

CSSB

28 AM

"An Act relating to the capacity of persons to consent to marriage; and providing for an effective date."

2/10/75

COMMITTEE REPORT

JUDICIARY

HOUSE

Mr. Speaker:

Date

2-25-75

The Committee on HESS has had CSSB 28 am

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

recommends it DO PASS AS AMENDED

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"

Members signing the Majority report:

[Handwritten Signature]  
[Handwritten Signature]  
[Handwritten Signature]  
[Handwritten Signature]

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

[Handwritten Signature] Chairman

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE:

By: HESS COMMITTEE

To: \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSE BILL No. \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE BILL No. CSSB 28 am

PAGE: 1

LINE: 20

Page : 1

Line: 22

(1) After the word 'may' insert:

following determination that it is in the best interest  
of the minor,

(2) After the word 'license' put a (c) and ~~may~~ insert:

'Consent shall be granted by the court pursuant to the rules  
of children's procedure.'



JUNEAU ALASKA

# Alaska State Legislature

## House

HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE

2-24-75

Members Present:

Beirne            Parr  
Hackney        Sullivan  
Ose  
Ostrosky

Chairman Sullivan called the meeting to order at 3:00. The first order of business was SB 28.

Senator Ziegler is one of the sponsors of CSSB 28 and gave a short briefing of the bill. As the Statute now reads, no one under the age of 19 can be married with or without the consent of the parents unless pregnancy has been determined. This bill was originally intended to lower that age to 18 and any age under that with the consent of the parents. However, with the addition of Sec. C, the intent has been changed and I'm not really sure what that Section means?!

Ose I move and ask we pass this bill out with unanimous consent.

Ostrosky Objection, I am troubled by Section C also and wouldn't want this bill passed out in this form.

Parr In Subsection C, before going to the Judge for permission, would there be a meeting set up between the parents and the Judge to aid him in his decision?

Ziegler I would think this would be an informal meeting. The applicant would probably set up a meeting. There would be no such requirement under this bill. The parents would not have to be contacted.

Beirne I don't think section C helps this bill in any way.

Hackney Would like to hear from a Judge on this matter. Possibly from the Juvenile Courts.

Ziegler Superior Court Judge Harold Butcher in Anchorage would be the most knowledgeable on this subject. Locally I don't know who it would be. One suggestion would be "below 18 they may obtain a license without the consent of the parents if she is pregnant." That's what the existing law now reads. The damage was inadvertently done to this bill last year so what I ask of you is to clean it up before passing it out.

Sullivan Personally, I have received a volume of calls on this subject.

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HESS Meeting  
2-24-75

Hackney I fail to see the rush on th's bill.

Parr Perhaps a period after 'license' in line 23 would clear up that section.

Sullivan How about Judge Stewart testifying on this bill?

Ose Prior to last year there was the parental consent to marriage and I've never heard of its being abused. I think we should just pass this thing out, doesn't seem to me there is any big problem here.

Hackney I would still like to hear testimony from a Judge.

The rest of the Committee were all in agreement with Mr. Hackney and it was decided that the bill be put off until such time as a Judge may be contacted and testify on the bill.

Chairman Sullivan also called the Committee Meeting for Tuesday at 10:30 as well as 3:00.

Meeting Adjourned.

McLaughlin Budget  
Statistics

313-620  
25-600 ml/666

Dave

Dave Arnold

Box 433-C SRA  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
February 12, 1975

Re: Adopted Substitute for SB#28

Recommendation: Do pass, unamended as received by your committee  
from the Senate

Remarks:

We are aware that the present law is an attempt to thwart the minority of parent who, wishing to aid themselves of their children, coerce them into marriage. However, for parents of this caliber the law remaining as it now is, does not prevent the abuse of their children, only the kind they (the children) are subjected to. At the same time, the present law does encourage those under the age of eighteen to lie about their ages. It also encourages premature and unwanted pregnancy.

It is our feeling that in a matter as intensely personal as marriage, a family's judgement is still superior to that of the state. That we would retain for ourselves the right to make our own mistakes.

That having lived in Alaska for seventeen years we find the idea of our daughter being married away from family and friends very repugnant.

The law presently causes hardship and difficulty to the concerned conscientious majority of families, while changing very little the motives and intents of the minority.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Fuller, Jr

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Fuller, Jr

The Committee for Health, Education, and Social Services  
Susan Sullivan, Chairwoman  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska



Alaska State Legislature  
House

JUNEAU ALASKA

Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
May 27, 1975

Cindy Field  
2700 Gefford Place  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Ms. Field:

Thanks for your letter about Senate Bill 28 which changed the age of consent to marriage. As you probably know, this bill was signed into law by the Governor at the beginning of last month. The legislature acted as quickly as possible in this matter as there were several young couples in the State in your position.

Please feel free to contact me in the future if I can be of assistance, and Best Wishes!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Sullivan".

Susan Sullivan, Chairman  
House HESS Committee

SS:la

HCR 51?

Cindy Field  
2700 Jeffers Pl.  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99503

27 Feb. 1975

House Education & Social Services  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
Attn: Susan Sullivan

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

After calling Chancy Croft's office I found out that you are the head of the House Ed. & Social Ser. Committee. I am planning a wedding in 3 mon. and I need to know about the law you are trying to pass. I know all I can tell you is that I wish it would pass. I would like to know though, are you almost to the point where it (the bill) can be given to the Governor? Will this Congress keep the bill til the end of this session? After the Governor gets the bill, do they have to have it signed and out of his office in a certain amt. of time? I know all this doesn't mean alot to you, but it does to me because if this bill doesn't pass, my marriage will have to be called off. I'm sure

you can understand my position.  
I am only 17 and it makes  
a big difference to me.  
At the moment how exactly  
does the bill read?

Thank-you for your time,  
Cindy Field