

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 66 (HESS)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Alaska Commission on Chil-
7 dren and Youth; abolishing the Office of Child Advo-
8 cacy; and providing for an effective date."
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
10 * Section 1. AS 39.05.100(a) is amended to read:
11 (a) A person appointed to a board or commission of the state
12 government shall be and have been before the last general election,
13 (1) a registered voter in the state, if the appointment is made at
14 large or (2) a registered voter from the judicial district, if the
15 appointment is made from a specific judicial district. The student
16 member of the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska appointed
17 under AS 14.40.150(b)₁ [AND] the student member of the Alaska Commis-
18 sion on Postsecondary Education appointed under AS 14.42.015(e), and a
19 member of the Alaska Commission on Children and Youth appointed under
20 AS 44.19.521, are exempt from the requirement of this subsection if
21 the member was not old enough to be a registered voter in the last
22 general election.
23 * Sec. 2. AS 39.05.100(a) is amended to read:
24 (a) A person appointed to a board or commission of the state
25 government shall be and have been before the last general election,
26 (1) a registered voter in the state, if the appointment is made at
27 large or (2) a registered voter from the judicial district, if the
28 appointment is made from a specific judicial district. The student
29 member of the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska appointed

1 under AS 14.40.150(b) and [,] the student member of the Alaska Commis-
2 sion on Postsecondary Education appointed under AS 14.42.015(e) [, AND
3 A MEMBER OF THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH APPOINTED
4 UNDER AS 44.19.521,] are exempt from the requirement of this sub-
5 section if the member was not old enough to be a registered voter in
6 the last general election.

7 * Sec. 3. AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:
8 (50) Alaska Commission on Children and Youth (AS 44.19.521).

9 * Sec. 4. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

10 ARTICLE 17. ALASKA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

11 Sec. 44.19.521. CREATION OF COMMISSION. (a) There is created
12 in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Commission on Children and
13 Youth.

14 (b) The commission consists of four executive-branch members and
15 seven public members, who are appointed by, and serve in that capacity
16 at the pleasure of, the governor. The governor shall consider ap-
17 pointing to the commission persons who are under the age of 21. The
18 commission shall elect one of its members as chair. The chair may
19 appoint other officers as necessary.

20 Sec. 44.19.523. TERMS OF OFFICE; COMPENSATION. (a) The term of
21 office of a member of the commission is three years.

22 (b) A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original
23 appointment. A person appointed to a vacancy serves for the unexpired
24 portion of the term.

25 (c) Public members of the commission serve without compensation
26 for their services but are entitled to per diem and travel allowances
27 authorized under AS 39.20.180.

28 Sec. 44.19.525. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION. The commission may

29 (1) use legal, technical, secretarial, and administrative

- 1 services as may be provided by the governor;
- 2 (2) use voluntary and uncompensated services of private
- 3 persons and organizations as may be made available to the commission;
- 4 (3) receive, and use for operating purposes, money from the
- 5 federal government or other sources;
- 6 (4) hold public hearings;
- 7 (5) hire an executive director and technical and clerical
- 8 staff that are necessary to perform the duties of the commission; and
- 9 (6) take other actions reasonably necessary to carry out
- 10 the duties of the commission.

11 Sec. 44.19.527. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. (a) The commission

12 shall develop a comprehensive statewide plan that identifies the needs

13 of children and youth, individually and as they relate to their fam-

14 ilies, and makes recommendations to enhance their quality of life. In

15 meeting this charge, the commission may

16 (1) recommend the services and programs that should be

17 available for children and families in the areas of child care,

18 health, social services, education, special education, child protec-

19 tion, parent and staff training, nutrition, poverty, mental health,

20 safety, and employment of youth;

21 (2) identify the service needs of children and where gaps

22 and overlaps in services exist;

23 (3) monitor the emerging needs of and problems facing

24 children, and develop effective, comprehensive, and coordinated strat-

25 egies to address those needs and problems;

26 (4) develop and recommend adoption of a process for moni-

27 toring and evaluating children's programs;

28 (5) provide opportunities for the public to participate in

29 the planning and development of children's programs and policies;

1 (6) receive and act upon requests for recommendations from
2 state officials, members of state advisory committees, legislators,
3 representatives of the state court system, and providers of children's
4 services on matters related to children and youth;

5 (7) meet with and make recommendations to state officials
6 and members of advisory committees who are responsible for the expen-
7 diture of state and federal money;

8 (8) serve as a statewide clearinghouse for government and
9 nongovernment programs and resources relating to children, youth, and
10 families;

11 (9) serve as an advocate for the interests of children by
12 informing the public, including leaders of the business community,
13 educators, local and state officials, the legal system, and the commu-
14 nications media of the nature and scope of problems faced by children;

15 (10) coordinate efforts and consult and cooperate with
16 persons, organizations, and groups, including other boards and com-
17 missions, interested in the problems and concerns of children and
18 youth; and

19 (11) make recommendations to the governor, legislature, and
20 state officials with respect to legislation, regulations, and appro-
21 priations for programs or services that benefit children and youth.

22 (b) In formulating the strategy to address the needs of and
23 problems facing children, the commission shall actively solicit advice
24 and information from children and youth of all ages and socioeconomic
25 backgrounds. The commission shall also seek advice and information
26 from parents and children's services providers, including those with
27 expertise in the areas of mental health, health care, prenatal care,
28 adolescent drug and alcohol treatment, education, special education,
29 early childhood education, early childhood special education,

1 nonprofit funding sources, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence,
2 child care, dependence, delinquency and the justice system, minority
3 issues, and family support systems.

4 (c) The commission shall prepare and publish an annual report on
5 the status of children in the state and its recommendations and pro-
6 posals for change. The commission shall provide the governor and the
7 legislature with copies of the report by the 15th day of each regular
8 legislative session.

9 Sec. 44.19.529. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND STAFF SUPPORT. The
10 executive branch departments shall cooperate with the commission and
11 provide technical assistance to the commission upon the request of the
12 commission.

13 * Sec. 5. AS 39.50.200(b)(50), AS 44.19.521, 44.19.523, 44.19.525,
14 44.19.527, and 44.19.529 are repealed June 30, 1994.

15 * Sec. 6. AS 47.50.010, 47.50.020, 47.50.030, 47.50.040, and 47.50.050
16 are repealed.

17 * Sec. 7. TERMS OF INITIAL APPOINTEES. Notwithstanding AS 44.19.523,
18 enacted by sec. 4 of this Act, the governor shall set the terms of the
19 members initially appointed to the Alaska Commission on Children and Youth
20 so that four members serve three-year terms, four members serve two-year
21 terms, and three members serve one-year terms.

22 * Sec. 8. REVIEW OF LAWS RELATING TO CHILDREN. The Alaska Commission
23 on Children and Youth, established under sec. 4 of this Act, may review the
24 laws of the state with regard to matters involving children. If a review
25 is done, the commission shall prepare and publish a report of its findings
26 and recommendations and provide the governor and the legislature with
27 copies by January 1, 1991.

28 * Sec. 9. Section 2 of this Act takes effect June 30, 1994.

29 * Sec. 10. Except for sec. 2 of this Act, this Act takes effect

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CSHB 66 (H288)

1 July 1, 1989.