

Offered: 2/29/84
Referred: Rules

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1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 247 (Finance)

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to child care centers in state
7 buildings; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. (a) The legislature finds that it
10 is in the public interest to foster the productivity of Alaska workers and
11 to encourage and assist Alaska parents to further their own formal educa-
12 tion. The achievement of these goals will be served by establishing facil-
13 ities for quality child care services in or near the workplace and on the
14 campuses of the University of Alaska and the state's community colleges.
15 To that end, this Act provides for the creation of privately run child care
16 centers in state buildings.

17 (b) It is the intent of the legislature that this action will encour-
18 age private employers to provide adequate child care facilities for their
19 employees.

20 * Sec. 2. AS 35.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

21 Sec. 35.10.021. CHILD CARE CENTERS IN STATE BUILDINGS. (a) The
22 person or agency responsible for planning the construction, expansion,
23 or major renovation of a building owned or leased by the state shall
24 obtain from the Department of Labor and the Department of Community
25 and Regional Affairs a determination of the need for a child care
26 center in the building. The determination shall be based on an as-
27 sessment of

28 (1) the child care needs of public and private employees
29 who work in the building or in neighboring buildings;

1 (2) the child care needs of students who attend classes or
2 other school functions in the building or in neighboring buildings;

3 (3) the availability of licensed child care centers located
4 within a convenient distance from the building; and

5 (4) the economic feasibility of operating a child care
6 center in the building.

7 (b) If the Department of Labor and the Department of Community
8 and Regional Affairs determine under (a) of this section that a child
9 care center is needed in a building that is owned or leased by the
10 state, plans for construction, expansion, or major renovation of the
11 building shall include plans for a child care center in the building.
12 The child care center shall be designed to meet all licensing require-
13 ments.

14 (c) The person or agency responsible for assigning or leasing
15 space in a building in which a licensed child care center under this
16 section is required to be located shall consult with the Department of
17 Community and Regional Affairs and shall lease space in the building
18 to a private child care services provider for the operation of the
19 child care center.

20 (d) Use of a child care center in a building owned or leased by
21 the state is open to the public.

22 (e) The requirements of (a) and (b) of this section do not apply
23 to a building leased by the state under a pre-built lease providing
24 for renovations for the state if the building cannot meet or be ren-
25 ovated to meet the indoor and outdoor space requirements for a child
26 care center that are established under regulations adopted by the
27 Department of Health and Social Services.

28 (f) If the Department of Community and Regional Affairs deter-
29 mines that more than one provider that is qualified to operate a child

1 care center under this section is available, the department shall
2 invite providers to submit bids on a competitive basis for a lease of
3 space to operate a child care center under this section. The lease
4 shall provide for the rental of space at a rate equal to the average
5 cost per square foot of space leased by child care providers in the
6 community in which the building is located, as determined by the
7 Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

8 (g) In this section

9 (1) "building" means a building in which the space occupied
10 by state employees is used primarily for administrative, clerical,
11 educational, or executive functions;

12 (2) "leased" means leased under a pre-built lease with
13 provisions for renovations for the state or under a lease for a build-
14 ing to be built according to state specifications, but "leased" does
15 not include the renewal of existing leases.

16 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
17 10.070(c).