

SENATE CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 88(RLS)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/14/94
Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES BUNDE, Toohey, Porter, Martin, Sanders, B.Davis

SENATOR Lincoln

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing May 1 as Family Day and the month of May as
2 Preservation of the Family Month; and relating to the prevention of child abuse
3 and neglect in the family."

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

5 * **Section 1. FINDINGS.** The legislature makes the following findings:

6 (1) the term "Mayday" is a call for help, alerting others to distress and danger;
7 (2) the institution of the family has been in great danger of a gradual
8 disintegration for a long time, and people need to pay immediate attention to preserving the
9 family;

10 (3) in the month of May, people celebrate Mother's Day, which should remind
11 people of the famous quotation, "the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the
12 world";

13 (4) everyone agrees that the parental role is important in a society and that a
14 loving and caring family creates the best environment for the healthy growth of children;

1 (5) May 1 follows a month, April, that is dedicated to the prevention of child
2 abuse;

3 (6) May also represents spring, the growth of flowers, and the rejuvenation of
4 plants, life, and activity in nature.

5 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 44.12.075. FAMILY DAY AND FAMILY PRESERVATION MONTH.**

7 Family Day is established on May 1 of each year to celebrate the institution of the
8 family. The month of May each year is established as Preservation of the Family
9 Month to encourage the preservation of the institution of the family. Family Day and
10 Preservation of the Family Month may be observed by suitable observances by
11 families, such as a family discussion of the role of families, the changing definition
12 of the family in modern society, the rights and responsibilities of children and parents,
13 and appropriate methods for the resolution of violent feelings in family conflict, and
14 by exercises by civic groups and the public. In observance of Family Preservation
15 Month, the Department of Health and Social Services shall encourage the prevention
16 of child abuse and neglect in Alaska families.