

HB

279

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

POUCH C - JUNEAU 99811

March 2, 1977

Honorable Terry Gardiner, Chairman  
House Judiciary Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V - State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

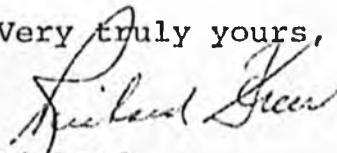
Dear Representative Gardiner:

The new employee payroll system being developed by the Department of Administration and scheduled for implementation early in Fiscal Year 1978, provides for all salaries to be paid on a bi-weekly basis instead of the current monthly schedule.

Last year, legislation relating to salaries was written to express only annual amounts to avoid any possible conflict with provisions of the new payroll system. We note, now, that House Bills 276 and 279 referred to your committee again express salaries for certain employees as "payable monthly in 12 equal installments."

It would be appreciated if these bills could be amended to express only the annual amount. Your assistance in this regard is appreciated and if there is any further information we can give you in this regard please do not hesitate to call us.

Very truly yours,



Richard W. Freer  
Deputy Commissioner

RWF/kw

# Terry Gardiner

Box 6092, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 Pouch V, Juneau, Alaska 99811

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 3/<sup>14</sup>17/77

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gardiner at 7:00p.m.

Present were: Chairman Gardiner

Vice - Chairman Miles

Rep. Brown

Rep. Specking

Rep. Dankworth

Absent were:

Rep. Eliason

Rep. Rudd

The Committee first took up the salary commission report and heard testimony from Kay Deeble of the Salary Commission. Ms. Deeble briefly went over parts of the report, dealing with the executive and judicial categories and discussed the three major aspects of legislative provisions dealing with salary, per diem, and vouchers. Ms. Deeble was questioned by the Committee and other Legislators and observes at the meeting regarding specific methods by which they arrived at the per diem recommendation and the vouchery recommendations.

The Committee then heard from LAA Attorney, Dick Bradley, regarding a request that had been made by Chairman Gardiner for a legal opinion dealing with aspects of the Salary Commission report. A three page memo was handed out to the Committee members prior to the meeting in the full report had not been typed as of the time of the meeting but Mr. Bradley gave an oral presentation.

Rep. Swanson testified briefly on HB 8 which would repeal the salary commission and the salary commission recommendations.

Speaker Malone testified on HB 8 and HB 274, 275, 276, 277, 278 & 279. Malone testified in favor of repealing the salary commission report with respect to legislative compensation or taking the legislative compensation out of the preview of the salary commission.

Rep. Parr testified in favor of amending the existing law governing the salary commission but basically letting it continue in its work. He also testified that the legislative recommendations of the report should be ignored and the legislature enact its own salary and benefit levels.'

The Committee discussed the various proposals brought up through the testimony but did not reach a conclusion on how to treat the salary commission report nor the other items of legislation pending a presentation of the issue to the full Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

House Judiciary  
March 8, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman, Gardiner. Members present were Gardiner, Miles, Dankworth, Eliason, Brown and Specking. Mrs. Rudd was absent.

HB 112 Appropriation for capital improvements within the court system HB 112

Mr. Miles explained the memo that he had written to the committee regarding HB 112.

Art Snowden, Director of the Court System, explained that the costs indicated in this bill were provided on the basis of consultation with the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Brown reminded the committee that the \$710,000 figure for the Fairbanks Court Building had been amended to be reduced to \$60,000.

Mr. Miles asked if these figures in the bill are still valid. Rick Barrier, Manager of Fiscal Operations for the Court System, answered that "yes", they were.

There was a general discussion about other court building projects and their costs.

Mr. Brown moved that the Dillingham figure be changed to 1,063,027 (instead of 1,458,000). He also moved that a letter be sent to the Finance Committee with the bill to have them consider a lease-back program for the Dillingham Court Building.

The committee generally feels that the costs are unrealistic. The Finance Committee will probably adjust the figures. The bill was moved out of committee. Gardiner will write a letter to the Finance Committee- to accompany the bill- saying that the Judiciary Committee felt that the figures provided by Public Works were unrealistic.

HB 279 Judicial compensation

HB  
279

Art Snowden explained the purpose of this bill as being to make it so that all judges are paid the same salary, rather than having the salaries vary from one part of the state to another.

This bill does essentially the same thing as the salary commission recommendation. Only one or the other will be adopted.

This bill will be taken up again at a later date with similar Malone bills.

House Judiciary  
March 8, 1977 (con't)

HB 278 Geographic cost of living salary differentials for judicial officers

HB  
278

Art Snowden explained that the purpose of this bill would be to provide judges with a cost of living differential, like other state employees. It provides the same % cost of living increase as for other state employees.

It was indicated that the 7.5 % for the retirement system wouldn't apply to judges presently sitting, but it would apply to judges coming on after the effective date of the act.

Susan Burke, Staff Counsel for the Court System, also answered some questions about the bill.

Mr. Brown objected to the title of the bill. He felt it was not broad enough to cover section 4 on retirement. The committee agreed.

Mr. Brown indicated that Section 25.25.049 may be redundant with other law. If not, the interest rate referred to in the bill needs to be more specific.

This bill will be considered again at a later date.

HB 238 Inquiries into cause of death

HB  
238

Susan Burke explained the intent of the bill. She said, however, that this was the first time that she had seen section 2... and she doesn't feel that a coroner's inquest should be completely eliminated (which line 19 would do).

Mr. Eliason moved that section 2 of the bill be deleted. He also moved the bill out of committee. Both motions passed and the bill was moved out of committee.

HB 237 Appointment and compensation of registrars of vital statistics

HB  
237

Art Snowden and Susan Burke explained the purpose of the bill.

Mr. Gardiner requested that Rick Barrier, Manager of fiscal operations for the court system, get together with the Department of Health and Social Services to come up with a fiscal note for this bill.

Lois Jund, Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Health and Social Services, was here but indicated that they would need more information about the bill before being able to testify.

This bill will come up again later.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.