

SJR

21

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: March 22, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS: FINANCE

Date of Committee Action: 4/18/89

The HEALTH, EDUCATION, & SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered: SJR 21

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21 [STATE GRANT FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY]
Encouraging favorable consideration of a state grant application by the division of vocational rehabilitation of the Department of Education for federal funds to provide assistive technology devices and services.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Date/Dept)

- fiscal impact _____
- zero fiscal note _____
- zero with analysis _____

- fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fn/analysis 3/16/89 Education

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING:
(Check approp. column)

Do Not Pass No Rec Amend

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

	Do Not Pass	No Rec	Amend

[Signature]
Chairman's Signature

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP
CHAIRMAN, RESOURCES COMMITTEE
119 N. CUSHMAN STREET, SUITE 201
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
OFFICE (907) 452-4882
HOME (907) 456-2899



Senate

WHILE IN JUNEAU
PO BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
CAPITOL ROOM 125
OFFICE (907) 465-3834
HOME (907) 780-6027

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis, Chairman
House Health, Education and Social Services Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp *Bettye Fahrenkamp*

DATE: April 5, 1989

SUBJECT: Senate Joint Resolution 21

"Encouraging favorable consideration of a state grant application by the division of vocational rehabilitation of the Department of Education for federal funds to provide assistive technology devices and services."

Senate Joint Resolution 21 was introduced on behalf of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. By passing the resolution, the legislature shows its support for the Division's request for a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Those funds would be used to establish a program to provide disabled Alaskans with the most current "assistive technology"--a phrase used to describe technological tools and services that help people with disabilities.

The grant is 100% federal funds, requiring no state match. Only ten grants are being offered to states this year; twenty grants will be available next year, and all states will be eligible for grants in the third year. If the Division is successful in obtaining a grant this year, it will automatically be awarded another \$500,000 grant next year and the following year.

You have in your file a zero fiscal note with a bill analysis from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. If I can provide any other information or answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I would greatly appreciate your early scheduling and favorable consideration of this resolution.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Education
 Title: Assistive Technology BRU: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
 Sponsor: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp, et. al. Components: New Component
 Requestor: Senator Fahrenkamp "Assistive Technology Devices and Services"

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Public Law 100-407 was passed by Congress and signed by President Reagen last fall. This law provides grants to states for assistive technology devices and services. Governor Cowper designated the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation as the official state agency for application and implementation

Prepared by: F. Pat Young Phone: (907) 465-2814
 Division: Vocational Rehabilitation Date: 02/07/89
 Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 02/07/89
 Agency: Education

Distribution (by preparer):

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

Analysis (continued):

of grants under the new Assistive Technology Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-407). See attached letter.

This fiscal note is being prepared in anticipation of a successful grant application. There will be ten (10) grants awarded the first year, 1990, with a maximum amount of \$500,000 for each successful applicant. Twenty (20) grants will be awarded in FY 91 and grants will be available to all states in FY 92. The Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is applying for a first-year grant. If the Division is successful in being awarded this grant, there will also be grants available in the following two years up to a maximum of \$500,000 each year. In addition, there are two more succeeding years to reapply for continuation funds for a total five-year funding period. All funds are 100% federal with no required state match.

To date, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has not received a grant application. Since the regulations are still being promulgated, we have been notified by Washington, D.C., that we should receive the grant application sometime in the middle of April. From our discussions with the individuals involved and reading the information now available, it is our understanding that the system developed must be consumer responsive, statewide and available to individuals of all ages with disabilities, with particular emphasis on persons who have traditionally been underserved. The program would be operated as a separate component of DVR directly supervised by the Director's Office and would most likely be based in Anchorage. The Division will, of course, follow the regulations as outlined in the grant application. We anticipate, however, that the services offered would include information and referral, functional evaluation, assessment of similar benefits, direct services, etc. I would like to emphasize at this time that the services provided in this grant are not just for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation's clients but for any client requiring this type of service regardless of age or whether they are capable of working. Within our budget structure, we would set up a separate budget component entitled, "Assistive Technology Devices and Services."

The purposes of the Act are as follows:

1. To provide financial assistance to the states to help each state to develop and implement a consumer-responsive statewide program of technology-related assistance (TRA) for individuals of all ages with disabilities that is designed to:

Analysis (continued):

- A. increase aware of needs of individuals with disabilities for Assistive technology devices (ATD) and assistive technology services (ATS);
- B. increase awareness of policies, practices and procedures that facilitate or impede the availability of these devices and services;
- C. increase availability of and funding for ATD and ATS for individuals with disabilities;
- D. increase awareness and knowledge of the effectiveness of ATD and ATS among individuals with disabilities, their families, public and private agencies that have contact with individuals with disabilities (including insurers), employers and other appropriate individuals;
- E. increase capacity of public and private agencies to provide TRA, particularly ATD and ATS and to pay for the provision of these devices and services;
- F. increase coordination and collaboration among state, public and private agencies that provide TRA;
- G. increase the probability that individuals of all ages with disabilities will, to the extent appropriate, be able to secure and maintain possession of assistive technology devices as such individuals make the transition between services offered by human service agencies or between settings of daily living.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.