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HB 798 file

# TELEGRAM

RCA ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

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14007 NL KODIAK ALASKA 65 05-31 1047A ADT

PMS REP CHARLIE PARR, CHAIRMAN, HESS

JUN

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PARR REFERENCE HB978 SECTION 13.20-065--  
I STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY REQUIREMENT ATTEMPTING TO LEGISLATE THE  
KINDS AND FREQUENCY OF MEDICAL CARE DONE BY PHYSICIANS ON  
HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS. IT IS UNREALISTIC AND TERRIBLY EXPENSIVE.  
THE REQUIREMENT FOR A PHYSICIAN ON DUTY AT ALL TIMES IN THE  
HOSPITAL IS UNREALISTIC AND COSTLY FOR ALASKA HOSPITALS. I  
RECOMMEND YOUR OPPOSITION TO THAT PORTION OF THE BILL.

DR RUD WASSON

*HB 798 file*  
TELEGRAM

ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

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14024 NL KODIAK ALASKA 65 05-30 458P ADT

PMS CHARLIE PARR, CHAIRMAN, HESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUN

REGARDING HB 978, CAPTIONED BILL REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO HAVE A  
PHYSICIAN ON DUTY AT ALL TIMES WOULD GREATLY INCREASE HEALTH CARE  
COSTS. REQUIRING A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AT LEAST TWICE DAILY  
ON EACH HOSPITAL PATIENT IS UNREALISTIC AND IMPRACTICAL. THIS  
WOULD TAKE THE PHYSICIANS VALUABLE TIME THAT SHOULD BE DEVOTED  
TO PATIENT CARE. YOUR EFFORTS TO DEFEAT THIS BILL WILL BE  
GREATLY APPRECIATED.

ROBERT L GROFF, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR KODIAK ISLAND HOSPITAL

## SUGGESTED MEDICAL LAWS BY CLIFF WARREN

Many Alaskans are dying needlessly because of the lack of house or resident doctors on duty at all times. Therefore, I would propose the following:

## I

All hospitals or other medical facilities with a fifty bed capacity or over shall have a doctor or doctors on duty at all times. Such doctor or doctors shall check all patients in that facility at least twice daily and be on call at all times. Such doctor or doctors' duties shall be to inform the attending physician of any medical problem developing in any patient or existing in any patient.

Such doctors shall always be readily available for life or health threatening situations in the intensive care units. In all hospitals or medical facilities having under a 50 bed capacity, the emergency room doctor or doctors shall perform the above required duties required of hospitals or other medical facilities having 50 beds or over.

## II

Much of the purpose of the staff set up in the hospitals has now deteriorated so that instead of disciplining the doctors, it is being used for cover-up and to interfere with the patient-doctor relationship as to treatment.

The California appeals court has recently ruled that no hospital staff can interfere with the doctor-patient relationship, and that such interference stifles medical progress. If you are not capable of practicing medicine in a hospital, you don't deserve a medical license. No hospital or other medical facility or medical staff of such facility shall interfere with the doctor-patient relationship or the treatment of the patient agreed upon between the doctor and patient, *or refuse a licensed doctor use of the facility*

Any person who observes a crime being committed who doesn't report it is guilty of a crime. So should those in the medical industry who stand by and watch malpractice or wrongful death taking place.

## III

It shall be the duty of any doctor or any other person in the medical industry to report acts of malpractice or wrongful death to the proper authorities. Refusal or failure to do so constitutes a crime. Any doctor or other medical person who through gross negligence cause the death of a patient should be charged with negligent homicide.

#### IV

Any doctor or medical personnel who through gross negligence cause the death of a patient shall be guilty of the crime of negligent homicide and subject to the penalties for that crime.

The state medical boards are inefficient in removing physicians' licenses because of their fear of reprisals by their peer group. The board needs to be changed to one composed of no doctors in the majority or a new board created.

#### V

The Alaska state medical board shall be restructured to be composed in the majority by non doctors.

A new medical board shall be created composed in the majority of non-doctors, for the purposes of reviewing charges against doctors and removing their medical licenses when the evidence warrants it.

Many times doctors and nurses stand by and watch persons being injured or life threatened without making an effort to prevent the injury. They should be relieved of the present pressures where they cannot act.

#### VI

Any person who within their medical knowledge who fails to act when a persons' health or life is being endangered shall have committed a crime and shall be subject to the penalties of \_\_\_\_\_.

Much needs to be done to assure the protections of patients in medical facilities. I think it is time to create an inspector of medical facilities.

#### VII

There shall be created an office of medical facility inspector, whose duties shall be to inspect all medical facilities in the state of Alaska to insure that the proper life saving equipment is available in good condition; to see that adequate series of checks and double checks is used to insure the proper administrations of medicines, foods etc , and that doctors and adequate medical personnel are on duty to insure the safety of all patients, and to perform any other duties guaranteeing Alaskans of safe and adequate medical care, etc.

Please consider any other ideas you may have to improve the health and safety laws in Alaska.

*Thank you for your courtesy  
Cliff Warren*