

COMMITTEE REPORT

SENATE

FURTHER FINANCE

3/5/84

Date May 7, 1984

Mr. President

The Committee on HESS considered SB 520

relating to the establishment of a statewide mental health rehabilitation center; efd.

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

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace with/or adopt CS for SB 520 (HESS)
- new title
- same title and recommends do pass
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

Rich. Helms

V. J. ...

Jimmy ...

Paul ...

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Joe Josephson
Chairman

do pass
Chairman recommendation

Offered: 5/10/84
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE SENATE
2
3 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 520 (HESS)
4 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
5 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
6 A BILL
7 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment of a state
8 mental health rehabilitation center; and providing
9 for an effective date."
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
11 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that children and adults
12 who suffer from chronic and debilitating psychiatric illness are among the
13 most underserved of all of the state's citizens. These persons are unable
14 to provide for their daily needs and require assistance to maintain them-
15 selves as functioning members of their communities. For some, acute and
16 crisis intervention services are needed. For others, long-term maintenance
17 care is required with on-going residential supervision and assistance,
18 including vocational rehabilitation, continuing education, special educa-
19 tion, psychotherapy, and opportunities for sheltered employment, in order
20 to participate as functioning members of society. The legislature further
21 finds that there is a need for an additional residential care facility to
22 serve the northern region of the state, community support system facilities
23 to provide comprehensive services to adolescents; and a long-term inpatient
24 facility designed specifically to meet the medical and educational needs of
25 young Alaskans. Therefore, the legislature finds that there is a need for
26 a comprehensive mental health rehabilitation center or a mix of facilities
27 to meet these needs. The facility or facilities shall be located in
28 Fairbanks.
29 * Sec. 2. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. (a) The Department of
Health and Social Services shall, in consultation with local mental health

1 providers, local hospitals, private citizen groups involved with mental
2 health and the Department of Education, develop a plan to design and
3 construct a facility or facilities to meet the mental health needs of state
4 residents.

5 (b) The Department of Health and Social Services shall consider in
6 its plan

7 (1) the provision of residential care and community-based
8 support programs for the chronically mentally ill adult population;

9 (2) the provision of residential care and community-based
10 comprehensive support programs to deal with adolescents who neither fit
11 into an inpatient psychiatric facility nor can be placed into a normal
12 educational facility; and

13 (3) the provision of acute and long-term inpatient psychiatric
14 care to address the state's lack of facilities for adolescents whose needs
15 cannot be met by private in-state institutions or by residential care
16 facilities and who are currently being sent outside of the state to receive
17 medical and educational attention.

18 (c) The Department of Health and Social Services shall investigate
19 the feasibility of privately-operated facilities and state-operated facili-
20 ties.

21 * Sec. 3. PURPOSE OF CENTER. The purpose of the mental health reha-
22 bilitation center is to provide residential, inpatient and outpatient,
23 psychotherapy, vocational rehabilitation, life skills training, and educa-
24 tional services to emotionally disabled persons in the state based upon
25 referrals from state and private referral agencies and school districts
26 throughout the state.

27 * Sec. 4. REPORT. The department shall submit a report to the legisla-
28 ture by the 10th day of the First Regular Session of the Fourteenth Alaska
29 State Legislature. The report shall include specific budget

1 recommendations to implement the plan developed under sec. 2 of this Act,
2 including capital and operational requirements.

3 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
4 10.070(c).

Introduced: 3/5/84
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 520

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment of a statewide
7 mental health rehabilitation center; and providing
8 for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The Alaska State Legislature finds that both
11 children and adults who suffer from chronic and debilitating psychiatric
12 illness are among the most underserved of all of Alaska's citizens. Such
13 persons are unable to provide for their daily needs, and require assistance
14 to maintain themselves as functioning members of our communities. For
15 some, long-term maintenance care is required, with on-going residential
16 supervision and assistance including vocational rehabilitation, continuing
17 education, special education, psychotherapy, and opportunities for shel-
18 tered employment, in order to participate minimally as functioning members
19 of society. Therefore, the Alaska State Legislature finds that there is a
20 need for a statewide mental health rehabilitation center in Alaska.

21 * Sec. 2. AS 47 is amended by adding new sections to read:

22 ARTICLE 1. MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION CENTER.

23 47.30.010. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT. The
24 department shall operate a statewide mental health rehabilitation
25 center and adopt regulations under the Administrative Procedure Act
26 (AS 44.62) necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

27 47.30.020. STATEWIDE MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION CENTER.

28 There is created a statewide mental health rehabilitation center for
29 the emotionally disabled which shall operate as a state facility. The

1 mental health rehabilitation center shall be under the jurisdiction of
2 the commissioner of the department of health and social services, who
3 shall consult with the commissioner of the department of education
4 regarding the mental health rehabilitation center's educational
5 program.

6 47.30.025. PURPOSE. The purpose of the mental health
7 rehabilitation center is to provide residential psychotherapy, voca-
8 tional rehabilitation and educational services to emotionally disabled
9 children and adults from urban and rural areas of the state based upon
10 referrals from school districts and other referral agencies throughout
11 the state.

12 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
13 10.070(c).