

HB

367

"An Act relating to the licensing of social workers; and providing for an effective date."

COMMITTEE REPORT

4/1/75

HOUSE

JUDICIARY
FINANCE

Mr. Speaker:

Date March 25, 1976

The Committee on HESS has had CS HB 367

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 HB 367 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:

<u>Helen B...</u>	<u>Do Pass</u>	_____
<u>...</u>	<u>Do Pass</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:

Kathryn Oster... recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

... recommends: NOREC

_____ Chairman



Alaska State Legislature

House

JUNEAU ALASKA

COMMITTEE MEETING HOUSE HESS

MARCH 26, 1976

Present: Sullivan Ostrosky
Parr Beirne Osterback

Testifying:

Elizabeth Shaw, NASW
Janis Price, NASW
Sister Andrea

HCR 111 - Boundary Change in Health Service Area - Rules

Sister Andrea - opposed to the bill- wants three HSA

Renninger, Dept. H&SS, also supports three HSA conceptually and fiscally

Bill not moved on,

HB 367 -Social Workers Licensing - Beirne

Beirne spoke on revised version of the bill, revised with assistance of Sharon Andrews, director of licensing. Went over provisions of the bill with committee. Some changes made on the draft

Mr. Price, Dept. H&SS, discussed minor points of bill. Stated that the bill requires all new employees to have MSW or change their title or requirements of certain jobs to hire people. Dept. does not have to fire any S.W. who are employed now or don't have MSW

Discussion around fiscal implications of all these new licensing bills. Probably will add one more full time person to the licensing division.

Motion passed for individual recommendations on the work draft copy to be a Committee Substitute.

HB 744 - Freedom of choice, medical procedures - Beirne

Mr. Heidersdorf, representing Alaskans for Life, not for the entire concept of the bill, feels there are some problems with it.

Committee discussion regarding suicide, also liability regarding disconnecting life sustaining measures, example Quinlan case.

Heidersdorf feels that people have the right to make this decision, but not 20 or 30 years before, people might change their ideas and minds. Also definition of extraordinary means, might change



JUNEAU ALASKA

Alaska State Legislature

House

HOUSE BILLS COMMITTEE MEETING

FEB 27, 1976

Present: All members present

Testifying: Bill Mollerstrom, National Assoc. of S.W.
Gene Reynolds, National Ass. of S.W.
Pam McMillan, Psychiatric Social Worker
Connie Harsh, Dept. H&SS
Mike Morgan,
Albert Patterson, Ak. Rehabilitation Assoc.

H.B. 367 (SB 645) Social Workers licensure Beirne

Connie Harsh, The Dept. opposes this bill because it would mandate hiring practices for the dept.

Committee expressed concern that the bill would limit individuals from practicing, even though some of these individuals would be providing a useful service.

The suggested intent of the bill was to limit the use of titles, not limit services.

Bill left in committee

H. B. 392 Rehabilitation Counselors Beirne

Mike Morgan would like revisions, to protect the career ladder reduce from three to two years experience

no more notes available on hearing

bill left in committee

LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

My name is Dove M. Kull. I hold a Master's Degree in Social Work and a membership in the Academy of Certified Social Workers. Since 1940, I have practiced in the field of social work and held executive positions in Federal, State and private - Agency programs. For seven years, I was State Child Welfare Supervisor of Alaska.

At present, I am State Director of Alaska Homemaker-Home Health Aide Service, Inc., a private, non-profit Agency. I am speaking for recognition and licensing of social workers.

A social worker practices in the field of human relations, respect for the individual, concern for his/her right for self determination, and confidentiality are basic concepts of a trained social worker.

A "so-called" social worker, despite good intentions, can damage the lives of human beings who are dependent or in need of consultation in a crisis situation. An "aide" should be an aide to a social worker, but not be accepted under the terminology of social worker. A social worker needs values, skills, and knowledge in dealing with social problems and individuals. The law requires a dental surgeon, physician and/or nurse to have skills and competence in their fields.

A social worker provides a specialized service to a client who needs help in solving a problem which is beyond self handling. A drug addict may recognize that he is in a life-threatening situation and call for help. Parents without a child may call on a social worker to help them to become parents - to improve the quality of their lives. Adoption to these parents may be a sacred trust of another human life, a child to become a son or daughter, to guide, to educate, to add meaning to life. As a former supervisor of adoptions, I have been consulted by friends and acquaintances who plan to adopt.

CASE INSTANCE

Mr and Mrs. S. are stunned to read a letter which states: "If you are interested, call me to make an appointment to pick up a baby, a boy, born February 10, 1974. His father age 21, has served time in prison for _____; his mother, age 16, has been in trouble since she was 14, and is now in a correctional facility. The doctor says the baby is healthy."

There is no interpretation; no positive statements about environment or heredity. Mr. and Mrs. S. are appalled at the suggestion to "pick up" a new family member - a son. They need help from a social worker who is skilled in family relationships and attitudes, who has "listened" to the adoptive parents. There is no suggestion in the letter that the parents might consult with the pediatrician and/or psychologist of their choice and arrange for him/her to confer with the baby's pediatrician. Was the letter itself or its contents suitable?

Human beings are hurt. Potential life-time relationships are damaged.

POLICY STATEMENT ON THE LEGAL REGULATION OF SOCIAL WORK IN ALASKA

ALASKA CHAPTER, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

The profession of social work has come to recognize the validity and the necessity of securing legal regulation of the practice of social work so that both quality delivery of social services can be assured to the public and a clearer public understanding of the profession can be attained. The provision of social work services to people, whether as individuals, in groups, or communities, should require that the practitioners providing such services are qualified through specialized knowledge and professional skill to truly understand and aid their clients. People receiving help from social service programs, or seeking help individually from a social worker, are dependent upon the competence and concern possessed by the social worker. It is therefore in the deepest public interest that people engaged in providing social work and social work-related service to the public be properly prepared for their work and held to publicly defined criteria of qualifications and of performance.

More specifically, the profession of social work has determined that there are four major purposes which are effectively met by obtaining licensure of social work practice:

- 1) Establishing a public, legal definition of the profession which recognizes the different levels of social work practice, namely, certified social worker, social worker, and social work associate.
- 2) Protecting consumer and clientele rights and raising standards of service competence of practitioners in both agency and independent practice.
- 3) Establishing a public accountability in the delivery of social services based on professional standards rather than inconsistent, private standards of performance.
- 4) Providing a basis for the development of the social work profession within the State of Alaska.



ALASKA CHAPTER
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS, INC.
P.O. Box 3-3794,
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

President: John Pugh MSW*
Vice President: Eugene Reynolds ACSW*
Recording Secretary: Ella Craig ACSW*
Standing Secretary: Bonnie Each MSW*
Treasurer: Doris Sparrow ACSW*
Member at Large: Ken Fallon ACSW*

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Lan Kilgore ACSW
Jack Kleinkauf ACSW
Ann Lipson ACSW
Bill Mollerstrom ACSW

Code of Ethics:
Bill Mollerstrom ACSW* Chairperson

Code of Knowledge:
Elizabeth Shaw MSW* Chairperson

Policy & Action (ELAN):
Celia "Pudge" Kleinkauf ACSW* Chairperson

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Jack Kleinkauf ACSW* Chairperson

Newsletter Editor:
Nancy Malts ACSW

Advisory Members:

Madam Chairman and Members of the Health, Education
and Social Services Committee:

During the 1970's the National Association of Social Workers through its local and state chapters has vigorously pursued the legal regulation of social work in each of the United States. In accord with this pursuit the Alaska Chapter of NASW has submitted a licensing bill to this Ninth Legislature.

Why did the Association feel the necessity for regulating social work in Alaska? Social services touches the lives of virtually every member of the public at one time or another. The rapid growth of Alaska has enormously increased the demands of its citizens for social services. Alaskans receiving service from such programs have a right to be served by competent individuals. This right of the consumer can only be protected if the individuals engaged in providing social services are adequately prepared through education and training and are required to meet certain publicly defined criteria of qualifications and of performance.

Legal regulation can protect the consumer of service and readily enable him to identify a practitioner with acceptable credentials, thus safeguarding the public interest and preventing exploitation of people in need of help. Furthermore, regulation can help to improve the standards for the delivery of social services throughout the state. Also legal regulation can become a vehicle for making the profession of social work accountable for its performance. Finally, regulation can help to clearly define the various levels of social work practice within the social service system.

Quality social services delivered by competent individuals is the aim of the Association's licensing bill. To social workers, these principles are not new. As a matter of fact, the National Association of Social Worker's Code of Ethics



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Page 2

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 Bill Mollerstrom ACSW* Chairperson
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 Elizabeth Shaw MSW* Chairperson
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 Callie "Pudge" Kleinhauf ACSW* Chairperson
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 Newsletter Editor:
 Nancy Meliss ACSW
 and Members

holds the individual responsible "for the quality and extend of service" performed, and responsible to "practice social work within the recognized knowledge and competence of the profession." The Alaska Chapter of NASW feels it is time that all individuals providing social services to the people of this state be required by law to meet certain public defined qualifications. With this in mind we urge the passage of a licensing bill for social workers during this Ninth Legislature.

John R. Pugh, President
 Alaska Chapter of NASW

JRP:dh

Susan -

All these people
support the sou.
workers living bill

Sam

TELEGRAM

RCA ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

PHONE: 586-6440

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

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1976 FEB 26 PM 9 04

PMS REP SUSAN SULLIVAN

JUN

2600

PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO SOCIAL LICENSING

BILL THE PEOPLE NEED IT APPROVED

BARBRA GARDENER ACSW 2900 PROVIDENCE DR ANCHORAGE

DRIVE ANCHORAGE ALASKA 99504

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PLEASE SUPPORT THE LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

JEAN MCCANN 1225 W 12TH 99501

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2599

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PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION N TO SOCIAL

LICENSING BILL THE PEOPLE NEED IT APPROVED

RHONDA ANDERSON BSW 2900 PROVIDENCE DR ANCHORAGE 99504

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2598

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PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO SOCIAL LICENSING

BILL THE PEOPLE NEED IT APPROVED

BETTY PLEASANT ACSW 2900 PROVIDENCE DR ANCHORAGE 99504

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1976 FEB 27 AM 2 55

*CJ

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I HOLD A BSW AND STRONGLY URGE A LICENSING BILL FOR

SOCIAL WORKERS

MARGARET PUGH

6716 EAST 16 99504

Susan Sullivan

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

7330 MARGE COURT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
333-6412



POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
465-3797
RESIDENCE 586-6159

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 22, 1975

Bill W. Mollerstrom, Chairman
Professional Standards and Ethics
C Committee
Alaska Chapter, NASW
Langdon Psychiatric Clinic, Inc.
3401 East 42nd Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Dear Mr. Mollerstrom:

Thank you for your letter on House Bill 367, licensing of social workers. Unfortunately, we have not been able to act on this bill this year, but it will be a high priority of the House HESS Committee next year, and it continues to enjoy my enthusiasm.

I would also like to thank you for your offer of assistance. I am sure that I will find opportunities to take advantage of it.

Yours truly,

Susan Sullivan

Susan Sullivan, Chairwoman
House HESS Committee

SS:la

HB 367

HB 367

LANGDON PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC, INC.

3401 EAST 42ND AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504

907 - 279-0461

PSYCHIATRY

J. RAY LANGDON, M.D., F.A.P.A.
JOSEPH D. BLOOM, M.D., F.A.P.A.
ARON S. WOLF, M.D.
BARRY L. MENDELSON, M.D.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

ALLEN H. PARKER, PH.D.
JON F. BURKE, PH.D.

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK

WILLARD W. MOLLERSTROM, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
NICKI J. NIELSEN, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
ELIZABETH ROOSEN-RUNGE, M.S.W.
MARIANNE ROBINSON, M.S.W.

READING THERAPY

TROY SULLIVAN, ED.D.

February 18, 1975

Representative Susan Sullivan, Chairman
Health, Education & Social Services Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska:

Dear Representative Sullivan:

As Chairman of the Professional Standards & Ethics Committee, Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, I wish to thank you very much for your concern and interest in having a licensing act for social workers in the State of Alaska. Representative Helen Beirne has shared with me your desire to become involved in this effort, and your willingness is extremely appreciated. As you know, Helen has been working with my Committee in trying to develop a licensure act which will not only enhance the practice of social work by establishing criteria, assessing qualifications, competence and so on, but also will assist the consumer, enabling him to identify a practitioner with acceptable credentials and safeguard the public interest. Our primary focus is on consumer protection, and our proposed act addresses itself to the public for action against possible malpractice and professional dishonesty.

Thank you very much for your support in this effort - your assistance is indeed crucial for eventual passage. If there is anything that my Committee, the Social Action Committee under Cecelia Kleinkauf, or the Alaska Chapter of NASW might be able to do to help you or your Committee, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Very sincerely yours,

Bill W. Mollerstrom

Bill W. Mollerstrom, Chairman
Professional Standards & Ethics Committee
Alaska Chapter, NASW

Ernesto Bena

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FISCAL NOTE

Second Session - Ninth Legislature

I. REQUEST *(CS #B367)*
 Bill No. SB 645 & HB 392
 Title: Acts relating to the licensing of Social Workers & Rehabilitation
 Requested by: House HESS Date: 3/1/76 Counselor
 Return Date Requested: _____
 Agency: Commerce Program: Licensing Professions

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected: Regulating and Licensing of Professions
 A. EXPENDITURES: (Thousands of dollars)

OBJECT	FY 76	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		16.0	17.6	19.4	21.3	23.4
200 TRAVEL		7.0	7.7	8.5	9.3	10.2
300 CONTRACTUAL		3.0	3.3	3.6	4.0	4.4
400 COMMODITIES		.5	.6	.6	.7	.7
500 EQUIPMENT		1.0				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL		27.5	29.2	32.1	35.3	38.7

B. FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)

GENERAL FUND		27.5	29.2	32.1	35.3	38.7
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						

C. POSITIONS:

PERMANENT/TEMPORARY	/	1 /	1 /	1 /	1 /	1 /
MAN MONTHS (P./T.)	/	12 /	12 /	12 /	12 /	12 /

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

personal services - one license examiner for two boards, R-10
 travel - 3 meetings per year per board including examiner
 contractual - primary communications & printing & typewriter

Assumes 10% inflation per year. Testimony indicates there are approximately 80 social workers to be effected. Assume same number of rehabilitation counselors, cost of regulation is \$172.00 per licensee per year.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

V. DATE: March 1, 1976 PREPARED BY: Sharon Andrew, Director

Sharon Andrew

Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)