

Offered: 4/19/89
Referred: Rules

6-0596H

Original sponsor: Fischer

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 138 (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 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 person who has an emergency license.
27 The department shall by regulation establish the terms and conditions
28 under which an emergency license may be issued under this subsection
29 and the time period for which an emergency license is valid.

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

2 (c) Except as provided in AS 47.35.035, the [THE] department may
3 waive compliance with a standard set out in regulations adopted under
4 AS 47.35.010 - 47.35.080 if an acceptable alternative is established
5 that meets the purpose of the provision and reasonably assures the
6 well-being of persons in care.

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