

H J R

63

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

RECAP OF HJR 63

Political Asylum for Immigrants

Received January 10, 1990
by Rep. Martin

Heard January 30, 1990

Passed Out of Committee January 30, 1990
3 Do Pass
1 No Recommendation

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HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: January 10, 1990 FURTHER REFERRALS: LABOR & COMMERCE

Date of Committee Action: _____

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 63

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63

POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR IMMIGRANTS

Relating to persons immigrating to and requesting asylum in the United States.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with 15 HJR 63(SA) 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 HSA
- zero with analysis _____

- fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fn/analysis _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

Gene Kelly

Chris P. ...

Eileen P. ...

SIGNING:
(Check approp. column)

	Do Not Pass	No Rec	Amend
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Eileen P. ...

 Vice-Chairman's Signature

Item 1

Introduced: 8/10/90
Referred: State Affairs, and Labor & Commerce

6-1835A

CSHR 63 (SA)

TERRY BANISTKA

BY REP. MARTIN

THIS SAYS HAVE TO GO BACK BECAUSE OF
CHANGES IN EASTERN EUROPE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to persons immigrating to and

6

requesting asylum in the United States.

7

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

8

WHEREAS the Eastern Bloc countries of Hungary, Poland, East Germany,

9

the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and

10

Romania are moving away from communism towards democracy; and

11

WHEREAS some individuals from these countries have requested political

12

asylum and freedom in the United States; and

13

WHEREAS the change from communism towards democracy in the Eastern

14

Bloc countries is being considered by the Immigration and Naturalization

15

Service when it evaluates the political asylum applications of persons from

16

the Eastern Bloc countries, and this approach may prevent some persons from

17

receiving asylum in the United States because they may not be considered to

18

need political asylum any more; and

19

WHEREAS elements of the military, police, and leadership in some of

20

the Eastern Bloc countries still remain under the control of communist

21

authorities and, if applications for political asylum from these countries

22

are denied, the applicants fear persecution by the communist-controlled

23

elements after they are deported from the United States; and

24

WHEREAS, although the Alaska State Legislature supports glasnost and

25

perestroika, it recognizes that the governments of the Eastern Bloc coun-

26

tries will be unstable until the political changes are complete; and

27

WHEREAS the United States is a strong supporter of human rights and

28

was founded on the principle of the individual's right to life, liberty,

29

and the pursuit of happiness; and

HJR063A

-1-

HJR 63

Judy Knight - Dept of Labor ->

Source H513 Type Organization giving track ball

UNEMPLOYMENT AVERAGE 9%
1989 - 7%
IN SENATE

1 WHEREAS the work force in Alaska is depleted and the state would
2 welcome immigrants from foreign countries to increase its work force; and

3 WHEREAS Alaska has benefited from the immigrants who have already come
4 to the state; and

5 WHEREAS Alaska can provide a sanctuary for persons who seek political
6 asylum in the United States;

7 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature

8 (1) declares that it welcomes immigrants from [foreign] countries
9 and is willing to serve as a sanctuary for persons who are seeking polit-
10 ical asylum in the United States; and

11 (2) urges the United States Immigration and Naturalization

12 Service ^{A to have reputation process for any person}
^{from an E. B. country who has rec'd P. A.}
13 (A) not to use the recent political changes in the Eastern

14 Bloc countries ^{to know up soil} ~~who is on U.S. soil~~

15 (i) to deny political asylum to persons from those
16 countries, even if an application for asylum was submitted before
17 the changes began; or

18 (ii) to revoke the political asylum already granted to
19 persons from those countries; ^{AMNESTY (ON AUGUST 10)}

20 (B) to grant political asylum on humanitarian grounds to
21 each person who is on United States soil, who has submitted an appli-
22 cation for political asylum in the United States, and who would have
23 been eligible for asylum except for the recent political changes in
24 the Eastern Bloc countries ^{UNLESS such person could be}

25 ^{considered a threat to nat security OR if other}
COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Gene McNary,
26 ^{UNDESIRABLE UNDER CURRENT U.S. LAW}
Commissioner-Designate of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service;

27 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
28 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
29 Alaska delegation in Congress.

Put 1 like previous
Sanctuary/mean
Za

So left AK 1986 during recession

Rep of LABOR have written article on shortage in
VARIOUS MARKETS such as medical -

Item 2

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION : _____
PUBLISH DATE : _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Political Asylum for
Immigrants
Sponsor Martin
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: _____
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: House State Affairs
Division: _____

Phone: 465-4963
Date: Jan 25, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: H. R. "Red" Poyser Chair
Agency: _____

Date: Jan 25, 1990

Distribution (by preparer):

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

Item 3

REP. TERRY MARTIN

ELECTIVE DISTRICT 13
MOUNTAIN VIEW
RUSSIAN JACK SPRINGS
NUNAKA VALLE /
ELMENDORF A.F.B.
CREEKSIDE
EAST ANCHORAGE



HOME
3960 REKA DRIVE-B6
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508
PHONE 333-6990

DURING SESSION
P. O. BOX V
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
JUNEAU, AK 99811
PHONE 465-3783

Alaska House of Representatives

January 29, 1990

To: Rep. Red Boucher, Chairman
House State Affairs Committee

From: Rep. Terry Martin *T.M.*

Subject: HJR 63 - Immigration and asylum in U.S.

Thank you for scheduling HJR 63 for a committee hearing. I think, given the gravity of the situation in which a number of Polish immigrants find themselves, that time is of the essence in this particular case.

As you may know, as many as 152 Polish and Soviet seamen have in the past two years defected throughout Alaska and requested asylum. These men (and one woman) have been awaiting the granting of asylum, and have in the meantime been processed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), have obtained work permits and have become assimilated into the Alaskan community. And, because of the pride of these people, all are working, and none has applied for public assistance.

Now, however, because of the apparent changes taking place in Poland and other Eastern European countries, the U.S. State Department has determined that persons seeking asylum from those countries are no longer qualified. And their directive denying asylum is retroactive for the past 18 months. Although INS is not obliged to obey the State Dept. directive, they are following it in this case, and have begun proceedings against approximately 84 of those immigrants living in Alaska, with the intention of deporting them back to Poland and Russia.

I hope the committee will act expeditiously on HJR 63, so that we may positively effect the lives of the immigrants. In light of the Federal administration's recent action to allow the Chinese students to remain in America, I think it only reasonable to allow the Poles and Russians who so desire to stay in Alaska.

Also, in regard to the L&C referral, I would request that the committee remove the first WHEREAS clause occurring on the second page, so that the referral might be waived.

Thank you again for your timely consideration of this issue.



POMS CONCERNING HJR 63 - IMMIGRATION & ASYLUM

"I think these men would be a great asset to our community. They are all honest and hard-working people. I think they took a big chance in coming to the United States, leaving their families just to get freedom. I feel they should have freedom. I have friends and family in Poland who say things haven't changed there one bit."

- Kathy Cowitz, Box 771435, Eagle River 99577 694-5054

"I feel that the Polish seamen have the right to remain in the United States, as long as they have no criminal record. They are an asset to our community, as they are hard workers. They will work on jobs that Americans will not take. Thus I feel that they are not taking jobs away from anyone. Please remember that at one time all of us were not U.S. citizens, and they have a right to be free too. Please make a fair decision."

- Karen Ayers, 16510 Centerfield Dr, Eagle River 694-7587

"Things are seldom what they seem. Polish immigrants now under threat of deportation are fearful for their families in their lives. Some threaten suicide to stay in this country forever. They wonder why we don't believe them. Please let them stay."

"I would like HJR 63 to pass especially for the Polish people. They have been living here, working, paying taxes and many have been warned by family that things are not as they seem. I think it is unfair to send back working people who pay taxes when there are so many in this country who have immigrated to this country and are now living off the welfare rolls."

- Diana Robbins, 3209 Baxter #3, Anch. 99504 563-6363

"We want the Polish people to stay in Alaska that want to and not be deported."

- Ruth & Joseph Chmielowski, 168 Burtco #B, Anch 746-1337

"In regard to the 150 Polish immigrants currently in Anchorage seeking asylum. I believe they should be assisted in every way possible to remain in the United States. These people would be an asset to our society because of their honest, sincere working drive to be true Americans. Thank you."

- Melinda Padgett, 9210 Elgin Circle, Anch 99515 248-7701

"I want the Polish defectors to stay here in Anchorage."

- Marie McEntire, 6400 E 15th Ct #4, Anch 99504 333-7754

"I strongly urge you to allow the refugees that are now in Anchorage from Poland and the Soviet Union to remain."

- Jerry Rutoski, Box 220503, Anch 99522

"Complete passage [of HJR 63] as written by Terry Martin and also the release of Senator Pat Rodey's gun amendment to be enacted. For the gun amendment issue I am the National Director for the No Compromise Majority."

- Mark Chryson, Box 142702, Anch 99514 338-6744

"I am concerned about the Polish fishermen's deportation. I am a citizen, also Polish, and I think they are not abusing hospitality of this government because they are not costing us through any of our programs. They are hard workers and don't ask for welfare. All help they receive comes from Poland. I think it would be to our advantage to let them stay. The main power in Poland is still communist."

- Jan Kluska, 7736 Snowview Dr, Anch 99507 349-5956

"Please allow the Polish seamen who have applied for asylum in 1989 to remain in the United States. We were in Poland in July of 1989, and saw what they are afraid to go back to. Anything you can do on their behalf is greatly appreciated. We are currently housing 3 of the seamen in our home, and would be greatly distressed by their deportation."

- Dennis Draper, 3703 Westminster Way, Anch 99508 338-3486

"I was in the same situation a few years back. Now I am a U.S. citizen and I am proud. I think that if the other Polish fishermen are let in the United States, they will also be a citizen like me. They are hard workers and will build a future for a good Alaska."

- John Rybczynski, 3840 Young St., Anch 99508 563-3192

"Easterners and Mexicans far outnumber the few Polish defectors in this country, so why is Immigration sending 60 of them from Anchorage back to Poland? They are very hard workers, and very nice. Also, most of them are fishermen, and so are not taking jobs away from American men because American men don't care to work so hard for such small wages. Many of these men are still afraid to return to Poland."

- Vera Johnson, 635 W 45th Ave Apt 3, Anch 99503 265-8880

Where Oh Where Has the Labor Gone?

By Marie Duncan

During the Christmas holidays it is not uncommon to see a help wanted sign in a store window. However, what is uncommon, is gazing at help wanted signs from the early summer months through Christmas and even into the new year.

Two years ago the Alaska job market was filled with an abundant supply of labor. Now, with the changes in Alaska's economy, we face a potential lack of labor. State Labor Economists Neal Fried and Holly Stinson, recently surveyed 100 Alaskan business owners. Nearly half reported a shortage of job seekers.

During the recession many Alaskan's left the state. Job seekers between the ages of 18-25 have left due to better opportunities in the Lower 48. Most serious job seekers are looking for fulltime, permanent positions with benefits such as insurance and employee discounts.

Due to a rising cost in training and general business needs, many employers can only afford to hire part-time employees. Most of Alaska is filled with small business owners.

Even the large businesses have felt a crunch in the labor force.

There are many factors in calculating the cost of employee turnover. First, you must begin with the empty seat, more commonly known as time lost by not having the person there. Hiring costs increase when you place an ad in the newspaper or a sign in the window. On an average, the cost of interviewing, hiring and training costs a business anywhere between 30 to 120% of the new hire's annual rate of pay. This raises to higher levels depending in the new hire's skill level.

There are many objectives to solve this problem and will vary with each employer. Higher wages are the first step. Increasing wages entices the new hire to want to work and periodic raises increase the motivation to stay. Also, Christmas bonuses are a great motivation. Benefits such as insurance, and paid vacation time entice the employee to stay. Many large companies offer stock programs. Often times these programs are limited to a certain few who have been with the company three or more years. A few employers are now offering on-site child care.

Once the new employee is hired and training begins, added stress is placed upon the employer and the employee. This stress can be reduced by a pre-planned training program. Most businesses aren't aware of the time that can be saved by planning ahead. By giving the new employee a "New Hire Packet" they have the opportunity to prepare for their first day in a more comfortable setting. The packet can include such things as job description, business hours, a brief overview of the business, and dress code. By creating a positive impression between the employer and the employee, he or she is less likely to quit. Also, by reducing stress in the work force, you increase productivity.

These are just a few of the things that help in molding a loyal employee. The labor force in Alaska has not held the upper hand for the past two years. However, by increasing the motivational skills of the available work force, we can move ahead.

Job satisfaction in the new decade of the 90s will depend on the employers and how they plan on marketing their individual businesses.

MARK CUYSON

338-6744

4m9:36
1/29

ANS mach
5:00 1/29

HJR 63

TELECONFERENCE