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COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER:

Date 7/10/11

Mr. President

The Committee on GOVERNANCE considered SB 1000

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 5 CS for SB 1000
- new title
- same title and recommends _____
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman

Chairman recommendation

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

(7)

FURTHER: FINANCE

2/6/84

Date: 2-7-84

The Committee on JUDICIARY has had SSB 560

"An Act relating to the jurisdiction of the district court and magistrates; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and recommends:

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

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

John J. DiStasio
Robert J. Hayes
Robert J. Hayes
Chas Bussell

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Chas Bussell - NO REC ^{impact}
J. Malone No Rec
Ben Wadley NO REC

Chas Bussell
 CHAIRMAN

Introduced: 2/6/84
Referred: Judiciary and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BUSSELL

2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 560
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 jurisdiction of the district
7 court and magistrates; and providing for an effective
8 date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 22.15.030(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) The district court has jurisdiction of civil cases and
12 proceedings as follows:

13 (1) for the recovery of money or damages when the amount
14 claimed exclusive of costs, interest and attorney fees does not exceed
15 ~~\$50,000~~ ^{25,000} [\$10,000, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (10) OF THIS SUBSECTION];

16 (2) for the recovery of specific personal property, when
17 the value of the property claimed and the damages for the detention do
18 not exceed \$50,000 [\$10,000];

19 (3) for the recovery of a penalty or forfeiture, whether
20 given by statute or arising out of contract, not exceeding \$50,000
21 [\$10,000];

22 (4) to give judgment without action upon the confession of
23 the defendant for any of the cases specified in this section, except
24 for a penalty or forfeiture imposed by statute;

25 (5) for establishing the fact of death of any person in the
26 manner prescribed in AS 09.55.020 - 09.55.060;

27 [(6) Repealed

28 (7) Repealed]

29 (6) [(8)] for the recovery of the possession of premises in

1 the manner provided under AS 09.45.070 - 09.45.160 when the value of
2 the property or of the arrears and damage to the property does not
3 exceed \$50,000 [\$10,000];

4 (7) [(9)] for the foreclosure of a lien when the amount in
5 controversy does not exceed \$50,000 [\$10,000];

6 (8) [(10)] for the recovery of money or damages in motor
7 vehicle tort cases when the amount claimed exclusive of costs, inter-
8 est and attorney fees does not exceed \$50,000 [\$15,000];

9 (9) [(11)] over civil actions for taking utility service
10 and for damages to or interference with a utility line filed under
11 AS 42.20.030.

12 * Sec. 2. AS 22.15.120 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 22.15.120. LIMITATIONS ON PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAGISTRATE MAY
14 HEAR. A magistrate shall preside only in cases and proceedings under
15 AS 22.15.040, 22.15.100, and 22.15.110, and as follows,

16 (1) for the recovery of money or damages only when the
17 amount claimed, exclusive of costs, interest, and attorney fees, does
18 not exceed \$5,000 [\$1,000];

19 (2) for the recovery of specific personal property when the
20 value of the property claimed and the damages for the detention do not
21 exceed \$5,000 [\$1,000];

22 (3) for the recovery of a penalty or forfeiture, whether
23 given by statute or arising out of contract, not exceeding \$5,000
24 [\$1,000];

25 (4) to give judgment without action upon the confession of
26 the defendant for any of the cases specified in this section, except
27 for a penalty or forfeiture imposed by statute;

28 (5) to give judgment of conviction upon a plea of guilty by
29 the defendant in a criminal proceeding within the jurisdiction of the

1 district court;

2 (6) to hear, try, and enter judgments in all cases involv-
3 ing misdemeanors, if the defendant consents in writing that the magis-
4 trate may try the case;

5 (7) to hear, try and enter judgments in all cases involving
6 infractions under AS 28 and violations of ordinances of political
7 subdivisions. [;

8 (8) Repealed]

9 * Sec. 3. AS 34.35.005(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) When an action is required to enforce a lien provided for in
11 AS 34.35.005 - 34.35.425, the action shall be started in the superior
12 court in the judicial district in which the property upon which the
13 lien attaches is located. When an action is required to enforce a
14 lien provided for in AS 34.35.430 - 34.35.480, the action may be
15 started in the district court in the judicial district in which the
16 property upon which the lien attaches is located. The procedure,
17 except as otherwise provided in AS 34.35.005 - 34.35.045, is the same
18 as in the trial of an action to secure property to hold it for the
19 satisfaction of a lien against it.

20 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
21 10.070(c).

TO: Senator Bill Ray

FROM: Paula d. Scavera

DATE: May 17, 1984

RE: SSHB 560

Section 1

Raises the dollar amount of jurisdiction of cases and proceedings in District Court from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Also there some housekeeping deletions on Page 1 Lines 27 and 28.

Section 2

Raises the dollar amount of jurisdiction of cases and proceedings that are handled by magistrates from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Section 3

Adds language to make it clear that certain liens can be filed in District court.

Section 4

Immediate effective date clause

The Court System has \$255,200 fiscal note, but the House adopted the House Judiciary zero fiscal note. There is a referral to Finance.

Chief Justice Burke opposes the raising of the dollar amount in District Courts as it seems like it would slow district court and create the need for additional judges.

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SSHB 560
 Title: "...relating to the jurisdiction of the District Court..."
 Sponsor: Russell
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Alaska Court System
 Program Category Affected: _____
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: M. K. Russell Phone: 465-4990
 Division: House Judiciary Committee Date: 7 February, 1984

Approved by Commissioner: _____ Date: _____
 Agency: _____

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 560
 Title: Jurisdiction of District Court
 Sponsor: Bussell
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Alaska Court System
 Program Category Affected: Administration of Justice
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Trial Courts

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		239.0	253.3	268.5	287.6	301.7
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL		2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.7
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT		14.0				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		255.2	255.6	270.9	287.1	304.4
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		255.2	255.6	270.9	287.1	304.4
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		255.2	255.6	270.9	287.1	304.4

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		4	4	4	4	4
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: ROBERT G. FISHER Phone: 264-0561
 Division: ALASKA COURT SYSTEM Date: 2/16/84
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 2/16/84
 Agency: ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):
 Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

HB 560 - JURISDICTION OF DISTRICT COURT

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of an increase in district court jurisdiction depends not only upon the extent to which future caseloads and support resources can be shifted between courts, but also upon existing case backlogs and case filing patterns.

Court System statistics indicate 2,500 civil cases were filed in Anchorage Superior Court during FY 83 and 656 were filed in Superior Court in Fairbanks. These are the two court locations which this bill will primarily impact. Since 30% of the Anchorage Superior Court civil cases request relief in an amount under \$25,000, it is assumed that approximately 750 cases would be filed in District rather than Superior Court. With an increase to \$50,000, 40% of the cases (approximately 1,000) would be filed instead in Anchorage District Court. In Fairbanks statistics indicate that 35% of cases (approximately 230) would be filed in District Court if jurisdiction increases to \$25,000.

The Anchorage Superior Court civil division reports a caseload backlog of 1,000 cases per judge. A shift in new filings would not eliminate the bulk of the existing backlog, but would free Superior Court resources to handle it.

Historically, the bar has expressed a preferred filing in Superior Court and this trend may continue even with increased District Court jurisdiction, since dollar amounts requested at the beginning of a case are somewhat flexible. The Superior Court will continue to hear other cases which must be assigned to it because of the nature of the relief sought.

If the jurisdictional increase results in a smaller percentage of new cases filed in District Court than anticipated from present statistics, the District Court should be able to absorb the new cases with no additional resources. Superior Court time could then be directed toward reducing the backlog. However, if a substantial percentage of case filings transfer to District Court, the resulting fiscal impact may require a request for a supplemental appropriation in addition to the resources requested in this fiscal note.

The fiscal impact will also depend upon the extent to which superior court resources can be reallocated to the District Court. A shift in resources will be problematic if the backlog persists. It appears from present caseload statistics that an increase to \$50,000 will require an additional judge and support staff in Anchorage with costs calculated below. While it is impossible to predict in advance the impact of various levels of District Court jurisdiction, it is the Court System's evaluation that an increase to \$25,000 could be absorbed by the District Court without the need for additional resources.

FY 85 FISCAL IMPACT

PERSONNEL:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
1 District Court Judge (Anchorage)	\$63,636	\$76,314	\$139,950
1 In-Court Clerk (Range 12B-Anchorage)	24,516	8,164	32,680
1 Secretary (Range 12B-Anchorage)	24,516	8,164	32,680
1 Law Clerk (Range 13A-Anchorage)	25,332	8,348	<u>33,680</u>
Total Personnel Costs			\$238,990
Contractual			2,250
Equipment (One-time item)			<u>13,962</u>
TOTAL FY 85 COST			<u>\$255,202</u>

Western Regional Office

CIVIL LITIGATION IN ALASKA
IMPROVEMENT THROUGH SIMPLIFICATION

A REPORT TO THE
SUPREME COURT OF ALASKA
BY THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

FREDERICK G. MILLER, STAFF ATTORNEY
LARRY L. SIPES, REGIONAL DIRECTOR
DECEMBER 1983



National Center for State Courts
720 Sacramento Street
San Francisco, California 94108

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adoptions, child in need, domestic violence if child custody is an issue, or guardianship of a minor. By accelerating steps in the appellate process, which are explained in detail in the recommendations, final decisions would be obtainable in these cases within not more than 170 days from judgment.

G. District Court Jurisdiction

The personal injury and commercial task forces concluded that the monetary jurisdiction of the District Court is unrealistically low and would appreciably reduce the number of cases in the Superior Court if increased. This in turn would presumably expedite the processing of cases in the Superior Court. The task forces therefore recommended increasing District Court jurisdiction to include actions involving up to \$25,000. As both recommendations are virtually identical, the recommendation is included in this report in the personal injury recommendations only at page 33. *(or higher limit - 923)*

H. Civil Rule 41: Voluntary Dismissal

Both the personal injury and the commercial task forces have recommended changes to Civil Rule 41 to assure that cases are not voluntarily dismissed to avoid court control of caseflow. The personal injury task force recommends that a case governed by its proposed new Civil Rule 16.2 may not be dismissed without approval by the court. The commercial task force recommends additional language to Civil Rule 41 requiring certification of the reasons for dismissal.

V. PERSONAL INJURY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

The task force recommends the following addition to existing Civil Rule 16 to provide for status conferences.

A. New Civil Rule 16.2: Status Conference

- (a) A status conference shall occur in each action filed in the Third District in which any party seeks damages for injury to person or property. The Judge in whose court the action is pending shall schedule and conduct the conference not more than 30 days following the last day on which a response to the complaint could have been filed. If service of process has not been completed the parties shall notify the court and the conference shall be continued until 30 days after service is completed.
- (b) Each party shall furnish to the other parties the following items or information and shall do so not later than the fifth day preceding the status conference:
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) photographs | 6) medical reports and bills |
| 2) statements | 7) tax returns |
| 3) diagrams | 8) insurance policies |
| 4) investigative reports | 9) expert witness reports |
| 5) contracts | |

The documents to be produced are examples of those which would be subject to discovery under Civil Rule 34.

- (c) Each party shall attend the status conference in person or by counsel and shall be prepared to specify the discovery planned by that party. It is the intention that this Rule and the conference held hereon be held after the parties have produced as much discoverable information about the incident complained of as possible in order to permit realistic evaluation of the case for possible settlement purposes or to draft a realistic litigation schedule to bring the case to conclusion within one year.
- (d) The Judge shall enter an order at the conclusion of the conference (1) setting a date not more than 180 days following the conference by which discovery shall be completed by all parties; (2) setting a date not more than 120 days following the conference for a second status conference if the Judge is persuaded for good cause that discovery cannot be completed within 180 days; (3) scheduling a pretrial conference, as provided in this Rule, not more than 30 days following the date set, if any, for completion of discovery.

- (e) In all cases where it appears to the court that the case should be considered as a complex case, then the court shall issue an order exempting the case from the time constraints of this Rule. The request for exemption shall be by motion under Civil Rule 77.
- (f) The Judge in whose court the action is pending shall order a party or counsel who fails to comply with any order issued pursuant to this Rule to pay \$200 for the first, \$300 for the second, and \$500 for each subsequent act of noncompliance. The Judge by written order may reduce, suspend, or eliminate an otherwise required payment upon a written and verified showing of good cause filed with the Court by which a party or counsel establishes that noncompliance was excusable.
- (g) All sanctions for violations of this Rule shall be considered under the provisions of Civil Rules 37 and 95.
- (h) A case assigned under this rule may not be dismissed under Civil Rule 41 without approval of the Court. Any stipulations between the parties or attorneys as to anything scheduled under this rule are invalid until approved by the court and the parties may not rely on such stipulation as an excuse to fail to comply with time limits, etc. unless the court has approved the same.

B. District Court Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction of the District Courts should be increased to encompass actions in which the amount of monetary damages involved does not exceed \$25,000. *(or the jurisdictional limit)*

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Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR.
307 BAWDEN STREET
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901

While in Juneau
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811



Senate

VICE CHAIRMAN
SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEMBER
SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
WESTERN STATES LEGISLATIVE
FORESTRY TASK FORCE
WESTERN CONFERENCE COUNCIL
OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

March 12, 1984

Senator Bill Ray, Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Re: SCS CSHB 569.

Dear Senator Ray:

Here is a copy of the proposed SCS CSHB 569, an act relating to cemetery associations, nonprofit cemetery corporations and cemetery lots.

I am told by Representative Phillips, prime sponsor of the original bill, that either Senator Josephson or Pettyjohn will be prepared to carry this bill upon request, inasmuch as the same people who asked Randy to introduce the bill made the same request of the two good senators.

I hope that is the case, for I certainly can't muster up any enthusiasm for the legislation. On the other hand, I have nothing against the bill.

The major change between all other versions of the bill and the bill before you is that on page two, lines seven and eight, we have endeavored to obviate your objection to the earlier language. As I recollect, you thought it was pretty loosely drawn and that interest or income, as applied to property, could be utilized for almost any purpose whatsoever. Now it is restricted to the property of the association or corporation related to operation of a cemetery.

Apparently the residue or balance in an irreducible fund can be dispersed pursuant to other provisions of the law found in Section 10.20.

Finally, I suggest that my final attachment, the letter of February 23rd from Assistant Attorney General Sipe to Speaker Hayes, be disseminated to all members of the Senate whenever the bill is calendared. It explains the bill as well as anything or anybody ever could.

I hope this helps.

Very truly yours,

3-

Robert H. Ziegler, Sr.

RHZ:1k

Enclosures

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Bill Sheffield, Governor

POUCH K - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: (907) 465-3600

February 3, 1984

FEB 03 1984

The Honorable Joe Hayes
Speaker of the House
Alaska State House of
Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: House Bill _____
relating to nonprofit
cemetery corporations

Dear Representative Hayes:

You have asked the Consumer Protection section of the Attorney General's office to review House Bill _____ regarding nonprofit cemeteries, and to inform you whether the Department of Law has any difficulties with the overall concept behind the bill, specifically whether it would pose a threat of injury to the consuming public dealing with nonprofit cemeteries in the state.

My understanding of the intent behind the bill is to modernize and clarify the 1949 Nonprofit Cemetery Association statute presently in effect. The bill would allow nonprofit cemetery associations to be incorporated as nonprofit corporations under AS 10.20 and would generally give the nonprofit cemetery association or corporation more flexibility in how it invests the monies in its irreducible fund, how it spends its other revenues and how and for what purposes it may contract debts. The crucial part of this updating was to add a definition of "cemetery lot" to include not only grave spaces but also mausoleum crypts, or crematory niches, since those items are often the preferred choice of modern consumers.

The Consumer Protection section in the Attorney General's office is not opposed to this bill and does not think that it will cause any harm to the public. If anything, the bill will allow those nonprofit cemetery associations operating in the state to better serve their own membership. Since these associations are like cooperatives, owned and controlled by the members, there is little danger of overreaching or abuse of the corporation's cemetery assets. The changes in this statute will only further the worthy purposes of the cemetery associations as

they will be able to respond to the needs of their own association for the erection of new buildings, acquisition of new lands or equipment or development of new cemetery services such as mausoleums.

The last section of the bill also adds a broader definition of "cemetery lot" to the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act. This definition refers to AS 45.50.471(b)(24), which regulates the sales of funeral or burial goods or services before "need" (i.e. before death). Under 471(b)(24) as it presently exists, a corporation or association making advance sales of funeral goods or services is required to deposit the consumers' monies in a trust fund pending actual use by the consumer. There is presently an exemption from trust deposit for the amount paid for the actual cemetery lot and grave marker. By expanding the definition of cemetery lot, an advance purchase of a mausoleum crypt, or a crematorium deposit space of some sort, would also be exempt from this trust deposit requirement.

The Department of Law does not oppose this change, since it seems reasonable that this broader definition of cemetery lot be adopted to meet with modern day marketing of burial goods such as crematory crypts. The Consumer Protection section does not believe that broadening this definition will lead to any abuse of the advance-need funeral statute, despite what members of the public or Legislature might fear because of the recent debacle with the Valley Memorial Garden Cemetery near Palmer. (Unfortunately, most of the advance-need burial sales made by that cemetery were made before the effective date of AS 45.471(b)(24), and it was the lack of any trust requirement for any portion of the advance-need sales price which allowed the abusive dissipation of those funds by the for-profit cemetery corporation known as Valley Memorial Gardens, Inc.)

If legislators have a concern that the purchase monies from consumers who purchase cemetery lots or crematory crypts in advance need further protection, a further sentence could be added to 471(b)(24) to the effect that cemetery lots (as more broadly defined by this bill) are exempt if they are in fact, upon payment of the purchase price, "transferred" from the seller to the consumer. Although transfer is not usually made in the sense of legal property "title" transfer, designation of the space as a consumer's by the placement of a grave stone marker already marked with the consumer's name and designation of the plot or crypt as the consumer's on the official map of the cemetery should be sufficient protection.

Honorable Joe Hayes
Speaker of the House

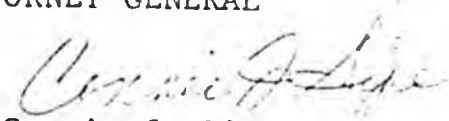
February 3, 1984
Page 3

Overall, the Attorney General's office does not see significant problems with the enactment of House Bill _____.

Sincerely,

NORMAN C. GORSUCH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By:


Connie J. Sipe
Assistant Attorney General
Consumer Protection Section

Alaska State Legislature

IN SESSION:
POUCH V
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4949



BOX 142
EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA
99577
(907) 694-4949

Representative Randy Phillips
HOUSE DISTRICT # 15

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Bill Ray
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative Randy Phillips *R.P.P.*

DATE: March 2, 1984

RE: CSHB 569 (L&C) -- Cemetery Associations

I am attaching a copy of a letter I received from the Chairman of the Special Committee of Angelus Memorial Park Association in Anchorage. As you can see from his letter, the Association wishes to build a building to house much-needed administration and service-related activities. Under present law, the Association could only accomplish the building of such a structure by selling off a portion of the land it owns; in other words, present statutes prohibit the Association from financing such structures. Additionally, under present statutes, a cemetery association cannot incorporate as a non-profit association. CSHB 569 (L&C) would permit this.

Also attached is a copy of a memorandum from Connie J. Sipe, Assistant Attorney General, Chief, Consumer Protection Section, to Representative Cowdery. The suggestion in Ms. Sipe's memorandum was incorporated into CSHB 569 (L&C) -- see Sec. 14.

If you have any questions, please contact my office.

Angelus Memorial Park

ALASKA'S FIRST MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY

PHONE 344-1311
OFFICE HOURS:
10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

January 19, 1964

CEMETERY
AND
OFFICE
ON KLATT ROADMr. Randy Phillips
State Legislator
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Phillips:

The Board of Trustees of Angelus Memorial Park Association approved a motion to present to the Legislature, amendments to the Alaska Cemetery Statutes, pertaining to non-profit cemetery associations. A committee was appointed consisting of Mr. Alvah C. Buswell, Jr. and Mr. Robert F. Shary, who are board members and Mr. Sidney Abbott, park manager, were to work on the proposed amendments of the present statutes.

The present Alaska non-profit cemetery statutes were patterned after the Oregon Statutes many years ago before Statehood and are badly out dated. The State of Oregon has since amended their Statutes, twice, and now Alaska needs to do the same, so that a non-profit cemetery can better serve the community. To our knowledge Angelus is the only non-profit cemetery in the state.

Enclosed are copies of Oregon Statutes that have been amended and a copy of our proposed revisions to the Alaska State Cemetery Statutes.

The association really needs these changes in order to grow, as it is now, we can not serve the community as a modern cemetery, because of the way the laws are written. The public wants all the services a cemetery is suppose to supply, such as, a columbarium for inurnment of cremated remains, mausoleum, niche and storage vault. Also we can not even build a much needed administartion building. We now have to rent a very inadequate building for an office. The association has never had a maintenance building. The present laws prevent our growth.

The reason we included association and or corporation is that Angelus intends to incorporate in order to help lessen the personal individual liability of the board members. Angelus board members are non paid.

Sincerely,
Special Committee
Mr. Alvah C. Buswell, Jr.
Chairman

ANGELUS MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION

Enclosures

This material has also been sent to Representative Joe Hayes

ALASKA STATUTES

CHAPTER 30. Cemetery Associations

Sec. 10.30.070. Creation of irreducible fund. The association may by its bylaws provide that a stated percentage of the money realized from the sale of lots and donations (AND OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE) constitutes an irreducible fund, which may be invested in the manner or loaned upon the securities the association or the trustees consider proper. The interest or income from the irreducible fund provided for in any bylaw or as much as may be necessary shall be devoted exclusively to the preservation and embellishment of the (CEMETERY) grounds, buildings and property of the association and or corporation and the lots and space in buildings or grounds sold to the members of the association and or corporation, or to the payment of the interest or principal of the debts authorized by the association for the purchase of land, equipment, erecting buildings and improvements. Where a bylaw has been enacted for the creation of an irreducible fund, (IT) the set amount or percentage stated in the bylaw, may not be amended except for the purpose of increasing the fund. (36-5-5 ACLA 1949)

I was told to use caps & put in brackets those words to be deleted and to underline all new wording.

Office

ALASKA STATUTES

CHAPTER 30. Cemetery Associations

Sec. 10.30.090. Debts of association and or corporation. A cemetery association and or corporation may (NOT) contract debts in anticipation of future receipts, (EXCEPT) for the (ORIGINAL) purchase of cemetery land and or for other cemetery purposes, the laying out and embellishment of the grounds and avenues of the cemetery, repairing their buildings, erection of new buildings, mausoleums, columbariums, and purchasing necessary equipment, for which debts the association may issue bonds or notes. The association may secure these debts by mortgage upon its lands, except lots which have been conveyed to the members of the Association, or by security interest in no more than 50% of the irreducib fund. (36-5-5 ACLA 1949).

ALASKA STATUTES

CHAPTER 30. Cemetery Associations.

Sec. 10.30.125 Definition of "Cemetery Lot", one or more than one adjoining, lot, plot, space, grave, nich, mausoleum crypt, vault, and columbarium, for the interment of human remains.

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the bank or trust company shall be governed by the provisions of ORS 128.057 and shall not be required to invest the money according to the list approved by the State Treasurer. An officer of the corporation shall file with the Secretary of State on or before April 15 of each year a verified statement in duplicate containing the same information pertaining to the irreducible fund as provided in ORS 97.810 (2) regarding endowment care funds. The Secretary of State may require the corporation to file, as often as he considers it to be necessary, a detailed report of the conditions and assets of the irreducible fund.

(3) The interest or income arising from the irreducible fund provided for in this section or by any bylaws, or so much thereof as is necessary, shall be devoted exclusively to the preservation and embellishment of the grounds, buildings and property of the corporation and the lots and space in buildings or grounds sold to the members of the corporation, or to the payment of the interest or principal of the debts authorized by subsection (5) of this section for the purchase of land, erecting buildings, and improvements. Any surplus thereof not needed or used for such purposes shall be invested as provided in this section and shall become part of the irreducible fund.

(4) After paying for the land and the erection of the original buildings and improvements thereon, all the future receipts and income of the corporation subject to the provisions in this section relating to the creation of an irreducible fund, whether from the sale of lots and burial space, cremation of bodies, donations, gifts and other sources, shall be applied exclusively to laying out, preserving, protecting, embellishing and beautifying the cemetery or the crematory and grounds thereof, and the avenues leading thereto, and to the erection of such buildings and improvements as may be necessary or convenient for cemetery or crematory purposes, and to pay the necessary expenses of the corporation.

(5) No debts shall be contracted by such corporation in anticipation of any future receipts, except for originally purchasing the lands authorized to be purchased by it, laying out and embellishing the grounds and avenues, erecting buildings and vaults on such land, and improving them for the purposes of the corporation. The corporation may issue bonds or notes for debts so contracted and may secure them by way of mortgage upon any of its lands, buildings, property and improvements excepting lots or space conveyed to the

members. (1969 c 580 §96; 1971 c.225 §11)

61.765 Selling land unsuited for burials. If in the board of directors' opinion, any portion of the lands of a nonprofit corporation organized and existing solely for the purposes of either owning or operating a cemetery or the cremation of dead bodies and the burial and care of incinerate remains is unsuitable for burial purposes or other purposes of the corporation, the board of directors may sell such portion and apply the proceeds to the general purposes of such corporation in the same proportion and manner as provided by ORS 61.005 to 61.125, 61.131 to 61.370, 61.375 to 61.481 and 61.505 to 61.950. (1959 c.580 §97)

61.770 Burial lots or space; use, exemption from taxation, execution and liens; lien for purchase price of gravestone. Burial lots or space for burial of incinerate remains in buildings or grounds sold by a nonprofit corporation organized and existing solely for the purposes of either owning and operating a cemetery or cremating dead bodies and burying and caring for incinerate remains shall be for the sole purpose of interment or deposit and safekeeping of incinerate remains. Such lots or space shall be exempt from taxation, execution, attachment or other lien or process, if used as intended by the purchaser thereof from such corporation, or his assigns or representatives, exclusively for burial purposes, and in no wise with a view to profit. The vendor of any gravestone, however, shall not be prevented from having and enforcing a lien thereon for all or part of its purchase price. If a suit is brought to enforce such a lien, the decree therein is enforceable thereafter; and, for the purpose of enabling the lien to be had and enforced, the gravestone shall be deemed personal property and may be severed and removed, under execution and order of sale, from the lot where it is situated and may be sold in the same manner as any other personal property. (1969 c 580 §98)

61.775 Recording plan; power to improve and regulate grounds. A nonprofit corporation organized and existing solely for the purposes of owning and operating a cemetery or cremating dead bodies and burying and caring for incinerate remains shall cause a plan of its land and grounds and of the lots laid out by it and of the niches or burial space in the buildings erected thereon to be made and recorded in the county in which such grounds and land are located, such lots or

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS
RELATING TO ORS 97.010 TO
97.040, 97.110 TO 97.450, 97.510
TO 97.730, 97.810 TO 97.920 and
97.990**

97.010 Definitions for ORS 97.010 to 97.040, 97.110 to 97.450, 97.510 to 97.730, 97.810 to 97.920 and 97.990. As used in ORS 97.010 to 97.040, 97.110 to 97.450, 97.510 to 97.730, 97.810 to 97.920 and 97.990:

(1) "Human remains" or "remains" means the body of a deceased person in any stage of decomposition or after cremation.

(2) "Cemetery" means any place dedicated to and used, or intended to be used, for the permanent interment of human remains.

(3) "Burial park" means a tract of land for the burial of human remains in the ground used, or intended to be used, and dedicated for cemetery purposes.

(4) "Mausoleum" means a structure for the entombment of human remains in crypts or vaults in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated for cemetery purposes.

(5) "Crematory" means a structure containing a retort for the reduction of bodies of deceased persons to cremated remains.

(6) "Columbarium" means a structure or room containing niches for permanent interment of cremated remains in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated for cemetery purposes.

(7) "Interment" means the disposition of human remains by cremation, inurnment, entombment or burial.

(8) "Cremation" means the reduction of a body of a deceased person to cremated remains in a crematory.

(9) "Inurnment" means placing cremated remains in an urn and depositing it in a niche.

(10) "Entombment" means the placement of human remains in a crypt or vault.

(11) "Burial" means the placement of human remains in a grave.

(12) "Grave" means a space of ground in a burial park used, or intended to be used, for burial of the remains of one person.

(13) "Crypt" or "vault" means a space in a mausoleum of sufficient size used, or intended to be used, to entomb uncremated human remains.

(14) "Niche" is a recess in a columbarium used, or intended to be used, for the interment

of the cremated remains of one or more persons.

(15) "Cemetery authority" includes cemetery corporation, association, corporation sole or other person or persons owning or controlling cemetery lands or property.

(16) "Cemetery association" means any corporation or association authorized by its articles to conduct any or all the businesses of a cemetery, but does not include a corporation sole or a charitable, eleemosynary association or corporation.

(17) "Cemetery business," "cemetery businesses" and "cemetery purposes" are used interchangeably and mean any business and purpose requisite or incident to, or necessary for establishing, maintaining, operating, improving or conducting a cemetery, interring human remains, and the care, preservation and embellishment of cemetery property.

(18) "Directors" or "governing body" means the board of directors, board of trustees, or other governing body of a cemetery association.

(19) "Lot," "plot" or "burial space" means space in a cemetery owned by one or more individuals, an association or fraternal or other organization and used, or intended to be used, for the permanent interment therein of the remains of one or more deceased persons. Such terms include and apply with like effect to one, or more than one, adjoining grave, crypt, vault or niche.

(20) The term "plot owner" or "owner" means any person in whose name a burial plot stands as owner of the right of sepulture therein in the office of the cemetery authority, or who holds from such cemetery authority a conveyance of the right of sepulture or a certificate of ownership of the right of sepulture in a particular lot, plot or space.

(21) "Endowment care" means the general care and maintenance of developed portions of a cemetery and memorials erected thereon financed from the income of a trust fund established and maintained pursuant to the provisions of ORS 97.810 to 97.860. Endowment care cemeteries owned by a city or a county may supplement their general care and maintenance trust funds from general revenues.

(22) "Special care" is any care in excess of endowed care in accordance with the specific directions of any donor of funds for such purposes. (Amended by 1955 c.545 §1, 1965 c.296 §1)

Oregon

61.738 Procedure for revoking certificate of authority. ORS 57.735, relating to revocation of certificate of authority, is applicable to nonprofit corporations. [1963 c 492 §36 (enacted in lieu of 61.735)]

61.740 [Renumbered 61.984]

61.741 Application to corporation authorized to transact business in this state on December 31, 1959. Foreign corporations which are duly authorized to transact business in this state on December 31, 1959, for a purpose or purposes for which a corporation might secure such authority under ORS 61.005 to 61.125, 61.131 to 61.370, 61.375 to 61.481 and 61.505 to 61.950, shall, subject to the limitations set forth in their respective certificates of authority, be entitled to all the rights and privileges applicable to foreign corporations procuring certificates of authority to transact business in this state under ORS 61.005 to 61.125, 61.131 to 61.370, 61.375 to 61.481 and 61.505 to 61.950. [1959 c 580 §90]

61.745 Transacting business without certificate of authority. (1) No foreign corporation transacting business in this state without a certificate of authority shall be permitted to maintain any action, suit or proceeding in any court of this state, until such corporation shall have obtained a certificate of authority. No action, suit or proceeding shall be maintained in any court of this state by any successor or assignee of such corporation on any right, claim or demand arising out of the transaction of business by such corporation in this state, until a certificate of authority shall have been obtained by such corporation or by a corporation which has acquired all or substantially all its assets.

(2) The failure of a foreign corporation to obtain a certificate of authority to transact business in this state shall not impair the validity of any contract or act of such corporation, and shall not prevent such corporation from defending any action, suit or proceeding in any court of this state. [1959 c 580 §81]

CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIES

61.755 Lands of cemetery or crematory corporation; exemption from execution, taxation and condemnation. A nonprofit corporation organized and existing solely for the purposes of either owning and operating a cemetery or cremating dead bodies and burying and caring for incinerate remains, may purchase or take, by gift or devise, and own and hold lands for the sole purpose of either a cemetery or a crematory and burial place for incinerate remains. Such lands shall be exempt from execution and taxation, and from any appropriation for public purposes, and lots or portions of such land and space in any buildings thereon may be sold, if intended to be used exclusively for burial purposes, and in no wise with a view to the profit of the members of such corporation. The land so held for cemetery purposes shall not exceed 600 acres, but if the land already held for such purpose by the corporation is all practically used, the amount thereof may be increased by adding thereto not more than 20 acres at any one time. The land so held for the purposes of a crematory and the burial of incinerate remains shall not exceed 30 acres, but if the land already held for such purpose by the corporation is all practically used, the amount thereof may be increased by adding thereto not more than 10 acres at any one time. [1959 c 580 §95]

61.760 Revenues; restrictions on uses thereof. (1) A nonprofit corporation organized or existing solely for the purposes of either owning and operating a cemetery or cremating dead bodies and burying and caring for incinerate remains may, by its bylaw, provide that a stated percentage of the money received from the sale of lots and burial space, cremation of bodies, donations, gifts or other sources of revenue shall constitute an irreducible fund. Any bylaw enacted for the creation of the irreducible fund cannot be amended to reduce the fund.

(2) The board of directors may direct the investment of the money in the irreducible fund, but all investments of money deposited in the fund on or after January 1, 1972, shall be in securities in classes and amounts approved by the State Treasurer and published in a list pursuant to ORS 97.820. If a bank or trust company qualified to engage in the trust business is directed by the board of directors to invest the money in the irreducible fund,

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HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
DIVISION 7. DEAD BODIES
PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1. DEFINITIONS

7000. The definitions in this chapter apply to this division and to Divisions 8 and 9 of this code.

7001. "Human remains" or "remains" means the body of a deceased person, and includes the body in any stage of decomposition and cremated remains.

7002. "Cremated remains" means human remains after incineration and necessary processing under Section 7054.1 in a crematory.

7003. "Cemetery" means any one, or a combination of more than one, of the following, in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated, for cemetery purposes:

(a) A burial park, for earth interments.

(b) A mausoleum, for crypt or vault interments.

(c) A crematory, or a crematory and columbarium, for cinerary interments.

7004. "Burial park" means a tract of land for the burial of human remains in the ground, used or intended to be used, and dedicated, for cemetery purposes.

7005. Except in Part 5 of Division 8 of this code, "mausoleum" means a structure or building for the entombment of human remains in crypts or vaults in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated, for cemetery purposes.

7006. "Crematory" means a building or structure containing one or more furnaces for the reduction of bodies of deceased persons to cremated remains.

7007. Except in Part 5 of Division 8 of this code, "columbarium" means a structure, room, or other space in a building or structure containing niches for inurnment of cremated human remains in a place used, or intended to be used, and dedicated, for cemetery purposes.

7008. "Crematory and columbarium" means a building or structure containing both a crematory and columbarium.

7009. "Interment" means the disposition of human remains by inurnment, entombment, or burial in a cemetery or, in the case of cremated remains, by inurnment, entombment, burial, or burial at sea as provided in Section 7117.

7010. "Cremation" means the reduction of the body of a deceased person to cremated remains in a crematory and the placement of the cremated remains in a grave, vault or niche or burial at sea as provided in Section 7117 of this code.

7011. "Inurnment" means placing cremated remains in an urn and placing it in a niche.

7012. "Entombment" means the placement of human remains in a crypt or vault.

7013. "Burial" means the placement of human remains in a grave.

7014. "Grave" means a space of ground in a burial park, used, or intended to be used, for burial.

7015. "Crypt" or "vault" means a space in a mausoleum of sufficient size, used or intended to be used, to entomb uncremated human remains.

7016. "Niche" means a space in a columbarium used, or intended to be

used, for inurnment of cremated human remains.

7017. "Temporary receiving vault" means a vault used or intended to be used for the temporary placement of human remains.

7018. "Cemetery authority" includes cemetery association, corporation sole, or other person owning or controlling cemetery lands or property.

7019. "Cemetery corporation," "cemetery association," or "cemetery corporation or association" mean any corporation now or hereafter organized which is or may be authorized by its articles to conduct any one or more or all of the businesses of a cemetery, but do not mean or include a corporation sole.

7020. "Cemetery business," "cemetery businesses," and "cemetery purposes" are used interchangeably and mean any and all business and purposes requisite to, necessary for, or incident to, establishing, maintaining, operating, improving, or conducting a cemetery, interring human remains, and the care, preservation, and embellishment of cemetery property, including, but not limited to, any activity or business designed for the benefit, service, convenience, education, or spiritual uplift of property owners or persons visiting the cemetery.

7021. "Directors" or "governing body" means the board of directors, board of trustees, or other governing body of a cemetery association.

7022. "Lot," "plot," or "interment plot" means space in a cemetery, used or intended to be used for the interment of human remains. Such terms include and apply to one or more than one adjoining graves, one or more than one adjoining crypts or vaults, or one or more than one adjoining niches.

7023. "Plot owner," "owner," or "lot proprietor" means any person in whose name an interment plot stands of record as owner, in the office of a cemetery authority.

7024. "Permit for Disposition of Human Remains" includes "burial permit" and is a permit, issued pursuant to law, for the interment, disinterment, removal, reinterment or transportation of human remains.

DIVISION 8. CEMETERIES

PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1. CEMETERY DEFINED

8100. Six or more human bodies being buried at one place constitute the place a cemetery.

CHAPTER 2. VANDALISM

8101. (a) Every person is guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail for not exceeding one year, or by both, who maliciously does any of the following:

(1) Destroys, cuts, mutilates, effaces, or otherwise injures, tears down, or removes any tomb, monument, memorial, or marker in a cemetery, or any gate, door, fence, wall, post or railing, or any inclosure for the protection of a cemetery or any property in a cemetery.

(2) Obliterates any grave, vault, niche, or crypt.

(3) Destroys, cuts, breaks or injures any building, statue, ornamentation, tree, shrub, or plant within the limits of a cemetery.

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Representative John Cowdery
Chairman, House Labor & Commerce
Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

DATE: February 15, 1984

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 279-0428

FROM: NORMAN C. GORSUCH
ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUBJECT: HB569 Nonprofit
cemetary
associations

By: Connie J. Sipe
Assistant Attorney General
Chief, Consumer Protection Section
1031 W. 4th, Suite 110
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

As per the testimony at the teleconference, I suggest the committee include in its Committee Substitute on this bill the following language (as you may choose to re-draft it):

* Sec. 13. AS 10.30 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 10.30.160. EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS. As this chapter is from time to time amended, all powers or obligations granted to or imposed upon the non-profit cemetery association or non-profit cemetery corporation shall apply to all assets and funds, including the irreducible fund, in the possession or control of the association or corporation at the time of the effective date of any amendment to this chapter.

*CJS HB569
Sec. 14*

As discussed in the hearing, such an addition is necessary so that the cemetery association is not left with an unworkable division among all its assets: those assets covered by the prior law and those assets covered by the bill's amendments. This is not a retrospective enactment but really a grant of prospective powers to the association or corporation to manage all of its assets in accordance with the new statute. (This section will, of course, also provide for orderly application of any future amendments.)

CJS/aw

cc Representative Joe Hayes (Jeff Day)
Representative Randy Phillips
Art Petersor Ago/Juneau

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: February 14, 1984

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 569
Title: An Act relating to Cemetary Associations.
Sponsor: Representative Phillips
Requestor: _____
Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Commerce and Economic Dev.
Program Category Affected: Consumer Protection
BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Banking, Securities and Corporations

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
CAPITAL	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
REVENUE	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Willis F. Kirkpatrick, Director
Division: Banking, Securities and Corporations

Phone: 465-2521

Date: 2/14/84

Approved by Commissioner: Richard A. Lyon
Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Date: 2/2/84

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83