

S B

8

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FURTHER

1/19/89

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE

1/27/89

Mr. President:

FINANCE

Committee considered SB 8

Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission;efd

and recommended

replace with CS 5B8 (Finance) )  same title  
 or adopt CS )  new title  
 attached amendment(s) and  technical title change (HB only)  
 Finance letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

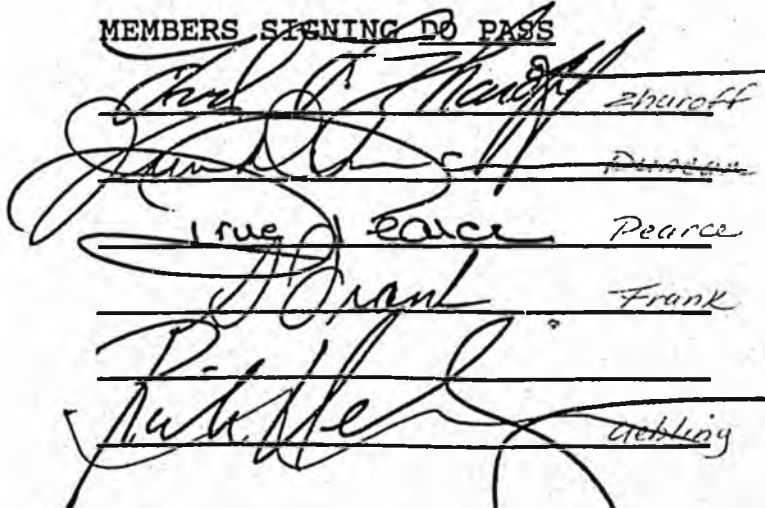
no recommendation

individual recommendations

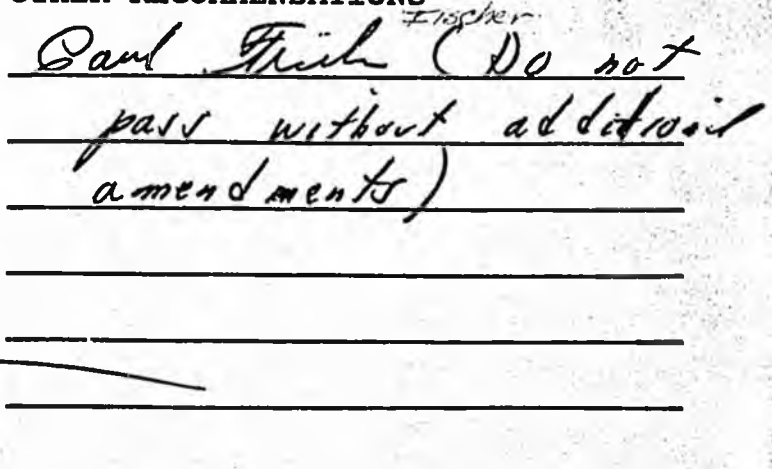
further referral to \_\_\_\_\_

**FISCAL NOTE(S)**  zero  fiscal impact  appropriation no FN  
 new  updated CS (Fin)  previous  
 same as previous fiscal note(s) published \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

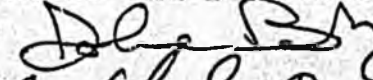
  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Shuroff*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Duncan*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Pearce*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Frank*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Gebbing*

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Fischer*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *(Do not pass without additional amendments)*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman signature and recommendation

Committee Backup attached

Co-Chairman  *Do PASS*  
 P. D. Noel DA PASS

R/03FC 1-27-89

# Alaska State Legislature

Senator Paul Fischer  
Senate District D  
Box 784  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
(907) 262-9420 W  
262-9269 H



## State Senate

While in Juneau  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-3791

PROPOSED LETTER OF INTENT FOR CS SENATE BILL 8 (FINANCE)  
(Alaska Women's Commission)

THE SENATE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THE GOVERNOR TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO THE ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION ON A NONPARTISAN BASIS; WITH CONSIDERATION TO GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION; AND WITH DUE CONSIDERATION TO RECOMMENDATIONS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES HAVING AN INTEREST IN WOMEN'S ISSUES

PAF/sgn

R/O JFC 1-27-89

STATE OF ALASKA  
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSSB 8 (Fin)  
PUBLISH DATE: 1/19/89

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 1/9/89  
Title: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."  
Sponsor: Fahrenkamp, Sturgulewski,...  
Requestor: Fahrenkamp

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor  
BRU: Commissions/Special Offices  
Components: Alaska Women's Commission

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Funding for the Alaska Women's Commission is contained in the Office of the Governor budget. No additional funding is required.

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director *Man* Phone: 465-3616  
Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 1/12/89

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1/12/89  
Agency: Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

- Distribution (by preparer):
- Legislative Finance
  - Legislative Sponsor
  - Requestor
  - Office of Management and Budget
  - Impacted Agency(ies)

Original sponsors: Fahrenkamp, Sturgulewski,  
Eliason, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission;  
7 extending the termination date of the Interim Women's  
8 Commission; and providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 \* Section 1. AS 44.19.167(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) The members shall be appointed on a nonpartisan and nondis-  
12 criminatory basis by the governor [WITHIN 60 DAYS OF OCTOBER 6, 1978].  
13 The members shall be residents of the state. At least one member  
14 shall be a homemaker who is not otherwise employed. In making the ap-  
15 pointments, the governor shall give due consideration [SHALL BE GIVEN]  
16 to

17 (1) the recommendations made by civic organizations,  
18 women's organizations, educational and vocational groups, employer  
19 groups, labor unions, church groups, homemakers' clubs and organiza-  
20 tions, and other groups having an interest in the status and welfare  
21 of women;

22 (2) statewide geographical representation of the commis-  
23 sion; and

24 (3) minority and low-income representation.

25 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.19.168 is amended to read:

26 Sec. 44.19.168. MEETINGS. [WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE APPOINTMENT  
27 OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL CALL THE  
28 FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.] A majority of the members consti-  
29 tutes a quorum for conducting business and exercising the powers of

1 the commission. The commission shall meet at the call of the chair-  
2 person, at the request of a majority of the members, or at a regularly  
3 scheduled time as determined by a majority of the members.

4 \* Sec. 3. AS 44.19.169 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 44.19.169. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office of each  
6 member is three [FIVE] years. Terms shall be staggered. [INITIAL  
7 TERMS SHALL BE THREE MEMBERS SERVING FOR ONE YEAR, THREE MEMBERS  
8 SERVING FOR THREE YEARS, AND THREE MEMBERS SERVING FOR FIVE YEARS.] A  
9 vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the  
10 same manner as original appointments. A person may not serve more  
11 than six consecutive years.

12 \* Sec. 4. AS 44.19.171 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 44.19.171. PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to  
14 [IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE PRELIMINARY STUDY ON  
15 THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN ALASKA WHICH WAS MANDATED BY THE NINTH LEGISLA-  
16 TURE, SECOND SESSION, UNDER CH. 99 SLA 1976, AND] improve the status  
17 of women in the state [ALASKA] by conducting [FURTHER] research and by  
18 making and implementing [ADDITIONAL] recommendations on the opportuni-  
19 ties, needs, problems, and contributions of women in the state  
20 [ALASKA] including, but not limited to,

- 21 (1) education; [,]  
22 (2) homemaking; [,]  
23 (3) civil and legal rights; and [,]  
24 (4) labor and employment.

25 \* Sec. 5. AS 44.66.010(a)(12) is amended to read:

26 (12) Alaska Women's Commission -- June 30, 1993 [JUNE 30,  
27 1987];

28 \* Sec. 6. EXTENSION OF INTERIM COMMISSION. The termination date of the  
29 Interim Women's Commission established by the governor under Administrative  
CSSB 8(Fin)

1 Order No. 110 is extended to June 30, 1989.

2 \* Sec. 7. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS. (a) The members of the Alaska  
3 Women's Commission appointed by the governor to serve terms of office  
4 beginning on July 1, 1989, shall serve initial terms under AS 39.05.055(7),  
5 as determined by the governor.

6 (b) The Alaska Women's Commission reestablished by this Act is a  
7 continuation of the Interim Women's Commission with respect to all rights,  
8 assets, liabilities, and other matters not otherwise specifically addressed  
9 by this Act.

10 \* Sec. 8. Section 6 of this Act is retroactive to the date of adjourn-  
11 ment of the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legisla-  
12 ture.

13 \* Sec. 9. Sections 6 and 8 of this Act take effect immediately under  
14 AS 01.10.070(c).

15 \* Sec. 10. Except for secs. 6 and 8 of this Act, this Act takes effect  
16 July 1, 1989.

Alaska State Legislature



State Senate

Senator Paul Fischer  
Senate District D  
Box 784  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
(907) 262-9420 W  
262-9269 H

Adopted  
1/27/89  
#1 PF  
While In Juneau  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-3791

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
CS SENATE BILL 8 (STATE AFFAIRS)

Page 2, line 10: After the words "as original appointments";  
Add a new sentence to read: "A person may not  
serve more than ~~two consecutive terms or parts~~  
~~of terms.~~ *6 consecutive years.* SF Amend

PAF/sgn

PF 1/27/89  
Withdrawn  
#2

# Alaska State Legislature



While in Juneau  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-3791

Senator Paul Fischer  
Senate District D  
Box 784  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
(907) 262-9420 W  
262-9269 H

## State Senate

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO  
CS SENATE BILL 8 (STATE AFFAIRS)

Page 1, line 11: Delete the words "nonpartisan and"

Page 1, line 13: After "residents of the state." add a new sentence to read: "At least 2 members shall be registered Republicans; at least 2 members shall be registered Democrats, and".....continue with "at least one member shall be a homemaker".....

PAF/sgn

Mary McClinton

Amendments to SB 8

" An Act relating to the Alaska Womens Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Womens Commission; and providing for an effective date."

Section 1 (a) Line 14 delete;  
homemaker who is not otherwise employed  
and insert;

single woman; single parent; senior citizen woman; handicapped woman; female married to a male; homemaker not otherwise employed; and professional woman, minority and low income woman.

Subsection a(1) line 20  
Delete status and insert welfare

Delete subsection a(3)

Insert subsection (b) to read:

" In order to assure an independent status, the governor shall not appoint any member that has a close association with a member of the Administration or Legislature."

Section 2 - Include an additional sentence to read:

" all meetings of the Commission shall receive public notice and be subject to the open meetings law."

Section 3 line 5 delete  
five and insert two

Section 4 delete lines 11 through 22 and insert;

The purpose of the Commission is to improve the welfare of the women in the state by providing a resource referral service of information and education that will inform women of resources available in federal, state, local and private agencies and through individuals to help them meet their needs. The Commission shall also correlate already available information and identify areas where further research on needs of women is necessary. At no time would the Commission assume an advocacy position on issues of concern to women, but instead would provide information on both sides of the issue so women can make their own informed decision.

Section 7 Include an additional sentence to read:

Membership on the Commission shall not consist of more than 1/3 members who have served on the Commission prior to July 1, 1989.

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP  
CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMAN, OIL AND GAS COMMITTEE  
515 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 130  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
OFFICE (907) 452-4882  
HOME (907) 456-2899



Senate

WHILE IN JUNEAU  
P.O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
CAPITOL ROOM 125  
OFFICE (907) 485-3834  
HOME (907) 780-6027

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Senator Rick Uehling, Co-Chairman,  
Senator John Binkley, Co-Chairman,  
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye *BF* Fahrenkamp

RE: SB 8, Relating to the Alaska Women's Commission,  
extending the termination date of the Interim Women's  
Commission; efd

DATE: January 24, 1989

---

Thank you for scheduling SB 8, which would reinstate the Alaska Women's Commission for four more years. Continuation of the women's commission is imperative for a strong Alaska. Only after the barriers of discrimination are removed will all Alaskans be free to help this state achieve economic strength and diversity. The Alaska Women's Commission has been an effective advocate in identifying and removing barriers of discrimination facing women.

There are many important and crucial issues facing women in Alaska. A few significant statistics are worth noting:

Over half of Alaskan women work outside the home but earn less than two-thirds of what men earn.

Most Alaska families have no access to parental leave when their children are born or adopted.

For many Alaskan families, child care is either inadequate or too costly.

In Anchorage alone it is estimated that at least 3,000 elementary school children are unsupervised after school every day.

Attachment

1/26/89 em

Alaska women's per capita income declines 33 percent after divorce while divorced men's increases 17 percent.

Most single parent families are headed by women and most families below the poverty level are headed by women.

In urban Alaska the teen pregnancy rate exceeds the national figure by 13 percent. In rural Alaska it jumps to 70 percent more than the national rate.

Eight thousand families, including more than 20,000 women and their children, receive AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) in Alaska.

It is the Commission's task to improve the status of women. Although strides have been made, the job will not be done until women's wages are equal to men; adequate childcare is available at a reasonable cost; our teen pregnancy rate is no longer 13% higher than the national average; and, there are equal numbers of women and men in the higher paying jobs in state government.

The Alaska Women's Commission has some important challenges for the next five years. These include advocacy for the needs of rural women and homemakers, welfare reform, improving the economic status and employment options of women, implementation of changes that assist working women who have young children, increasing representation of women in policy making positions, and support for better access to health care, counseling, legal representation, and safety. Since it is the only agency in state government that speaks to government about issues, policies, and situations affecting women, I strongly urge your support of this bill to continue the Alaska Women's Commission.

Testimony by Ruth Lister, Executive Director, Alaska Women's Commission - January, 1989

The Alaska Women's Commission serves women by developing research on women's issues, by recommending solutions to the problems encountered by women, by publishing documents and handbooks to inform women, and by conducting conferences to aid women, both individually and collectively, in their struggle for equality. These are the three main functions: research, advocacy and education.

Why do we need to research issues such as the economic impact of divorce and dissolution on women or review the Alaska Statutes for sex discrimination or monitor compliance with Title IX and Alaska Chapter 18 laws? Because our data clearly substantiate that women have not achieved equal legal, economic, social and political status in Alaska.

Women comprise 51% of the workforce in Alaska, the second highest in the nation, but earn less than two thirds of what men earn. Most women have no access to parental leave after the birth of a child, a critical time for bonding to help ensure the child's future welfare. For many Alaskan families child care is either inadequate or too costly. An estimated 1/3 of Alaskan women are or have been victims of domestic violence, rape or child sexual abuse, often seriously affecting their job productivity, family and emotional well-being. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63% compared with a national average of 47%. Women's per capita income declines 33% after divorce while divorced men's increases 17%. In addition, the overall economic decline in Alaska is seriously impacting women, particularly single head of households. More than 20,000 women and children in Alaska receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

How do we advocate for change? The Commission, on the basis of our research and the needs voiced by women across the State, proposes and supports changes in legislation, regulations and public policy and funding of programs which assist women in achieving equity.

I have worked at the Commission now for a little over a month. For the last 7 1/2 years I ran a program for domestic violence and sexual assault victims, serving Fairbanks and, as much as we were able, villages in the Interior. Prior to that I ran a large day care center. While some women are being elected to public office, obtaining well paid management or technical jobs, their numbers are small. There are thousands of women in this State who are barely able to feed themselves and their children, who are fighting to maintain sobriety in life situations whose pain is enormous, who cannot stop working at their minimum wage jobs to get the degree which would improve their opportunities. Last week, a recently divorced woman with four children and no resources came to us asking for help in getting a small business going. Another woman, who had been in a battering relationship for 9 years and left with

MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY THE WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Attachment

1/26/89 am

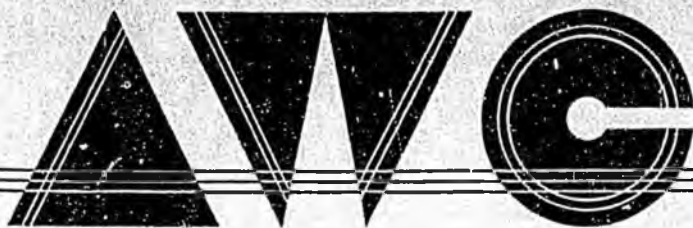
all the bills, wanted to know if creditors would understand that she had not been able to see beyond her own survival and now wanted to try to clear her record. A woman called who had been running a volunteer mother's group for 4 years in a smaller community. The group provided outreach to isolated young mothers, giving them information on everything from crafts to child sexual abuse, an excellent form of early prevention and support. She wanted to know if there were any small grants to help pay for babysitters.

The question is not why women are on welfare, unable to get credit or living in abusive relationships. The question is why are there still educational and employment barriers to women, why is there insufficient support for women with families, both at work and home, why are women and children not safe in their own homes. I am always amazed and so proud of the courage and resourcefulness of women, of their hard work and their caring for others. Women do not choose to be poor, they do not choose to be hurt or feel badly about themselves.

We need to improve the economic status and employment options of women by assisting women to enter and re-enter the work force and to work in a wider variety of jobs. We need to implement changes that support working women who have children. The Commission will advocate for the needs of rural women, working with them to create more job opportunities and healthier communities.

We must value and support women's choices both at home and in the work force. Better access to health care, counseling, legal representation and personal safety are critical issues for many women. The Commission is committed to educational equity and to addressing the needs of teens and young women. Finally, women across the State must be given the opportunity through Boards and Commissions and through local and state government to help make the decisions which affect all of our lives.

By improving the status of women in Alaska, we will benefit all Alaskans, strengthening our families, communities and economy.



## FAMILY EQUITY AT ISSUE: A Study of the Economic Consequences of Divorce on Women and Children

During the 1970's social reformers sought to ease the acrimony of divorce and create more fairness and equity for the families involved. "No fault" divorce reform was introduced in many states including Alaska. In addition, Alaska developed a dissolution procedure that allows people to file without the expense of an attorney. Unfortunately, many of these changes have had unintended economic results for women. It now appears that women and children are suffering major financial inequities as a direct result of some of the changes in divorce law and procedure.

The most striking documentation of the "downward mobility" of women and children created by "no fault" divorce was in the state of California. Because of the seriousness of the findings there, in 1986 the Alaska

Women's Commission undertook a study to determine if Alaskan women and children were suffering the same effects.

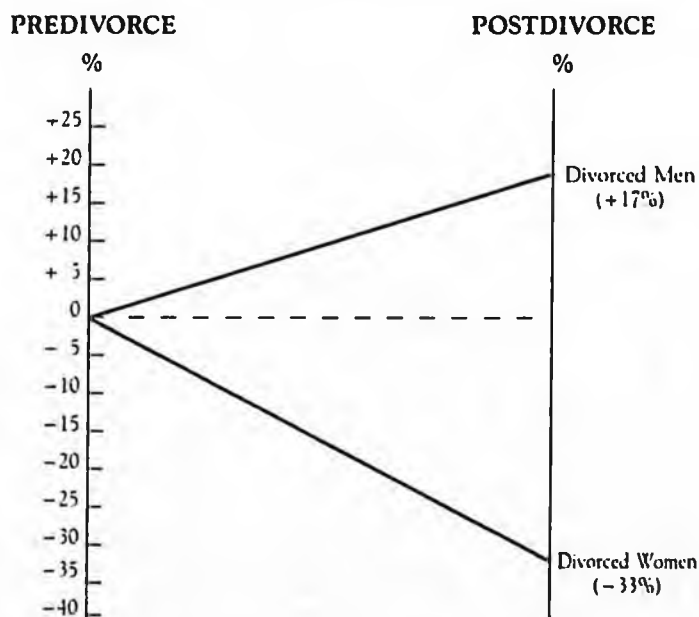
The study of divorce is important because so many people are affected by it. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63 percent compared to 46 percent nationally. More than 11,000 people are affected each year, 3,000 of them children. Even though the two-decade increase in the divorce rate seems to have peaked, each year thousands of Alaskan families are affected by divorce.

The study site chosen was Anchorage, where more than half of the state's divorces occur. A statistically valid sample drawn from all divorce and dissolution cases occurring in a one-year period was analyzed.

### GENERAL FINDINGS:

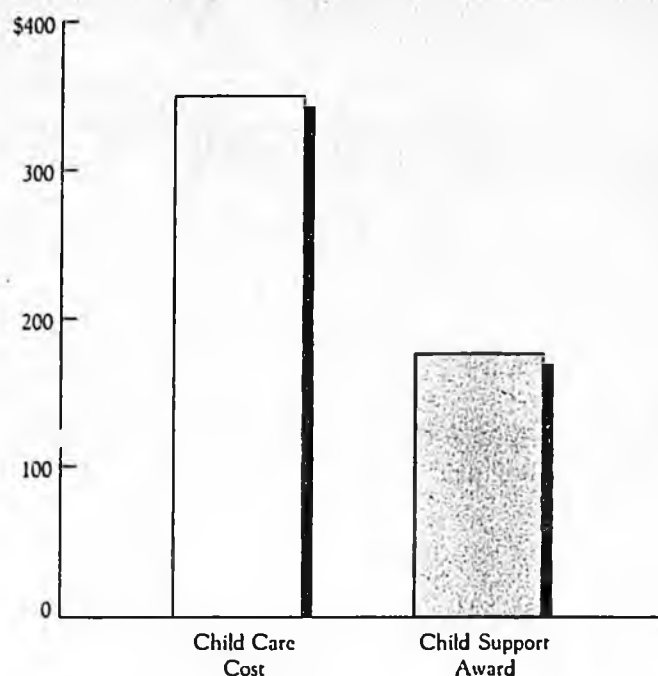
- In Alaska, divorce has substantially different economic consequences for women and men.
- Divorced women and their children experienced a 33 percent decline in per capita income resulting in a radical downward shift of their standard of living (see Figure 1). The greatest relative deprivation was experienced by women and children of middle and upper middle class families.
- Divorced men, however, experienced an improvement in their standard of living as a result of a 17 percent rise in their per capita incomes (see Figure 1).
- In many marriages the couple's major investments were in the education and career of the primary wage earner. Yet the division of marital property often excluded career assets. Disregarding this property allows the major wage earner, usually the husband, to keep what are often the most valuable assets of the marriage.

FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PER CAPITA INCOME OF DIVORCED MEN AND WOMEN



- Fifty-four percent of divorcing men had pensions compared to 33 percent of divorcing women. The median value of the husband's pension was worth more than 3 times that of the wife's (\$27,500 and \$7,500 respectively). Yet, only 20 percent of the couples in the study divided pensions.
- Other types of career assets such as life insurance, paid leave, professional licenses, medical and dental insurance were rarely included in the division of property, even though they were acquired during the marriage.
- Award of the family home was influenced by the presence of children. In 74 percent of the cases, the home was given to the parent having physical custody. Fathers with physical custody almost always got the home (93 percent) while mothers with custody were awarded the family home only 68 percent of the time.
- Among the families who moved following divorce were accounts of children traumatized by the dislocation. New schools and neighborhoods increased the disruption already generated from economic and emotional distress.
- In the absence of children, husbands were awarded the family home and mortgage more frequently (60 percent) than wives (40 percent).
- Alimony was awarded in only 10 percent of the divorces surveyed. For the few who receive it, this "safety net" appears to be an illusion. Awards usually lasted for only one year and provided an average of only \$500 a month, despite the fact that most who received it had no job, no other income or were of an age which makes it difficult to find paid work.
- Divorced mothers are the primary caretakers of children. Sole custody was awarded to mothers in 58 percent of the cases, while fathers received it in 18 percent of the cases. Joint custody was awarded 19 percent of the time.
- Child support was awarded in 80 percent of the divorces where minor children were present. However, the average amount per child was \$191. This barely meets half the monthly cost of child care in Anchorage today (see Figure 2). This figure also falls below the standard used to determine eligibility for welfare.
- Cost of living increments were included in only 23 percent of the child support awards. Without these adjustments, the purchasing power of the support award continually declines because of inflation and the increased costs associated with older children.
- Only 22 percent of child support awards were written beyond the age of majority although financial burdens such as education continue for several years beyond this point.

**FIGURE 2: AVERAGE MONTHLY COST OF CHILD CARE COMPARED TO AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD**



- Only 58 percent of the people in the survey received the full amount of child support awarded. This is consistent with statewide data from the Child Support Enforcement Agency.
- Divorced men are rarely required to pay more than 15 percent of their predivorce income to support their children.

## IMPACT OF DISSOLUTION:

In Alaska people can end their marriage in two ways. Both are considered "no-fault." One, a divorce, usually involves attorneys' fees and court hearings, with the judge making a final decision in areas where the two parties cannot agree. The other, a dissolution, can be done without attorneys, with minimal expense, and requires that both parties agree about every issue. About two-thirds of all Alaskan couples who end their marriages choose a dissolution.

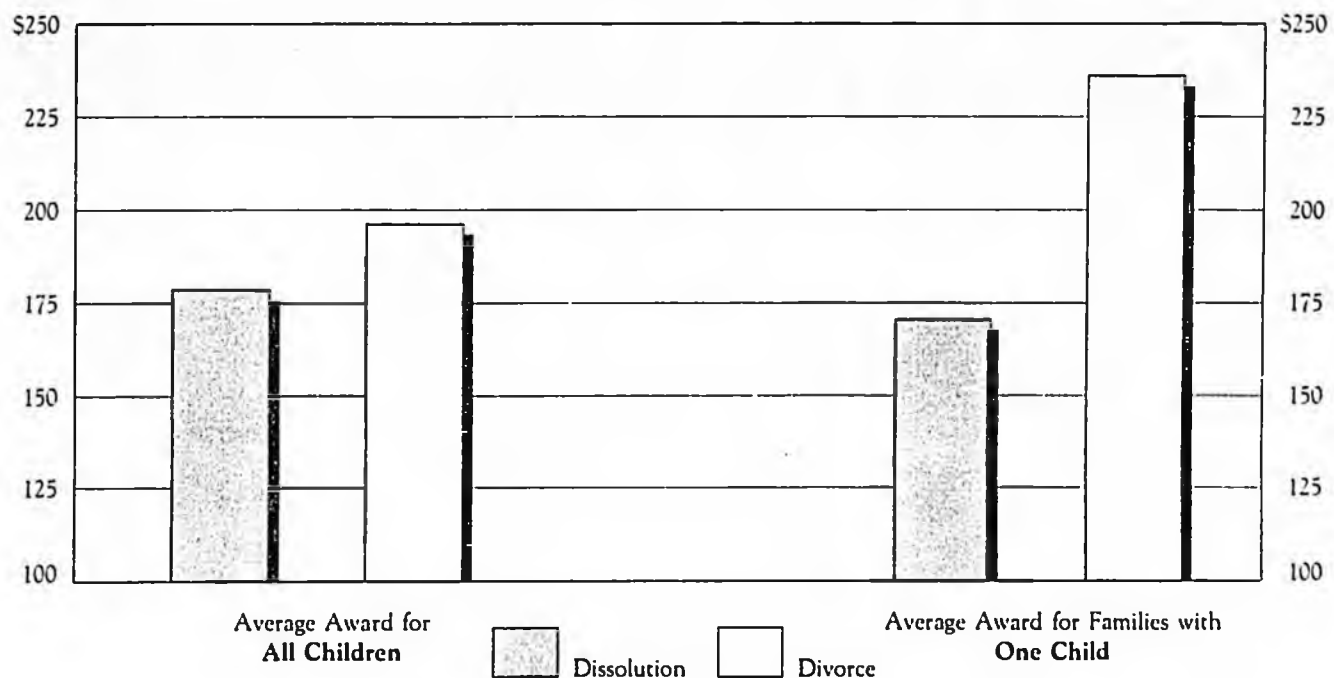
Alaska is one of only 8 states that permit dissolutions. It is also one of the most liberal in its provisions. Most

other states do not permit dissolutions if there are minor children, if the marriage is one of long duration, or if the couple has property. Alaska law places no limitations on the use of dissolutions.

In addition to the study's general findings, it appears that women who choose dissolution suffer even more financial hardship than women who go through a divorce.

- Women who used the dissolution procedure received far less than half of the couple's property. Wives received only 29 percent of the property in dissolutions. Women who used divorce received 50 percent of the marital property.
- Child support awards were lower when the dissolution procedure was used. Particularly hard hit were families with one child where average awards were 27 percent lower than in divorce (see Figure 3).

**FIGURE 3: AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ONE CHILD FAMILIES BY LEGAL PROCEDURE**



## SUMMARY:

The findings of this study together with a growing body of research suggest that the current legal system of divorce creates economic hardships for women and children instead of providing greater family equity. Inadequate and poorly enforced child support awards, the near absence of spousal support, and unequal division of marital property are creating a new class of poor.

Divorced women and their children face a precipitous drop in family income. Some face certain impoverishment. Women who choose the dissolution procedure suffer even more financial hardship than those who go through a divorce.

The Alaska Women's Commission was created to ensure equity for women in Alaska. The Commission's current legislative platform attempts to correct many of the inequities that occur under existing divorce laws. The findings of the Commission's study support these efforts.

The report was written by Barbara Baker, research analyst for the Alaska Women's Commission. For a copy of the full report or for more information about the Commission's legislative advocacy, research efforts and educational services, please contact the Commission office at 3601 "C" Street, Suite 742, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 or call 561-4227.

## RESOURCES:

Community resources exist to assist people who are considering divorce. The following is a list of some of the agencies who provide legal assistance or counseling.

### Legal Assistance:

Alaska Legal Services — Provides legal assistance to low income people. It also screens applicants for the Pro Bono Program which provides free legal assistance to low income people. "Do It Yourself" (Pro Se) Divorce Clinics are also conducted by Alaska Legal Services in some communities. Legal Services is located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, Unalaska.

Dispute Resolution Services, Fairbanks

### Counseling and Support:

Women's Resource Centers are located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Kenai/Soldotna, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome and Wasilla.

Men's Support Network, Anchorage

Father's Rights Group, Fairbanks

## RELATED RESEARCH ON DIVORCE:

Lenore Weitzman, *The Divorce Revolution: The Unexpected Social and Economic Consequences for Women and Children in America* (New York: The Free Press, 1986).

Heather Wishik, "Economics of Divorce: An Exploratory Study," *Family Law Quarterly*, Vol. 20, No. 1, Spring 1986.

*California Senate Task Force on Family Equity* (Sacramento, State of California, 1987).

S. Hoffman and T. Holmes, "Husbands, Wives, and Divorce," *Five Thousand American Families — Patterns of Economic Progress* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, 1976).

William Goods, *After Divorce* (New York: The Free Press, 1956).



ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION  
3601 "C" STREET, SUITE 742  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

### Members of Commission:

Kris Chatfield, chair  
Anchorage  
Joy Green-Armstrong, vice chair  
Anchorage  
Loretta Bullard  
Nome  
Elizabeth (Pat) Kennedy, Anchorage  
Mary Pete, Bethel  
Betty Ramage, Anchorage  
Wendy Redman, Fairbanks  
Paula Ziegler, Juneau

### Executive Director

Christine Callahan

### Research Analyst

Barbara Baker

### State of Alaska

Steve Cowper, Governor  
Stephen McAlpine, Lt. Governor

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 691  
Anchorage, AK

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# Highlights...

## In Alaska Women's Commission History

1977 - *The Status of Women in Alaska* identified numerous problems confronting women in Alaska and recommended the formation of a women's commission to implement the recommendations contained in the study.

1977 - Statewide conference honoring International Women's Year is convened in Anchorage. 1,000 women in attendance. Conference recommendations include the need to establish a women's commission to address widespread discrimination.

1978 - Tenth Alaska Legislature passes HB303, creating the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women. Bill is sponsored by Rep. Lisa Rudd. On July 8, 1978, governor signs bill into law. Ten Commissioners appointed October 1978.

1979 - Public hearings conducted by the Commission are held on violence against women, sex bias in education, welfare, and displaced homemakers.

1979 - Commission conducts research on the status of homemakers in Alaska.

1979 - Commission develops training manuals and "how-to" guides on assertiveness training, applying for foundation funding and sex equity in education.

1980 - Status reports written and presented by Commission on child support enforcement, displaced homemakers and battered women.

1980 - Commission convenes task force on "Violence Against Alaska Native Women." Report and recommendations are forwarded to the governor for action.

1980 - Commission sponsors two conferences: Voices of Black Women in Alaska, second Alaska Native Women's Statewide Organization Conference.

1980 - Legislation on displaced homemakers and domestic violence is supported by the Commission. Domestic violence legislation passes into law.

1981 - *Women's Legal Rights in Alaska* is published by the Alaska Women's Commission. Over 5,000 copies distributed.



1981 - Commission sponsors five regional conferences: Filipino Alaskan Women's Network Conference in Anchorage; "Piqatigich" a conference held in Kotzebue to discuss sharing together; Women of Hoonah meet to discuss "Community Concerns", Kenai women discuss "Action or Reaction"; conferences on communication and roles of women in the village held in Fairbanks and Galena are conducted by ANWSO-Doyon Region, Tanana Chiefs and WIC-CA.

1981 - Commission holds hearings on "Women in Construction" to identify employment opportunities and potential barriers during construction of the proposed gas pipeline.



1981 - Commission forms task force on "Women and Corrections" and advocates improved facilities and programming for female inmates.

1981 - Commission coordinates meeting of lieutenant governor with major women's organizations in the state to discuss policies affecting women's equality.

1981 - Commission backed bill, "Mini Title IX" becomes law in Alaska. The bill (SB99) prohibits sex discrimination in education. Four other bills supported by the Commission are also passed into law which encompass domestic violence and sexual assault, child care assistance, child support enforcement, insurance coverage of midwives.

1981 - The governor proclaims Women's History Week, March 8-14.

1982 - Alaska Women's Commission testifies before State Human Rights Commission and Blue Ribbon Commission on Personnel regarding changes to the state's personnel system which would make it more equitable and accessible to women.

1982 - Alaska Women's Commission responds to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding affirmative action goals for hire on proposed natural gas pipeline.

## More Highlights...



"Communicating" woodcut print used with permission of Polly Lee.

1982 - Commission sponsors a statewide women's conference "Alaska's Women: Determining Our Futures". Attendance reaches nearly 1,000 people from all over Alaska.

1982 - Commission develops media campaign on sex role stereotyping which airs on television throughout the state.

1982 - Assists the Department of Education in drafting regulations for

the implementation of sex equity in education law.

1982 - Commission is appointed to the Equity Coordinating Council for Alaska to assist school districts with implementation of new sex equity law.

1982 - Co-sponsors "Women and Alcohol" Conference with the state Office on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

1982 - Sponsors seminar on "Women in the Political Process" in Kodiak.

1982 - Commission forms Health Task Force to define women's health needs. A statewide teleconference is held on the issue and Commission acts upon recommendations.

1982 - Commission makes recommendations concerning 40 pieces of legislation pending before Alaska State Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

1982 - Alaska Legislature and the governor proclaim March, Women's History Month.

1982 - Commission co-sponsors conference with U.S. Women's Bureau on "Women in Apprenticeship."

1982 - A regional conference in Barrow is sponsored by the Commission.

1982 - Commission releases *Five Years Later*, a status report on the recommendations contained in *A Preliminary Study: The Status of Women in Alaska, 1977*.

1982 - SB63, a bill to permanently establish the Alaska Women's Commission, passes the legislature and is signed into law by the governor. Senators V. Fisher, Rodey and Sturgulewski sponsor bill.

1983 - Three posters, targeted at school children encouraging them to explore all of their talents and interests, are produced by the Commission and sent to schools statewide.

1983 - Commission publishes brochure for Women's History Month that suggests activities and projects suitable for classroom setting. Brochures are sent to schools statewide.

1983 - A comprehensive study on the *Economic Status of Alaska Native Women* is conducted and published by the Commission.

1983 - Public service announcements regarding non-traditional employment opportunities, fetal alcohol syndrome and non-sexist language are produced by the Commission and aired on statewide television.

1983 - Six conferences and seminars are sponsored by the Commission; in Fairbanks "Making the System Work for You"; in Juneau, "Southeast Alaska Women's Leadership Conference"; in Ketchikan "Work and Network: Southeast Alaska's Immediate Future for Women"; in Anchorage "The Future of Alaska-Protecting Human Resources as Industry Grows"; in Kodiak "Women as Managers and Decision Makers," in Anchorage "Pay Equity/Comparable Worth."

1983 - Commission reviews and critiques pilot edition of the Alaska History textbook.

1983 - Profiles of 60 Alaskan women who have contributed to the state's economic, social and political development are published by the Commission in *Profiles in Change - Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women*.



Profiles in Change:  
NAMES, NOTES AND QUOTES  
FOR ALASKAN WOMEN

*Alaska Commission on the Status of Women*



1984 - "Barriers to Employment Conference" is co-sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Written Biographies of 20 women in Alaska history are distributed by the Commission to statewide media for use during Women's History Month.

1984 - Commission sponsors "Labor Union Workshop" in Anchorage and publishes results of the conference.

1984 - A statewide *Directory of Women's Organizations* is released by the Commission.

1984 - *Alaska Women: A Databook*, a profile of Alaska Women based upon the 1980 census, is published by the Commission.

1984 - A revised edition of *Women's Legal Rights in Alaska* is published by the Commission. Over 5,000 copies distributed since its second release.

1984 - Commission co-sponsors and helps publish *Child Care Directories* for Anchorage, Juneau/Ketchikan and Fairbanks.

1984 - Local Women's Councils are established in Anchorage and Sitka with the assistance of the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Commission supports ten bills in the legislature, five signed into law.

1984 - Workshop on "American Women: Three Decades of Change" is co-sponsored by the Commission with the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the state Dept. of Labor.

1984 - Commission conducts study on pension reform within the public employees retirement system and submits recommendations for legislative changes. Changes are adopted in 1985.



1984 - Native Women's Task Force convened by Commission to address employment issues within state government.

1984 - Commission testifies before legislative committee on improving women's economic conditions through expansion of business loans targeted at women owned businesses.

1984-86 - Commission serves on Sex Equity Advisory Committee of Anchorage School District.

1985 - Commission completes *Review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination* which identifies over 80 discriminatory laws.

1985 - As a result of the Alaska Women's Commission's efforts, former spouses and widows of State employees are able to purchase group health insurance at a comparable price at no expense to the State.

1985 - Commission works with the Department of Administration to increase recruitment and hiring of Native women.

1985 - Commission publishes *A Sense of History*, the first annotated bibliography of books, articles, audio-visual aids and photo displays about Alaska Women. Distributed to schools, libraries and all social studies teachers in the state.

1985 - Commission establishes third local women's council in Juneau.

1985 - Commission holds statewide women's conference in Anchorage on the economic status of women. "At the Edge of Opportunity" brought together more than 700 people from more than 30 communities.

1985 - A workshop on the United Nations Conference for Women is sponsored by the Commission and held in Anchorage.

1985 - A seminar on Equal Educational Opportunities for Girls is sponsored by the Commission in Wasilla.



Photo by Sabra McCracken

## More Highlights . . .

1985 - Alaska Women's Commission organizes Legislative Alliance for Women Statewide (LAWS), a coalition of 15 statewide women's organizations whose purpose is to analyze and take positions on legislation, monitor budget and policy decisions which have direct impact on women's lives.



1985-1986 - On behalf of the Commission, seven bills are introduced by the Governor which have a significant economic impact on women. Three of the bills pass.

1986 - Commission works with state government to initiate an expanded register to increase the hiring of women in ranges 18 and above.

1986 - Court system and the Commission work together to revise forms for marital dissolutions so that lay people can more easily understand their rights and obligations.



1986 - Commission evaluates implementation of Alaska's sex equity in education law, Chapter 18. Results are published in *Commitment or Complacency: An Assessment of Sex Equity in Alaska's Educational Institutions*.

1986 - Four hundred rural women in attendance at four regional Commission sponsored conferences in Bethel, Huslia, Sitka, Wasilla. A report is published summarizing the events and recommendations.

1986 - Two leadership seminars are conducted by the Commission. Held in Juneau, the seminar "Women in Prison" provides policy makers with an overview of issues surrounding the Alaskan female prison population. In Fairbanks, "Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life" provides training session for women considering running for public office. A handbook for political involvement is issued following seminar and is mailed to 1700 women.

1986 - Commission produces 30 public service announcements for television and radio profiling Alaskan women and their accomplishments. Profiles play throughout the state on commercial and public radio and television during March, Women's History Month.

1986 - Women's history timeline poster is produced by the Commission and sent to all schools, libraries and to every social studies teacher in the state.

1986 - Commission member serves on state Commission on Child Support Enforcement, providing governor with findings and recommendations to make child support more uniform and equitable.

1987 - Commission co-sponsors Female Minority Leadership Conference with Anchorage School District. Commission member serves as program chair.

1987 - Commission targets efforts to improve family equity. Conducts research on the economic impact of divorce on women and children. At the request of the Commission, legislation is again introduced by the Governor to ensure that career assets are considered marital property and to provide for heightened judicial scrutiny of dissolution cases.

1987 - Commission sponsors seminars in Anchorage and Juneau on the state Human Services Budget and the impacts of cuts on women and children. Legislators, policy makers, providers and advocates participate.

1987 - March, Women's History Month, is again commemorated with Commission-produced television and radio profiles aired statewide throughout the month.

1987 - Services to rural women are highlight of Commission-sponsored seminar in Bethel.

1987 - Legal Rights for Women, a day-long conference with a broad spectrum of workshops, is produced in Anchorage by Commission. Nearly 125 people participate.

1987 - HB4 and SB89, companion bills to extend the Alaska Women's Commission to 1991, are introduced. HB4 is sponsored by Representatives Davis, Koponen, Ulmer, Ellis, Brown and Donley. SB89 is sponsored by the Governor.

STATUS REPORT is published by the Alaska Women's Commission. The Commission was established in 1978 to improve the status of Alaska women through research and advocacy. Its members are appointed by the Governor to staggered five-year terms. Commission members serve on a voluntary basis and at the pleasure of the Governor. They include Kris Chatfield, Chair, Joy Green-Armstrong, Vice Chair, Loretta Bullard, Marcia Johnson, Pat Kennedy, Mary Pete, Betty Ramage, Wendy Redman, and Paula Ziegler.

For further information about the Commission, contact us at 3601 'C' St., Suite 742, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 561-4227. Christine Callahan, Executive Director, Barbara Baker, newsletter editor.

AWC only agency of state government to address the issues that are of overwhelming concern to Alaskan women.

The AWC has made a measurable and significant contribution to improving opportunities for Alaskan women.

- Recommended implementation of an expanded register for women in ranges 18 and above in state government. By 1985 women comprised 36% of the professional and managerial positions in the state compared to only 22.5% nationally.
- Developed recommendations for increasing the recruitment and hiring of Alaska Native women. State employment of minority women has increased slowly but steadily since the Commission first addressed this issue ~~in 1980~~.
- In education, another top Commission priority, there has been a steady gain in female administrators and female athletic participation. In Alaska women constitute 47% of school board members compared to a national average of only 35%.

38 other states have independent active women's commissions. With purposes and objectives very similar to ours.

Pennsylvania  
South Carolina  
Texas  
Virginia

AWC is less costly than the average commission and has fewer staff. The AWC has sustained a 38% budget reduction since FY 86 and depends heavily on the volunteer efforts and expertise of many women's organizations and of individual women.

Altho gains have been made, there are still challenges to face

- the feminization of poverty due to tremendous increase in divorce, inadequate child support and women's still unequal earning power.
- the working family's need for access to quality, affordable child care and to family leave
- the rising rate of teen pregnancy - continuing violence against women & children

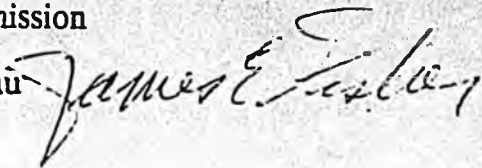
We urge you to pass the Senate State Affairs CS for SB8 to allow AWC to continue to address these and other

Attachment  
1/26/89 em

TO: SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Subject: Need to pass SB 8 - extend Women's Commission

From: James E. Fisher, 6645 N. Douglas Hwy, Juneau



Date: January 26th, 1989

As a long term observer and participant in Alaskan society, I urge passage of SENATE BILL 8, to extend the Women's Commission, in substantially its present structure.

In this age when women urgently need to work (I REPEAT, URGENTLY NEED TO WORK) outside the home, to maintain their families and themselves, it is imperative this state have the services of an agency staffed and structured as the Women's Commission. The economics of this age have thrust upon us a situation where over 80% of our families no longer fit the more traditional family pattern of husband, wife, who specializes in being a housewife, and children.

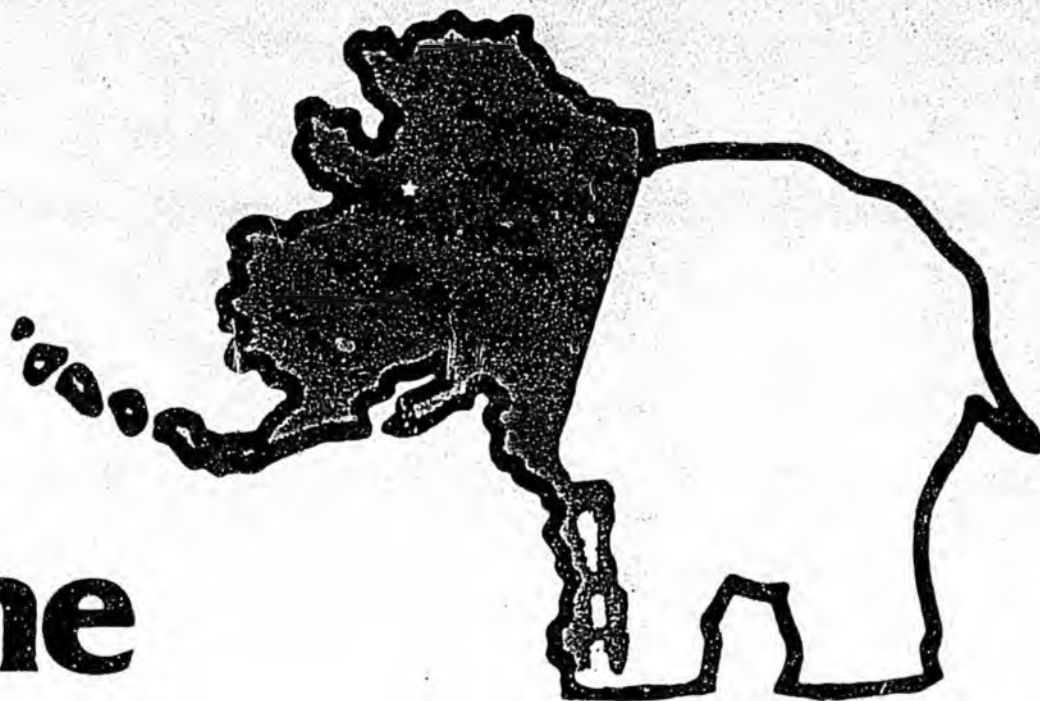
We men, who have not been single parent household heads, are probably almost always inaccurate in understanding "women's problems". Those women who operate under the stress of such a family situation probably have neither the energy or time remaining, after caring for families and themselves, to communicate, how their condition affects us. Unless some reasonably accurate information on the status of Alaskan families is available, we will be unable to adequately prepare the next, and succeeding generations, to assume their responsibilities.

It is imperative we understand the costs to women, and government, of the many social pressures affecting more than half of our population. The Women's Commission provides understanding of a huge portion of our state family.

Adequate understanding of the condition of half of our population, women, must come from inquiries of the Women's Commission until the time arrives when a woman is Governor, half the Legislature are women and half the Alaska Supreme Court are women.

(WC-S-FIN.DOC)

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS  
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL  
FILE



# The Republican Party of Alaska

**1988  
PLATFORM & RESOLUTIONS**

**Jim Crawford - Chairman**

750 E. FIREWEED #102, ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

# 1988 REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

Co-Chair: Merrill Sikorski

Co-Chair: Sue Miller

## STATE BUDGET/ECONOMICS

**88-1** The Republican Party of Alaska believes that the Permanent Fund must be protected and preserved unless directed otherwise by a vote of the people. Further, the RPA stands in support of the Permanent Fund Distribution Program to individuals.

**88-2** The RPA believes the State of Alaska must have a stable tax policy. We need to cut back on State spending, instead of imposing an individual income tax, unless such a tax is approved by the electorate.

**88-3** The RPA supports cutting State spending to a level consistent with revenue forecasts for the approaching years. State spending must be directed toward promoting a healthy economy and the wise use of Alaska's resources. Government should provide only those necessary public services that cannot be adequately supplied by the private sector.

**88-4** The RPA believes that each child should receive the best education possible. To accomplish this, the State funding for education should be formulated so that it is equitable to all school districts throughout the State.

**88-5** The RPA stands for fiscal integrity and supports a responsible, independent audit of State government programs by qualified auditors with appropriate sanctions to be applied fairly.

## CRIME/JUDICIAL SYSTEM

**88-6** The RPA supports the implementation of capital punishment for heinous crimes.

**88-7** The RPA supports recriminalization of marijuana in compliance with federal law, and supports stronger enforceable State laws relating to the sale, possession, use or transfer of all illegal substances with mandatory minimum prison sentences for offenders.

**88-8** The RPA supports an in-prison and post-prison work program that aims to provide for restitution by the criminal for the victims of crime.

**88-9** The RPA supports increased efforts by the United States attorneys to detect, apprehend and prosecute illegal commercial pornographers.

**88-10** The RPA opposes the implementation of

lotteries or similar vehicles to generate revenues for the public sector.

**88-11** The RPA supports increased efforts to detect, apprehend and prosecute White Collar crimes which occur in both the public and private sectors.

## CHILDREN'S ISSUES

**88-12** The RPA, in recognizing the needs and rights of children, support the judicial system's clarification and strengthening of penalties towards those convicted of child abuse and recognizes the parents' rights to discipline their children.

## NATURAL RESOURCES/ SOVEREIGNTY/SUBSISTENCE

**88-13** The RPA believes that providing for clean, low cost and stable electric power is vital to Alaska's future. We must have a comprehensive strategy for energy development. Every Alaskan deserves to benefit from an energy policy that recognizes local needs. The State can assist through research, planning and financial support. The State should explore all energy alternatives, including the use of North Slope Natural Gas.

**88-14** The RPA believes in a strong State and National policy on energy and minerals. The RPA supports the development of long range plans that will maintain a balance between economic and conservation concerns, creating an environment that will allow us to improve our quality of life and promote development which is necessary for our economic growth. Only through responsible multiple development of our resources can we hope to diversify our economy and reduce our dependence on oil revenues.

**88-15** The RPA believes that the nation's best interests are served by the environmentally-sound and expeditious development of Alaska's ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.)

**88-16** The Republican Party of Alaska supports an increased and equitable trade of natural resources with Pacific Rim countries that support basic human rights and the ideals of the United States.

**88-17** The RPA supports the original intent of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, to fully integrate Alaska's society and to provide Alaska's aboriginal people an equal footing with all other Alaskans; and therefore, opposes any court, congressional, State or

Federal actions to recognize any claim of native sovereignty or to encourage sovereign village governments within Alaska. The RPA also believes that the native peoples of Alaska should be encouraged to preserve their own cultural heritages.

**88-18** The RPA believes in the wise development of Alaska's resources, both renewable and non-renewable for the maximum benefit of all citizens of Alaska and the United States. We strongly support the exploration and development of Alaska's natural resources through reasonable tax incentives and other incentives. The extraction and harvest of these resources is to be based on scientific resource management, consistent with legitimate environmental concerns.

**88-19** The RPA believes that all Alaskan citizens should have equal rights of access to all fish and game resources.

**88-20** The RPA believes that the State of Alaska should immediately receive the lands it is entitled to, pursuant to the Alaska Statehood Act.

## STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUES

**88-21** To the greatest extent possible under the United States and Alaska constitutions, Alaskans should fill every Alaskan job for which they are qualified. The RPA will work aggressively to create more jobs for Alaskans through sound economic development policies. We should educate and train Alaskans to qualify for these jobs.

**88-22** The RPA believes that Alaskans deserve a State government that is open and fair to all and for sale to none. A strong code of ethics is a necessity for every person who serves in the Executive, Legislative or Judicial Branch of government.

**88-23** The RPA believes that to strengthen the political party system, a preferential primary must be adopted by the State of Alaska.

**88-24** The RPA believes that the development of agriculture, forestry, mining, manufacturing, recreation and fisheries in Alaska is essential to the long-term development of our State. The RPA should actively promote economically and environmentally sound development.

**88-25** The RPA believes that the Constitution of Alaska provides essential guidance for the governance of Alaska. Therefore, all agencies implementing regulations must be reviewed for compliance with the provisions of the Constitution. Those regulations found to be in non-compliance must be brought into compliance.

**88-26** The RPA stands for fiscal integrity and sup-

ports responsible independent audit of State government programs by qualified auditors, with appropriate sanctions to be applied fairly.

**88-27** The RPA supports continuation of the Longevity Bonus Program and State long-term health care for the elderly.

## NATIONAL ISSUES

**88-28** The RPA supports a strong national defense for peace through strength for the United States, including SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative).

**88-29** The RPA supports any legislation that would freeze the flow of U.S. technology, U.S. loans and loan guarantees and U.S. tax dollars to expansionist, communist countries.

**88-30** The RPA supports the reduction of the U.S. budget deficit through a decrease in federal spending and opposes an increase in federal taxes as a means of accomplishing a budget deficit reduction.

**88-31** The RPA supports the President's policies with respect to the containment of communism, the preservation of navigational rights in international waters and the protection of American citizens and property from terrorism and aggression.

**88-32** The RPA supports the valiant efforts of the Friends of Freedom throughout the entire world that are opposing totalitarian communist regimes and, if necessary, to promote their cause with United States assistance for humanitarian and/or military aid.

**88-33** The RPA believes in the rights of Alaskans to keep and bear arms.

**88-34** The RPA supports the concept of free enterprise and simple, fair and equitable tax systems.

**88-35** The RPA supports the free enterprise system that has made this country great. It also recognizes the positive contribution of organized labor and welcomes and solicits participation of union workers in the Republican Party.

**88-36** The RPA supports the position that the United States government deny foreign aid to any country not cooperating fully in the U.S.'s effort to stop the flow of illegal drugs into our country.

**88-37** The RPA does not support any legislation recognizing any gay rights or AID's Victims as a minority, or as an acceptable lifestyle.

**88-38** The RPA proposes the revision of the welfare system to require "work for benefits" whenever the recipient is able.

**88-39** The RPA believes that the Constitution of Alaska provides essential guidance for the government of Alaska. Therefore, all agencies implementing regulations must be reviewed for compliance with the provisions of the Constitution. Those regulations found to be in non-compliance must be brought into compliance.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

**88-40** The RPA recognizes all pornography as a clear and present danger to American public health.

**88-41** The RPA affirms its support of a Constitutional amendment to restore protection of the right-to-life for the aged, handicapped and unborn children, including government support for their physical well-being, and that government funding for abortions should be abolished with the exception of the life of the mother.

**88-42** The RPA recognizes the value of all human life, regardless of age or condition of dependency.

The sanctity of human life is threatened by efforts to legalize active euthanasia, assisted suicide and infanticide. Efforts in various states have attempted to define human life according to qualitative criteria, that threatens the lives of the aged and handicapped.

**88-43** The RPA supports written informed consent requiring medical personnel to inform patients or, in the case of a minor, to also inform parents or legal guardians, as to the developments of the baby, any possible complications arising from abortion and alternatives to abortion, such as adoption.

**88-44** The RPA recognizes the need for caution in our public school systems regarding education in human sexuality. It encourages our public schools to honor and respect the rights of parents' in this area and hopes that curriculum will reflect high moral values regarding chastity, marriage and human life.

**88-45** The RPA opposes the establishment of school health clinics that advocate contraception and abortion.

**88-46** The RPA believes that parents' rights include the liberty of the family in social economic, religious and educational opportunities, including the responsibility of educating their own children at the school of their choice — public, private, religious or home. The family is defined as a group of people who are related by blood, traditional marriage or legal adoption.

**88-47** The RPA supports the reinstatement of vol-

untary prayer or the right for a period of silence for the purpose of prayer and meditation in the public school system.

**88-48** The RPA supports the reintroduction of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools, the display of the American Flag and the State Flag, and a general pervasive promotion of patriotism in our public schools, through curriculum, activities and emphasis.

**88-49** The RPA stands for the rights of religious equity in our schools, including the exercise of individual faith to be unhindered by the State government.

**88-50** The RPA believes that creation science should be given equal representation with other scientific theory in the classroom.

**88-51** The RPA recognizes that the family is a should be given equal representation with other scientific theory in the classroom.

**88-51** The RPA recognizes that the family is a fundamental unit of society and that we continue to provide incentives to strengthen and reinforce the family unit concept.

**88-52** The RPA believes that AIDS should be treated as a communicable disease and not afforded legal protection as a handicap.

**88-53** The RPA shall support quality public education and maximum local control of public education.

**88-54** The RPA recognizes the positive contributions of private, religious and home schools. The RPA states that the State and Federal governments should have control only of health and safety regulations, regardless of funding.

### **THE ONLY PLANK OFFERED FROM THE FLOOR AND PASSED BY THE CONVENTION IS SHOWN BELOW.**

**Floor Plank #1** The RPA supports mandatory notification of parents/guardians prior to medical services being performed on minors by public or private agencies or individuals, except for services of an emergency nature.

**THIS CONCLUDES THE  
1988 REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.**

# 1988 REPUBLICAN RESOLUTIONS

Co-Chairman: Malcolm Roberts

Co-Chairman: Jack Wilbur

The following resolutions, including those offered on the floor, were passed by the general assembly of the 1988 Republican State Convention.

## STATE BUDGET/ECONOMICS

### OLYMPICS SUPPORT

WHEREAS, the City of Anchorage has been named as America's choice to host the 1994 Winter Olympics to be held in the United States; and WHEREAS, holding an Olympic event will stimulate economic activity throughout the entire State and will bring world-wide exposure to the diverse economic opportunities this State has to offer; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports and commends the efforts of the Alaska Organizing Committee for seeking to bring the Winter Olympics to Alaska.

### FUNDING FOR ROAD PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has limited access to many areas; and WHEREAS, the Alaskan economy is in need of a diversified economic base; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska encourages and supports expedient release of Federal and State funding for new road construction and road improvements projects which promote increased tourism, travel safety and improve property valuation, including projects such as the Funny River Road Access Bridge, a road from Cordova to Chitna and a road from Juneau to Haines.

### STATE ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: OPERATIONS vs. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

WHEREAS, capital projects built in and for local government units often create new operations and maintenance costs and this often increases local taxes; and WHEREAS, the oil revenue decline, through the ripple effect, will produce short falls in funds to operate the basic needs of local communities; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska urges the municipalities or local government to complete an assessment of public need based on the ability to pay for the operation of the project, and opposes any State funding until such assessments have occurred.

### FORWARD FUNDING

WHEREAS the Republican Party supports the concept of forward funding; and WHEREAS, the reduction in funding at both the State and local levels in recent years has led to severe last-minute cuts in on-going programs and services; and WHEREAS, it is important for the agencies involved with these programs and services to know in advance how much the State's share of funding will be for the purpose of preparing their respective budgets THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the establishment of a Forward Funding Reserve Fund that will ultimately replace the State Budget Fund for these agencies by the fiscal year 1992.

### OPPOSING ADDITIONAL TAXATION

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of Alaska opposes additional taxation in any form; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports passage of an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska which would require an affirmative vote of the people of the State prior to the imposition of any new State-wide income or sales tax.

## CRIME/JUDICIAL SYSTEM

### FINGERPRINTING FELONIOUS YOUTH

WHEREAS, children commit nearly one third of the serious crimes in America; and WHEREAS, juvenile crime rates have tripled since 1950; and WHEREAS, studies show that juvenile criminals have turned to crime at an earlier age, their crimes have become increasingly more violent, and they have stayed with criminal activities longer; and WHEREAS, Alaska leads the nation in homicides by teens; and WHEREAS the State of Alaska does not currently fingerprint juveniles; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the fingerprinting of minors who have committed felonious crimes as a means of identifying early criminal activities of youth and helping to break the pattern of such youth.

## **CONSPIRACY ACT**

WHEREAS, a conspiracy statute will provide law enforcement agencies with a strong tool to intervene at an early stage of an evolving plan to commit a crime, and will allow persons to be charged prior to the commission of an illegal act; and WHEREAS, of the fifty states and the Federal Government, Alaska alone does not have a statute making conspiracy an illegal act; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska strongly supports the concept that persons who join together to plan the commission of a crime should be criminally liable for such action; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports criminalizing the conspiracy to commit such crimes, particularly murder, arson, prostitution and delivery of controlled substance.

## **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska urges the reinstatement of the death penalty for committing murder during kidnapping, treason against the United States terrorism, first-degree murder and wanton killing of persons.

## **VICTIM'S RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, many victims of crime are subjected to additional trauma and involuntary indignities and action while participating in subsequent legal actions; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska fully supports strengthening the present system of compensating victims of violent crimes. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that judges should be empowered to assess civil monetary judgements against convicted criminals to compensate victims and/or their families.

## **MARIJUANA**

WHEREAS, there exists a serious problem with the ready availability of marijuana; and WHEREAS, there is now ample scientific evidence of the long-term detrimental effects of the use of the Cannabis from the weed Marijuana; and WHEREAS, it has long been noted that a significant association exists between the use of marijuana and crime; and WHEREAS, the existing laws of the State of Alaska allow for the legal personal possession of four ounces of marijuana; and WHEREAS, that amount, or any amount, could easily be meant for sale or illegal distribution; and WHEREAS, it is still against the Federal law for a person to possess and use marijuana; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the

Republican Party of Alaska that the Party supports and favors the recriminalization of the use, sale, growth or possession of any amount of the drug, marijuana, or any of its parts. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the repeal of Alaska statuted legalizing the possession or use of marijuana, and that this resolution be forwarded immediately to the members of the HESS committees of the Alaska legislature.

## **SUPPORTING ALASKA TORT REFORM LEGISLATION**

WHEREAS, Alaskan communities, businesses, school districts and private citizens continue to suffer undue economic hardships due to the problems of limited availability and premium escalations of insurance coverage; and WHEREAS, a fundamental cause of Alaska continuing liability crisis is the increasing and unpredictable size of damage awards and settlements; and WHEREAS, backlogged courts, windfall verdicts, high transaction costs of our legal system and escalating liability insurance prices are symptoms of the need for clear and decisive reforms; and WHEREAS, there exists a widespread awareness of the need for change and some legislative reforms have been enacted, the need for comprehensive, fair and reasonable reforms has not been satisfied; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports legislative measures which will: 1) adopt a standard of pure civil liability for Alaska; 2) place a \$100,000 cap, without exceptions, on the award of non-economic damages; 3) clarify that punitive civil damages must be supported to clear and convincing evidence of fraud, malice, gross negligence or reckless misconduct; 4) allow either the defendant or the plaintiff to request a structured settlement for future damages; 5) eliminate double-dip recoveries, whereby a plaintiff receives monies from multiple sources for the same damages; 6) eliminates Court Rule 82, whose interest was to curtail frivolous suits by requiring losing litigants to pay court costs, but whose inequitable application has only added to the costs borne by every Alaskan insurance consumer; and 7) establish a meaningful statute of limitations.

## **CHILDREN/FAMILY**

### **FOR CHILDREN**

WHEREAS, children and youth, our future leaders, need adult care and protection; THERE-

FORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports legislation requiring: 1) criminal history records of public school employees and other public child care workers; 2) registration of convicted adult child, sex offenders who reside in or move into the State of Alaska.

#### **SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY**

WHEREAS, the family is and should remain the most important unit in the country; and WHEREAS, the future welfare and freedom of our country and its citizens depend upon responsible and well-adjusted citizens; and WHEREAS, most young children are healthier both mentally and physically in the home; and WHEREAS, children should be the responsibility of their parents and family rather than the State; and WHEREAS, the present practices of Federal, State and Local governments encourage child care of children outside the home; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports legislation that advocates and encourages parental care of children within the home and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the Holloway Bill (HR3944,S,2187) or any other bill which encourages parental care of children within the home through the use of tax credits.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES/ SOVEREIGNTY/SUBSISTENCE**

#### **MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT**

WHEREAS, development of Alaska's mineral resources for market creates jobs and is essential to long-term economic development of our State; and WHEREAS, Usibelli Coal Mine has developed a market and signed long-term contracts with Pacific Rim nations; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports further development of Alaska's mineral resources and opposes any increase in resource extraction taxes or lease payments.

#### **CRAB CATCHER PROCESSORS**

WHEREAS, King Crab and Tanner Crab catcher-processors work offshore out of reach of any monitoring by enforcement agencies; and WHEREAS, without enforcement monitoring, the catcher-processors are able to take undersized, juvenile and female crab, to the detriment of the future stock;

and WHEREAS, crab caught and processed outside State water by catcher-processors are exempt from the State's raw fish tax, giving them an economic advantage over Alaskan-based processors; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that crab catcher-processors be required to process their catch in designated bays accessible to enforcement officials.

#### **TONGASS**

WHEREAS, the forest products industry is the backbone of the economy in Southeast Alaska, dependent upon the Tongass National Forest for its supply of timber; and WHEREAS, in establishing the Tongass National Forest, Congress guaranteed a stable source of timber to be harvested, using good management practices, as well as 5.4 million acres of wilderness as a legacy for future generations; and WHEREAS, proposed legislation would jeopardize the timber industry, resulting in economic disaster to the State of Alaska; and WHEREAS, Alaska's resources should be primarily used to benefit Alaskan residents; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska opposes the Tongass Timber Reform Act.

#### **ESCAPEMENT GOALS AND CATCH LIMITS**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has exclusive authority to set escapement goals and catch limits; and WHEREAS, the Department of Fish and Game has not determined the optimum escape levels for many streams in the State; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the yearly management plan setting an escapement goal and catch, be approved by the Board of Fisheries.

#### **MARICULTURE**

WHEREAS, Alaska's wild fisheries natural resource is the cornerstone of the Alaskan fishing economy; and WHEREAS, the many-unanswered questions concerning fish disease and its impact upon wild stocks, market conditions, profitability, the total economic effects to the State of Alaska, and the degree to which the State is willing to support and subsidize the aquatic farming of finfish dictate a cautious approach to fish farming; and WHEREAS, no thorough study of the total economic effects of finfish farming has been made; and WHEREAS, the pen-rearing of finfish is not specifically addressed in Alaska State statutes or regulations; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the the Republican Party of Alaska opposes the aquatic farming of finfish in

saltwater at this time, and urges the State of Alaska to fulfill its obligation as steward of our natural resources by enacting legislation requiring a comprehensive study of the economic, social, political and legal ramifications of the establishment of a pen-reared finfish industry; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE Republican Party of Alaska urges the Alaska State Legislature to enact legislation prohibiting the issuing of permits for, or the construction of, pen-reared finfish farms in saltwater, pending completion of the above-designated study.

#### **TIMBER**

WHEREAS, Alaska's forests are one of our truly renewable resources; and WHEREAS, multiple use, through modern forest practices maintain the viability of Alaska's timber industry and the economic stability of Alaskan communities; and WHEREAS, Congress must abide by its 50-year contracts with the Southeast pulp companies, as well as subsequent commitments under the Alaska National Interest Conservation Act; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that no further withdrawals of State, Federal or Park Lands be enacted; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska encourages maximum local processing of Alaska's timber.

#### **FISH ESCAPEMENT AND CATCH LIMITS**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game has exclusive authority to set escapement goals and catch limits; and WHEREAS the Department of Fish and Game has not determined the optimum escapement levels for many streams in Alaska; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Title 16 be amended to require the yearly management plan setting escapement goals and catch limits be approved by the Board of Fisheries.

#### **FREE TRADE ZONE**

WHEREAS, Alaska needs an infusion of new and vigorous businesses; and WHEREAS, the economic base for the State would be broadened; and WHEREAS there is a need to stimulate foreign trade; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a policy and comprehensive plan for Free Trade Zones be encouraged in Alaska.

#### **PRIVATE EXPANSION OF ALASKA TRADE WITH PACIFIC RIM COUNTRIES**

WHEREAS the State of Alaska has a vast re-

serve of other industrial resources; ie. timber, fishing, minerals and energy; and WHEREAS many Pacific Rim countries would like to do business with Alaska directly; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United States and the State of Alaska works to insure the expeditious development of private expansion of Alaska trade with Pacific Rim countries.

#### **ANWR**

WHEREAS, the coastal plain of ANWR contains the most promising onshore oil and gas provinces in North America; and WHEREAS, Congress is currently considering legislation that would open portions of ANWR to oil and gas exploration; and WHEREAS, Congress has, through the Statehood Act, granted 90% of the royalty on oil and gas production from federal lands in the State of Alaska; and WHEREAS, the oil industry operations, being consistent with legitimate environmental concerns, have demonstrated that it can operate in an environmentally-responsible manner through nearly two decades of activities on the North Slope; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Republican Party of Alaska would urge exploration and development of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in accordance with past royalty grants and legitimate environmental concerns that have proven beneficial for all Americans.

#### **MILITARY SUPPORT**

WHEREAS, Alaska's geographical proximity to the Soviet Union renders it of increasing strategic military importance; and WHEREAS, the continued growth of the military community in Alaska provides both increased security and economic stimulus; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the further development of both active duty and National Guard and Alaska National Guard components in the State; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that home porting of naval vessels in Alaska deserves active support.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

The Constitution of the state of Alaska, Article VIII, mandates the State of Alaska to develop its resources to the best interest of the people of the State; and WHEREAS, the development is one of the most valuable resources available to the State; and WHEREAS, development of Alaska's traditional economics could be promoted by 1) a stable tax policy; 2) reducing and consolidating government regula-

tions; 3) limiting mineral closing orders; and 4) improving access to resource areas, including asserting access rights under RS 2477; and WHEREAS, production of minerals in sensitive areas can be controlled in such a manner that the development will have minimal impact on the environment and WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act provides that states may assume permitting of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permits (NPDES) for separate segments of its industry, and all waters in the State of Alaska do not naturally meet drinking water criteria; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that our elected officials follow their path of office in upholding Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Republican Party of Alaska favors management of Alaska's resources in the most positive manner, including assumption of NPDES Permits, realistic water classification, RS 2477 assertion, stable taxing, no blanket closing orders and consolidated regulations for the benefit of all Alaska's residents.

#### **MAT-SU BOROUGH TIMBER SALE**

WHEREAS, the technology exists to harvest and process northern forest species without sacrificing environmental quality; and WHEREAS, environmental safeguards in State law are sufficient to protect streams and fish and wildlife habitat; and WHEREAS, well-planned, orderly development of commercial State forest lands in this area will bring jobs for people in a time of recession and high unemployment; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's effort to convince the Governor to proceed with a timber sale in the region and to establish an environmentally-sound and value-added forest products industry in the Susitna Basin, which addresses proper multi-use concerns.

#### **FIELD RESEARCH LAB**

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is just beginning to realize the necessity of adequate scientific research upon which to base decisions, manifest by the introduction of legislation that would establish an Alaska Science Foundation and Science Research Building; and WHEREAS, Section 104(e) of the Clean Water Act mandated the Environmental Protection Agency to establish, equip and maintain a field research laboratory in the State of Alaska and to conduct research into Alaska's unique climatic conditions; and WHEREAS, the aforementioned

field research laboratory was established at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks but was discontinued in 1979 and its duties switched to the Corvallis, Oregon laboratory; and WHEREAS, EPA had developed regulations for water discharges for industries and municipalities and for air quality for municipalities without the benefit of scientific research and are enforcing those regulations; and WHEREAS, Alaska has vastly different climatic problems from Corvallis, Oregon, requiring creative solutions to deal with such problems as air and water quality; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska go on record as requesting the U.S. EPA to establish, equip and maintain a field research laboratory in the State of Alaska as managed by the Clean Water Act; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Republican Party of Alaska request our Congressional Delegation to make whatever effort is necessary to insure that Alaska will once again have the benefit of this laboratory.

#### **TRADE DEFICIT AND NORTH SLOPE NATURAL GAS**

WHEREAS, the combined trade deficit with Japan, Korea and Taiwan totalled over \$80 billion last year; and WHEREAS, in January of this year, President Reagan approved the export of Alaska North Slope natural gas; and WHEREAS, the marketing of that gas is the largest annual multi-billion dollar trade opportunity the U.S. has pending with these nations, over \$3 billion a year of net exports; and WHEREAS, this five-year construction project would create 10,500 jobs and when complete, generate nearly a half-billion dollars a year in revenue to both the State and Federal governments; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska calls on the National Party meeting in Convention this August to include in its platform, a strong plank that when America has a commodity, such as this sale, competitive in price and with a long-term, secure source of supply, these nations, whom we have done so much for to protect and assist with their economic growth, should be allowed to buy from America.

#### **ECONOMIC LIMIT FACTOR**

WHEREAS, the Economic Limit Factor (ELF) has been successful in encouraging the oil industry to explore for and develop new and marginal oil fields in Alaska, such as the Endicott, Lisburne fields and others; and WHEREAS, this activity benefits the residents of the State of Alaska through increased

royalty revenues and expanded employment opportunity for all Alaskans; and WHEREAS, any change in this policy would have negative effect on the State's largest source of income, namely the oil industry, as well as other supporting industries; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska strongly recommends that *NO CHANGES* be made regarding the ELF.

## STATE GOVERNMENT

### LEGISLATIVE COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Republican members of the State Legislature have exhibited great courage in taking stands on a number of issues that may be unpopular; and WHEREAS, the Republican Party of Alaska, in the assembled convention, is proud of their legislators; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention commends the Republican legislators for their actions and congratulates them. Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded, via telegram, to all Republican legislators.

### RIGHT TO PETITION

WHEREAS, Alaskans have the right to petition for ballot issues and it is our contention that no department of the State of Alaska should ever supersede the wishes of Alaska's people; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska formally endorses this resolution to reaffirm that constitutional right to petition.

### PERMANENT FUND — UNDISTRIBUTED INCOME

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of the State of Alaska supports the concept that the Permanent Fund is a trust fund for all Alaskans; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports passage of an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska which would require that any use of the permanent fund's undistributed income be submitted to the people of the State of Alaska for an affirmative vote.

### STATE HIRE

WHEREAS, the Alaskan economy benefits from employment of its residents; and WHEREAS, competition for available work is substantial; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the concept of State hire through

voluntary programs, including financial incentives and public recognition.

### TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has succeeded in buying the Alaska Railroad System; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska encourages the State to promote a "fast track" method of extending the line across Federal lands to expedite resource development and tourism.

## NATIONAL ISSUES

### VIETNAM VETERANS

WHEREAS, many young Americans served in the defense of freedom and justice in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam; and WHEREAS, over 50,000 of them died in that defense and many more were physically and psychologically maimed; and WHEREAS, America's withdrawal from Indochina resulted in the murder of thousands of pro-western Laotians and Vietnamese and millions of innocent cambodians; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska express our deepest gratitude to our Vietnam war veterans for faithfully fighting for our country and ideals in a just war.

### GROVE CITY COLLEGE BILL

WHEREAS, segments of the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988 will cause excess Federal interference in the private and religious sector with great potential for burdensome regulations, under the disguise of civil rights wording; and WHEREAS, the Republican Party is strongly in favor of civil rights for all citizens of the United States, but are opposed to excess and unnecessary government regulations falsely portrayed using Civil Rights language to gain passage; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska will work toward the repeal of the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988 or amendments to said Act that will limit government infringement in the private and religious sector while guaranteeing true civil rights.

### AMERICAN LABOR

WHEREAS, certain foreign countries, other than those with reciprocal agreements, restrict American contract competition; and WHEREAS, there is a need to stimulate domestic employment overall; and WHEREAS, Federal and State projects

## HUMAN RESOURCES

are funded by tax monies; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all qualified work paid for by tax monies should be performed by American-owned and operated firms, who employ American trade labor, where possible.

### SUPPORT OF CONTRA AID

WHEREAS, President Reagan supports Contra Aid to Nicaragua; and WHEREAS, the Contras are continuing an ongoing effort to oppose the spread of communism to the American continents; and WHEREAS, Congress has insisted upon denying aid to this effort; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska urges support of President Reagan's military and humanitarian aid to the Contra effort.

### PRESIDENT REAGAN

WHEREAS, few presidents in this century have accomplished as much for the United States as President Ronald Reagan; and WHEREAS, his magnetic personality, genuine humility, personal dedication and skillful leadership with an often-unfriendly Congress, has made an enormous impact on the moral tone and direction of America; and WHEREAS, his two-term presidency has dramatically improved the strength and morale of our armed services, improved the chances of world peace and his domestic policies have curbed runaway inflation, lowered interest rates and increased employment; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska does hereby communicate its sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to President Reagan and his strong helpmate, Nancy Reagan.

### FEDERAL BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Federal deficit has not been reduced adequately because of Congress's irresponsibility; and WHEREAS, the President does not presently have the authority for a line-item veto; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska urges Congress to pass a balanced budget amendment to allow for line-item veto by the President.

### JONES ACT

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the exemption of the State of Alaska from the Jones Act.

### CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

WHEREAS, corporal punishment as a disciplinary tool has been an effective method for maintaining control and building character in children since time immemorial, and private schools have proven it as a reasonable and effective method of discipline; and WHEREAS, some families and institutions hold to corporal punishment as a matter of conviction as one tool in child discipline; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports parentally-approved corporal punishment in public, private and home-schooling education.

### IN SUPPORT OF SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution provides that no law shall prohibit the free exercise of religion; and WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has compulsory education laws and general interest in ensuring our children have a quality education; and WHEREAS, the ministry and education in the church schools cannot be separated; and WHEREAS, the State's reporting requirements and regulation of the church schools are an infringement on the protections offered under the Alaska Constitution; and WHEREAS, the State can obtain information about children attending church schools through parents, thereby eliminating the necessity for direct reporting requirements and other unnecessary regulations by the State, and still enable the schools to meet education standards; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska is opposed to any direct reporting requirements or standards imposed upon church schools by the State of Alaska.

### OPPOSITION TO PORNOGRAPHY

WHEREAS, the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography has amply documented the offensive and harmful effects of pornography; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska continues to sponsor and support any legislation which can achieve further limitation of production or distribution of pornography in all forms, and in particular, child pornography, to the maximum extent that can be achieved without exceeding constitutional restraints on limiting freedom of speech or freedom of the press.

### SCHOOL-BASED CLINICS

WHEREAS, some interest groups have advocated the establishment of school-based health clinics (SBCs), as an answer to preventing unwanted-

ed teen pregnancies in the High Schools and Junior Highs; and WHEREAS, it is the avowed policy of any SBC to distribute contraceptives and make abortion referrals for minors without parental knowledge or consent; and WHEREAS studies have shown that SBC's have not reduced the pregnancy rate, but merely the birth rate among experimental groups; and WHEREAS, sexual promiscuity would not be condoned as an acceptable lifestyle for our unmarried young people in Junior and Senior High School; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska opposes the establishment of School-based Health Clinics that will engage in the distribution of contraceptives, make referrals for abortion, or advocate a policy in which parents will not be informed as to their children being the recipients of such services.

#### **RIGHT TO LIVE**

WHEREAS, each and every human being has the unalienable right to fulfill its expected life span without danger from this government; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska hereby proclaims unremitting opposition to either federal or state funding of any abortion that does not constitute a clear and demonstrable threat to the life of its mother. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports a constitutional amendment protecting the lives of unborn children from the time of conception.

#### **AIDS**

WHEREAS, AIDS is a communicable disease that results in death for 100% of its victims; and WHEREAS, the general population needs to be able to protect itself from contracting the AIDS virus; and WHEREAS, AIDS victims are in need of comfort and care; and WHEREAS, prevention is vital to stopping the spread of AIDS; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska believes that strong efforts be made to find a cure for the AIDS disease, and that those presently infected be identified and cared for in ways that protect their caregivers from infection; and BE IT RESOLVED that testing be a lawful requirement for any individual in high-risk groups, and that it be considered a criminal offense, if after having been informed of contraction of the disease, that person would engage in an activity that may transmit said disease.

#### **EDUCATIONAL FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the President's Task Force on education in America has clearly shown a catastrophic decline in the level of learning by the nation's students; and WHEREAS the current method of spending greater amounts of tax dollars to alleviate the problem has clearly been unsuccessful; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party platform unequivocally supports government that exists to protect the freedom of each individual, not to restrict it; and WHEREAS, the Republican Party believes that government nearest the people is the best government, and that local control of education should be returned to the community; and WHEREAS, the Republican Party holds to the belief that private enterprise and the competitive spirit that it engenders yields a better product when allowed to flourish unrestricted by government; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the system of educational funding be revised to allow tax credits or other financial incentives which would provide parents more financial flexibility in choosing a public or private education for their children; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we oppose spending government funds for mandatory pre-schools, for children under the age of six.

#### **DRUG TESTING**

WHEREAS, we believe employers should have the right to create a safe work environment and WHEREAS, the use of illegal substances have proven to be a safety hazard; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska supports the position of drug and alcohol testing in such cases where the employer has probable cause to believe that on-the-job abuse exists.

#### **FOOD HANDLER HEALTH CERTIFICATE**

WHEREAS, there are currently no State laws requiring the testing for communicable diseases for food handlers working in the State of Alaska; and WHEREAS, the contraction of such communicable diseases results in great losses in terms of productivity, human suffering and expensive health care, along with the potential for loss of life; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Republican Party of Alaska that all commercial food handlers be required to undergo pre-employment and annual testing for all communicable diseases.

#### **MANDATED MEDICAL COVERAGES**

WHEREAS, the fastest-rising component of the Consumer Price Index over the past 20 years has been medical care costs; and WHEREAS, the number of such disability-insurance providers is already limited to a relatively small group of companies, and WHEREAS, mandating extensive additional coverage for mental and nervous disorders/alcoholism and drug abuse will likely further reduce this already-small number, thus giving Alaskans fewer choices regarding health care coverage; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska opposes CSSB363 and House CS fir CSSB67; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Alaska opposes any "mandated" coverages.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

FROM: LOUISE HOWERTER  
CONCERNED RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
PAT MARLIN  
CONCERNED RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

WE RECOMMEND:

1. THE TEN MEMBER BOARD SHOULD BE COMPRISED OF FOUR WOMEN OF THE DEMOCRAT PARTY, FOUR WOMEN OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, AND TWO NON-PARTISAN MEMBERS
2. THE LENGTH OF TERM SHOULD BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN TWO YEARS SERVED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION *Limit Number of terms*
3. THE COMMISSION SHOULD NOT TAKE SIDES NOR SUPPORT ANY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OR FOR THAT MATTER, ANY ISSUE BUT SHOULD STATE BOTH SIDES OF AN ISSUE AND LET OTHERS MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS
4. SHOULD NOT USE MONIES FUNDED THEM TO RESEARCH OR STUDY ISSUES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN STUDIED AND RESEARCHED BY OTHER AGENCIES SUCH AS: STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, EEO, ETC.
5. SHOULD NOT SPONSOR CONTROVERSIAL WORKSHOPS THAT ARE OF INTEREST TO ONLY A SAMLL PER CENTAGE OF ALASKAN WOMEN BUT SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SPONSOR WORKSHOPS THAT WOULD BE OF A MORE PRACTICAL NATURE AND GREATER VALUE TO THE MAJORITY OF ALASKAN WOMEN
6. REVIEW FUNDING REQUEST FOR SALARIES, ETC.
7. MEMBERS BE APPOINTED BY THE LEGISLATURE RATHER THAN THE GOVERNOR
8. THE COMMISSION EQUALLY AND FAIRLY REPRESENT ALL ALASKAN WOMEN IN IMPROVING THEIR STATUS OR WHAT EVER THE NEED OR BE ABOLISHED

FINAL STATEMENT: THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ALREADY GUARANTEED EVERY MAN AND WOMAN EQUALITY AND THE RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS...WITH THESE TOOLS IN HAND, ANY MAN OR WOMAN CAN EARN FOR THEMSELVES HUMAN DIGNITY IN ANY FACET OF LIFE AND ELEVATE THEMSELF TO ANY HEIGHT THEY SO DESIRE IN LIFE...IF THEY BE DENIED THIS GOAL BY ANY OTHER ENTITY OTHER THAN THEMSELVES...THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IS THEIR TO ASSIST THEM.

Sue Miller

# ADDENDUM # 1

## STUDY Packet on Alaska Womens' Commission

- ) Goals
- ) legislation supported
- ) Conferences, Seminars, Workshops
- ) Studies Conducted
- ) T.V., Books, Pamphlets published

Goals of Womens' Commission  
Source: Status Reports 1982-1987

1. Conduct and promote political actions on womens' issues:
  - A. needs of Alaska's women
  - B. extend life of commission
  - C. improve government agency services for women

Attachment

1/26/89 am

2. Identify economic needs/status of native women
3. comprehensive media campaign-issues pertinent to women
4. Re: Women and Employment :Monitor and comment on legislation.  
Convince legislature to keep adequate data on women  
Need for studies
5. Sponsor regional conferences
- \* 6. Update information on health care for women *Reproductive Rights*
7. Increase visibility of Commission through projects, leadership.  
Conferences
8. Recommend affirmative action goal 42.5% work on Alaska natural gas pipeline.
9. Poll on womens' most pressing issues.
10. Help AKPIRG develop statewide directory of child care facilities.
11. Network with womens' organizations
12. Study on Sex Equity in Education.

Goals from Lisa Rudd's speech on a Historical Perspective:

- \* 1. Abortion Regulations: Do hospitals which refuse to perform abortions receive public funds? "Although we've made tremendous strides in Alaska to liberalize abortion laws and make abortion available to women, we must be continuously alert to attempts to turn back this progress...terrorist attacks on abortion clinics
2. Eliminate sex designations in Help Wanted Ads.
- X 3. Get women to run for office.
4. Eliminate sex discriminatory laws.
- X 5. Eliminate sex stereotyping in Textbooks *Sex roles denied*
6. Tax exemption for child care expenses.
7. Make it possible for single women to get loans.

Legislation supported:

1. Increase Commissions' budget from \$326,700 to \$407,200
- X 2. SB266 Neutral Pronouns in state statutes.
- + 3. SB547 Testimony of Young Victims (sexual offenses) videotaping
4. HB174 Public Assistance Grants - extend to pregnant women and raise AFDC grant amounts.

5. HB210 Shared Custody-of child to both parents if in child's interest.

6. HB287 Displaced Homemaker and Domestic Violence-job counseling, training and placement, health & legal counseling & financial management and educational services. Perpetrators of domestic violence ordered to get personal or family counseling, restrained from entering vehicles owned or occupied by the victim. Victim definition includes live-in arrangements.

*this program failed*

\* 7. SB386 Displaced homemaker - reduces time person must wait to qualify for program from 7 to 3 years.

\* 8. Comparable worth then called pay equity, now called state reclassification of wage scales.

\* 9. SJR1 asks U.S. Congress to propose an Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the states for their consideration.

\* 10. Children and Youth, criminal justice, education, employment, equity, health, homemakers, minority and rural women, peace, (disarmament) economics and women in public life.

11. Assignment of Retirement Benefits in Domestic Relations Cases- retirement benefits be considered as assets in divorce settlements.

\* 12. HB493 Changing discriminatory language in existing laws.

13. HB496 Change in dissolution and divorce laws -Allowing alimony during divorce proceedings and payment of attorney's fees for the needy spouse, requiring greater judicial review of dissolutions.

14. HB497 Greater judicial review in child custody cases; making both parents liable for a child's actions.

15. HB498 Changing what is currently admissible evidence in sexual assault cases.

16. HB499 changing the inheritance and probate laws to increase spouse's share of an estate from one-third to one-half, and making unpaid child support the first debt to be paid upon death.

X 17. Eliminating gender based insurance } *increased womens' premiums*

18. Continuing health insurance for divorced, widowed and dependents

19. Prosecuting the patrons of prostitution.

20. Repealing certain veteran's benefits regarding state housing.

21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 see next page

### Commission's legislative report card

The first session of the 1985 Alaska State Legislature passed, and Gov. Bill Sheffield signed into law, half of the bills endorsed by the Alaska Women's Commission. Of the 12 bills that were part of the Commission's Platform, the House passed seven, Senate passed six, and Sheffield signed all six into law.

The following chart lists the Commission-backed bills and shows how they fared during the 1985 legislative session.

LEGISLATION	PRIME SPONSOR	HOUSE	SENATE	GOV.
HB 92 - Child and Spousal Support. Strengthens the Child Support Enforcement Agency's ability to collect past due child support payments and allows for Mandatory Income Withholding after payment is in arrears more than one month.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 67 - Hearsay Evidence in Child Sex Cases. Allows hearsay evidence in grand jury proceedings for victims of sexual assault under 10 years of age.	Rep. Randy Phillips	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 147 - Equal Employment Opportunity. Creates a Division of Equal Employment Opportunity within the Office of the Governor.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-7-85
SB 27 - Appropriations. Appropriates funds to the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for training teams on intervention/investigation of physical and sexual assault.	Senator Jan Faiks	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-6-85
SB 29 - Domestic Violence and Sexual Offenses. Changes the definition of Domestic Violence, and makes marital rape a crime.	Senator Jan Faiks	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
SB 172 - Council on DV/SA Sunset. Extends the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault until 6-30-89.	Senate State Affairs	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 194 - Harrassment. Outlines the punishment for offenses including harrassment on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, etc.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	In Judiciary	No Action	
HB 237 - Pension Reform. Allows the assignment of retirement benefits to satisfy divorce and child support. Spouse becomes automatic beneficiary.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	In State Affairs	
HB 238 - Retirement Benefits. Changes maternity to parental leave; increases parental leave without pay from 9 to 16 weeks; and, allows employees to purchase back retirement credit while on parental leave.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	In Rules	No Action	
HB 262 - Day Care in State Office Buildings. Would create day care centers in state office buildings. <i>increased expense</i>	Rep. Don Clocksin	In Finance	No Action	
SB 92 - Supplemental Benefits. Amends state employee benefit system to create additional benefit options including day care.	Senate Rules for Gov. Sheffield	No Action	In Finance	
SB 165 - Day Care in State Office Buildings. Would facilitate the establishment of day care centers in state office buildings.	Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp	No Action	In Finance	

## Conference, Seminars, Workshops

1. 1983: "Making the system work for you."  
Participants: Human Rights Commission, League of Women Voters, Women in Crisis Counseling and Assistance Womens' World Banking, Alaska Native Womens' Statewide Organization, Ironworker Union Member
- X 2. 1983: Teleconference on health issues (Need, state-funded health insurance, family planning, sex education, reproductive freedom)
3. "Work and Network": Southeast Alaska's Immediate Future for Women Train Women for permanent jobs in U.S. Borax mine, Misty Fjords. And, Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project.  
Support affirmative action goals for minority, Women hire
4. "Southeast Women's Conference"
5. "Norton Sound Women's Conference"
6. "Kodiak Women's Conference"
- X 7. Feminist Fly-In - "N.O.W." chairman stated concerns: ERA, Women's Commission and Child care.
8. Labor Union Workshop with Coalition of Labor Union Women. Why don't women apply for trade apprenticeships in great numbers, why they drop out of these programs at a higher rate than men and why women let men represent their concerns at the bargaining table.
9. Barriers to Employment Conference with Alaska State Advisory Council on Vocational and Career Education - 1 of 17 sponsoring agencies.
10. U.N. Conference on Women, Nairobi, Kenya
- X 11. 1985: "At the Edge of Opportunity: on Women, the Economy and Public Policy. Purpose: economic status of women.  
Participants:  
Pat Schroeder: families belong on the feminist frontier because economics is the key to the family's survival.  
Betty Friedan: "Change not only female role, but also male role in society....Traditional lifestyle confined each one of us without consideration for our individual needs or aspirations." Pain of being bound in sexual stereotypes...This new man must have choice to say 'no' to the old patterns and search for new values."  
Governor Sheffield: "society doesn't recognize economic value of woman in the home or workforce. Need of classification, study of all state positions to see if women are paid less than men for comparable work."

Same as  
comparable worth  
or  
pay equity

*largest intrusion of government in private lives ever*

Ms. Reuss: Legislative Director of Women's Equity Action League. Asks support for the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985. "The act seeks to preserve affirmative action, reproductive choice, survival programs as food stamps, school nutrition, Medicare and Medicaid. "... a man steals 42 cents for every dollar's worth of work we do and we aren't reporting it and no one's in jail!" ...

It is a man's issue, and if men don't make it their issue, we are going to stop having children. Not because we want to, but because we can't afford to have them."

Brenda Itta:

"..train the younger people in the intangible values, concentrate on the value of good character"

*Lisa Rudd:*

"Things We Might Want to Act On": Abortion rights, abolishing sex designations in help wanted ads, establishment of a women's commission, getting women to run for public office, eliminating sex discrimination laws elimination of sex stereotypes in textbooks, tax exemptions for child care expenses, helping single women get loans, development of more part-time jobs, increased day care.

*Now deceased*

Workshops: Emphasis economics: "I learned that to be safe economically, I need to be employable." Letter writing campaigns, networking, "keeping legislators feet to the fire."

Workshop titles:

"Breaking the Poverty Cycle (AFDC and Child Support Enforcement)

"The Importance of Health I and II (reproductive rights, health education for children, finding long term care for dependents. Supports the development of health curriculum to include values clarification) and informed choice making throughout Alaska's schools.

"Insuring our Future: laws of insurance, pensions, retirement systems and current efforts to reform them so that women and children treated equally;

"Alaska Legislative agenda for Women" Sherrie Goll, Suzanne Lombardi, Betty Ramage and Senator Arliss Sturgulewski: Remove marital rape exemption, fund displaced homemaker programs, pension reform, continue council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, day care in state office buildings, child support enforcement, quality education in all programs, k-post secondary, increased funding for day care assistance programs.

"Equal Pay: The Case for Alaska: That market value not be a justification for pay disparity in jobs otherwise determined to be of comparable worth. That should the current classification study of the state personnel system determine that pay disparity exists in state jobs of comparable worth, the Legislature and Administration quickly implement changes and funding increases to achieve pay equity.

"Education Means a Better Future": educational equity, Commission support for Civil R' Restoration Act of 1985.

"Rural and Bush Issues: Fund J.O.M., appoint women to boards and commissions, correspondence courses for people in bush.

"Caring for Families While We Work: - Child care #1; funding, training, new child care services as information and referral and centers in all state office buildings. flex time, job sharing and "cafeteria" benefit plans

"Differently-abled: Public Policy and the Handicapped Woman Commission consider disability issues a priority as a woman's issue; support concept and funding for a Commission for disabled persons.

\* "Public Policy and the Lesbian: How Do We Survive": Support legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, public facility use, child custody and insurance provision for partners. Support public education on lesbian issues. This should include lesbian membership on steering committees, on workshop panels, as keynote speakers and as the subject of educational materials developed by the Commission.

Showed "The Birth Project" a needlework show.

Pioneer and elder women honored: Clothilde Bahovec and Jeanne James.

12. Leadership Seminars, Juneau: "Women in Corrections", (the needs of the family while the parents are in prison, and assistance inmates need to develop economic potential for life outside of prison.  
Fairbanks: "Women in Politics"

13. Grants for Regional Conferences:  
Huslia, organized by Huslia Headstart Parent Committee  
Bethel, Family Spirit Conference  
Wasilla, Valley Women's Conference  
Sitka, Sitka Women's Council

14. 1/2 day Seminar-Juneau: "Women in Prison: Does the Justice System Work for you?"

#### Studies Conducted

1. Status of Alaska Native Women
2. 3 month review of state laws to determine extent of sex discrimination.
3. Study Educational Equity -equal opportunity in all course offerings, guidance and counseling, recreational and athletic activities. "Unless female students are encouraged to enter fields that will provide upward mobility and higher pay, as well as personal satisfaction, women will continue to dominate the poverty population in this country."

T.V./Books/Pamphlets Published

The Alaska Women's Commission was formed as a result of the writing of Dorothy Jones, the major author of "A Preliminary Study: The Status of Women in Alaska."

1. "Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women: Profiles in Political Change"
2. Service spots media campaign: downplay sex-role stereotypes Shows people in a variety of positive roles: dual-career, long married couple, people discussing women's leadership achievements, rural and urban Native women in a variety of contrasting roles, government grant writer vs. midwife.
3. Brochures to schools, community groups and individuals encouraging their participation in Women's History Month.
4. Elaine Hultengren's photo exhibit documenting Alaska Women's history from 1945-1965
5. "Women's Legal Rights in Alaska"
6. "Directory of Women's Organizations"
7. "A Sense of History: A Reference guide to Alaska's Women, 1896-1985"
8. Poster - "A Timeline of 'first' accomplishments achieved by Alaska women from 1877-1985."

This is the Preliminary Proposal from the Task Force on Women's Issues.

Submitted by Sue Miller

TASK FORCE WOMENS' ISSUES

Background: There is \$228,000 in the 1988 Alaska State Budget for a womens' Commission.

The womens' commission that has been in place since 1978 has been sunsetted by the legislature.

36 Representatives and 14 Senators have signed a letter to the Governor requesting a continuation of the womens' commission and given a letter of intent that the legislature statutorily re-establish the commission in the next legislation. Some of these signers have indicated that they signed in an election year so as not to appear to be against women, but would approve of a different structure that would represent all women from all elements of society.

The majority of the women who testified to the Senate H.E.S.S. Committee indicated they wanted the commission to expire.

The sunsetted commission is preparing a packet whereby they will be stronger than ever and will present it to the Governor by June 30th.

July 1st the Governor will sign the budget bill and will appoint an interim commission.

.....

What do the women across the state want this interim commission to be?

1. Not the formal structure of a commission, but a forum.
2. A coordinator and provider of information concerning direct services that will direct them to all available resources that can help them receive concrete help for the issues they deal with in their lives.
3. An advocacy role in specific situations.

.....

2

How could such a forum be implemented to wisely use the \$228,300 available?

2

Preliminary Suggestions:

1. 1 paid Director of Womens' Affairs in the Governor's Office. The position would be a coordinator of resources. This position would require only proven organizational ability, knowledge of resources and ability to deal with the public.

2. Have an 800 telephone number in which all women from all elements of society could call in their concerns and problems, needs and issues. A true bipartisan, multiracial forum would result.

3. Have task force of volunteers who would receive travel and per diem to categorize these concerns into specific areas.

4. The task force would assist in identifying all federal, state and private agencies, organizations and individuals who could provide direct service and support to help these women. The task force would research these organizations to ensure accuracy of information regarding the services they provide. No private organization would be discriminated against for placement in this listing.

To help obtain this information, ads would be placed in newspapers and on T.V. to ask organizations to respond if they are providing services to women.

5. The task force would develop a large directory of such available services with descriptions that would be printed and made available in all libraries, service organizations L.I.O's and other agencies.

6. Full time clerical help would need to be hired on a permanent basis to input this information to a computer. As additional needs arise for writing and printing, such services could be contracted out.

7. Methods of dissemination of information:

a. When the directory is complete, this "Informations to Services" could be made available to small conferences statewide which would disseminate the availability of the resource developed and instructions on how to use the directory. Various speakers representative of organizations providing services could be present to explain how they may help.

b. T.V. and radio spots informing women of the 800 number and the information to services directory would enable most women to hear of the availability of this help.

c. If there are sufficient monies, information could also be disseminated that women could be transported to the area/organization whereby they could obtain help.

If the structure formed to help women could be a forum as described above, this forum would help identify areas of need where there are no private or public organizations to help and could encourage women to form those support groups to assist in these areas.

Such a forum would satisfy the pluralistic needs and philosophies of all women.

Such a forum would encourage the private sector to be a true partner with government in acknowledging the function of government as providing the forum whereby needs are discovered, and yet enabling them to fulfill their function of providing for the needs.

.....

What needs to be done to get a hearing for this new proposed structure for the interim commission?

1. A multiracial, bipartisan task force of women need to agree on the need for a new, creative way to deal with womens' issues.
2. This task force needs to meet briefly and refine the above suggestions, write a letter of proposal for this idea.
3. This task force needs to get an appointment with Gary Peska and explain this idea.
4. This task force needs to request an appointment with the Governor from Mr. Peska to re-explain this concept.
5. This task force needs to ask their friends to write Governor Cowper asking that he consider changing the complex of the womens' Commission he will enact through administrative order, from a formal structure to a forum with any or all of the ideas listed above.

Steve Cowper, Governor  
 Third Floor, State Capitol  
 P.O. Box A, Juneau 99811

.....

Time Frame

1. Task force meet no later than June 6,7 or 8.
  2. Task force meet with Gary Peska as soon as possible thereafter, no later than 13th of June.
  3. Task force meet with Governor any time after 15th of June, but some days before July 1st when he signs the bill.
- .....

Those expressing interest in being on a multiracial, bipartisan task force.

Mary Maclinton....Democrat...Black....	789-1840
Barb Petersen.....Republican.Eskimo...	586-9076
Jackie Paradise...Independent.White...	789-5535 wk
	789-3035
Marilyn Freymueller.Republican.White..	789-7243
Sally Pate.....Independent..White..	586-5805

Facsimile Message

1 Page

JAN 26 1999

To: Senator Rick Uehling  
Alaska State Senate  
FAX # 465-3841

From: Merritt R. Helfferich  
PO Box 80769  
College, Alaska 99708

Re: Alaska Women's Commission

I am a commissioner of the Interim Alaska Women's Commission. I am also a 30 year resident of Fairbanks. As the only male commissioner of this normally all female organization I bring not only a unique masculine perspective but these many years of observing the society of Alaska to the commission.

These are very difficult times for women and children in Alaska. The situation worsens with a decline in the economy. I believe this research and information Commission is needed even more now than it was several years ago. I am impressed with the organization.

For the past couple of years the Commission's energies were being sapped by efforts put into the annual political battle to continue the Commission. This is nonsense. This year we decided that the Commission must return to putting its primary effort into the mission of the Commission and let others take the brunt of the argument for its continuance.

The Commission has appointed a new, dynamic and knowledgeable Director. It has reexamined its products and started on addressing some of the terrible problems for women (and child mothers) in the rural areas of Alaska. It feels that it is important to do research and provide information on the situation of women who are not the upwardly mobile portion of this society.

I feel that this organization provides information that some people do not wish to hear but that we must all hear. I believe the Commission is vitally important for our recognition of problems that affect the entire society. It is important voice for the resolution of the many long-term expensive and socially disrupting problems of a portion of the society frequently without much of a voice. It is an expression of the conscience of the society.

Please actively support the reauthorization of the Alaska Women's Commission.

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION  
LONG RANGE PLANNING

PROBLEM/ISSUE PRESENT STATUS	IDEAL STATUS	LONG RANGE OBJECTIVE
<u>Employment</u>		
Pay Equity Women earn approximately 62% of male earnings.	100% comparable worth.	Update research, advocate implementation, continue education.
Affirmative Action Losing ground, Office of E.E.O. & Human Rights involved with enforcement.	Employment for percent of population who are qualified.	Education. Advocacy to locate qualified persons. Research on affirmative action in private sector.
Parental Leave Available up to nine weeks unpaid in State employment. Sporadic in private sector.	Parental leave available for women and men.	Advocate for parental leave legislation. Education for private sector.
Employment Practices in Private Sector Women under-represented in management and non-traditional jobs.	Employment equity.	Education. Assist women to obtain management and non-traditional jobs.
Unavailability of Part-Time, Flexible Work Lack policy, nothing uniform.	A policy in public and private sector that permits job sharing.	Research and education.
<u>Watch Dog</u>		
Title IX Underfunded and poorly monitored according to Commission study.	Sex Equity in education. State funding for monitoring and program development.	Establish a formal relationship with Boards of Education & Regents. Request status report from each board.
Court System Inequitable sentencing for women. Inequitable employment of women in court related jobs.	Equity in judicial process for litigants and agents of court.	Research required.
Administrative Review of Regulations and Policies	Gender neutral in language and impact.	Address specific areas of regulations where the potential impact to women is the greatest.
Welfare System Pending reforms. Present system promotes single families and dependence on government.	System that takes care of people's needs but doesn't foster dependency.	Advocate welfare system that empowers women.
Gender Balance on Boards & Commissions	Equal representation on all municipal and state boards.	Solicit women to serve on boards and commissions. Legislation requiring equal representation.
<u>Health</u>		
Fertility Insurance Coverage Presently no coverage.	Insurance coverage.	Review legislation and advocate change.

AK WOMEN'S COMMISSION - LONG RANGE PLANNING

Health Care (Cont.)

Midwifery

Law passed, but no regulations developed for licensing, no insurance.

Develop regulations that allow the practice and the ability to be covered by insurance.

Research and advocate.

Health Care

Inadequate health care for many women, particularly older women.

Adequate health care for all.

Research and advocate for implementation.

Education

Legal Rights Handbook  
Out of print.

Revised and printed.

Revise and print. Add health rights sections. Develop Public Service Announcements on legal rights.

Alienation of Homemakers

Segment of homemakers who feel alienated.

Positive recognition of homemakers.

Develop brochure that includes supportive resources and brings positive message about choices.

Education of Younger Women  
on Equality Issues

Lack of understanding of women's history.

Educated and aware.

Classroom, school papers, sex equity and curriculum development.

Gender Stereotyping

Stereotyping continues.

Elimination of stereotyping.

Develop Public Service Announcements and brochure.

Lack of Political Representation

Unequal political representation.

Equal representation.

Legislation on gender balance. Redistribution of "Making a Difference".

Assertiveness & Empowerment

High rate of violence in relationships. Rural women have no access to training in self esteem.

Breaking cycle of violence, gaining self esteem, assertiveness.

Coordinate with Board of Education, Interim Commission on Children and Youth, Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Council and State Office of Alcohol and Drug Addiction.

Economic Equity

Equity in Divorce/Dissolution  
Pending bill.

Passage of bill.

Passage of bill and education through video and brochure.

Feminization of Poverty

(See Welfare Reform  
Administrative Review  
Pay Equity)

Displaced Homemakers

Lack of services. Lack of data on homemakers.

Comprehensive program of services.

Research and advocacy.

Rural Women

Data Base

No data base.

Data base.

Research. Develop a standardized survey that volunteers conduct. Decennial census.

Isolation

Lack of access to needed services. Lack of jobs.

Access to training, services, job opportunities.

Regional training and conferences. Work with women and regional corporations to advocate change.

STATE OF ALASKA BILL VERSION: CSSB 8 (FIN)  
 1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION PUBLISH DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
**FISCAL NOTE**

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

REVISION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ AGENCY: OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
 TITLE: ACT RELATING TO THE BRU: COMMISSIONS/SPEC.OFFICES  
ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION  
 SPONSOR: FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI COMPONENTS: ALASKA WOMEN'S  
 REQUESTOR: SENATE FINANCE COMMISSION

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)**

	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
OPERATING						
PERS. SERVICES	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2
TRAVEL	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7
CONTRACTUAL	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7
SUPPLIES	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND/BUILD.	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS/CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

**FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)**

GENERAL FUNDS	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9
GF/PRGM	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0
I/A RCPTS	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2
TOTAL	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

**ANALYSIS:**

THE ABOVE FIGURES REFLECT THE GOVERNOR'S FY 90 BUDGET.

PREPARED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SENATOR RICK UEHLING, CO-CHAIRMAN  
 SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 1989  
 PHONE NO.: 465-4821