

H/B - 190



Alaska State Legislature

House

JUNEAU ALASKA

HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 17, 1976

Present: Ostrosky Hackney
Davis Sullivan Beirne

Testified: Dick Block, Div. of Ins.
Bob Cole, Dept. H&SS
Ben Iverson, Dept. H&SS
Ken Ryals, Dept. H&SS

HB 190 Treatment of Alcoholism and Drug - Duncan, etc.

Dick Block, would provide a benefit that can be predicted whether or not it will be needed which may be uneconomical to insurance company's. The div. of insurance view is that it would be O.K. if mandated that it provided an option.

Bob Cole, Office of Alcoholism, supports bill, possibly with revision suggested by div. of insurance.

Committee response, decided not to do anything on this bill yet.

HB 793 - Annual advisory board meetings, public comment Dept. H&SS - Ostrosky

Ben Iverson, dept. encourages public input, but Ken Ryles doesn't feel that this is a practical method of community input.

No action by committee right now

HB 865 - Appropriation to Hope Cottage - HESS

Bob Gregovitch feels there is an extreme shortage of long term care of this type in Ak. Dept. is doing a study right now of the needs and wants to wait till thats done before they do anything like this., recomends not passing.

Ray Burt - Hope Cottage, feels that this bill would be beneficial for purposes of renovation, HC has been successful in the passed, also feels the Chugiak area would benefit from this

Committee discussion,

Hackney - recomends Amendment, (See Attached)

Vote on amendment, do pass

Vote on bill, do pass

POSITION PAPER

ON

HOUSE BILL #190

"An Act relating to treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction under group health and disability insurance plans".

This bill would broaden coverage available to persons experiencing problems with alcohol and drugs, as well as making way for third party payments through insurance costs to people receiving care in "licensed hospital or other licensed treatment facility".

In anticipation of the federal trend toward encouraging receipt of third party payments, the State Office of Drug Abuse has been developing standards for certification of personnel and programs as well as a licensing procedure.

Fiscal implications; less state general fund monies should be needed each year for drug and alcohol treatment once a commitment is made to license and accredit drug and alcohol treatment programs statewide.

Funds might then be freed to develop sound prevention programs, which should reduce the need for treatment and rehabilitation programs.

The long term benefits to the state would be improved care to clients, and eventually less general funds required. Training funds will be needed to raise personnel standards and level of functioning where needed. Training should be aimed at acquisition of skills rather than of hours of schooling.

The Department supports passage of this Bill.

Recommended by: Mary Beth Hilburn w/ cr
(Mary Beth Hilburn, Coordinator)

Date: March 3, 1975

Approved by: Francis S. Williamson
(Commissioner F. Williamson)

Date: March 18, 1975

Comments by Governor's Office:

By: _____ Date: _____

FEDERAL ALCOHOLISM FUNDING IN ALASKA PLACED IN PERSPECTIVE

Share for
HB. ? file

There has recently been published in both official documents and the media a wide range of figures purporting to show the amount of federal funds being spent in the State on the fight against Alaska's Number 1 Public Health Problem...Alcoholism.

Those quoting these figures have frequently mixed "apples and peaches" in that they have confused fiscal years with calendar years, one-, two-, and three-year grant periods, etc., presenting a total which most people assume to be that spent during one calendar year.

The most recent of these was in the "Alcoholism Report", a respected bi-weekly national newsletter on alcoholism, published in Washington, D.C. The report published a total of \$6,688,811 in "grants active as of September, 1975." This data was based upon information furnished by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and was factual insofar as it went. The average reader would almost naturally assume that the "grants active" were for this year.

NCA-AR Public Information Department was able to obtain, through courtesy of the Grants Management Division of NIAAA, a computer read-out of these grants for Alaska and has prepared the following chart (see reverse side) which spans three calendar years. A quick glance at this graph will show that the selection of September 1975 was a most unfortunate time period since at least 17 "grants active" were due to expire within one or two months and at least three had only begun operation a month or so prior to this date.

- NOTE: 1) The grants shown on this chart total a little over \$4,000,000 spread over almost three full years. The additional \$2,000,000 would be in formula grants and other specific-purpose grants to the State and other miscellaneous agencies.
- 2) The fourth grant listed, "NCA-AR \$1,500, 000" is for development of the Alaska Public Education Project multi-media educational campaign; \$450,000 of which is disbursed to the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (ANCADA), which is a "partner" in this project.
- 3) To assure production of quality materials, a time extension has been approved for the Alaska Public Education Project, through October 31, 1976 (no additional funds are involved).

Any legislator wishing further information or clarification to assist you in your work, please feel free to call upon NCA-AR and we will try to obtain the desired material for you.

2/19/76

NIAAA Research and Training Grants

1974

1975

1976

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov

Organization	Amount	1974	1975	1976
Rural Comm Prog.	110,000			
Alaska Federation of Natives	135,000			
ANCADA	385,000			
NCA-AR	1,500,000			XXXXXX
SDC	119,312			
Alaska Native Health Board	39,600			
Bethel-Atmautluak Council	10,000			
Brevig Mission Council	10,000			
Chuathbaluk Council	10,000			
Chugiak-Eklutna Council	10,000			
College-U of A	77,341			
Delta Jct. - Healy Lake Council	10,000			
Dillingham-Bristol Bay Area	10,000			
Fairbanks Native Assn.	335,000			
Gambell Village Council	10,000			
Golovin Village Council	10,000			
Grayling Village Council	10,000			
Juneau-Alaska State Dept Health	806,466			
Juneau-Alaska State Dept Health	50,000			
Juneau Alaska Native Brotherhood	10,000			
Kasigluk Village Council	10,000			
Kwigillingok Village Council	10,000			
Metla Katla Indian Community	62,154			
Minto Village Council	10,000			
Mt. Edgecumbe High School	62,300			
Nelson Lagoon Village	10,000			
Nikolai Village Council	10,000			
Nunapitchuk Village Council	10,000			
Pilot Station Village Council	6,000			
Shageluk Village Council	10,000			
ToK Native ASSN.	10,000			
ToK-Upper Tanana Reg. Council	114,900			
ToK-Upper Tanana Reg. Council	114,900			
ToK-Upper Tanana Reg. Council	114,900			