

SB

179

S. HESS 79-80
SB 179
By Rodney G. Timson
An Act establishing a State
Committee on Services to
the Elderly

see SB 177
has \$50,000 F.N.

call 586-3131 - Glen Tindell (vs. Light Church)
when possible.

Introduced: 2-14-79
Logged: 2-14-79
Referrals: none
Comm. Date 3-21-79 - held
" Action

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

OFFICE ON AGING

March 14, 1979

JAY S. HAMMCND, GOVERNOR

POUCH H 01C - JUNEAU 99811

Senator Glenn Hackney, Chairman
Senate HESS Committee
Room 207 (Butrovitch) Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Chairman Hackney:

Re: Support of SB 177
and SB 179

At the request of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Aging, I have been directed to contact you and inform you of its unanimous support and endorsement of SB 177 and SB 179 by Senator Rodey and Stimson.

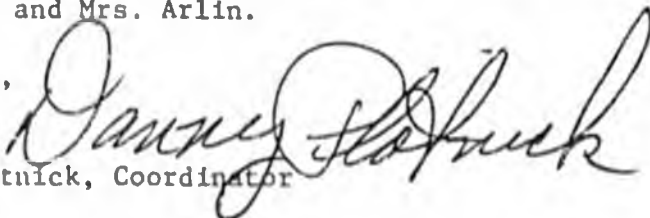
At its official organizational meeting held in Juneau on March 7, 8, and 9, 1979, it was moved by committee member Betty Warren, Kenai, seconded by committee member Al Widmark, Juneau, and carried without objection, that the committee support and endorse the concept contained in proposed legislation. (SB 177 and SB 179)

While under discussion there was real concern expressed by the members present that although SB 177 has a \$50,000 fiscal note, the funding of this measure should in no way curtail the funding of the Office on Aging.

Enclosed is a copy of the current members of the committee. All persons were in attendance except Mrs. Southall and Mrs. Arlin.

Sincerely,

Danny Plotnick, Coordinator



Enclosure

cc: Senator Ferguson
Senator Colletta
Senator Sturgulewski
Senaotr Fahrenkamp
Senator Rodey
Senator Stimson

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING

March, 1979

Mr. Zelmer Lawrence
7431 Blackberry Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
243-8169

Mrs. Kathryn Fiala
Post Office Box 375
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
272-1988

Mr. William Peters
Post Office Box 733
Sitka, Alaska 99835
747-6658

Mr. Theodore Drahn
Ballaine Lake Road
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College, Alaska 99701
479-4176

Mrs. Doris Southall
2-B-7 Dixon Apts.
100 - 10th Street
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
456-6358

Mrs. Marian Arlin
4106 Laron Lane
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333-7070

Mr. Fletcher Gregg
Post Office Box 257
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
442-3188

Mrs. Betty Warren
Post Office Box 116
Kenai, Alaska 99611
262-5453

Mr. Alfred Widmark
Post Office Box 1492
Juneau, Alaska 99802
789-7523

PREPARED BY Sen. Rodeys' OFFICE

FACT SHEET ON SB 177: "An act making a special appropriation to the Legislative Affairs Agency for a State Committee on Services to the Elderly; and providing for an effective date."

SB 179: "An act establishing a State Committee on Services to the Elderly."

Bill Summary

The purpose of this legislation is to create and fund an interim committee to examine comprehensively all the services presently being provided to the elderly in Alaska, and make recommendations for changes. The assumption is that there are gaps and overlaps in the delivery of those services which need to be addressed, and ought to be addressed jointly by all the parties involved: i.e. the legislature, the administration and, of course, the elderly themselves.

As it is envisioned now, the 11-member committee would hold four meetings during the course of the summer and fall in communities like Sitka, Fairbanks, Anchorage and Kotzebue or Nome. Additionally, efforts would be made to gather input from people in all other places of the state. Topics to be addressed would be, as stated in SB 179, "possible alternative means to improve the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in the delivery of state services and benefits to the elderly, including such alternatives as administrative consolidation, local administration and control, substituting cash benefits for direct services, and alternatives to institutionalization."

The desired accomplishment would be a state policy on aging in which all appropriate parties had a share, and to which all would have a commitment.

The Problem

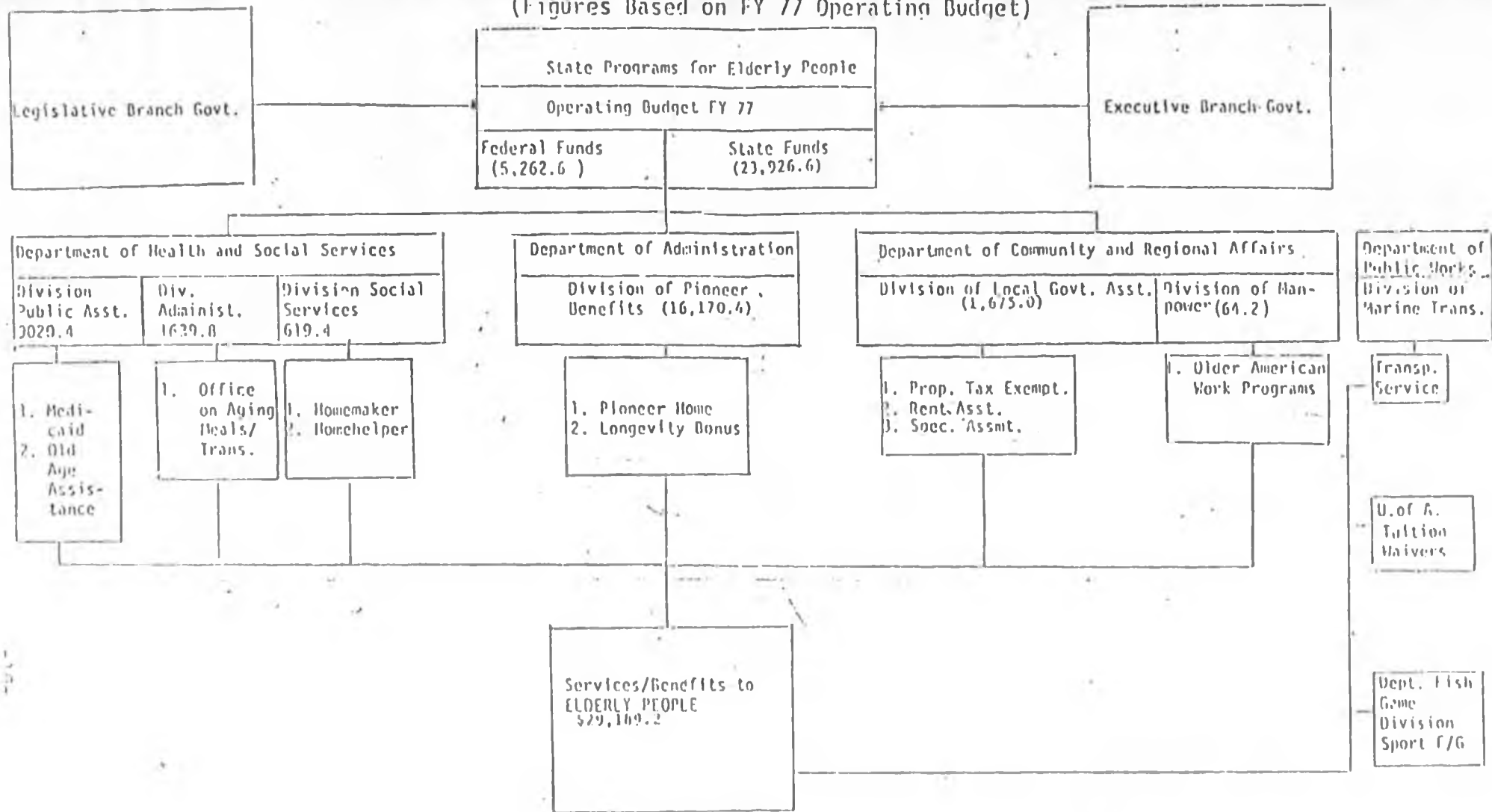
The last time the state inventoried all the aging programs in Alaska was in November of 1976 when Jim Stey, budget analyst for the governor, put it together. His conclusion was "At the present time, the state does not appear to have a definitive aging policy." Two and a half years later, it still doesn't.

Stey's report included some interesting figures which very clearly illustrate the negative effects of our present "non-policy." In 1976, the state alone had 14

different programs for the elderly being administered by five different departments through nine different divisions. Those programs were providing approximately \$29 million worth of services and benefits to over 16,000 senior Alaskans. In addition, the federal government was providing approximately \$26 million worth of services and benefits to the same 16,000 Alaskans through more than thirty different programs administered by at least five different departments through another half dozen divisions. That's a lot of administration, an expenditure of a lot of money, and all of it happening without a comprehensive plan, much of it happening without the people who ought to even know about it.

At a time when citizens are telling their elected officials that government is growing too big, is inefficient and unresponsive, and at a time when the managers of our state money are telling us we have to cut back on our expenditure, it seems undisputably appropriate to back off from the establishment of even more new programs, and consider what we've already got. It might be possible that the state can do a better job delivering services to its citizens by mandating maintenance or less budgets, but it's not going to happen accidentally. What is required is a cooperative effort of all those people who would benefit from a fine tuning of the system. It is not appropriate for the legislature to attempt such an undertaking unilaterally, because the legislature neither knows exactly what is needed, nor does it have the opportunity at any rate to implement its programs. That's the function of the administration. But, neither can they act independently, for they do not appropriate the money nor always recognize the intent of the legislature. As for the consumers of the services, though they are the ones who truly know what they want and need, they neither pass the laws nor run the programs. All are partners of necessity - or at least should be if the state is to do the best possible job of providing for its senior citizens.

CHART 1
STATE PROVIDERS OF SERVICES FOR ELDERLY RESIDENTS
(Figures Based on FY 77 Operating Budget)



*Prepared by the staff of Division of Budget and Management, November, 1976.

MEMO

3/21/79

TO: SEN. HACKNEY

FROM: PAUL

RE: SB 177 & SB 179

Spoke with Jim Kelly, Rodey's A.A., to get some answers regarding a couple of questions I have re: SB 179. First, is the intent of SB 179 designed to ascertain what benefit/services are available at the state level or are they implying that it would encompass all levels, federal and local as well. He said the bill is designed to treat all levels of government, federal, state & local. Second, I was curious as to what the language in the bill "substituting cash benefits for direct services," (p.2, line 10) meant. He said what they are getting at here is a recommendation along the following lines. Instead of pumping all kinds of money into the pioneer homes, maybe a pioneer fund could be set up designed to let pioneers dip into the fund for the purpose of allowing them to use the funds to stay in their own homes rather than being institutionalized.

Questions you can consider for today's hearing:

1) Since there currently exists an Advisory Committee on Aging (Dept H/SS) and a Pioneer Home Advisory Board (Dept Admin) why is it necessary to create another committee dealing with the elderly. Couldn't these committees attain the results desired in this bill?

2) Don't federal regulations somewhat reduce the amount of coordinating flexibility that can take place between agencies serving the elderly (i.e. just to compose a joint-application form would be difficult because federal regs require different information for each of the agencies to process the application in order to provide the benefit or service)?

3) Don't facilities like Senior Citizens Centers assist elderly in procuring bebefits & services?

4) Do you feel that the time you have allotted the committee (committee will terminate at the end of the second session of the 11th Legislature) is sufficient time to examine the issues dealing with the elderly as this bill suggest?

5) To expand this issue a little further - the different levels of government offer benefits/services to an abundance of people of all ages, and all these various agencies providing these different services aren't centralized/coordinated as we would like - maybe in a bureaucratic type system this is something we have to live with --.

ATTACHED is a bill summary and some funding information provided by Rodey's office.

Municipality of Anchorage



POUCH 6-650
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
(907) 274-2525

GEORGE M. SULLIVAN,
MAYOR

February 13, 1979

OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

The Anchorage Municipal Senior Citizens Advisory Commission has placed the highest priority to assuring that preventative health and social services are provided to the Elderly and that to the maximum degree possible those services to be provided in the Home Environment. Further, the members of this Commission are convinced that the most reasonable, effective and financially sound provision of services would be by means of an umbrella (unified) service agency.

The Position Paper on Home Care adopted by the Commission at the December 1978 meeting and affirmed at the January 1979 meeting is enclosed. The paper reflects the observations of this Commission and recommendation which had evolved over a two year period.

During this time, the Commission as a whole, and in subcommittees of the Commission, has met with providers of services in this field. The input provided by the staff of provider agencies has had a substantial impact on the Commission. As dedicated as we are to the development of a single organizational structure at the local level for the delivery of these services, we are not approaching the legislature with the request that new funding be provided.

Our First request is that where feasible, State Division of Social Services contracts for Homemaker Services be made to local or regional organizations providing at least one other Home Care Service. This request does not require the expenditure of any additional funds, it is rather a reallocation of funds.

Our second recommendation is that the Legislature establish a special committee to make a thorough evaluation of home services in the State. While this would require the expenditure of funds, we are convinced that the savings which could be realized by the State in its medical care program payments for hospital care, by individuals and by insurance companies for hospital and institutional care would make an impartial legislative evaluation cost effective to the citizenry.




As Chairman of the Commission I have spent two days in Juneau offering more specific input. We advocate for the transfer of Five Million Dollars from the Medicaid and General Relief Medical Programs to provide in Home Care. The Bill to realize this goal should provide for local administration with the Department of Health and Social Services allocating and Monitoring funds. We strongly encourage a service were relatives can be reimbursed for inhome care. The Commissioner of Health and Social Services has indicated interest in our proposals.

Our medical care subcommittee would be eager to meet with you at any time that you are in Anchorage. Our staff person, Cari John, can be reached at 276-3700 to make arrangements with respect to Home Services. A membership list of the Commission is enclosed.

I would also anticipate that you will hear from the membership of such senior organizations as: AARP NART, Gray Panthers, Older Persons Action Group, and The National Council on Senior Citizens.

On behalf of the Commission, I look forward to a close working relationship with you.

Sincerely,



Rose Palmquist, Chairman

enclosures-4

cc: distribution list

Distribution List

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Governor Hammond

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Members of the Alaska State Legislature

Municipality of Anchorage



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GEORGE M. SULLIVAN,
MAYOR

OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

POSITION PAPER IN HOME CARE SERVICES JANUARY 1979

Introduction

The Anchorage Municipal Senior Citizens Advisory Commission is charged by Municipal Ordinance Number 49-76 with responsibility to "Advise the Mayor, the Assembly and appropriate Department Heads with respect to aspects of aging which bear on the welfare of Senior Citizens."

It is in accord with this responsibility that the Municipal Senior Citizens Advisory Commission at the Regular Monthly Meeting on December 20, 1978, adopted by unanimous vote the following position and recommendation with respect to Home Support Services:

The Commission is convinced that the need for a unified Home Support Services is essential to Senior Citizens in Anchorage. Further, that such unification would benefit incapacitated individuals of all ages. This Commission has, as its primary concern, the well-being of the approximately six thousand (6,000) elderly individuals residing in Anchorage. These recommendations are applicable to Anchorage, though other Alaskan Communities might also benefit from unification of services provided within their communities.

Definition

Home Support Services are defined within this position paper as follows:

"Services provided in the home of the temporarily or permanently incapacitated individuals and are designed to improve, maintain or restore physical or mental well-being and enhance the individual's ability to remain in or return to the home environment."



Specific services encompassed by this definition include, but are not, limited to: In-home skilled health services (nursing services, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, education on care); chore and homemaker services; in-home respite care; in-home nutrition services; and counseling and referral services.

The goal of Home Support Services is to reduce the inappropriate or premature institutionalization of individuals and the appropriate care of individuals in their own homes would relieve the economic and emotional devastation of inappropriate placement of individuals in institutional care facilities.

Provision of in-home services has been shown to be an effective means reducing expenditure of public/private funds for institutional care.

Problem Statements

- Existing services to incapacitated individuals are not available in quantities sufficient to meet the needs.
- Fragmented services delivery prohibits the assurance that care is provided in a coordinated manner responsive to the individuals's changing needs; resulting in cost inefficiency and waste of resources.
- Individuals are subject to "Agency Bounce" because the requests for services are frequently referred to the wrong provider or the request for services was made in an "inappropriate" manner.
- There is no multi-disciplinary appraisal of the individual's needs which frequently results in the delivery of inappropriate services.
- Two specific Home Support Services, cannot be unified because the policy of the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Social Services is to contract for Homemakers services on a state-wide basis.

Recommendations

- That expansion and unification of in-home support services be acknowledged as the very highest goal of State, Federal and Local Government.
- That within the State of Alaska, the development of local and regionally based organizations be encouraged to consolidate services to the maximum extent feasible.
- That the 11th Session of the Alaska State Legislature direct the Division of Social Services to contract with local organizations, local units of government and/or regional health corporations for the delivery of Homemaker services, in instances where consolidation of services would result.
- The 11th Session of the Alaska State Legislature establish and provide funding and staff for a Special Interim Committee to examine the issues, possible solutions and funding mechanisms for regionally and/or locally based unified home support services. And that Committee be charged with the responsibility of preparing recommendations for action to the Second Session of the 11th Session.

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MAYOR

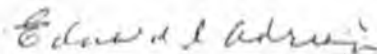
OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

RESOLUTION

79-1

- WHEREAS Care provided in the home environment of incapacitated individuals is both economically and therapeutically preferable to institutional care,
- AND WHEREAS In-home care permits incapacitated individuals, particularly Senior Citizens, an opportunity to continue leading an independent and productive life
- AND WHEREAS Within the State of Alaska, In-Home Care is not available in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of incapacitated individuals of all ages,
- AND WHEREAS Existing In-Home Care services are fragmented and provided by a variety of administrative units, and have not been planned for or implemented in an integrated and coordinated manner

NOW THEREFORE DOES THE MUNICIPAL SENIOR CITIZENS, ON DECEMBER 20, 1978, RESOLVE TO REQUEST THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH AND PROVIDE FUNDING AND STAFF FOR A SPECIAL INTERIM COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE ISSUES, POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS AND FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR REGIONALLY AND/OR LOCALLY BASED UNIFIED HOME SUPPORT SERVICES. AND THAT THE COMMITTEE BE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PREPARING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION.


Attest: Edna Adrian
Secretary



Municipality
of
Anchorage



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GEORGE M. SULLIVAN,
MAYOR

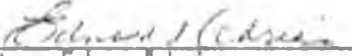
OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

RESOLUTION

79-2

- WHEREAS The Municipal Senior Citizens Advisory Commission recognizes the need for the unified and coordinated Home Support Services delivery to incapacitated individuals.
- AND WHEREAS Existing Home Support Services are fragmented,
- AND WHEREAS The Divisions of Social Services of the State Department of Health and Social Services contracts for the administration and delivery of Homemaker services on a statewide basis only.
- AND WHEREAS The Division's requirement that contract for Homemaker Service be made on a statewide basis effectively prohibits the unification of Homemaker Services with other Home Support Services.

NOW THEREFORE DOES THE MUNICIPAL SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 20, 1978, RESOLVE TO REQUEST THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO DIRECT THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO CONTRACT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DELIVERY OF HOMEMAKER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL OR LOCAL BASIS IN INSTANCES WHERE SUCH CONTRACTING WOULD RESULT IN THE UNIFICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND DELIVERY OF HOME SUPPORT SERVICES


Attest: Edna Adrian
Secretary



Municipality of Anchorage



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GEORGE M. SULLIVAN,
MAYOR

OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Senior Citizens Advisory Commission

RESOLUTION

79-3

- WHEREAS The older worker can make substantial contributions of benefit to employers
- AND WHEREAS The older worker brings to employment a degree of expertise, stability and commitment based on previous years of contribution
- AND WHEREAS The older worker may have special needs with respect to working conditions and stamina which make part time employment more reasonable than full time employment,
- AND WHEREAS Many jobs could be performed by part-time employees
- AND WHEREAS There is increasing economic pressure on older workers to supplement retirement income

NOW THEREFORE DOES THE MUNICIPAL SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION, ON DECEMBER 20, 1978, RESOLVE TO REQUEST THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS A RESOLUTION DIRECTING AND ENCOURAGING DEPARTMENTS WITHIN STATE GOVERNMENT TO EXAMINE AND REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE NUMBER OF OLDER WORKERS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN THEIR DEPARTMENTS, AND THE NUMBER OF POSITIONS WHICH MIGHT BE REASONABLY FILLED BY AN OLDER WORKER ON A PART-TIME AND/OR FLEX-TIME BASIS.


Attest: Edna Adrian
Secretary



Sen. Rodley
Interim Committee
11 member committee

1976 - Inventory of services for elderly

Problem of Co-mingling of Federal funds

Sen. Sturgulewski - Retiree deadline

Advisory Committee

is not set up to handle question called for in
this bill.

Rodley - would not propose to affect Pioneer Home
or longevity program

Fl. Mason - OPAG
wants to see Sept. on aging

Jim Twitchell OPAG Study -
Dyatic persons - allotment 136-137 near
Translons creek, post chulitna River, house
location in doubt. As benefit from SSZ went up
ret's benefits came down.

Red Prahr
Pioneer Homes
Long. bonus

Comp. of advisory committee should include
Gerontologist →
Existing board can't take on responsibility

Dattie England

Need for Coordination

Hard to keep track of what is available.

Pilot program in Denara turned up people who hadn't applied for

Krotz

Mary Shaffer - Dir. of Senior Centers in Krotz.

Arndt.

Rose Palmquist - Chmn. Municip. Comm. on Elderly,
4.3% over 65

If SS has never made a study on Medicaid

NOTE IN BUDGET BRO IT IS THE INTENT OF THE
LEGISLATURE THAT THE
CONSULTATION WITH AARP, OPAG, NRTA, ~~THE~~ ^{IN} ~~THE~~ ^{SHALL}
CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE SERVICES PRESENTLY
OFFERED TO ELDERLY PERSONS IN THE STATE OF
ALASKA. THE OF THIS STUDY SHALL BE
TO

Patrick -
Supports bill

John Tiller

Compares DOT to results to be attained
through a study like that proposed by
these bills.

Amount of money does it scare him.

Bob Gore - Past Sr. Pres. of Pioneer

Senior Pioneer Home Advisory Bd.

No problem with restructuring of Pioneer Home
Board.

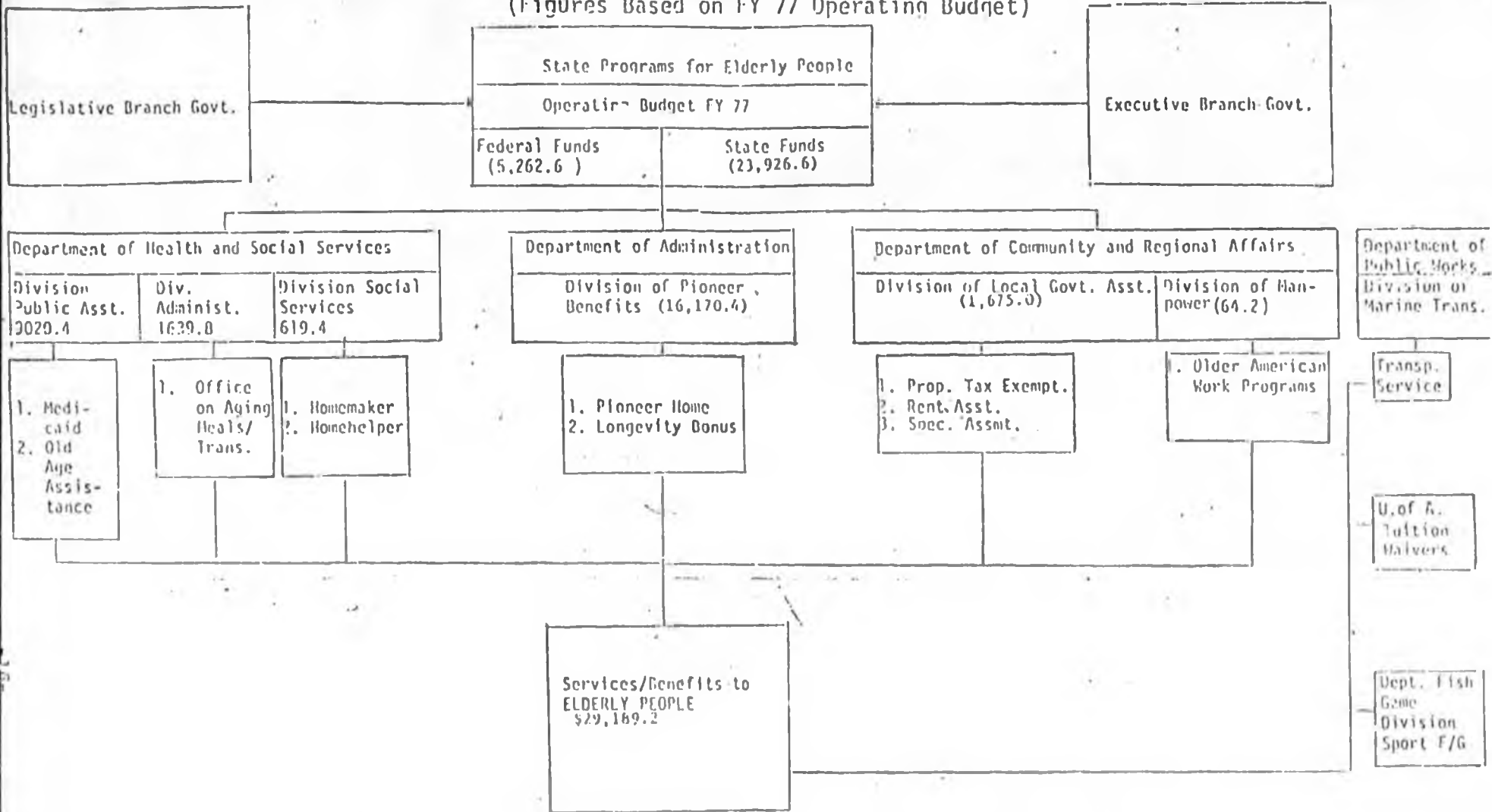
Should not be included in an umbrella
board.

Previous problem with co-mingling of
Fed. & State funds

Pat Dineen

Sponsors food service at 19 sites through
Catholic Charities (under office of aging)

CHART I
 STATE PROVIDERS OF SERVICES FOR ELDERLY RESIDENTS
 (Figures Based on FY 77 Operating Budget)



*Prepared by the staff of Division of Budget and Management, November, 1976.

FUNDING OF AGING SERVICES
(FY 77)

Table II .

Type of Service	Total Cost (\$)	Federal Funds (\$)	State G. Funds (\$)	Local Funds (\$)	% Total State Funds Aging	% Total Oper. Bud. w/Aging	Est. # Clients Served	Average Cost Per Client (\$)
STATE OPERATING BUDGET								
Education								
(Tuition Waiver-UofA)	0	0	0		0	0	39	0
Homemaker	\$ 398,600	\$ 304,300	\$ 94,300		.4	1.4	773	\$ 516
Homehelper	220,800	165,600	55,200		.2	.8	336	657
Health Care (Medicaid)	6,518,470	3,239,680	3,278,790		13.7	22.3	1,986	3,282
Transportation (Marine Highway)	0	0	0				1,874	0
Old Age Assistance	2,501,860	0	2,501,860		10.5	8.6	1,980	1,260
Property Tax Exemp. (includes rent assit)	1,675,000	0	1,675,000		7.0	5.7	5,410	310
Employment (Older American Prog.)	64,200	64,200	0			.2	34	1,888
Pioneers' Home	7,943,400	0	7,943,400		32.2	27.2	450	17,663
Longevity Bonus Pay.	8,222,000	0	8,222,000		34.4	28.2	5,625	1,462
Special Elderly Svcs. (Office on Aging)	1,639,800	1,488,800	151,000		.6	5.6	2,506	654
Privileges (Fish and Game)	0	0	0		0	0	4,100	0
Totals	29,189,130	55,262,580	23,926,550	0	100.0%	100.0%		

SERVICES & BENEFITS PROVIDED DIRECTLY BY FEDERAL/LOCAL GOVT.

Social Security Benefits (est. 30th June 75)	19,404,000	19,404,000	0	0			8,721	2,225
Health Care (Medicare 6/30/75)	3,222,285	3,222,285	0	0			6,996	461
Supp Security Income (Est. 12/31/75)	1,685,472	1,685,472	0	0			1,448	1,164
HUD-Rent Assist. (est 6/1/77)	2,160,407	2,160,407	0	0			339	3,756
Advocacy Service	61,042	61,042	0	0			16,600	4
Volunteer Services (Foster Grandparents)	132,462	115,699	0	\$16,763			145	2,944
(Retire Sr. Vol. Prog)	55,241	39,995	0	15,246			160	345
Employment (Title I CETA)	100,000	100,000	0				48	2,083
Transportation (Anch. Bus Lines)	0			0				0
(Juneau Bus Lines)	0			0				0
Total	26,320,009	25,703,500	0	\$32,009				
Combined Total	56,010,019	12,051,480	23,926,550	32,009				

*Prepared by the staff of Budget and Management, November, 1975.

T E S T I M O N Y

TO: The Honorable Glenn Hackney, Chairman, Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee

FROM: Dove M. Kull, Legislative Chairperson, American Association of Retired Persons, Juneau Chapter

RE: Senate Bills 177 and 179

In view of the facts that:

- a) more senior Alaskans are remaining in Alaska because of the benefits (including housing) provided by the State to enable them financially to do so;
- b) more senior citizens are moving up from the South 48 to join their children and grandchildren who are already here; and
- c) more senior citizens, as doctors and dentists, are coming to Alaska to retire with limited practice because of their love of nature and sports such as hunting and fishing, it behooves us to make a concentrated effort to study the services established for the aging to determine whether they meet the needs, are efficiently and economically administered, and are of a quality which reflects modern technology and expertise.

As legislative chairperson for the 160 members of the Juneau Chapter of the AARP, I respectfully request Senate HESS Committee to establish a State Committee as set forth in Senate Bills 177 and 179 to pull together the major programs for the aging into a single agency.

This request is made in consideration of the facts that:

- a) we, the aging, are a very small minority group of Alaskans scattered over a geographic area of a half million square miles;
- b) a number of us cannot communicate satisfactorily in the dominant language of the State;
- c) another portion of us are not ambulatory because of our frailty;
- d) current statistics are not readily accessible on which to build an effec-

tive program for the aged, due partly to fragmentation of services and due partly to the Department of Health, Education and Social Services including us in the category of all adults of 18 years and over; and

e) last, but most significant, is the fact that "growing old is a worldwide phenomenon."

- * at the time of the Roman Empire, life expectancy was 18 years;
- * in 17th Century Europe, it was 25;
- * in 1900, in the United States, only one person in 25 lived to be 65;
- * today, in the United States, one person in nine lives to be 65;
- * today, life expectancy for a baby boy is 69 years and for a girl, 77.

There are 23 million Americans 65 and over, and as a phenomenon we are being studied. The presses all over the world are rolling off tons of research findings. This is a period of learning about who the aging are and what is their potential, etc. We are not the old people of the past who were placed in the poor house along with the paupers, insane and children who were sold by the borough assemblymen and county commissioners to the lowest bidders.

Society considers itself modern, but is it really? There remain vestigial remnants of the Elizabethan Poor Law. Even our federal government, in outlining eligibility requirements for residence in HUD housing states "for persons over 62 and the physically and mentally handicapped." When do we discard the old concepts and the old images of the aging? How?

Let's do it now by passing these bills and allowing the aging to have a voice in their own destiny. Many of us will die the old way in institutions while we are waiting for the mills of the bureaucracy to grind out a plan and set priorities. Thank you for passing these bills.

Two articles are attached for your information.

Dave M. Kull U.S. Senator Alaska

Related to SB 179

PAGE FOUR— Southeast Alaska Empire, Juneau, Alaska, Wednesday, January 3, 1979

My Turn

Aging In Alaska

By DOVE M. KULL

It is my turn to speak; and so I will speak on the aging in Alaska. Why doesn't the State of Alaska establish a single agency to develop and handle a comprehensive, coordinated network of services for the agency? And why not include on the staff of this single agency knowledgeable persons who are Senior Alaskans? These Seniors are to be salaried (part or full time) monitors with clout, not token members of committees that merely recommend. Why not focus on quality care and economical administration? The two can go together.

In FY'77, Alaska's plan for the aging was to spend \$60,000,000 (local, state and federal funds) for benefits and services for 16,618 older Alaskans. Of this number, 9,308 were 65 and over.

How was this money administered? By approximately 12 different agencies and departments that provided approximately 22 programs.

Many of the aging have lived independent lives. Many have never been on welfare. How, in Alaska, which has a sparse population scattered over one-half million square miles, can isolated older persons find their way around? It would be a kindness to them for the state to become more efficient.

Why not let us plan for ourselves the kind of housing we need, the kind of care we need?

We seniors have learned to cope, to make do. Why? Because we have survived—even during a drastic national economic breakdown in the 1930s.

While we are at it, why not place one or more seniors (depending on the size of the department) in each branch of State government? Alaskans who are 65 and over make up an enormous pool of varying skills and expertise. Why not start with the media and encourage all forms to see us as we are, and what we are capable of doing to help our state.

Look at the entire population of the U.S. Approximately 23,000,000 now are over 65. By 2020, approximately 40,000,000 will be 65 and over. All of these persons are living now. Scientific research and discoveries are increasing longevity. It is predicted that life may be prolonged to 150 years. The oldest man in the world whose age is documented is 137 years old. He lives in Florida. The fastest growing segment of the population is the group 75 and over. The aged population has increased in size by 15% in 8 years, compared with 6% for the nation's population as a whole.

Should the decreasing number of younger persons carry the responsibility for the aging? The answer is no. Let the aging continue to share the work and carry themselves as much as possible. Besides, their amassed pool of experience is needed in our government.

The 1972 distribution of the aging 60 and over was:

- Northern Region, mostly Alaskan Native, 24.6%
- South Central, mostly Caucasian, 48.4%
- Southeastern Region, 27%

In many of the Alaskan homes of the aging, there is a woman living alone. The life of the older woman was centered in her home; her cabin, her apartment. The house itself is important to her. Roughly, one of seven households of Senior Alaskans does not have running water, flush toilets, bathing facilities, or heat in every room.

In structuring a single agency, health, mental health and safe housing are necessities. Why not structure this single agency to develop and implement a comprehensive plan of living, not to duplicate, but to coordinate their services to the aging; to develop a community-based, home-centered network of services and benefits; as housing.

In developing a housing plan, avoid the old poorhouse concept of providing one facility with one level of care. HUD provides housing for the elderly and physically and mentally handicapped. Many institutionalized persons isolate themselves in their rooms to avoid the emotional impact of sitting around in the recreation rooms or the nursing station along with patients extremely mentally retarded or mentally ill. What is the impact of thoughtless planning on the mentally alert older person?

Develop a compassionate, suitable plan of housing.

Housing - plan to include levels according to the needs of the individual and adapted to the terrain, climate, geography and architectural safety of older persons.

- Level 1. Independent living - let them stay at home as long as possible.
 - a. Own home - taxes forgiven, government help with repairs.
 - b. Rent home - rent equivalency.
 - c. Extended family - addition of a "Grandma room" for privacy.
 - d. Congregate housing - constructed and administered preferably by private, non-profit organizations that can offer more flexibility of regulations.
- Level 2. Semi-independent living
 - a. Intermediate housing under watchful care because of extreme frailty, falling or inability to perform all personal care tasks.
- Level 3. Extended Care facility
 - a. Nursing home which provides 24 hour care - Medicaid, Medicare
 - b. Hospital intermittently, or finally, with Medicaid & Medicare

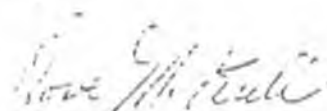
Levels 1 and 2 should include home care as needed.

Supportive Services

Trained, professionally supervised homemaker-home health aides should serve the residents of the homes on the four levels of independent living and the level of semi-independent living, as part of a team to coordinate and extend the services of health, mental health, nutrition and the level of living. They can be an

extension of the social worker, nurse, dietitian, physical and speech therapists, and physicians in helping to carry out pertinent instructions in accordance with the degree of need. They can encourage self-help. Other supportive services include meals on wheels, transportation and outreach, as Senior Centers and educational programs. The National Council for Homemakers-Home Health Aide Services, N.Y., N.Y. has made studies which show this plan to be less costly and less traumatic than institutionalization.

This coordinated, comprehensive plan of living should be designed to provide: as many choices as possible; a chance to allow the individual to work as long as desired and competent; to earn freedom from an abundance of "Senior Citizen discounts" and "Entitlement cards"; and to share in the dignity of self maintenance as a contributing member of the community, the state and our United States of America.


Dove M. Kull, an Older Alaskan, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.

Services to
the Elderly
(establish-
ment of
committee)

SENATE BILL NO. 179, by Senators Rodey and Stimson. Establishes a state committee on services to the elderly to consider problems and make recommendations regarding improved delivery of benefits and services to eiderly Alaskans. Act terminates at end of second session of eleventh legislature. Provides Act effective immediately.

Introduced February 13 and referred to HESS.

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. SENATE BILL NO. 179
 Title Establishing a State Committee on Services to the Eiderly
 Requested by Senator Rodey Date 2/13/79

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Legislative Affairs Agency
 Program Category Affected General Government
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected _____

(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	18.4					
200 TRAVEL	22.8					
300 CONTRACTUAL	7.1					
400 COMMODITIES	.6					
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	48.9					

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	48.9					
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

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

(100) Personal Services \$18,370
 Admininstrative Assistant (Range 20/C) @\$2780
 per month for 6 months plus 10.13% benefits

(200) Travel \$22,780
 Eleven (11) member committee, travel for 4
 public hearings and meetings (two days'
 travel and two days' meeting).
 Per Diem \$ 9,680
 Transportation 11,000
 Staff-four trips (3 days' travel and prepara-
 tion and two days' meeting).
 Per Diem \$ 1,100
 Transportation 1,000

(Continued) *Warren W. Endicott*
 Director

IV. DATE 3/14/79 PREPARED BY Warren W. Endicott
 AGENCY Legislative Affairs Agency
 PHONE 485-3850

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

SENATE BILL NO. 179

III. ANALYSIS (Continued)

(300) Contractual		\$ 7,130
Postage	\$ 250	
Advertising	2,880	
Publication of final report	4,000	
(400) Commodities		\$ 600
Office Supplies	\$ 600	

**Municipality
of
Anchorage**



POUCH 6-650
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502
(907) 276-3700

GEORGE M. SULLIVAN,
MAYOR

HUMAN SUPPORT SERVICES
Senior Citizens Programs

March 13, 1979

Senator Pat Rodey
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Rodey:

As Chairman of the Municipal Senior Citizens Advisory Commission I commend you upon introduction of Senate Bills 177 and 179.

The Commission at its Regular Monthly meeting on February 21, 1979 was advised of the two Bills and expressed gratitude that headway was being made toward our goal of improved services and opportunities for older citizens.

It is our opinion that a good look at the whole scene confronting Alaska's Aging is long overdue. There have been a number of studies, mainly from a single issue point of view. These studies have contributed to piecemeal legislation and administration.

We elderly, never-the-less have fared very well with the Alaska Legislature with such programs as property tax exemption, pension income tax exemption, the Longevity Bonus and more.

The elderly need to be much more involved in the execution of the legislation, like we now are with the legislators.

Senate Bills 177 and 179 will not impact in any negative fashion on our desires for a Medicaid-General Relief Medical \$5,000,000 Budget transfer in FY 1980 for a combined Home Health-Home Support program. As you will recall, we are advocating a program to be locally administered with guidance from the Department of Health and Social Services.

Although this in-home care could be handled in the budget review process, we have been advised by members of the Senate and House that a Bill would have a number of advantages over the budget review route.

Senator Rodey
Page 2

Our Commission and other organizations made up of older citizens is hopeful that such a bill will be introduced.

We thank you again for your knowledge of the problems of Alaska's aging population and the concern you have shown toward providing solutions.

Sincerely,



Rose Palmquist
Chairman

cc. Bill Sumner
John Sackett
✓Glenn Hackney
Mike Colletta
Jelmar Kertulla
Brad Bradley
Bill Ray
Russ Meekins
Nels Anderson