtain resolution of grievances with the employer  
29 concerning terms and conditions of employment. The procedure shall provide

1 the enrollee with notice and the opportunity to be heard. The contract shall  
2 require the program sponsor to pay the wages of the enrollee, to provide all  
3 employee benefits required by state and federal law, and to provide the  
4 enrollee with a written description of the duties to be performed by the  
5 enrollee. The contract shall specifically provide that the program sponsor  
6 will not discriminate with respect to the program because of age, race,  
7 creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status,  
8 parental status, physical disability, or political affiliation. The contract  
9 shall provide that the enrollee may not be employed to displace an employee  
10 who is not an enrollee. The director upon request shall provide an enrollee  
11 employed under this program with a copy of the enrollee's contract of employ-  
12 ment.

13 (c) An employer is eligible to receive reimbursement of all or a por-  
14 tion of the wages paid to an enrollee, and expenses authorized by the direc-  
15 tor and incurred on behalf of an enrollee, in amounts specified in the con-  
16 tract of employment and in a manner prescribed by regulations issued by the  
17 director.

18 (d) The director shall assign an enrollee to work in the community in  
19 which the enrollee resides, or a nearby community, unless the enrollee agrees  
20 to serve elsewhere in the state.

21 \* Sec. 7. AUDIT. A program or business employing an enrollee under this  
22 Act is subject to audit by the legislative audit division.

23 \* Sec. 8. ANNUAL REPORT. The director shall submit to the legislature  
24 each January a report of the activities of the Alaska senior citizen employ-  
25 ment team program.

26 \* Sec. 9. REGULATIONS. The director shall issue regulations necessary to  
27 accomplish the purposes of this Act.

28 \* Sec. 10. DEFINITIONS. In this Act,

29 (1) "director" means the executive director of the Older Alaskans

1 Commission (AS 44.21.200);

2 (2) "enrollee" means a person enrolled in the Alaska senior citi-  
3 zen employment team program;

4 (3) "resident" means a person who for 12 consecutive months imme-  
5 diately preceding enrollment in the Alaska senior citizen employment team  
6 program has maintained a permanent place of abode in the state and has con-  
7 tinually maintained a voting residence in the state.

8 \* Sec. 11. This Act is repealed June 30, 1987.

9 \* Sec. 12. This Act takes effect July 1, 1982.

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