

SENATE BILL NO. 59

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

Introduced: 1/21/91

Referred: State Affairs, HESS and Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act to establish the Alaska Council on the Homeless; and providing for an effective**
2 **date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

5 **ARTICLE 18. ALASKA COUNCIL ON THE HOMELESS.**

6 **Sec. 44.19.601. ALASKA COUNCIL ON THE HOMELESS ESTABLISHED.** The
7 **Alaska Council on the Homeless is established in the Office of the Governor.**

8 **Sec. 44.19.606. COMPOSITION.** (a) The council consists of 15 members appointed by
9 **the governor as follows:**

10 **(1) four members from the Department of Health and Social Services who are the**
11 **directors or program administrators in the following areas:**

12 **(A) mental health;**

13 **(B) alcoholism and drug abuse;**

14 **(C) medical assistance; and**

1 (D) public assistance;

2 (2) one member from the Department of Community and Regional Affairs who
3 is the director or program administrator for rural development;

4 (3) one member from the Department of Corrections who is the program
5 administrator or otherwise involved in the "New Start" program;

6 (4) one member from the Department of Education who is the director or program
7 administrator for adult education;

8 (5) two members from the Department of Administration who are the

9 (A) executive director of the Older Alaskans Commission;

10 (B) director or program administrator of the office of public advocacy;

11 (6) one member from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs;

12 (7) one member who is the executive director of the Alaska State Housing
13 Authority;

14 (8) one member from the United States Department of Housing and Urban
15 Development;

16 (9) one member from the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual
17 Assault;

18 (10) one member from the Alaska Job Service; and

19 (11) one member from the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless.

20 (b) The council by majority vote shall elect a chair and other officers it considers
21 necessary from among its membership.

22 (c) The term of office of a member appointed under (a)(9) - (11) of this section is three
23 years. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as
24 original appointments.

25 Sec. 44.19.611. COMPENSATION. Members of the council serve without compensation,
26 but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under
27 AS 39.20.180.

28 Sec. 44.19.616. MEETINGS. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for
29 conducting business and exercising the powers of the council. The commission shall meet at the
30 call of the chair, at the request of the majority of the members, or at a regularly scheduled time
31 determined by a majority of the members.

1 Sec. 44.19.621. DUTIES OF COUNCIL. The council shall

2 (1) review, monitor, evaluate, and recommend improvements in federal, state, and
3 local programs to assist the homeless;

4 (2) collect and disseminate information relating to the homeless;

5 (3) recommend changes in statutes, regulations, procedures, and policy to reduce
6 duplication of effort among federal, state, and local agencies;

7 (4) provide professional and technical assistance to state agencies, local
8 governments, and private or nonprofit organizations serving the homeless; and

9 (5) establish a field network to provide professional and technical assistance to
10 state agencies, local governments, and private agencies to alleviate the problems of the homeless.

11 Sec. 44.19.626. POWERS. To accomplish its purposes the council may

12 (1) hire an executive secretary and utilize support staff to be provided by the
13 Office of the Governor;

14 (2) select and retain the services of consultants whose advice is considered
15 necessary to assist the council in obtaining information, subject to legislative appropriation for
16 the purpose; and

17 (3) request the cooperation of executive branch departments and the provision of
18 technical assistance in fulfilling its purposes.

19 Sec. 44.19.631. ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. The council shall
20 submit to the governor and legislature by the third day of each regular legislative session a report
21 of

22 (1) its proceedings for the previous year;

23 (2) its assessment of the nature and extent of the problems of the homeless in the
24 state;

25 (3) the levels of state and local assistance necessary to meet their needs; and

26 (4) recommendations for legislative and administrative action to alleviate the
27 problems of the homeless.

28 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1991.