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STATE OF ALASKA
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May, 1988

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Mary Van Nimwegen

House Hess:

March 9, 1988

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 2/3/88

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

DATE: 3-16-88

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee has considered HB 428

"An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Health and Social Services for payment as grants to the Alaska Treatment Center; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with _____ the same title
- attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: H. HESS letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

Bill Hudson

Steve Stanley

Alvin Koenig

John Ellis

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Dave Dauley (no REC)

Alvin Koenig (no rec)

John Ellis
Co-Chairman's signature

Alvin Koenig



ALASKA TREATMENT CENTER

Medical Rehabilitation Services

COMPREHENSIVE OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION SERVICES

The Alaska Treatment Center provides outpatient medical rehabilitation treatment with programs as outlined below. ATC is the only comprehensive rehab facility in the state, and serves all Alaskans who require its services.

Day Rehabilitation Hospital

The Day Rehabilitation Hospital promotes the restoration of function following debilitating disease or traumatic accident. Services include:

- * Nursing services
- * Social services
- * Physical, occupational, speech-language and recreation therapy
- * Community re-orientation training
- * Family conferences/education
- * Audiology
- * Pool therapy

The most common diagnoses appropriate for the Day Rehabilitation Hospital include: head injury; spinal cord injury; amputation; stroke; and degenerative diseases such as arthritis, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and neurological disorders.

Head Injury Rehabilitation

The Head Injury Rehabilitation Program maximizes psychosocial and vocational adjustment for brain-injured adults. Services available in this program include:

- * Cognitive retraining
- * Psychotherapy
- * Community skills retraining
- * Recreation therapy
- * Supervised work placement
- * Physical/occupational therapy
- * Speech-language therapy
- * Independent living skills

Patients typically have experienced an injury to the brain which affects reasoning, memory and concentration abilities.

Pediatric Therapy

The Pediatric Therapy Program serves children from birth to 21 years of age. Special emphasis is placed on infant through preschool age children.

Population: Children with conditions affecting development, such as:

- * Cerebral palsy
- * Sensorimotor/sensory integrative dysfunction
- * Hearing impairment
- * Down's syndrome
- * Orthopedic problems
- * Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
- * Stuttering
- * Speech-language delay

****Turn this page over for more ATC programs.****

Comprehensive Back Services

The Comprehensive Back Program provides therapy for people with acute, ongoing or recurrent back pain and dysfunction. Treatment includes full physical therapy evaluations and treatment, as well as a structured 4-hour daily program called Back to Basics. The goal of Back to Basics is to return injured persons (or persons with chronic problems) to work.

Orthopedic/Sports Therapy

The Orthopedic/Sports Therapy Program provides comprehensive physical therapy to people with limitations in strength/range of motion, or who are limited due to pain or neuromuscular dysfunction. Treatment includes:

- * Hot and cold therapies
- * Functional electric stimulation
- * Transcutaneous nerve stimulation
- * Ultrasound
- * Gait training
- * Mobility training
- * Traction (cervical, pelvic, manual)
- * Isokinetic exercise (Cybex/swim bench/Orthotron)

Patients demonstrate orthopedic or sports injuries, arthritis, or neurological deficits.

Driver Education

The Driver Education Program provides a comprehensive range of driver education services for individuals with physical disabilities.

Communication Services

The Communication Services Program provides communicatively impaired or hearing impaired persons with evaluation and therapy to improve communication abilities. Services include comprehensive speech therapy and audiology.

Therapeutic Pool

The Treatment Center's therapeutic pool provides an environment for therapeutic exercise in warm water. Individual pool therapy is done by a licensed physical therapist.

Alaska Pain Management

A chronic pain management program, Alaska Pain Management provides treatment and rehabilitation of disabling back pain and other pain-related disorders.



ALASKA TREATMENT CENTER

Medical Rehabilitation Services

I. BACKGROUND

The Alaska Treatment Center, founded in 1946 as the Alaska Crippled Children's Association, has for forty-two years provided comprehensive outpatient medical rehabilitation to injured and disabled Alaskans.

A not-for-profit medical facility, ATC treats all Alaskans who require its services, regardless of their ability to pay.

II. CURRENT NEED

ATC is a fee-for-service facility; public monies are not historically part of its funding base. United Way and the ATC volunteer Guild have helped to underwrite the costs of 1) uncompensated (charity) care and 2) basic services which operate at a loss. These include pediatrics, day hospital (strokes and spinal cord injuries), and head injury rehab.

ATC now has serious financial difficulties. In December, 1987 eight positions (20% of the staff) were cut. Included were three revenue-producing physical therapists.

The effects on ATC of Alaska's economic downturn have been multiplied by four main factors: Increases in uncompensated treatment and charity care (\$80,000 FY 86, \$100,000 FY 87, \$110,000 FY 88); United Way cuts and declines in volunteerism; for-profit sector direct competition in those program areas with good revenue potential; national economic trends which work against small hospitals and medical facilities.

III. HOW THIS LEGISLATION WILL HELP

- A. Senate Bill 381 and House Bill 428 call for a direct appropriation. The legislation combines a capital pay back and a direct grant. It enables ATC to rehire three physical therapists, to serve patients on the waiting lists, and to keep the doors open through calendar year 1988.
- B. Frank Ferguson Endowment (SB 382 and HB 427). A dollar-for-dollar match of private donations. This trust will be used solely for long term underwriting of charity care for patients who have no insurance or who cannot otherwise afford to pay for medical rehabilitation. This endowment will enable ATC to regain stability, to compete in the marketplace and to attain long term self sufficiency.

ATC Clinical Programs

Pediatrics
Comprehensive Back Services
Day Hospital
Chronic Pain (Alaska Pain Management)
Ortho/Sports
Head Injury Rehab
Audiology
Therapeutic Pool
Disabled Drivers Training

Clinical Services

Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy
Skilled Nursing
Social Services
Neuropsychology
Child Psychology

Major Patient Groups

Stroke Victims
Neuro/Spinal Cord Injury, Disease Victims (para/quadriplegics)
Pediatric Patients
Head Injury Victims
Orthopedic/Sports Injury Patients
Chronic Back Pain Patients
Hearing Impaired
Muscular Dystrophy Patients
Cerebral Palsy Patients



**ALASKA
TREATMENT
CENTER**

Medical Rehabilitation Services

Patient Statistics FY 87

Patients treated: 1,441
Patient visits 19,422

From Anchorage area (includes Mat-Su) 75%
From other areas of the state 24%
(primarily Kenai Peninsula and
Bus communities)
Outside 1%

Ages

0 - 14 15%
15 - 44 48%
45 - 65 15%
>65 22%

Ethnic Groups

Not Noted 5%
Caucasian 38%
Native 3%
Black/Asian/Other 54%

Major Diagnosis

Pediatrics

Orthopedic (bone, muscle) disabilities
Movement disabilities
Speech and language disorders
Cerebral Palsy

Day Hospital

Strokes
Multiple Sclerosis
Severe injuries from auto and industrial accidents
Cerebral Palsy
Quadriplegic and paraplegic disabilities

Major Diagnoses (Continued)

Head Injury

Brain injury
Strokes
Severe concussion

Comprehensive Back Services

Severe or chronic back pain
Spine and disc dysfunctions and degenerative diseases

Ortho/Sports

Bone and muscle injuries or disabilities
Sports injuries

Communication Services

Hearing impairment
Aphasia
Speech, throat, tongue, language disorders

Therapeutic Pool

Arthritis, rheumatism
Bone and muscle disabilities



**ALASKA
TREATMENT
CENTER**

Medical Rehabilitation Services

"A TYPICAL YEAR"

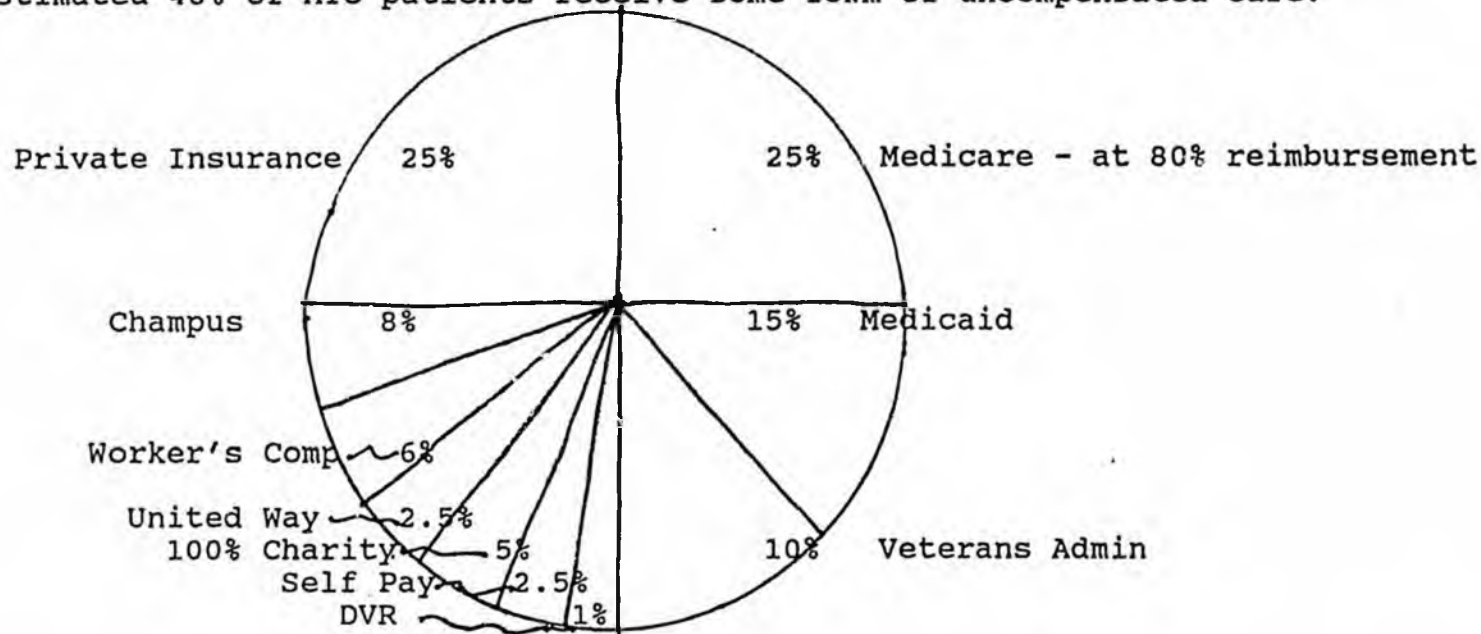
	# People Served	# Visits	# Units of Therapy (15 minutes)	Geographical	Diagnosis or Problem Background
Children's Therapy (0-14 years)	167	3650	12,250	70% Anchorage 30% non-Anch.	Orthopedic condition Movement difficulty Speech difficulty Cerebral palsy
Day Rehab Hospital (15-65+ years)	52	1660	15,861	90% Anchorage 10% non-Anch.	Stroke (CVA) Multiple sclerosis Paralysis
Head Injury Program (15-44 years)	35	1174	17,282	71% Anchorage 29% non-Anch.	Traumatic brain injury Brain syndromes
Disabled Drivers Ed Program (18+ years)	8	59	234	75% Anchorage 25% non-Anch.	Brain injury Stroke Para/Quadriplegia Amputation
Comprehensive Back Program (15-44 years)	215	5224	36,328	80% Anchorage 20% non-Anch.	Low back pain Upper back pain Neck pain
Audiology & Speech (15-65+ years)	608	1005	7,299	67% Anchorage 33% non-Anch.	Sensory Neural hearing loss
Ortho/Sports (16-65+ years)	357	6650	16,625	88% Anchorage 12% non-Anch.	Joint conditions Sprains, strains Fractures, arthritis Sports injuries
Center Summary	1441	19,422	105,879		

ALASKA TREATMENT CENTER

Annual Budget: \$ 2.2 million

Charity care: FY 87 - \$100,000 which represents 5% of the potential patient revenue;
estimate \$120,000 for FY 88

An estimated 48% of ATC patients receive some form of uncompensated care.



The Alaska Treatment Center currently receives no grant funding through the Municipality of Anchorage (Social Services Block Grant) or the State of Alaska. (In FY 86 & 87 - DVR head injury grant)

As an employer: 45 employees (30 involved in direct patient care)

Speech Therapist	5	Physical Therapist	10
Occupational Therapist	5	Audiologist	2
Medical Social Worker	2	Registered Nurse	1
Recreational Therapist	1	Aide/Other	4

Annual payroll of \$ 1.2 million (55% operating expense is salary)

March 7, 1988

Representative Walt Furman:

I am writing to urge your active support and that of your constituents of HB 428 on Wednesday, March 9.

My name is Sam Wright and I am from the community of Hoona. In a freak accident, I was left a quadriplegic. I have been forced to seek rehabilitation services in Anchorage at the Alaska Treatment Center; the only comprehensive, outpatient rehab. facility in the State of Alaska.

Without the Treatment Center, many Alaskans would be forced to seek therapy outside the State, live in institutions or go without needed therapy. Please, do your best to pass this bill. For all Alaskans. Thank you!

Samuel Wright

Dear Senator Halford,

My name is Ellen Hillebrand. I am the mother of a six year old who has been treated with Integration Therapy at The Alaska Treatment Center^(ATC).

I am writing to you in the hope of impressing upon you the importance of your active support for Senate Bills 381 and 382. Anchorage needs to stand behind the ATC and the unique services they provide Alaskans. Two of their services that I have required are their ability to provide my son with medical treatment that was not available elsewhere; and ATC's policy of accepting patients who cannot afford treatment.

My son is numbered among the fortunate few who have found an answer to their treatment problem at ATC where no one else in town could. (Some schools have physical therapy programs - but only the most severely handicapped individual can qualify.) My son's disability does not show itself like that of a wheel chair victim, or someone stricken with cerebral palsy. His Attention Deficit Disorder is a submerged time bomb waiting to be triggered. While other professionals and MD's in town advocated that I drug my son, ATC heralded a physical therapy plan that was not only drugless - but effective! Before Integration Therapy, my son was being labeled at school by

Teachers and peers as; "unmotivated", "uncooperative",
"weird", "a space cadet", "lazy", "Thick", or "lover".
He has become a vivacious, enthusiastic child -
interacting more with the world and learning to cope ^{(also} ^{compensate)}
with his disabilities. ^{IN EXPLANATION:} (A.D.D. does not allow the child to
sort and thus react to incoming sensory stimuli - so
their brain overloads forcing the child to either "turn
off" or explode in hyperactivity.) Without treatment -
he would have continued to be misunderstood by his
teachers and peers, and possibly lose any future desire
to become an interactive member of the world around him.
I repeat, ATC is the only Alaskan organization that
offered my son this chance.

I also fall into the category of those
who need special consideration in a payment plan.
My insurance company does not recognize my
son's treatment as an acceptable claim, according
to their standards. While I am in the process of
appealing this, my son does not lose important
ground or suffer setbacks that may occur if
treatment were interrupted. Attempting to pay
for the treatment without insurance would simply
not be possible.

You can see why I support ATC and
the unique services they offer Alaskans. I

hope that my voice and many others will
be combined to impress upon you the great
significance of the role the Alaska Treatment
Center play here in Alaska. I would appreciate
a response to my request for your active
support in this matter in what you plan is
for helping these bills to pass in 1988.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

Collier Hildebrandt
6517 Comman Cui
Anchorage, AK
99504

7535 E 20th Ave
Anchorage, Ak. 99504
March 6, 1978

P.O. Box
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Senator Phil Hofford:

I am writing to ask you to support senate bills 381 and 382. I feel that these bills are critical to the continued operation of the Alaska Treatment Center. The Alaska Treatment Center provides medical rehabilitation services unavailable elsewhere in the state. Without these services many Alaskans would have to seek rehabilitative care outside of the state. If patients are required to leave the state unnecessary family and financial hardship would be experienced. I hope that I can count on your support.

Sincerely,
Donald Lutz

7535 East 20th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99504
March 4, 1988

P.O. Box V
Juneau AK 99811

Representative Johnny Ellis:

As an occupational therapist at the Alaska Treatment Center I am writing to request your active support of House Bills 427 and 428. These bills would help to assure the continuation of the quality medical rehabilitation services for all Alaskans, as provided by Alaska Treatment Center. ATC is the only facility of its kind in Alaska. The need for ATC's comprehensive services remains critical despite the dwindling financial resources of many Alaskans. As always ATC is committed to providing services to patients regardless of their ability to pay.

I was first employed as a pediatric occupational therapist at ATC in 1977. I have witnessed exciting growth and expansion of our services over the past 11 years. Our program provides the only comprehensive, clinic based pediatric services for ages birth to 21 years in the state. Most of our clients do not qualify for services through state or school district programs and thus would go unserved without our program.

I am proud to be a part of the Alaska Treatment Center and its mission to serve the people of Alaska. Please support House Bills 427 and 428 to help assure the continuation of our unique services.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding your plans to support these bills.

Sincerely,

800.234.0014 OTK/L

SR 1706 Eagle River Road
Eagle River, Alaska

March 5, 1981

Senator Rick Halford
P.O. Box 1
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Halford,

I am writing to you because I feel you are a legislator who listens to their local constituents, and because you are on the Finance Committee. I ask and hope that you will actively support SB's 381 and 382 which will provide financial support to the Alaska Treatment Center. I worked for the Alaska Treatment Center for eight years, and now have a handicapped child who receives therapy at ATC, so I have a good understanding of the services ATC provides to the community. ATC provides services that are available no where else in Anchorage, and many services not available elsewhere in Alaska. In particular: direct therapy services for children, services to people who cannot pay, and comprehensive rehab outpatient services. Alaska cannot give quality medical care without these services. I urge you and your committee to support these bills.

Thank you.

Sincerely
Donna Gotschall

923 KATHY PLACE
ANCHORAGE, AK 99504
March 4, 1988

Senator Joe Josephson
Representative Walt Furnace
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: SBs 381 and 382
HBs 427 and 428

Dear Senator Josephson and Representative Furnace:

I am a patient currently receiving treatment at the Alaska Treatment Center and would like to ask and thank you for your active support of the above mentioned bills.

ATC provides the comprehensive rehabilitative services that are not available elsewhere in Alaska and I am fortunate enough to have the insurance to cover the cost of these services. For others less fortunate than I, ATC still provides these services but this endowment fund (as presented by these bills) would help keep ATC a viable option for services in Alaska and keep patients in Alaska rather than having to go outside for treatment.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Cecil Melvin

(907) 337-2523

3-7-88
303-F Freshwater
H. Richardson AK
99502

Representative Walt Furnace,
I am writing to ask you to
actively support and champion
HBs 427 and 428.

The Alaska Treatment Center
provides services to the community
that are not available anywhere
else in the state of Alaska. The
Alaska Treatment Center provides
these services to patients regardless
of their ability to pay.

Besides being an employee
of the Alaska Treatment Center,
I am the mother of a patient. My
son is 3 yrs old and has been
diagnosed as having Attention
Deficit Disorder. He has been in
speech therapy at the center.
He has made real progress in
his speech, behavior and his
attention span has lengthened.

With us being a military
family we can't receive this
service at the Air Force hospital
so we need the Alaska Treatment
Center. Also they have been a
big help in setting up payments
for us since Champus won't pay
for it.

I would like you to respond
to my request and let me know

your plans for helping these
bills pass in '88.

Sincerely,
Sinda Lewis

Senator Joe Josephson
Representative Walt Furnace
P.O. Box ~~5~~ V
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: SB 381
SB 382
HB 427
HB 428

3/4/88

Senator Josephson and Representative
Furnace:

My husband is a patient in ATC. I know
~~ATC~~ ATC needs \$150,000 endowment
fund to pay for charity cases because
ATC accepts all patients regardless of their
ability to pay money or their available
medical insurances to cover expenses.

else
No where in Alaska is there a Red rehab
program, a day rehab program, ~~is~~
Therapeutic pools, a head injury program

and ~~the~~ pain management Clinic.
Obviously, there is an overwhelming
need for ATC. ~~Call your
representative~~

Please support the above mentioned
bills.

Thank you and
Sincerely

Sandra Anne Mayo

923 KATHY PLACE
ANCHORAGE, AK 99504
(907) 337-2523