

**HOUSE BILL NO. 464**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY REPRESENTATIVES FOSTER, Hoffman**

**Introduced: 2/11/94**  
**Referred: Judiciary, Finance**

**A BILL**  
**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing an Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing**  
2 **Practices; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 **\* Section 1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY JUDICIAL SENTENCING**  
5 **PRACTICES.** There is established the Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing  
6 Practices as a temporary committee to assist the judicial council in its review and investigation  
7 of, and formulation of responses to, problems and concerns arising out of the judicial council's  
8 findings of apparent discrimination in the sentencing of minority persons convicted of crimes  
9 in the courts of the state.

10 **\* Sec. 2. MEMBERSHIP.** (a) The Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing  
11 Practices is composed of nine members, selected as follows:

12 (1) three members, appointed by the judicial council, who shall be broadly  
13 representative of criminal justice agencies;

14 (2) three Alaska Natives, one appointed by the governor, and one by the

1 presiding officer of each house of the legislature;

2 (3) two African-Americans, one appointed by the presiding officer of each  
3 house of the legislature; and

4 (4) one member from another minority, appointed by the governor.

5 (b) Appointments shall be made with due consideration to the availability and  
6 willingness of an appointee to devote the time and efforts necessary to permit the committee  
7 to function effectively, and with regard to the degree of commitment of an appointee to the  
8 principle of equal justice under law for all people. Appointments shall be without regard to  
9 political affiliation and shall be made, if possible, within 20 days of the effective date of this  
10 Act, or of the effective date of any vacancy in the membership of the committee.

11 (c) Vacancies in office shall be filled in the manner provided in (a) of this section.

12 \* Sec. 3. COMPENSATION. The members of the Advisory Committee on Minority  
13 Judicial Sentencing Practices do not receive compensation for their services, but they are  
14 entitled to per diem and transportation expenses as provided for members of boards and  
15 commissions under AS 39.20.180.

16 \* Sec. 4. CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR. The members of the Advisory Committee on  
17 Minority Judicial Sentencing Practices shall elect a chair and vice-chair from the members of  
18 the committee.

19 \* Sec. 5. MEETINGS. The Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing Practices  
20 shall meet at least once every two months to carry out its duties under this Act. The first  
21 meeting of the committee shall be convened at the call of the chair of the Alaska Judicial  
22 Council not later than 20 days following appointment of the nine members of the committee.

23 \* Sec. 6. DUTIES. The Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing Practices  
24 shall

25 (1) receive and review reports concerning sentencing, correction, probation, and  
26 parole practices and procedures, with particular regard to the treatment of individuals who are  
27 members of racial or cultural minorities;

28 (2) hold public hearings and meetings to determine whether racial or cultural  
29 minorities are being unfairly disadvantaged in their involvement with the criminal justice  
30 system; and

31 (3) complete a report with recommendations for the correction of abuses and

1 violations of the civil rights of racial or cultural minorities that may be found to exist in the  
2 criminal justice system, furnishing copies to the judicial council, the governor, and the  
3 presiding officer of each house of the legislature not later than February 1, 1995.

4 \* Sec. 7. TERMINATION. The Advisory Committee on Minority Judicial Sentencing  
5 Practices terminates March 1, 1995.

6 \* Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).