

1 IN THE SENATE

BY JOSEPHSON

2 SENATE BILL NO. 252

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to communications to a psychologist
7 or psychological associate by a client."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 08.86.200(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) A psychologist or psychological associate may not reveal to
11 another person a communication made to the psychologist or psychologi-
12 cal associate by a client about a matter concerning which the client
13 has employed the psychologist or psychological associate in a profes-
14 sional capacity. This section does not apply to

15 (1) a case conference with other psychologists, psychologi-
16 cal associates, or with physicians and surgeons;

17 (2) a [, OR IN THE] case in which the client in writing
18 authorized the psychologist or psychological associate to reveal a
19 communication;

20 (3) a case where an immediate threat of serious physical
21 harm to an identifiable victim is communicated to a psychologist or
22 psychological associate by a client;

23 (4) disclosures of confidential communications required
24 under Rule 504, Alaska Rules of Evidence; or

25 (5) proceedings conducted by the board where the disclosure
26 of confidential communications is necessary to defend against charges
27 by the client that the psychologist or psychological associate has
28 violated provisions of this chapter.

29 * Sec. 2. AS 08.86.200(b) is amended to read:

1 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a psychologist or
2 psychological associate shall report to the appropriate authority
3 incidents of child abuse or neglect as required by AS 47.17.020,
4 incidents of elder abuse as required by AS 47.24.010, and incidents of
5 abuse of incompetent persons disclosed to the psychologist or
6 psychological associate by a client.