

Introduced: 1/23/89
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services and Finance

6-0596A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FISCHER

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SENATE BILL NO. 138 am

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the training of foster parents."

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

8 * Section 1. AS 47.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 Sec. 47.35.035. FOSTER PARENT TRAINING. (a) A person may not
10 be licensed under this chapter to maintain or conduct a foster home
11 unless the person has completed an orientation for foster parents
12 approved by the department. An orientation required under this sub-
13 section must provide information about foster care regulations, poli-
14 cies, and procedures; practical instruction about the realities of
15 caring for a child who is placed in a foster home; and other appro-
16 priate information.

17 (b) To maintain a license issued under this chapter for the
18 maintenance or conduct of a foster home, a licensee shall complete
19 annual foster parent training approved by the department. Training
20 under this subsection need not be conducted in a classroom setting,
21 but must include methods of instruction that meet the varying needs of
22 foster parents, the department and recognized foster parent asso-
23 ciations.

24 (c) The requirements for training under this section may not be
25 waived except that, in an emergency situation, the department may
26 place a child with an untrained licensee, but only until a trained
27 licensee is available.

28 * Sec. 2. AS 47.35.040(c) is amended to read:

29 (c) Except as provided in AS 47.35.035, the [THE] department may

1 waive compliance with a standard set out in regulations adopted under
2 AS 47.35.010 - 47.35.080 if an acceptable alternative is established
3 that meets the purpose of the provision and reasonably assures the
4 well-being of persons in care.

5 * Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of AS 47.35.035, as enacted by
6 sec. 1 of this Act, and AS 47.35.040(c), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act,
7 a licensee shall be considered to have completed annual training if the
8 licensee completes the training during either fiscal year 1990 or fiscal
9 year 1991. The Department of Health and Social Services may schedule
10 training so that approximately one-half of licensees receive training
11 during each of the fiscal years 1990 and 1991.