

HB

396

HB 396

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Date
4/17

An Act relating to the sale of prepackaged non-narcotic, non-prescription medicines and drugs."

COMMITTEE REPORT

4/8/75

HOUSE

FINANCE

Mr. Speaker:

Date _____

The Committee on COMMERCE has had HB 396

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

() recommends it DO PASS

() recommends it DO NOT PASS

() recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)

() recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR _____ AND THAT

CS FOR _____ DO PASS

() "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE _____

COMMITTEE

() reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

() "other" *take also to Judiciary Comm.*

Members signing the Majority report:

<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____
<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____
<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

[Signature] Chairman

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JAN VAN DORT
LAWRENCE T. FEENEY
CHARLES N. DRENNAN

March 14, 1975

The Honorable Bob Bradley
Chairman, House Commerce Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Sale of non-narcotic, non-prescription
and prepackaged drugs.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

My associate Jan Van Dort has gone east for medical attention and is expected to return in 10 days.

He told me had had talked to you about the Commerce Committee introducing a bill on the above subject. The bill has now been drafted and I attach three copies.

I would appreciate the opportunity of appearing before your Committee to explain the purposes of the bill or attend any hearing unless the Committee is satisfied it does not need any further information.

I would like to be notified when the bill is introduced to the legislature.

Thanking you for your cooperation and consideration in this matter, I remain

Very truly yours,

N. C. Banfield
N. C. Banfield

NCB/aw
Enc.

cc: William Bailey

Tom:
Take this
over to legis.
affairs - ask
Sen. Kertula about
it - FIRST

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA H.B. 396

Alaska H.B. 396 is a bill intended to update current law relating to the sale of non-narcotic, non-prescription, over-the-counter (OTC) medicines (copy attached). Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will assure that such OTC medicines which are determined by the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be generally recognized as safe and effective and determined by the Alaska Commissioner of Health and Welfare to be safe for sale can be marketed in a wide variety of drug -- and general merchant -- outlets in Alaska. These medicines include such well-known products as Bayer Aspirin, Bufferin, Vicks, Dristan, Contac, Murine and the like.

There are a number of additional important reasons why Alaska H.B. 396 should be enacted:

1) In 1972 the Federal Food and Drug Administration began a comprehensive scientific review of all over-the-counter medicines by panels of experts. The findings from this review -- will determine those OTC medicines which are generally recognized as safe and effective by the panels and FDA and thus may be lawfully sold over-the-counter without a prescription. Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 would incorporate the results of this Federal review into the Alaska Pharmacy Act thereby assuring that Alaskan law will always be up-to-date on this point.

2) Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will mean that Alaskan citizens will always have safe and effective non-prescription medicines readily available and at convenient locations -- something which is especially important to those living in rural and semi-rural areas, but helpful as well to urban and suburbanites who shop in supermarkets, department and variety stores, etc.

3) Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will bring about the lowest possible prices on such important health aids by assuring the widest possible competition -- very important during a period of inflation.

4) Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will guarantee that retailers -- drug and non-drug alike -- can continue to take advantage of modern cost-saving merchandising techniques such as self-service.



In summary, Alaska H.B. 396 is a timely and important bill for the 1975 Session. It is a measure which will spell out clearly the legislature's determination that:

-- non-narcotic, non-prescription OTC medicines approved the the Federal Food and Drug Administration as safe and effective and determined by the Alaska Commissioner of Health and Welfare as safe for sale can be sold by a wide variety of retail outlets in Alaska.

-- the public's right to buy products helpful to them in self-care at convenient locations and competitive prices will be assured.

-- the results of a comprehensive Federal scientific review of all non-prescription medications will be fully incorporated into Alaska law.

Passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will represent an important assurance from the state legislature to all Alaskan citizens that low-cost, safe and effective non-prescription medicines will be available for sale. Importantly, passage of Alaska H.B. 396 will mean that Alaska law will be in substantial uniformity with the corresponding provisions of the laws of the other forty-nine states of the United States.

April 11, 1975