

HCR

102



# Alaska State Legislature

## House

JUNEAU ALASKA

HOUSES HESS COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 19, 1976

Present: Parr            Hackney    Davis  
          Ose             Swanson    Sullivan

Testified:    Janice Gates, Planning & Research, Dept. H&SS  
                  Noel Smith, Office of Aging  
                  Russ. Gentle, Div. of Pub. Assistance  
                  Roslyn Reeder, Div. of Pub. Assistance

HCR 102 - Availability of health services to public - Ostrosky

Janice Gates, there is allready a Directory publication being printed right now, would be for everybody, not just recipients, docotrs, etc. Maybe this would qualify for this bill. Will have one put in everybodies box next week.

Committee feels that they should postpone any action until they have an opportunity to read the directory from H&SS. HCR 102 tabled for one week.

HCR 104 - Support for existing health facilities - Ostrosky

Janice presented dept. position paper, agrees with resolution

Ose - motion to table HCR 104, passed

HCR 105 - Funds/ programs for medically underservced areas - Ostrosky

Janice - dept. supports the concept.

Hackney - doesn't want us going after any fed grants without going through some sort of state, in house committee. Also would like dept. to research available grants, but not go after them till somebody can decide. State ends up with all these fed grants and as their phazed out, state must pick up tab.

Committee discussion related to all resolutions seemed pretty negative because of what Hackney just stated.

Parr , amendment line 21, insert after services, "within existing resources" this would delte any fiscal implications from dept. They would have to utilize existing personnel.

Amendment passed.

Hackney - amend line 21, delete "prepare and submit an application for" insert, "seek information on"



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Hackney amendment - line 22 period after eligible. Add "be it further resolved, that before the Department submits an application for federal grants, or any other, the application be approved by Legislative Budget and Audit Division of Legislative Affairs."

Amendment passed

Move to pass HCR 105 out, moved out with individual recommendations.

### HCR 103 - Eligibility for admission to pioneer homes - Ostrosky

Sullivan moves that we hold till we find out if there was a study in 1972 concerning this issue. This was suggested by member. David Freer will get back to us on this issue.

### HCR 106 - Health care reimbursement mechanisms - Ostrosky

Russ Gentle, dept. currently looking into this, so they do not feel this resolution is needed

Committee referred to the fact that this resolution is once again asking for more grants, referred to Hackneys problem with this that state usually ends up having to take over.

Committee decided to hold this for awhile/

### HCR 101 - Uniform acct and reporting of health institution - Ostrosky

Dept. presented position paper on this.

Committee feels that dept. of admin. should provide a fiscal note on this (contacted dept. of Admin for fiscal note )

Parr amendment, page 2, line 2 "comma" after 93-641 add "to", delet "and"

motion passes

Parr amendment page 1, line 26, after administration , add ,"Comma" add "within existing resources",

Passes

Committee decided to hold bill over.

HB 742 not heard, will hold over

POSITION PAPER

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

"Relating to the communication of the availability of health services to the consuming public."

The Office of Planning and Research acknowledges the point made in HCR 102 that the multiplicity of health programs has surpassed public knowledge of these programs. Likewise, the Office recognizes the responsibility of the Department of Health and Social Services to inform potential consumers regarding the availability of those programs.

It would be a disservice, however, not to point out that the proper notification of eligibility requirements is no simple task. Requirements change on the federal level with great frequency and the numerous exceptions to flat statements regarding eligibility are often of more import to potential consumers than the generalized statements a booklet might contain. Thus any consumer-oriented booklet would require frequent up-dating and redistribution, of necessity affecting production costs.

The Resolution specifies that local, as well as federal and state, health programs be enumerated in a consumer communication mechanism. The inclusion of local information would require that the Department of Health and Social Services be notified of local program conditions, thus necessitating the creation of a reporting system over which the Department has no enforcement authority. (The Easter Seal Society experience with local reporting may be cited as evidence of the difficulties in this regard.)

In terms of feasibility, therefore, the Office suggests that the scope of HCR 102 be confined to state health programs, as local programs are susceptible to changes difficult to monitor and effectively update, while federal health programs are available to only a portion of the state's population and would thus not be generally helpful. The Office suggests that the booklet prepared by the Health Education Unit of the Division of Public Health be used on a trial basis at least, awaiting consumer reaction before embarking on a new project such as described in HCR 102, due to budget constraints.

Recommended by:

*Richard Renninger*  
Richard Renninger, Acting Coordinator  
Office of Planning and Research

*March 2, 1976*  
Date

Approved by:

*Francis S. L. Williamson*  
Francis S. L. Williamson, Commissioner

*3/2/1976*  
Date

I. REQUEST  
 BILL No. HCR 102  
 Title: Relating to the communication of the availability of health services  
 Requested by: Commissioner's Office Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return Date Requested: 2/26/76  
 Agency: Health & Social Services Program: Planning & Research

II. FISCAL DETAIL  
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected: Planning and Research  
 A. EXPENDITURES: (Thousands of dollars)

OBJECT	FY 76	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	-0-	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.6
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL	-0-	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.7
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	-0-	7.2	7.9	8.6	9.4	10.3

B. FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	7.2	7.9	8.6	9.4	10.3
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						

C. POSITIONS:

PERMANENT/TEMPORARY	/	/ 2	/ 2	/ 2	/ 2	/ 2
MAN MONTHS (P./T.)	/	/ 3	/ 3	/ 3	/ 3	/ 3

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

Staff: Professional, Range 18, Clerk Typist III, Range 8

10% inflation factor used for succeeding years.

Printing and postage based on actual FY 76 costs incurred by Division of Public Health in publishing their "Directory of Public Health Services."

We support the concept, but cannot recommend an increase in the Governor's budget.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

"Directory of Public Health Services"

V. DATE: 3/2/76 PREPARED BY: *Richard R. Bennett*

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

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*Eugene A. Smith*  
 Eugene A. Smith, H&SS Finance Officer