

Introduced: 4/22/85
Referred: Judiciary and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 393

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the rights of physically and
7 mentally disabled persons."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 09.20.010 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

10 (b) A person is not disqualified to act as a juror solely be-
11 cause of the loss of hearing or sight in any degree or a disability
12 that substantially impairs or interferes with the person's mobility.

13 (c) The court shall provide, and pay the cost of services of, an
14 interpreter or reader when necessary to enable a person with impaired
15 hearing or sight to act as a juror.

16 * Sec. 2. AS 18.06 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 Sec. 18.06.015. INTERPRETERS FOR DEAF PERSONS. A department,
18 office, agency, or other organizational unit of the state government,
19 or a political subdivision of the state, including the University of
20 Alaska, from which a deaf person seeks access to funds, services,
21 goods, facilities, advantages, or privileges shall pay the costs of
22 and provide an interpreter for the person.

23 * Sec. 3. AS 18.80.255 is amended to read:

24 Sec. 18.80.255. UNLAWFUL PRACTICES BY THE STATE OR ITS POLITI-
25 CAL SUBDIVISIONS. It is unlawful for the state or any of its politi-
26 cal subdivisions

27 (1) to refuse, withhold from or deny to a person any local,
28 state or federal funds, services, goods, facilities, advantages or
29 privileges because of race, religion, sex, physical or mental

1 disability, color or national origin;

2 (2) to publish, circulate, issue, display, post or mail a
3 written or printed communication, notice or advertisement which states
4 or implies that any local, state or federal funds, services, goods,
5 facilities, advantages or privileges of the office or agency will be
6 refused, withheld from or denied to a physically or mentally disabled
7 person or a person of a certain race, religion, sex, color or national
8 origin or that the patronage of a physically or mentally disabled
9 person or a person belonging to a particular race, creed, sex, color
10 or national origin is unwelcome, not desired or solicited.

11 * Sec. 4. AS 18.80.300 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

12 (15) "major life activities" means functions such as caring
13 for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing,
14 speaking, breathing, learning, and working;

15 (16) "physical or mental disability" means

16 (A) a physical or mental impairment that substantially
17 limits one or more major life activities,

18 (B) a history of, or a misclassification as having, a
19 mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or
20 more major life activities; or

21 (C) having

22 (i) a physical or mental impairment that does not
23 substantially limit a person's major life activities but
24 that is treated by the person as constituting such a limita-
25 tion;

26 (ii) a physical or mental impairment that sub-
27 stantially limits a person's major life activities only as a
28 result of the attitudes of others toward the impairment; or

29 (iii) none of the impairments defined in this

1 paragraph but being treated by others as having such an
2 impairment;

3 (D) a condition that may require the use of a
4 prosthesis, special equipment for mobility or service animal;

5 (17) "physical or mental impairment" means

6 (A) physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic
7 disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the
8 following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special
9 sense organs, respiratory including speech organs, cardiovascu-
10 lar, reproductive, digestive, genito-urinary, hemic and lymph-
11 atic, skin, and endocrine; or

12 (B) mental or psychological disorder, including mental
13 retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness,
14 and specific learning disabilities.