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STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907-465-3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
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May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

H HESS

4-10-87

8:30a.m.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

**REQUEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version : SSHB49  
Publish Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: 02/11/87  
Title: "An act relating to deduction from a term of imprisonment."  
Sponsor: Representative Zawacki  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: Corrections  
BRU: Administration and Support  
Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES	373.7	363.7	363.7	363.7	363.7	363.7
TRAVEL	60.0	63.0	66.1	69.4	72.9	76.5
CONTRACTUAL	30.0	31.5	33.1	34.7	36.4	38.2
SUPPLIES	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
EQUIPMENT	30.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>485.7</b>	<b>462.2</b>	<b>466.9</b>	<b>471.8</b>	<b>477.0</b>	<b>482.4</b>

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

GENERAL FUND	485.7	462.2	466.9	471.8	477.0	482.4
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>485.7</b>	<b>462.2</b>	<b>466.9</b>	<b>471.8</b>	<b>477.0</b>	<b>482.4</b>

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	8	8	8	8	8	8
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)**

See attached page

Prepared by: Susan Knighton, Research Analyst IV  
Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3376  
Date: 04/08/87

Approved by Commissioner: Susan Humphrey-Barnett  
Agency: Department of Corrections

Date: 4-9-87

**Distribution (by preparer):**

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

# CONTINUATION of FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

For Bill/Resolution No. SSHB49

This legislation would require the Parole Board to hold hearings to determine if prisoners have followed the rules of the correctional facility where confined and therefore may receive a deduction of one-third of the term of imprisonment. Hearings will be required for all persons sentenced to a term of imprisonment that exceeds three days.

The legislation also requires the Parole Board to develop, adopt and administer regulations for the forfeiture and restoration of forfeited good time.

Currently all these functions are defined within the Department's regulations, administered through statewide policy and procedures and performed by institutional staff.

Based on the number of long-term felons incarcerated and the number of short-term prisoners who are incarcerated for more than 3 days, the Department estimates that approximately 3,400 additional hearings would be held each year. The current Parole Board is composed of lay members and conducts approximately 1,000 hearings per year.

To accommodate the increased workload, the department proposes to create a full-time, compensated Parole Board of three members and support staff.

Parole Board Member 21A	\$59,997 X 3	=	\$179,991
Probation Officer II 16A	43,411 X 3	=	130,233
Clerk Typist II 7B	26,732 X 2	=	53,464
Travel			60,000
Contractual - Increase Office Space			30,000
Supplies			2,000
Equipment			<u>30,000</u>
TOTAL FY88 COSTS			\$485,688



# Alaska State Legislature

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## House of Representatives

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P.O. BOX 783  
GIRDWOOD, ALASKA 99587  
(907) 783-2905

REPRESENTATIVE  
JIM ZAWACKI  
DISTRICT 7

WHILE IN JUNEAU  
POUCH V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-2693/2719

MEMBER  
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET &  
AUDIT COMMITTEE  
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

May 6, 1987

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis  
Co-Chair, House HESS Committee

FROM: Representative Jim Zawacki

SUBJ: SSHB 49

At present in Alaska statutes a prisoner convicted of an offense against the state or a political subdivision of the state and sentenced to a term of imprisonment that exceeds three days is entitled to a deduction of one-third of the term of imprisonment rounded off to the nearest day if the prisoner follows the rules of the correctional facility in which the prisoner is confined.

Sponsor Substitute for House Bill 49 would amend the process to the authority of the Parole Board. The point of the proposal is to remove the automatic reduction of one-third of sentences, which removes the certainty of the reduced sentence which a person might face when contemplating or committing a crime against society. It would reintroduce an element of uncertainty which a potential criminal would face.

Our criminal justice system is now automated almost to the point that a person may contemplate absolute consequences while contemplating the crime. That option removed, we just might reduce the attractiveness of criminal behavior.

The notion of saving money in the justice and penal systems by providing for early release of prisoners is defeating the intentions of the system and trying to save money at the wrong end of the criminal justice process. Tougher laws, properly enforced do deter criminal activity. If we seek to save money, there is the place to do it. Evidences of it exist in many societies other than our own.

Justice wanting to be merciful must consider the rights and plights of victims, not only those of criminals. If we have a soft spot in our legal heart, it should be for victims and those who will become victims if we do not stiffen laws, prosecution and penalties.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jim Zwacki". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text "Thank you.".