

SCR

Z

Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee

Legislation Checklist

Bill number: SCR 3

Sponsor: DeVRIES

Date referred to committee: 1/23/85

Synopsis completed: 1/28

Fiscal note:

Further referrals: Judiciary

CONTACTS:

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER:

JUDICIARY

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

1/23/85

Date 4-4-85

Mr. President

The Committee on HESS considered SCR 3

background checks on school district employees who come into contact with children.

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 SCR 3
- 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

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Chairman recommendation

S.T.A.R./A.W.A.I.C. COMMENTS

Senate Bill 85

With increasing reports of child abuse and heightened parental concern and awareness, it is likely that most school districts would be amenable to laws mandating training for all school district employees. While we believe most school districts would embrace the concept of a training, there seems to be concern over the structure and enforceability of training programs. Based on our close working relationship with the Anchorage School District, we make the following recommendations which we feel is best suited for all concerned:

- 1.) Include "counselors, nurses, bus drivers, janitors, cooks and other school district employees who have contact with children" in the Act.
- 2.) Under Section 1(b), omit "one of 10 days of" for in-service training. This would allow school district autonomy in creating a in-service training schedule tailored to individual school district programs. Comparative review should be completed by a plan which D.O.E. should establish and which could act as a measure of standard for the school districts to follow.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 3

The Anchorage School District currently requires background checks for all school district employees which have supervisory capacity over children as of July 1, 1984. Background checks are conducted by the Alaska State Troopers and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which provide for investigation within the state and outside. The F.B.I. investigation is \$12.00. This fee is paid for by the prospective employee. The actual fingerprinting process itself is made by a part-time school district employee who submits the fingerprints along with the demographic information to the respective investigative agencies. S.T.A.R. makes the following recommendation based on the existing Anchorage School District Program:

- 1.) Omit "are encouraged to" and "appropriate" in line 15. The implementation and success of the Anchorage School District program can act as a model for other school districts wishing to implement a similar program.

MAR 19 1985



S.T.A.R.

Bus. 276-7279
24-hr.
Crisis 276-RAPE

March 4, 1985

Senator Edna DeVries
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

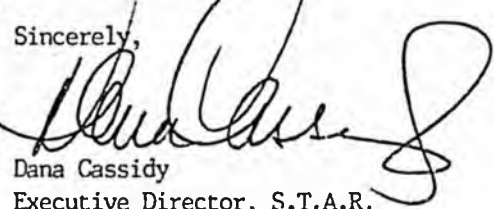
Senator DeVries:

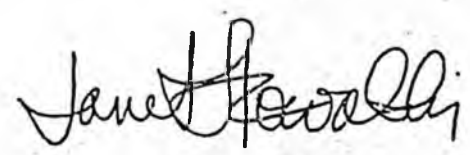
It was a pleasure to meet with you during our recent visit to Juneau. Our discussion on the need for legislation to provide for laws protecting children was especially appreciated.

We equally appreciate your support and efforts to bring about this type of legislation through sponsorship and cosponsorship of bills encouraging background checks of school district employees, providing training of teachers and principals on child abuse and a bill which appropriates monies to the Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. In a state which boasts the highest figures of rape per capita in the nation and skyrocketing child abuse reports, it is encouraging to see these various bills before the legislature.

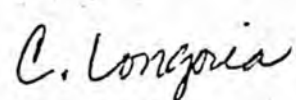
As discussed in our meeting, we have enclosed our comments on SCR 3 and SB 85. We have also enclosed some background information with our comments which may be helpful.

Again, we thank you for your sincere interest and support. If we can provide you with any further assistance, please feel free to call upon us. We would enjoy hearing from you and we look forward to meeting with you again.

Sincerely,

Dana Cassidy
Executive Director, S.T.A.R.


Janet Kowalski
Executive Director, A.W.A.I.C.

DC:jgp


Carrie Longoria
Legal Advocate, S.T.A.R.

STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE
PO BOX 103356 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510



SCR 3 BACKGROUND CHECKS ON SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES.

(DE VRIES)

THERE IS A H.E.S.S. C.S. WITH A TITLE CHANGE.

THIS IS PART OF THE WHOLE "CHILD PROTECTION PACKAGE".
SEPARATE LEGISLATION MANDATES BACKGROUND CHECKS ON
DAY CARE EMPLOYEES AND LICENSEES, FOSTER PARENTS, AND
ADOPTIVE PARENTS.

SCR 3 LEAVES THE ISSUE TO THE DISCRETION OF EACH
SCHOOL DISTRICT BY ENCOURAGING DISTRICTS TO IMPLEMENT
BACKGROUND CHECKS ON ALL PERSONS EMPLOYED OR UNDER
CONTRACT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHO COME INTO CONTACT
WITH CHILDREN. THIS FOLLOWS THE STATE SCHOOL BOARD
POLICY OF LOCAL CONTROL.

H.E.S.S. C.S. ADDS LANGUAGE ABOUT CONTRACT EMPLOYEES,
UPON ADVICE THAT SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS ARE GENERALLY
CONTRACT EMPLOYEES.

change: page 1, line 17

Hein
4/1/85✓

ADOPTED

Original sponsor: DeVries

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IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3 (HESS)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Relating to background checks on school
district employees ~~and contract workers~~
who come into contact with children.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS sexual abuse of minors is a serious and widespread problem;
and

WHEREAS existing law permits employers of individuals having contact
with children to obtain certain information on convictions of these indi-
viduals relating to sex crimes (AS 12.62.035);

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that local school
districts are encouraged to implement appropriate background checks on all
persons employed by ~~or under contract with~~ a school district who come into
contact with children.



language added in C.S. Does
necessitate a title change;