

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 44 (FINANCE)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/11/92

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS KERTTULA, Pourchot, Duncan

REPRESENTATIVE Ivan

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the establishment and operation of state veterans' home facilities; and
2 providing for an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.** (a) The legislature finds that

5 (1) under the Veterans Health Services and Research Administration State Home Program
6 in the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, funds are available to help states establish state
7 veterans' homes;

8 (2) priority under the federal program is granted to states that have not previously
9 received a veterans' home grant and have high unmet needs for care of veterans;

10 (3) a large number of veterans reside in Alaska; and

11 (4) there is no state veterans' home to meet the needs of these veterans.

12 (b) The purpose of this Act is to direct the Department of Administration to establish and operate
13 state veterans' homes in such a manner as to be eligible for the maximum amount of federal funds for
14 the homes.

1 * Sec. 2. AS 44.21.020 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 44.21.020. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The Department of Administration shall

3 (1) [REPEALED

4 (2)] make surveys and studies to improve administrative procedures, methods, and
5 organization;

6 (2) [(3)] keep general accounts;

7 (3) [(4)] approve vouchers and disburse funds for all purposes;

8 (4) [(5)] operate centralized purchasing and supply services, and necessary
9 storerooms and warehouses;

10 (5) [(6)] allot space in state buildings to the various departments according to
11 need and available space;

12 (6) [(7)] supervise telephone, mailing, messenger, duplicating, and similar services
13 adaptable to centralized management;

14 (7) [(8)] administer the public employees' retirement system and teachers'
15 retirement system;

16 (8) [(9)] administer a statewide personnel program, including central personnel
17 services such as recruitment, examination, position classification, and pay administration;

18 (9) [(10)] administer the Alaska Pioneers' Homes;

19 (10) [(11)] administer and supervise a statewide automatic data processing
20 program;

21 (11) [(12) REPEALED

22 (13)] study, design, implement, and manage the telecommunications systems and
23 services of the state under AS 44.21.305 - 44.21.330;

24 (12) [(14)] administer the office of equal employment opportunity;

25 (13) administer state veterans' home facilities; in carrying out its duties under
26 this paragraph, the department shall consult with the Department of Military and Veterans'
27 Affairs.

28 * Sec. 3. AS 44.21 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 Sec. 44.21.035. STATE VETERANS' HOME FACILITIES. (a) The Department of
30 Administration shall apply for federal assistance to establish and operate state veterans' home
31 facilities that provide domiciliary care. The department, within available funds, shall establish

1 and operate veterans' homes at sites selected by the commissioner of administration after
2 consultation with the adjutant general and veterans' organizations.

3 (b) A person who resides in a veterans' domiciliary home operated under this section
4 shall pay the Department of Administration a monthly charge established by the department by
5 regulation in payment of the cost of the care. The charges shall be designed so that, when
6 combined with federal or other nonstate assistance that may be received on behalf of the
7 residents, all costs of care are paid by residents. The regulations may provide for exemptions
8 or reductions based upon hardship.

9 (c) In this section, "domiciliary care" means care given in a state home for veterans, as
10 that term is defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(19), that does not provide nursing home care or related
11 medical services and that meets the standards required under 38 U.S.C. 5034.

12 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).