

HB

865

"An Act making a special appropriation to Hope Cottage; and providing for an effective date."

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

3/12/76

FINANCE

Mr. Speaker:

Date March 17, 1976

The Committee on HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES has had HB 865 AM

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:

Susan Sullivan _____

William D. ... _____

... _____

... _____

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

- _____ recommends:
- _____ recommends:
- _____ recommends:
- _____ recommends:
- _____ recommends:

Susan Sullivan Chairman

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE:

By: HESS

To: _____ HOUSE BILL No. 865

SENATE BILL No. _____

PAGE: 1

LINE: _____

Line 6 after the word "appropriation", add "For the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled."
Delete to Hope Cottage

Line 13 Sec. 2 delete "This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070 (c)

Add " The sum of \$40,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Dept. of Health and Social Services for Hope Center in Fairbanks for the purpose of providing funds to cover unforeseeable expenses incurred in program operations in FY 1975-76."

Add. Sec. 3, " This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c)."



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
HB 865

" An Act making a special appropriation to Hope Cottage; and providing for an effective date."

Effect of Bill: The Bill would provide \$400,000 in State funds to Hope Cottage, Inc. of Anchorage to renovate a facility located Chugiak, Alaska. The Facility would be used to provide residential care and habilitation services for the mentally retarded.

Discussion: Because of the lack of available long-term care facilities for the mentally retarded, the Department contracted with Hope Cottage, Inc. to explore the feasibility of renovating a school building in Chugiak, Alaska. Also, because of controversy regarding the type and location of the facility, the Department agreed to share this information and ask for advice from the Developmental Disabilities Council, once the study was completed. This process is not yet complete.

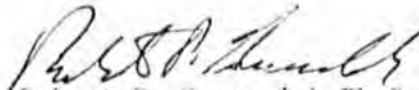
In addition, it was felt by the Department that any necessary renovation would be financed by means of private loan funds which would be recovered by means of Title 19 funding.

Recommendation: The Department endorses the concept of use of public funds to aid private non-profit organizations in the development of community supported facilities for the Developmentally Disabled.

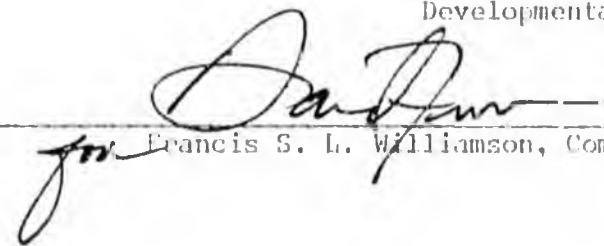
However, because of the points made in the Discussion Section and because HB-865 will increase the State spending level beyond the Governor's request, we do not recommend passage of the Bill at the present time and in its present form.

Fiscal Note: Not required

Recommended:


Robert P. Gregorich Ph.D. 3/17/76
Division of Mental Health and Date
Developmental Disabilities

Approved:


Francis S. L. Williamson, Commissioner 3/17/76
Date

HOPE COTTAGE

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CHUGIAK FACILITY

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The Ridgeview Nursing Home, housing 75 residents, found it necessary to shut its doors. Fifty of these residents have found alternative housing in other nursing homes, family homes or out of the State. This left a total of 25 residents for whom alternative housing was not available. These people are temporarily housed in the Alaska Psychiatric Institute, (API). It is a general consensus that this is an inappropriate setting and there is much urgency on the part of the State to find an alternative. As a minimum of 11 of these residents are primarily mentally retarded, there is need for mental retardation expertise in finding appropriate placement for these adults. In keeping with Hope Cottage's philosophy and normalization concepts (see attached) we think that the organization and professional staff could provide the service and appropriate programing for these persons, if a facility were to be established.

The Chugiak Benefit Association initiated communication with the State Department of Health and Social Services indicating an interest in providing a facility for this type of usage. This Association exists to provide community services, i.e., helping the Little League and the Senior Citizens. They are recognized as a non-profit association of Chugiak land owners and our interviews with them have shown that they appear to have no surreptitious gains in providing the facility for Hope Cottage. In actuality, it would provide the opportunity for community involvement in human services in which they are interested. It would also provide jobs, financial opportunities, and volunteer opportunities for the community of Chugiak. (For the By-laws and Articles of Incorporation of the Chugiak Benefit Association, see attached.)

METHODOLOGY

Given the above information, Hope Cottage proposed to the State that a small grant to complete a Feasibility Study would be advisable. It would determine if the facility in Chugiak (which had been used as a school for 350 children) could be suitably remodeled into a quality treatment program for developmentally disabled residents requiring the Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) standards of care.

The grant proposed to provide an architectural plan and cost analysis for the necessary renovations to meet regulations, a plan for a service and staffing pattern, and a plan for meeting the Life Safety Code.

Once this contract with the State was accepted, the following steps were taken in order to meet the requirements. The State Life Safety Code Surveyor, Bill Mears, made two visits

to the facility. One of these visits was with two members of the Architectural firm of John Graham and Company, (Bob Bezek and John Courage) hired to do the necessary architectural work study. Previous to this visit, Bill Mears had done a Life Safety Code Study. At this visit the architects reviewed this study and the building for conformance to the code. Using drawings provided by the Chugiak Benefit Association, the team reviewed the facility in terms of conforming with the program which Hope Cottage had presented to them and bringing it to code. John Graham and Company spent approximately 20 hours evaluating the information. Also the following people visited the facility: Jim Hotchkiss, State ARCA President; Dr. Robison and Roxy Pomeroy, the API Superintendent and Administrative Assistant; Dr. Bob Gregovich, Developmental Disabilities Coordinator; Roslyn Reeder, a Medicaid Representative; and the Executive Director, Deputy Director and the Director of Professional and Living Unit Services of Hope Cottage, as well as various Chugiak Benefit Association members. The above people were involved in the discussions and program possibilities for using the facility for this purpose. The Director of Nursing and the Director of Administration and Support Services for Hope Cottage visited API to look at the equipment, etc. necessary to relocate these residents in an alternative program and then participated in the meeting between John Graham and Company and Hope Cottage, Inc. in terms of the architectural needs for the facilities. Involved parents and the Hope Cottage Board members were also included, especially the Long Range Planning Committee from the Hope Cottage Board. A plan was devised throughout this period and many additional persons were contacted to involve all the above persons in the Feasibility Study. The need was brought to the attention of the Board through the Long Range Planning Committee several times, chaired by Dave Wolf, and the Hope Cottage Board Steering Committee, chaired by George Hall.

RESULTS

An Architectural rendering was completed by John Graham and Company (see attached) for the possible utilization of the facility to ICF/MR Standards. An estimate on the cost for the necessary renovations was arrived at by Bill Mears (the State Life Safety Surveyor), the architect, and others (see attached).

The building is a 10,000 square foot concrete block building. The original building was constructed in 1954 and an addition was built in 1958. The Chugiak Benefit Association originally offered to complete the renovations by securing their own financing, however, as the school location was secured through a still incomplete (two more years) Bureau of Land Management

Grant, they were unable to obtain financing. An alternate source must be considered. It seems feasible to approach the legislature for a long term loan for renovations. There may be other alternatives, however, it appears through our cursory study that no other resource could be located in a timely fashion. It is our understanding that time is of the essence. For additional information on the facility see the rendering attached.

A plan for service and staffing patterns was devised to meet the ICF/MR regulation (see addendum attached).

There was considerable discussion between Board members, API, Parents, and the Developmental Disabilities Council concerning the desirability of the location of the facility (18 miles from Anchorage), the appearance of the building, staffing patterns, the number of persons to be housed, the actual question of a need for this type of program, as well as the cost and other concerns. On the basis of the above discussion, the Hope Cottage Administration's position is that renovation of the building is feasible, that the facility could provide a quality ICF/MR treatment program for 20 to 25 developmentally disabled persons, a facility such as this was needed, and Hope Cottage can cost effectively provide a program.

DISCUSSION

It must be noted that there is considerable amount of conflict of opinion between the various organizations and persons included in the above paragraph. Hope Cottage Staff feels that the program is reasonable and the building could be renovated. API also feels this is a reasonable alternative to the problem. The State ARCA Association has strongly opposed the project. The DD Council and the Hope Cottage Board have deferred judgement until the Feasibility Study is completed and can be reviewed in its entirety. However, the Hope Cottage Board has determined that an ICF/MR facility is needed and that Hope Cottage should provide the service.

LEB/vjb/#6698, 6699, 6700