

HB

283

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairman Gardiner. All members were present except Mr. Fink.

HB 248 Public Administrator

Art Snowden testified that a Supreme Court change in procedure abolished presiding judges of district courts. There is now only one presiding judge in each district located in the superior court. This is merely a housekeeping bill.

HB 248 was moved out of committee do pass.

HB 282 Public Administrator

Art Snowden testified that this bill contains the same deletion of presiding judges of districts courts. He stated that there is a bill presently being drawn up by the Governor to create a medical examiner to replace the coroner/public administrator. This bill would be effective only if the medical examiner bill passes.

Susan Burke of the Court System stated that a drafting error in line 14 should be corrected by the deletion of the words "and as coroner"

The committee discussed the possibility of holding HB 282 until the medical examiner bill is referred to committee.

Mr. Snowden explained the change in line 17: The bill makes it possible for the court to appoint several different attorneys on a case by case basis. There will be no annual salary for one person.

Mr. Specking asked for a definition of "reasonable" in line 17 and suggested that the word should be removed. Mr. Snowden explained that "reasonable" salary would be determined by the court, not the attorney.

Mr. Brown moved HB 282 out of committee with the amendment to line 14 suggested by Ms. Burke: delete: "and as coroner" There being no objection, HB 282 was moved out of committee.

HB 283 Acting district court judges

Mr. Snowden testified that the Supreme Court had requested this bill to assure the highest qualifications possible for acting district court judges.

Mr. Specking and Mr. Brown pointed out that the presiding judge of the superior court already has the authority to determine qualifications when he makes an appointment. Mr. Specking asked what would be done in an emergency situation and stated that he felt the judge should have the option of determining qualifications in each case.

56

House Judiciary Committee
March 13, 1975
page 2

Mr. Snowden stated that he felt it was bad state policy to leave this possible loophole. He assured the committee that there was no shortage of qualified people.

Mr. Brown moved HB 283 out of committee. Mr. Specking objected. On vote, the committee passed HB 283 out of committee with individual recommendations.

CS HB 48 Transfer interests in realty

The CS was explained by Chairman Gardiner to those committee members who were not at the last meeting on the subject. He stated that the bill had been signed out of committee with the stipulation that the new language would be considered by Commissioner Motley. Commissioner Motley has apparently declined to comment since he has not returned the committee's phone calls or written a reply in two weeks. CS HB 48 left the committee

HB 31 Abandoned Vessels

Mr. Specking gave the committee a brief overview of the bill's subject. The committee will research the matter and will schedule HB 31 for a future hearing.

HB 191 Transportation Tariffs

The committee determined to hold this bill for future action after research as there seems to be some controversy.

HB 192 Public Utilities Tariffs

Since all the material received was in favor of this bill and the committee could see no controversy, Mr. Brown moved HB 192 out of committee do pass. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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March 13, 1975

The Honorable Terry Gardiner
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: HB 283

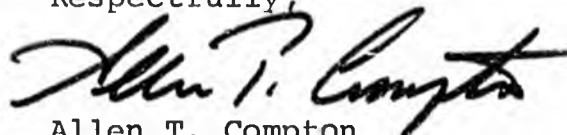
Dear Mr. Chairman:

During a conference call with the Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar Association this date, the above bill was discussed. After due consideration, the Board of Governors directed me to inform you that it supported this measure.

I will not be able to attend the hearing scheduled for this evening, but would appreciate this advisement of support being made of record.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Allen T. Compton
Legislative Counsel
Alaska Bar Association

ATC/bt

cc: Mr. Arthur H. Snowden II
Administrative Director of Courts