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COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

5/11/81

FURTHER: Finance

Date: _____

Mr. President:

HEALTH, EDUCATION &
SOCIAL SERVICES

The Committee on _____ has had SR 558
care and confinement of prisoners

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for _____ same title
 new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

CHAIRMAN

POSITION PAPER

SENATE BILL NO. 558

"An Act relating to the care and confinement of prisoners."

The Division of Adult Corrections has had furlough programs since 1969 and, since 1971, has been utilizing halfway houses under contract as furlough centers. By operating the program from furlough centers rather than from the prison setting, the problem of work furlough participants being placed under pressure to bring in contraband is avoided. There are other advantages as well. Furlough in Alaska has functioned successfully with regards to work and other rehabilitative measures.

The emphasis on development of community-based alternatives to imprisonment for appropriate offenders began during the mid-1960's and has become an important component of progressive corrections programs throughout the country. The rationale for furloughs is based on the belief that, after a term of conventional imprisonment, the offender is in need of a period of structured reintegration into the community. Work furlough and utilization of furloughs for other appropriate purposes serve the best interest of the public by enabling the Division of Adult Corrections to avoid releasing prisoners directly to the community without adequate preparation.

Aside from the rehabilitative value, work release benefits the state by reducing the need for construction. The Alaska correctional system is presently experiencing an upsurge in prisoner population. All institutions are filled to capacity and there are presently 194 prisoners housed in the Federal Bureau of Prisons system outside of Alaska. Although we are expanding our correctional facilities, it will be two or three years before we can return those prisoners to Alaska.

Work release programs serve to help alleviate our critical bed space need. Presently, we have 39 prisoners in halfway house programs and expect to increase that number to 75 in FY '82. If these 75 persons were to be required to return to a prison at the end of the workday, rather than a halfway house, as is the current practice, the State would be required to build a new prison to accommodate the increase in prison population. Currently, construction costs per prison bed are in excess of \$135,000 in Alaska.

It should be also be noted that the Attorney General's office has advised us that there are ambiguities in the statutes authorizing furloughs. These ambiguities should be corrected if our continued use of contract halfway houses is to be on firm legal ground. Senate Bill No. 558 would clarify these ambiguities.

Because work furlough has become a significant component of Corrections overall program, the Department urges the passage of Senate Bill No. 558.

Recommended by:

Walt Jones / for Charles Campbell
Charles F. Campbell, Director
Division of Adult Corrections

Date:

5/20/80

Approved by:

Helen D. Beirne
Helen D. Beirne, Commissioner

Date:

5/20/81

POSITION PAPER / Department of Health and Social Services

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST Senate Bill No. 558
 Bill/Resolution No. _____
 Title An act relating to the care and confinement of prisoners.
 Requested by HESS Committee Date May 12, 1981

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Agency Affected Div. of Adult Corrections, Dept. of Health & Social Services
 Program Category Affected Offender Confinement Reformation and Supervision
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected Adult Probation and Community Programs
 (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 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
GENERAL FUND	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
FULL TIME	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

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

Funds are available in the FY 1982 budget to provide contractual services for 75 persons in furlough centers. Therefore, it is assumed that there will be no fiscal impact if Senate Bill No. 558 is enacted by the legislature.

IV. DATE May 19, 1981 PREPARED BY *Roger C. Lange*
 AGENCY Division of Adult Corrections
 PHONE 465-3376
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) *D. Mason Lundquist*
5/18/81