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Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

*Senate*

*Committee on Finance*

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Wednesday, February 29, 1984

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Nancy Dietrick, PA  
SENATOR JOE JOSEPHSON  
Chair, H&SS

FROM: Max Gifford, AA  
SENATOR JOHN SACKETT  
Co-Chair, SFC

SUBJ: SB-508, supplemental appropriations for Bethel Social Services and Sitka Youth Advocates, Inc.

I suspect I need not tell you how the two non-profit groups referenced above have been short-funded as a result of the payment authorization scale adopted in Ch. 138, SLA 1982 (attached). Clearly, both Bethel and Sitka should have been higher rates, particularly when some children's homes in Anchorage are receiving as much as \$150 to \$160 per day, per child.

SB-508 is an attempt to correct the funding shortfall in Ch. 138 ('82) similar to successful legislation passed last year, SB-97.

Senator Sackett would request that SB-508 be scheduled before the Health & Social Services Committee in the near future.

Please call if you have any questions.

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE - SENATE

SENATOR RICHARD I. ELIASON

LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
FISHERIES SUB-COMMITTEE



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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator John Sackett

FROM: Senator Dick Eliason *Dick E*

DATE: February 21, 1984

RE: Supplemental appropriation for Sitka Receiving Home

Due to the exceptional low daily rate allowed the Sitka Receiving Home (\$42.70 per "provider day") over the last two fiscal years there is a critical, and unfair shortfall in the Home's operating budget. Sitka, like Bethel, received a small supplemental grant last session to help them over the FY 83 shortfall but we need to provide coverage for FY 84. Hopefully, legislation will pass this session which will finally correct the inequity in funding for these homes and both Bethel and Sitka will be self-sustaining on their allowed payments after this year.

It would seem reasonable to figure Sitka at the same level of funding as the Juneau Receiving Home. Sitka has been at \$42.70 while Juneau is at \$111.48. The difference per day of care is then \$68.78. In FY 83 Sitka provided 967 days of care. FY 84 is likely to be at about that same level. Therefore a reasonable supplement amount to include for the Sitka Receiving Home now for FY 84 would be \$66,510 (\$68.78, the difference between the Sitka rate and the Juneau rate, multiplied by the estimated number of days of care provided.)

I would very much appreciate any help you could provide in getting this funding in.



## Bethel Social Services, Inc.

• A PRIVATE NON-PROFIT CORPORATION •

Hon. Senator John Sackett  
State Capitol  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sackett:

Here is the information your aide, Max Gifford, requested of us for the supplemental appropriation for the operation of the Bethel Receiving Home.

As you already know, there was a freeze imposed on the cost of care rates two years ago. We were not aware of this freeze and at that time were expecting our rate at the Receiving Home to increase following an audit that we requested. The audit was denied by the State, and we were told we would have to make do with the existing rate.

To prepare the figure we are requesting for the supplemental, I have taken an average of the rates paid to the residential child care centers in the State of Alaska (Anchorage, Willow, Fairbanks, Barrow, Bethel, and Nome) and subtracted our rate from the average. I then multiplied this figure by the number of child care days. As you will see we had a great number of child care days, and that in itself should show you how valuable this project is to the Delta region. The facility has been greatly utilized this past year and with this additional operational monies, we will be able to make the Bethel Receiving Home a First rate facility to house the children of the Delta.

Sincerely,

Loreen M. Foster  
Administrative Director, B.S.S.

ACS Receiving Home, Anchorage	\$ 149.85
ACS Aquarius House, Anchorage	149.85
ACS Colletti House, Anchorage	117.51
ACS Jesse Lee, Anchorage	165.46
ACS North Star, Anchorage	103.55
ACS Rabbit Creek Grp. Hm., Anch.	166.40
Booth Memorial Home, Anchorage	146.90
Hilltop Home, Inc., Anchorage	85.53
Turning Point Boys Ranch, Willow	105.37
PHH-Receiving Home, Fairbanks	111.98
PHH-Treatment Unit, Fairbanks	111.98
North Slope Borough Rec. Hm., Barrow	170.80
Bethel Receiving Home, Bethel	79.30
Bethel Group Home, Bethel	59.06
Nome Receiving Home, Nome	105.20

TOTAL \$1832.74

\$1832.74 divided by 15 centers is an average rate of \$122.18 per day.

The Bethel Receiving Home's rate is \$79.30, subtracted from the average gives us a deficit of \$42.88.

The Bethel Receiving Home had a total of 2,369 provider days last FY year ('83).

2369 multiplied by \$42.88 is a total supplemental request of \$ 101,582.72

TOTAL SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST - \$ 101,582.72

1 period of suspension, payment for services provided by residential child care  
2 facilities shall be made solely in accordance with the provisions of secs. 3  
3 and 4 of this Act.

4 \* Sec. 3. For fiscal year 1983, the payment authorized per day for each  
5 child placed by the Department of Health and Social Services in an existing  
6 residential care facility is:

7	Alaska Children's Services Receiving Home (Anchorage)	\$149.8
8	Alaska Children's Services Jesse Lee Home (Anchorage)	165.4
9	Alaska Children's Services Rabbit Creek Group Home (Anchorage)	166.4
10	Alaska Children's Services North Star Home (Anchorage)	103.1
11	Alaska Children's Services Aquarius House (Anchorage)	107.4
12	Alaska Children's Services Colletti House (Anchorage)	117.5
13	Alaska Baptist Family Service Center (Anchorage)	117.9
14	Booth Memorial Home (Anchorage)	146.9
15	Hilltop Home, Inc. (Anchorage)	85.5
16	Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center (Kenai)	91.7
17	Kodiak Baptist Mission (Kodiak)	61.6
18	Turning Point Boys Ranch (Willow)	105.1
19	North Star Children's Home (Dot Lake)	62.7
20	Presbyterian Hospitality House (Fairbanks)	111.9
21	Juneau Receiving Home (Juneau)	106.1
22	St. Jude Center, Inc. Receiving Home (Juneau)	72.1
23	Nome Receiving Home (Nome)	116.4
24	Manilaq Group Home (Kotzebue)	167.0
25	North Slope Borough Children's Receiving Home (Barrow)	168.3
26	Ketchikan Teen Home I (Ketchikan)	71.1
27	Ketchikan Teen Home II (Ketchikan)	31.1
28	Ketchikan Children's Home Intensive Treatment Unit (Ketchikan)	151.1
29	Sitka Receiving Home (Sitka)	56.1

Bethel Receiving Home (Bethel)	75.52
Bethel Group Home (Bethel)	59.06
Covenant High School (Unalakleet)	51.16

\* Sec. 4. For fiscal year 1984 the payment rates for residential child  
care services shall be the amounts set out in sec. 3 of this Act increased by  
five percent.

\* Sec. 5. For fiscal years 1983 and 1984 the Department of Health and  
Social Services may contract for residential child care services with a  
facility not listed in sec. 3 of this Act at a rate to be determined by the  
Department.

\* Sec. 6. AS 14.30 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 14.30.075. VISION AND HEARING SCREENING EXAMINATIONS. (a) A  
vision and hearing screening examination shall be given to each child  
attending school in the state. The examination shall be made when the  
child enters school or as soon thereafter as is practicable, and at  
regular intervals specified by regulation by the governing board of the  
district.

(b) The Department of Health and Social Services shall

- (1) set standards for the performance of vision and hearing  
screening;
- (2) train and certify public health nurses and school district  
employees to conduct hearing and vision screening tests;
- (3) assist with referral and follow-up of children needing  
professional examination or treatment; and
- (4) assist with maintenance and repair of screening equipment.

\* Sec. 7. AS 44.29.020 is amended to read:

Sec. 44.29.020. DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. The Department of Health  
and Social Services shall administer the state programs of public health  
and social services, including: (1) maternal and child health services;

AN ACT

relating to vision and hearing screening examinations,  
public assistance, and other assistance provided by the  
state and providing for an effective date.

Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that the present method for establishing payment rates under AS 47.40 for residential child care services is inadequate. The Department of Health and Social Services shall conduct a study of alternatives to the method of establishing payment rates under AS 47.40. The study shall be conducted by a committee of five members appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services. Three members of the committee shall be employees of the Department of Health and Social Services and two members shall be providers of residential child care services. The study shall contain, among other matters determined by the department, a suggested redefinition of the manner in which rates for residential child care services are calculated, a consideration of the method and amount of reimbursement for capital costs of residential child care facilities, and the availability and use of other sources of money to finance residential child care services and to finance the construction of residential child care facilities. The committee shall report its findings to the legislature before the 10th day of the Second Session of the Thirteenth Legislature. The legislature further finds that the rates established under AS 47.40 should be suspended from June 30, 1982 to July 1, 1984.

Section 2. The operation of AS 47.05.010(14), AS 47.46.010, 47.40.030, and AS 47.40.040 is suspended from July 1, 1982 through June 30, 1984. During the

