

HB

635

COMMITTEE REPORT

1/21/76

HOUSE

FINANCE.

Mr. Speaker:

Date March 25 1976

HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

The Committee on _____ has had CSHB 635

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"

Members signing the Majority report:

[Handwritten signatures]

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

[Handwritten signature] recommends: no bill

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

[Handwritten signature] 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 or,

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

Page 2
March 26, 1976

Beirne would like a chance to rework the bottom of p. 1 , severe distress, etc. too difficult til revoke now. Will let Pat Rodey and Clark Grueing look at the proposed chances.

Committee points out various areas of concern for Helen to take a look at. P. 1. line 19, how about renewal every five years

P. 3 line 27, need rewording, more specific

Alvin suggests time frame, 1 year or so till individual can have a chance to recover.

Hold till middle or end of nexy week, when Helen has it reworked.

HB 772 - Licensure of counselors - HESS

Tabled - dead

SB 554 - Licensing of Phy. & Osteopaths - Croft

Beirne - Croft wanted to work this over with others, make amendments, Helen feels there wasn't enough time, want to make 1 change now

Line 20, Add "the Department shall employ"

Delete "The board shall employ"

Amendments passed

This bill belongs in malpractice, wants it to go to Jud. Recommend it is included in Malpractice package.

Bill - passed

HB 392 - Rehabilitation Counselor - Beirne

Beirne, explanation of bill and discussion proposed amendment - decided to make a committee substitute of this bill, see draft. Also all reference to counselors should read Vocational Rehabilitation counselor

Delete line 4 - 11 page 4

Helen moved to have this bill moved out.
as a committee substitute

HB 635 - Licensing of Speech Pathologists & Audiologists - Gov.

Beirne, alot of fraud by people coming into Ak. and selling hearing aids and then leaving state.

Committee went over work draft and made changes, P.2, line 25 delete "practice speech path. or audio". line 27, 28 & 29 P4 delete, P. 5 line 1 thru 19 delete. P. 5 line 19, change "social worker" to Speech pathologist & audiologist

Committee recommends Committee Substitute move out, individual recommendations passed out.



JUNEAU ALASKA

Alaska State Legislature

House

HOUSE HESS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FEB 25, 1976

Present: Osterback Hackney
 Ose Parr
 Beirne Sullivan

Testifying: Joan Leonard, Ak. Speech & Hearing Assoc. HB 635
 Deborah Crow, Ak. Speech & Hearing Assoc. HB 635
 David Canterbury Chief, Communicative Disorders Program
 Sharon Andrew, Director, Occupational Licensing
 Frank Pauls, Director, Public Health

HB 635 Licensing of speech pathologists & audiologists, Beirne

Beirne - opening remarks on the bill, why it is needed, etc.
Approximately 80 speech path. and audiologists in state now.

Sharon Andrews - Dept. is opposed because they want to wait till HB 578
Credentialing Review Board, is heard and moved on. Dept. of Commerce
has no evidence that there is presently any problems with not having
pathologist and audiologists licensed.

Deborah Crow spoke in favor of the bill. At least 37 states license
their speech path. and audio.

David Canterbury, feels that there is a need for licensing, especially
because abuse can be done in the rural areas where there is a definite
need for more professional pathologists and audiologists.

Main concensus of opinion and concern is that there might be misues
of not having path. and audio licensed in the future. Right now
Alaska does not seem to have any problems.

Joan Leonard - As a student, who is being supervised under H. Beirne,
for her practical experience, she feels this bill is very necessary
because of the possible misuse.

Parr would like to see some documentation as to the problems which
have arisen in other states concerning this area of licensing. He
does not feel that all professions require licensing.

SB 554 will not be heard today for lack of time. HB 635 will be
continued in the future, not moved on today.

POSITION PAPER
ON
HOUSE BILL 635

"An Act relating to licensing of speech pathologists and audiologists."

This bill has been introduced by Dr. Helen Beirne and has received the unanimous support of the Alaska Speech and Hearing Association. This group also authored the bill. The intent of this proposed legislation is to license individuals who practice these professions and thus protect the public against incompetent and unscrupulous practitioners. Licensure in these areas has become the trend nationally and in excess of 37 other States now have such laws. Legislation is pending in other States.

The Speech Pathology and Audiology fields have rather rigorous training and certification requirements at the national level through the dictates of the American Speech and Hearing Association, however this is a voluntary association which has no legal basis for enforcement at the State level. Unqualified persons who are not members of the American Speech and Hearing Association are free to practice within Alaska and present themselves to the public as Speech Pathologists or Audiologists even though they may have little or no training in these professions and adhere to no formalized code of ethics.

House Bill 635 establishes a masters degree as the minimum standard for practice of Speech Pathology and/or Audiology but has liberal provisions for the "grandfathering" of individuals presently practicing.

Speech Pathologists and Audiologists are perhaps the only professionals providing therapeutic health care services, often in medical settings, that are not generally regulated by licensing laws. This may indeed be a problem area in the future since Federal legislation such as that establishing Professional Standards Review Organizations and the Health Services Agency legislation often ask the States to identify qualified providers by referring to those licensed by the State. With no existing statutes the State may be put in the position of having to resort to a more arbitrary procedure for identifying these health care providers.

Although I urge that Health and Social Services support this bill there is need for larger membership on the Board of Examiners. This board should have at least five (5) members to insure adequate representation of the professions. Attached are other specific amendments to the bill which are recommended.

The Department supports the Bill with changes indicated above.

Recommended By: Frank P. Pauls, Dr. P. H. 2/27/76
(Acting Director, (Date)
Division of Public Health)

Approved By: Louis M. Jewell 3/2/1976
(Commissioner) (Date)

SUGGESTED REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO HOUSE BILL 635, AN ACT RELATING TO
LICENSING OF SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS.

- Amend Section 08.74.040.(1) to read "adopt regulations necessary to make this chapter effective to include but not limited to adoption of ethical standards of practice;"
- Amend Section 08.74.040.(3) to read "conduct hearings, issue subpoenas for witnesses, administer oaths to persons giving testimony at hearings, and keep records and minutes necessary to an orderly dispatch of business; and "
- Amend Section 08.74.120(i) to read "on the effective....(as printed)....speech pathology or audiology, providing that the applicant files an application on or before one (1) year from the effective date of this chapter; or "
- (2) add the word or after "this chapter;" on page 4, line 5.
- Omit the word "unprofessional" from line 12, Section 08.74.130. page 4.
- Substitute the word unethical for the word "unprofessional" in line 17, page 4.
- Amend Section 08.74.150. page 5 to read "The board shall determine appropriate continuing professional education for persons licenced under this act."
- Amend Section 08.74.160.(a).line 16 to read "which leads to a degree in speech pathology or audiology and/or who has..."
- line 18 to read "any other title appropriate to his level of training may provide supportive speech..."
- Add to section 08.74.160. page 5. paragraph (d) Each person licenced under this chapter who supervises a speech pathology or audiology aide shall register with the Board in a manner prescribed by the Board.
- Add (e) Every licensee who supervises aides is responsible for the extent, type and quality of services provided to the clients and is liable to suspension, revocation, or any other appropriate penalty for failure to exercise his responsibilities in the supervision of such aides.
- Amend Section 08.74.170.(5) line 12 to read "and his services are performed under the supervision of a speech pathologist"
- Add to Section 08.74.170. paragraph (6) The activities and services of a speech pathologist or audiologist who is obtaining his year of paid professional experience as required by Sec. 08.74.110.(2).
- Add to Sec. 08.74.220.(3) line 8, page 7 "for the purposes of this subsection the words 'habilitation' and 'rehabilitation' include, but are not limited to, hearing aid evaluation, recommendation, and fitting."

SUGGESTED REVISIONS OF HOUSE BILL 635 (continued)

Add to Sec.08.74.220. paragraph (7) "Association" means the Alaska Speech and Hearing Association.

and paragraph (8) "ASHA" means the American Speech and Hearing Association.



Alaska Occupational Therapy Association

2900 Providence Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

January 7, 1976

To Whom it may concern,

A resolution, prepared by the speech pathologists and audiologists was read and discussed with the therapists present at our monthly meeting. It was agreed upon that we, the Alaska Occupational Therapy Association would support the speech pathologists and audiologists bill for licensure. If any further assistance is required, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Henrietta Caldwat
secretary of AkOTA



ALASKA TREATMENT CENTER

for

Crippled Children & Adults, Inc.

3710 E. 20th Ave.,

Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Phone (907) 272-0586

February 25, 1976

Susan Sullivan
Legislative Affairs Committee
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

The Communicative Disorders Department of the Alaska Treatment Center supports the proposed licensure bill for Speech Therapists and Audiologists. We strongly urge your endorsement of Bill 635 with its recommended amendments. We feel that licensure is an effective method of protecting our professional standards as well as protecting the people we serve.

Do not hesitate to contact us for further information. Thank-you.

Linda Schiffler
Linda Schiffler
Audiologist

Barbara Loutrel
Barbara Loutrel
Speech Pathologist

sincerely,

Laurie Somes
Laurie Somes
Supervisor

Julie Zahniser
Julie Zahniser
(Speech Therapist)

ALASKA TREATMENT CENTER

for

Crippled Children & Adults, Inc.

3710 E. 20th Ave.,

Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Phone (907) 272-0586



February 24, 1976

Alaska State Legislature
Health, Education, and Social Service Committee
Juneau, Alaska 99701

Dear Committee Members:

I have reviewed HB 635, an act relating to licensure of speech pathologists and audiologists.

Having employed speech pathologists and audiologists as part of our total rehabilitation services to Alaskans, I have long supported issues which would benefit those patients as well as promote higher quality rehabilitation services.

Upon study of this bill, I feel that it is consistent with the concerns outlined above and urge the committee's support and passage of this act.

Sincerely yours,

Keith W. Tolzin
KEITH W. TOLZIN
Executive Director

ick

7/74 - 12/74

PRESCHOOLS AND HEAD START - SHERO

Tympanometry:	<u>Normal</u>	0 .	<u>*Type B</u>	<u>**Type C</u>	<u>***P. E. Tubes</u>
Haines	5		1	3	
Skagway	6		4	4	
Yakutat	6		13	4	
Petersburg	20		7	7	
Hoonah	9		1	5	
Kake	10		3	6	
Ketchikan Day Care	7		8	8	
Ketchikan Totemland	19		12	5	
Juneau Coop	20		2	4	1
Auke Bay	36		6	14	3
Lidliput	9		2	2	
St. Ann's	26		9	27	1
	<u>175</u>		<u>66</u>	<u>89</u>	
%			20%	27%	

TOTAL TO DATE: 328

* Type "B" - indicates middle ear effusion or tympanic membrane perforations.

** Type "C" - indicates substantial negative middle ear pressure. This is often a prelude to middle ear pathology.

*** P. E. Tubes - refers to a minor surgical procedure performed by an otologist to correct abnormalities in middle ear pressure. A small polyethylene tube is placed through the tympanic membrane.

7/74 - 12/74

AUDIOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF NEW STUDENTS

BIA High School, Mt. Edgecumbe

Total Student Body: 479

364 Eskimo	76%
43 Athabascan	9%
34 Aleut	7%
29 Tlingit	
5 Tsimpsan	
4 Haida	

Total Seen: 256 or 54% of the student body

Total Hearing Losses: (Criteria; Conductive: air-bone gap, 10db or more at 3 or more frequencies.

Sensorineural: greater than 25db at 2 or more frequencies between 1000 and 4k.

97 or 38% of those seen had hearing loss according to the above criteria.

Type of losses:

Conductive	<u>63%</u>
Sensorineural	<u>30%</u>
Mixed	<u>7%</u>

Degree:	<u>Conductive</u>	<u>Sensorineural</u>	<u>Mixed</u>
Bilaterally			
Mild: 24-40	24	7	3
Moderate 40-55	8	1	1
Mod. Severe 55-70	4	6	1
Severe greater 70	1	4	1
Total	<u>37</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>6</u>
Unilateral			
Mild to Mod. Severe	24	8	1
Severe		3	
		<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>

Total Seen for ENT Surgery: 30 or 49%


Not all referred have been seen,
Some are revised surgery.
Some are on-going medical therapy.
Some have not elected to have surgery.

Quarterly Report
1st & 2nd Quarters
FY 76

The following is a summary of the program statistics for the first half of Fiscal Year 1976 which indicates that the regional programs have been extremely active.

Threshold tests by Communicative Disorders Program	2,904
Number of thresholds performed by Public Health Nurses, Alaska Native Medical Center - Audiology Unit, and Alaska Treatment Center	1,773
Impedance evaluations by Communicative Disorders Program	2,093
Audiometric screenings performed by Communicative Disorders Program staff and Public Health Nurses	6,481*
Hearing Aid Evaluations	165
Hearing Aid Fittings	75
Medical Referrals	1,015
Villages and Communities Served	70

* - Incomplete reporting


David R. Canterbury, Ed.D., Chief
Communicative Disorders Program

January 28, 1976

STATE
of ALASKA**MEMORANDUM**TO: Tom Brown, Coordinator
Office for Exceptional
Children

DATE : February 20, 1976

FROM: Judi Hayden *JH*
Education SpecialistSUBJECT: House Bill 635: "An Act
Relating to Licensing of
Speech Pathologists &
Audiologists."

I feel that our office should support this licensure bill in an effort to upgrade the services being rendered to the public in this state. I also feel that this state licensing will give more local control (that is state control) over professional competence in speech pathology and audiology vs. the present national control being exercised by the American Speech and Hearing Association in its conference of the CCC (Certificate of Clinical Competence).

This bill does not impinge upon the Department of Education's certification requirements concerning persons employed by a school district. Nor does this bill require persons performing services for a school district who hold a valid certificate issued by the Department of Education to obtain a license.

Concerning Sec. 08.74.010 of this bill (pg. 1), I do not think a three-member board is at all adequate to provide the wide range of duties and services and to make the numerous binding decisions that the bill authorizes them to make. This bill gives a great deal of authority to the three-member board, consisting of 2 speech pathologists and one audiologist. I feel that a five-member board, consisting of 3 speech pathologists and 2 audiologists would be more representative of various view points and experiences that such a board should have.

Therefore, Tom, I urge your support of this bill if not on specific items, at least on the whole of it.

cc: David Canterbury
Mike Mosher
Ed Obie
Sherman Welch

JH:es



Alaska Occupational Therapy Association

2900 Providence Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

January 7, 1976

To Whom it may concern,

On December 3, 1975, a bill on licensure from the speech pathologists and audiologists was read and discussed with the therapists present at our monthly meeting. It was agreed upon that we, the Alaska Occupational Therapy Association would support the speech pathologists and audiologists bill for licensure. If any further assistance is required, feel free to contact us.

sincerely,

Hennetta Callaway, OT

secretary of AkOTA

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SUGGESTED REVISIONS OF HOUSE BILL 635 (continued)

Add to Sec.08.74.220. paragraph (7) "Association" means the Alaska Speech and Hearing Association.

and paragraph (8) "ASHA" means the American Speech and Hearing Association, the national administrative office of which is located in the District of Columbia, 9030 Old Georgetown Road, 20014.

The preceding recommendations are made by the Licensure committee of the Alaska Speech and Hearing Association with the unanimous approval of the association.