

Introduced: 3/5/84
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 520

3

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 the establishment of a statewide
7 mental health rehabilitation center; and providing
8 for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The Alaska State Legislature finds that both
11 children and adults who suffer from chronic and debilitating psychiatric
12 illness are among the most underserved of all of Alaska's citizens. Such
13 persons are unable to provide for their daily needs, and require assistance
14 to maintain themselves as functioning members of our communities. For
15 some, long-term maintenance care is required, with on-going residential
16 supervision and assistance including vocational rehabilitation, continuing
17 education, special education, psychotherapy, and opportunities for shel-
18 tered employment, in order to participate minimally as functioning members
19 of society. Therefore, the Alaska State Legislature finds that there is a
20 need for a statewide mental health rehabilitation center in Alaska.

21 * Sec. 2. AS 47 is amended by adding new sections to read:

22 ARTICLE 1. MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION CENTER.

23 47.30.010. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The
24 department shall operate a statewide mental health rehabilitation
25 center and adopt regulations under the Administrative Procedure Act
26 (AS 44.62) necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

27 47.30.020. STATEWIDE MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION CENTER.
28 There is created a statewide mental health rehabilitation center for
29 the emotionally disabled which shall operate as a state facility. The

1 mental health rehabilitation center shall be under the jurisdiction of
2 the commissioner of the department of health and social services, who
3 shall consult with the commissioner of the department of education
4 regarding the mental health rehabilitation center's educational
5 program.

6 47.30.025. PURPOSE. The purpose of the mental health
7 rehabilitation center is to provide residential psychotherapy, voca-
8 tional rehabilitation and educational services to emotionally disabled
9 children and adults from urban and rural areas of the state based upon
10 referrals from school districts and other referral agencies throughout
11 the state.

12 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
13 10.070(c).