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64

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (Senate)(cont'd)

Drunk
Driving
(chemical
breath
tests)

SENATE BILL NO. 61, by Senators Josephson and Kelly.
Identical to HB 6, page

Introduced January 19 and referred to State Affairs and
Judiciary.

Appropriation
(Copper River
Basin natural
gas)

SENATE BILL NO. 62, by Moss. Would appropriate \$1
million to the Alaska Power Authority for a feasibility study
of using Copper River Basin natural gas for generation of
electrical power for local utilities. Effective July 1, 1983.

Introduced January 20 and referred to Resources and Finance.

Commission on
the Status of
Women

SENATE BILL NO. 63, by Senators V. Fischer and Rodey.
Changes name to the Alaska Women's Commission. Adds to list
powers and duties in AS 44.19.175 the duty to "encourage the
development of regional and municipal women's councils or
commissions." Changes section on annual report to require a report
on the proceedings for the previous fiscal year rather than the
previous calendar year. Repeals termination date of June 30, 1983
which was included in the legislation creating the commission (Sec.
2, Ch. 120, SLA 1978), and extends the life of the commission to
January 30, 1987. Does not provide for an effective date
(effective 90 days after the Governor's signature).

Introduced January 20 and referred to State Affairs. January 21,
Sen. Sturgulewski added as a co-sponsor.

Physicians
Employed by
the State
(exempt
service)

SENATE BILL NO. 64, by the Rules Committee by request of
of the Legislative Council (for the Blue Ribbon Commission on
the State Personnel Act). Would include in state exempt
service only those licensed physicians employed by the Divi-
sion of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Dept. of
Health and Social Services. Currently, under AS 39.25.110(13), any
licensed physician employed by the state would be placed in the
exempt service. Does not provide for an effective date (effective
90 days after Governor's signature). Identical to HB 108.

Introduced January 21 and referred to Labor & Commerce.

Municipal
Property Tax
(optional
exemption)

SENATE BILL NO. 65, by Senators P. Fischer and Moss.
Would allow municipalities to exclude or exempt or partially
exempt residential property from taxation, up to \$100,000 for
any one residence. Currently the law only allows up to
\$10,000 per residence for this optional exemption (amends AS
29.53.025(a)). Amends current law effective January 1, 1984 and
amends the appropriate section of the new municipal code (AS
29.45.050(a)) effective on the effective date of the new code.

Does not provide for an effective date (effective 90 days after
Governor's signature).

Introduced January 21 and referred to Community & Regional Affairs
and Finance.

SB 64 TITLE & SPONSOR SUMMARY

14:07 5/22/84 PAGE 1 OF 2

AMENDED TITLE:

AN ACT RELATING TO THE INCLUSION IN THE STATE EXEMPT SERVICE OF LICENSED PHYSICIANS EMPLOYED BY THE DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

PRIME SPONSOR: SENATE RULES COMMITTEE.

CO-SPONSORS:

CURRENT STATUS: 1/21/83 IN (S) LABOR & COM

SB 64 SENATE ACTION

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DATE	SEQ	PAGE	LEGISLATIVE ACTION
01/21/83	01	0051	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS LABOR & COMMERCE RULES
****	**	**	*** ** *



JUNEAU, ALASKA

Alaska State Legislature

BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE
STATE PERSONNEL ACT

Senator Bill Ray, Chairman

Pouch YG
Mail Stop 3123
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4442

MEMORANDUM

January 25, 1983

TO: Senate Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Teresa B. Cramer *Teresa B. Cramer*
Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 64 - Licensed Physicians in the Department of Health and Social Services

An unintended change created by an amendment to the State Personnel Act last session has caused some question in the Department of Health and Social Services. Prior to the amendment, licensed physicians employed by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities were placed in the exempt service. Other physicians working for the department were members of the classified service. This system worked well. The exception for those working in the mental health field was necessary in order to attract and pay qualified staff.

The amendment placed all licensed physicians, as defined in AS 47.30.340(9), employed by the state into the exempt service. Title 47.30 addresses mentally ill and insane persons but the definition section defined "licensed physician" in general terms. The department brought to the commission's attention an unforeseen situation. There were two employees in the Division of Public Health serving as Regional Health Officers. One was a medical doctor and the other a licensed veterinarian. Under the amended version of the State Personnel Act, the doctor could be placed in the exempt service and the veterinarian would remain in the classified service. Both have the same duties, though in different locations.

The commission recommends that legislation be adopted to return all medical doctors except those employed by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities to the classified service.

Bill Analysis

The bill amends the section of the State Personnel Act which lists membership in the exempt service to place only those physicians employed by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities in the exempt service.

TBC:lmk
Attachment

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH H 01
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 465-3030

December 14, 1982

The Honorable Bill Ray, Chairman
Blue Ribbon Commission on the State Personnel Act
Pouch YG, Mail Station 3123

Attention: Terry Cramer, Administrative Assistant

Subject: Licensed Physicians - Department of Health & Social Services

Dear Senator Ray:

Subsequent to the December 7 meeting of the Blue Ribbon Commission, and at its direction, the Department of Health & Social Services considered the circumstances surrounding the statutory language relating to licensed physicians employed by the state. The original purpose for the inclusion of licensed physicians in the exempt service under AS 39.25.0110 (19) was to provide for recruitment and retention of qualified and competent staff within the Division of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities. That situation has worked well since that time.

The amendments to that statute as adopted under HCS CSSB 193 in 1982 eliminated that particular distinction. As presently written, that statute could be interpreted to include licensed physicians in the Division of Public Health. That action is not adjudged to be in the best interests of the state and those employees. It should be noted that in 1981, AS 47.30.340 was repealed in its entirety and AS 47.30.915 was added. That section again defined "licensed physician" in the legislative reference to mental health programs.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the language in AS 39.25.110 (13) be amended to read as follows: "licensed physicians, as defined in AS 47.30.915 (11), employed by the Division of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities, Department of Health & Social Services.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Allen K. Korhonen
Acting Commissioner

same SB64



Hearing 2/2/83

H.B. 108 - place only physicians employed by mental health in exempt classification

Testified

APEA - Those physicians already in ~~exempt~~ classified service want to remain

Blue Ribbon - Terry Crammer - same as position paper

Deputy Director, Mental Health, Dick Branton, - psychiatrist who are exempt want to remain exempt. They were originally placed in exempt status so gov could recruit quality people + approve salary schedule.

Assumed zero fiscal impact. Fiscal note had not arrived.