

S J R

46

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BILL NUMBER SJR 46

SPONSOR Adams

BILL TITLE Support Jt. Commission on Status
of Alaska Natives

DATE REFERRED 4-20-89

HEARING SCHEDULED 4-24-89

FISCAL NOTE PREPARED Shari Kochman, Gov 3500 req 4-24

SPONSOR CONTACTED Marla 3707

INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED

AFN 274-3611

Julie Kitka
Jame Leask

Tele conference

OTHER

I spoke to Julie Kitka this morning. Resolution still not introduced in Congress - working on minor language problems over appointments, etc.

"Much progress was made last week when Julie was in D.C."

Murkowski & Inouye are sending letter today to Senate Pres. & House Speaker letting them know introduction of the resolution is imminent.

No resolution of funding question.

STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSSJR 46 (Staff)
PUBLISH DATE: 4/27/89

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST: _____

REVISION DATE: _____
TITLE: Supporting establishment
of Jt. Commission on Status of Alaska Natives

AGENCY: Office of the Governor
BRU: Commissions and Special Offices

SPONSOR: Adams, Sturgulewski, et al

COMPONENTS: _____

REQUESTOR: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

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

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: The level and source of funding for the Commission is currently under discussion in the U.S. Congress. It is likely that some level of state funding will be necessary. When that level is known, the sponsors of SJR 46 will present a funding proposal to the Legislative Council.

PREPARED BY: Senator Pat Bourchot, Chairman, Senate State Affairs Committee

DATE: 4/27/89

PHONE NO.: 465-3712

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Supporting the establishment of a
Joint Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives...
 Sponsor: Adams, Sturgulewski, et al
 Requestor: Senator Pourcnot

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Commissions and Special Offices
 Components: _____

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-
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

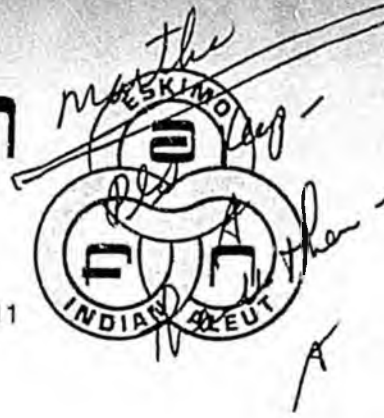
Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director *M. Nizich* Phone: 465-3616
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 4/25/89

Approved by Commissioner: Garrev M. Peska *G. Peska* Date: 4/25/89
 Agency: Chief of Staff

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

ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.

411 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 301 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501 • Phone (907) 274-3611



April 21, 1989

Senator Al Adams
Alaska State Legislature
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Adams:

The Alaska Federation of Natives has just received word that SR 46 has been introduced in the Senate to support Congressional authorization for a Joint (Federal-State-Native) Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives. Its companion legislation in the House is HJR 47.

The effort toward creation of such a Joint Commission arises from the recently-published AFN Report on the Status of Alaska Natives. I know you have seen it, but I enclose herewith another copy for your staff's use, as well as a five-page Executive Summary which lists the relevant data on social problems, economics, demographic projections and educational performance.

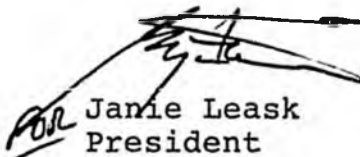
I want to assure you of AFN's personal commitment to this project. We feel that it is timely for the State of Alaska, the United States and the Native community to stand back from day-to-day political issues and to gather an historical perspective on where Native individuals, families and communities are now and where they are going in the future. We have recommended that the proposed Joint Commission concentrate its efforts on six specific areas under the general rubric of "Native status":

1. Subsistence rights, economies and lifestyles in rural Alaska;
2. Village cash economies, jobs and income;
3. Elementary and secondary education of Native children;
4. Vocational and career training of young Native adults;
5. Native health and social services;
6. Local government, local control and local responsibility in rural Alaska.

Integrity • Pride in Heritage • Progress

SR 46 will be considered by the Senate Committee on State Affairs on Wednesday, April 26. AFN will assist you and the other members of the Committee in any way you see fit during your consideration of this resolution. We will make available to you our staff resources, information and any other political support which may be necessary. If you need our help and participation, please don't hesitate to contact us immediately. Thank you.

Sincerely,


For Jamie Leask
President

enclosure

AFN REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ALASKA NATIVES: A CALL FOR ACTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January, 1989, the Alaska Federation of Natives published a report summarizing available data on the current status of Alaska Natives: their social problems and health conditions, their educational position and the lack of economic opportunities they find in rural and urban Alaska. The report is an attempt to alert the federal and state governments to the serious historical situation in which Natives now find themselves - a present circumstance whose prognosis for the coming decades is worse.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Despite recent improvements in physical health, educational opportunities, standards of living and access to government services, many Native villages are caught in a pervasive social and economic crisis, as revealed in abnormally high statistics of individual and family pathology. Change in rural villages has been so rapid and so profound during the past few decades that many Native people have been personally overwhelmed by a world of conflicting values. Individual and group identities have seriously eroded. Epidemic alcohol abuse among a significant minority of Natives has fueled a cycle of despair, violence and self-destruction which exacts its greatest toll from young adults (particularly men), from abused women, from neglected and abused children and from babies not yet born. Behavioral health disorders, often associated with alcohol, have largely replaced infectious diseases as the leading causes of Alaska Native morbidity and mortality. Data are presented in five categories - suicide, homicide, accidents, crime/incarceration and children:

- In 1950, six Native suicides were reported. In 1985, suicide was the fourth most common cause of Native mortality. The current Native suicide rate is four times the national average; for women 20-24 years old, five times; for men 20-24 years old, fourteen times. Rates are not predicted to diminish. 3/4 of autopsy reports on Native suicides record measurable blood alcohol levels.
- During the 1980's, murder was between the sixth and seventh most common cause of Native mortality. The Native homicide rate is four times the national average. Approximately 3/4 of all Native homicide victims are males.
- Accidents are the # 1 cause of Native mortality (more than 50% higher than # 2 cancer and # 3 heart disease). The Native accident mortality rate is three times the national average. During the 1980s, accidents were between the first and second most common cause of Native hospitalization.

1

A significant portion of Native accidental deaths results from alcohol-related violence. Between 1/4 and 1/2 of all Native injuries at Anchorage ANMC (1978 - 1987) were intentional (by self or other party).

- Natives are 14% of the total population in Alaska. Natives are also: 25% of all persons arrested in Alaska, 25% of all persons convicted of felonies in Alaska, 34% of all persons incarcerated in Alaska, 38% of all persons convicted of sex-related offenses in Alaska, 59% of all persons incarcerated for violent crimes in Alaska. In 1987, first degree sexual assault was the leading cause of Native incarceration. More than 80% of all Native-perpetrated violent crime is alcohol-related.
- At birth, Native infant health is generally good. Neonatal (0-28 days) mortality rates are not significant. But after returning home, Native post-neonatal (28 days - 1 year) mortality rates are twice the national average. A high SIDS rate may result from a combination of respiratory infections, nutritional deficiencies, inadequate parental care and physical environment. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is the leading cause of Native birth defects and Native mental retardation, and the Native FAS rate is more than twice the national average. Native children suffer from high rates of childhood disease (upper respiratory infection, influenza, pneumonia, meningitis). In 1986, more than 1,400 cases of sexual abuse of Native children were reported. In 1984, there were 2,035 cases of Native children receiving state protection services. In 1988, there were 3,109. 30% of Alaska's teenage mothers are Natives, more than twice the proportion of Natives in the total population.

NATIVE DEMOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS

Those Natives most at risk - children and young adults - are the fastest-growing segments of the Native population. Demographic projections, by age group, gender and geography, are ominous in their anticipation of a new generation of Natives at even greater risk.

- Due to a high birth rate (more than twice the national average), an extremely young population and the large number of females approaching child-bearing age, Native annual population growth (births minus deaths) will at least maintain its current 2.4% level and may increase slightly. At the current rate, the Native population will double in 26 years.

- The Native population is very young, the two largest age groups being 0-9 years and 10-19 years. In 1980, 23% of all Natives were under 10 years of age, a population group which will increase by 40% by 1990.
- Even with migration to cities, villages will continue to grow at 2.2% annually. Despite economic limitations and social problems, between 55 and 60% of all Natives will continue to live in villages.
- In the next 20 years, a large generation of Native children - many of whom have been brutalized by alcohol abuse, violence and death and face limited economic opportunities with inadequate educations - will come to adulthood and give birth to its own children.

VILLAGE ECONOMICS

Stark economic realities limit the opportunities of the Native labor force and of the young who will soon join it. Because adults who are not effective, self-sustaining workers and bread-winners are less capable of taking care of themselves and their children, economics is clearly one of the root causes of the epidemic of social problems among Natives. Lack of productive work, income and personal pride constitutes an important dimension of the village crisis and would significantly diminish the lives of Native people even if their were no social pathology, no culture change and no alcohol.

- Village Natives have become increasingly dependent on the cash economy, and aspirations for goods and services will not diminish. That requires employment, in the village or outside it.
- Despite significant infusion of public resources to rural Alaska during the past two decades, cash economies in remote Native villages remain underdeveloped, artificial dependencies of government.
- There are very few cash jobs in villages. Jobs in urban areas involve intense labor force competition with non-Natives and require skills and education which many Native people do not have. Most new jobs created by the oil boom, in villages or urban areas, went to non-Natives.
- The mixed village economy (subsistence and cash) seasonally draws many Native people, particularly males, out of the cash labor force, weakening their ability to get and retain jobs.
- Many Natives, lacking employment, have come to rely on government transfer payments for income in an extraordinarily high cost-of-living area. This economic and psychological dependency creates low self-esteem and contributes to social dislocation.

- The large public spending of last 15 years is now decreasing, and fewer jobs are available anywhere in Alaska - at the same time the young adult Native population is significantly increasing.
- The cost of maintaining village capital infrastructure built with oil money in the 1970's and 80's is beyond the capability of most villages and will result in a reduction of services and a further loss of jobs on which rural people have come to depend.
- The traditional escape valve of last resort - geographical out-migration from areas of economic depression and poverty - has been unconsciously discouraged in rural Alaska by public policies and assumptions about the future of villages (eg, construction of village high schools).
- It is unlikely in the foreseeable future that a self-sustaining economic base will be created in rural villages sufficient to meet the employment and income needs of the number of Native students now graduating annually from small village high schools.

EDUCATION

Labor force competition with non-Natives, inside or outside the village, will require education and skills, and Alaska's labor market has higher skill requirements than those of most other states. Natives, particularly those in rural areas, are not even beginning to receive the level of training and education they will need in order to succeed.

- Despite vast expansion of secondary education in bush Alaska during the past 15 years (126 Molly Hootch high schools), village high school education is a recent phenomenon. Before 1970, less than 1/2 of all adult village Natives had any high school education, and less than 1/4 held diplomas. The current secondary system was abruptly created by law and in many locations does not rest on a generational development of educational aspirations or achievements.
- With some exceptions, the quality of village primary and secondary education is mediocre and significantly below already low national norms. The majority of students in small village high schools score between the 20th and 30th national percentiles, and few score above the 50th percentile. In 1984, 44% of rural high school classes scored below the 20th national percentile, and another 33% were between the 21st and 40th percentiles.

- Statewide, the Native high school drop-out rate is 27% (especially high in urban high schools), while the non-Native rate is 12%.
- In 1980, slightly less than 25% of Alaska Caucasian and Asian residents had college degrees, compared with slightly less than 10% of the Alaska black population and slightly less than 5% of the Alaska Native population.
- More than 1,000 students now graduate annually from small village high schools in rural Alaska. The fundamental questions facing them, their parents and public policy makers are: What are they going to do? Where? And what will they need in order to make it?

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT (4/3/89)

101st CONGRESS
1st SESSION

S. JOINT RES. _____

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

April ____, 1989

Mr. Inouye (for himself, Mr. Murkowski and Mr. Stevens)
introduced the following joint resolution, which was
read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian
Affairs

To provide for the establishment of the Joint Commission on
the Status of Alaska Natives.

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

The Congress, after an initial review of the
relationships of the Federal Government and the State of
Alaska with and the public programs available to the Alaska
Native people and the current conditions in which Alaska
Native people live, finds that -

(a) the purposes of these relationships have
evolved over time, but in recent decades have been to assist
Alaska Natives to protect their traditional cultures and
subsistence economies and, at the same time, to encourage
Native economic self-sufficiency and individual, group and
village self-determination;

(b) despite the development of Federal and State
policies intended to achieve the aforementioned purposes, it
has not attained the hopes and dreams of those who created
it;

(c) recent published reports available to the
Congress and the public raise serious questions concerning
the growing social and economic crisis in the lives of
Alaska Native people, and report disturbing statistical
information on social problems, lack of economic
opportunity, growing public dependency, severe medical
problems and widespread educational failure;

(d) since the report of the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in 1969, there has been no comprehensive review of Federal and State policies and programs, the implementation of such policies, or their impact on improving the social and economic status of Alaska Native people; and

(e) Alaska Native people have expressed to the Congress a critical need to review the current status of Natives and to forge a renewed partnership among the Federal and State governments and the Alaska Native people, with the goal of providing new opportunities, making public programs more effective, and building a healthy, productive, self-reliant rural Alaska;

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

The Congress hereby declares that it is timely and essential to conduct a comprehensive review of Federal and State policies affecting Alaska Natives, the implementation of those policies, and the current social and economic status of Alaska Natives.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That -

(a) In order to achieve the aforementioned purpose, there is hereby created the Joint Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission."

(b) The Commission shall be composed of _____ members, as follows:

- (1) _____ Members of the Senate appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate;
- (2) _____ Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (3) the Governor of Alaska;
- (4) _____ Members of the Alaska State Legislature appointed by the President of the Alaska State Senate and the Speaker of the Alaska State House;
- (5) _____ Alaska Natives appointed in the manner set forth in subsection (c); and
- (6) _____ Public At Large members appointed in the manner set forth in subsection (d).

(c) At its organization meeting, Commission members described in subsection (b)(1) - (4) shall elect both a Federal and State Co-Chairman. The Commission shall then appoint _____ Alaska Native members of the Commission, none

of whom shall be an employee of the Federal government or the State of Alaska.

(d) At its organization meeting, Commission members described in subsection (b)(1) - (5) shall appoint _____ Public At Large members. The criteria for consideration for Public At Large members shall include recognized international or national expertise in one or more of the fundamental charges of the commission set forth in Section 2, subsection (c).

(e) Vacancies in the membership of the Commission shall not affect the power of the remaining members to exercise the authority and execute the functions of the Commission, and a vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original appointment.

(f) _____ members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall develop and adopt procedures for conducting Commission hearings.

(f) Members of Congress, the Governor of Alaska, and Members of the Alaska State Legislature shall serve as members of the Commission without compensation. The Alaska Native members and the Public At Large members of the Commission shall receive compensation for each day such members are engaged in the actual performance of duties described in section 2 at a daily rate equal to the daily equivalent of the maximum annual compensation paid to employees of the United States Senate.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 2. The Commission shall make a comprehensive review of Federal and State policies affecting Alaska Natives, the implementation of those policies and the social and economic status of Alaska Natives. Such review shall include a review, study and analysis of:

(a) the most recently available statistical information on the social, educational, economic and health status of Alaska Native people;

(b) the statutes, executive orders, regulations and judicial decisions that affect either the substance or implementation of Federal and State policies affecting Alaska Natives, including, but not limited to, the implementation of health, social, housing and economic development programs in which Alaska Natives participate, and federal statutes and regulations affecting the taking of fish, game, marine mammals and migratory waterfowl by Alaska Natives for subsistence, cultural or other purposes.

GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 3. (a) The goals of the Commission shall be the development of such federal and state policies as may be necessary to encourage:

(1) effective protection of the priority rights of Alaska Native people, especially rural Village residents to take and use traditional subsistence resources on which they depend for food, clothing, crafts and barter and adequate guarantees of their unimpeded access to federal lands for these purposes;

(2) self-sustaining village economies in rural Alaska, with adequate levels of locally-produced income and a reduced dependency on public resources;

(3) improved public education of Native children to develop human resource potential to the level required for a healthy economy, effective government and stable social order;

(4) effective preparation of Native youth and adults, through institutions of secondary and post-secondary education and vocational training, for successful careers in the modern labor force, inside or outside their villages;

(5) more efficient and effective delivery of health and social services to achieve a reduction in the incidence of severe social problems among Native individuals and families; and

(6) improvement of local government in rural Alaska which will return to Alaska Native people legal and personal responsibility for their lives, their children and their communities.

(b) The Commission shall make every effort in its review and study to respect the important cultural, language, and ethnic differences which characterize Alaska Native groups and shall make recommendations concerning the development of programs which will better enable Alaska Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos to:

(1) maximize self-determination and economic self-sufficiency;

(2) preserve their unique cultures and proud traditions;

(3) maintain individual and group choices with respect to the balance between a subsistence life style and participation in the modern economy; and

(4) continue to exercise authority and control over their land base and their property rights as granted under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended.

POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 4. (a) To the extent necessary to conduct the review described in section 2 and achieve the goals set forth in section 3, the Commission, or, if authorized by the Commission, any member of the Commission, is authorized -

(1) sit and act at such places as it deems advisable during the sessions, recesses and adjourned periods of Congress;

(2) administer such oaths and affirmations, to take such testimony, to procure such printing and binding and to make such expenditures as it deems advisable;

(3) request any department, agency or instrumentality of the executive branch of the Federal Government to provide any relevant information or documents;

(4) establish task forces and appoint task force members as described in section 5;

(5) appoint a Director of the Commission, a General Counsel, and such additional staff to assist the Commission and its task forces as it deems necessary, prescribe the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and to fix their compensation at per annum gross rates that do not exceed the per annum rates of compensation of employees of standing committees of the United States Senate who have similar duties and responsibilities;

(6) procure the temporary or intermittent services of experts and consultants, either individually or through organizations in which they are employed, by contract.

(7) make such rules respecting its organization and procedures as it deems necessary.

(b) Commission members, Commission staff, and experts and consultants described in subsection (a)(6) may be reimbursed for travel, subsistence and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties; provided, that Alaska Natives who are members of the Commission, staff and experts and consultants may receive per diem in lieu of subsistence.

(c) Any member of the Commission may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses.

(d) Every department, agency and instrumentality of the executive branch of the Federal government that receives a request made pursuant to subsection (a)(3) to provide information or documents shall comply with such request. If, pursuant to subsection (a)(2) or (3), the Commission requests a witness or a department, agency or instrumentality to produce information that has been submitted to a Federal or State Government department, agency or instrumentality on a confidential basis and the confidentiality of such information is protected by Federal

or State statute, such information shall be produced but shall be held by the Commission in confidence.

TASK FORCES

SEC. 5. (a) To the extent necessary to conduct the review described in section 2, the Commission is authorized to establish task forces to make preliminary investigations and studies regarding the subjects described in section 2, and, pursuant to section 3(a)(5), to provide each Task Force adequate staff support. A Task Force shall be composed of not less than three persons, one of whom shall be a member of the Commission. The Task Force shall have such responsibility as the Commission may confer, except that the Commission may not confer authority to administer oaths and affirmations.

(b) Each Task Force shall provide the Commission a quarterly written report describing its progress in conducting the investigations and studies which it has been assigned. Within one year from the date of the appointment of its members, each task force shall submit a final written report of its investigations and studies to the Commission, and, if the Commission so requests, recommendations regarding the subject matter of such investigations and studies.

(c) Each Task Force member who is not an employee of the Federal government or the State of Alaska shall receive compensation for each day such member is engaged in the actual performance of duties described in subsections (a) and (b) at a daily rate equivalent to the daily maximum annual compensation paid to employees of the United States Senate.

COMMISSION REPORT

SEC. 6. (a)(1) The Commission shall review each final written Task Force report described in section 5(b). When the Commission has received the last such report, it shall compile the information in such reports, together with whatever information it has acquired independent of such reports, into a final report that shall be submitted, together with whatever recommendations the Commission deems advisable, to the President of the U.S. Senate and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives within six months of the Commission's receipt of the last final task force report, and to the President of the Alaska State Senate and the Speaker of the Alaska State House of Representatives.

(2) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall refer any recommendation contained in the Commission's final report the implementation of which requires the enactment of Federal legislation to the appropriate committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

(b) The Commission shall cease to exist 180 days from the date of its submission of its final report and recommendations as described in the preceding subsection at which time all Commission records and all documents and other material acquired by the Commission shall be delivered to the General Services Administration for deposit in the Native Archives.

AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 7. (a) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated a sum not to exceed \$ _____ to carry out the provisions of this resolution. Until funds are appropriated pursuant to this section, salaries and other expenses of the Commission shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the Chairman. The total amount of money paid from such contingent fund shall be reimbursed to such fund from monies appropriated pursuant to this section.

(b) the commission is authorized to accept and expend funds from other sources such as the State of Alaska, private and non-profits corporations, and foundations which are deemed appropriate and necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution.

Alaska State Legislature

Sen. Pat Pourchot, Chairman

Sen. Jan Faiks, Vice Chairman

Sen. Al Adams

Sen. Tim Kelly

Sen. Rick Uehling



P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

907-465-3712

Senate State Affairs Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee Members

FROM: Senator Pat Pourchot, Chairman

RE: April 26 Committee Memo

DATE: April 25, 1989

On Wednesday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the Beltz Room the Senate State Affairs Committee will hear the following bills:

SJR 46, Supporting the establishment of a Joint Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives by Congress

SJR 46 would support the establishment of a Joint Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives and commit the state to actively participate on the commission. The commission would be charged with conducting a comprehensive review of federal and state policies affecting Alaska Natives and the current health, social, and economic status of Alaska Natives.

The resolution that would establish the Commission is pending introduction in the U.S. Senate. The effort stems from the recently published AFN Report on the Status of Alaska Natives.

SSSB 72, An Act relating to registration and licensing of contractors; prohibiting the use of state money for certain residential work unless the work is performed by a licensed residential contractor

SB 72 would require that contractors who construct or alter privately-owned residential structures of one to four units have a residential endorsement on their license. To receive the endorsement, the contractor would need to pass a written or practical exam which tests competence in arctic construction techniques, and complete the Alaska Craftsman Home program or a postsecondary course in arctic engineering or its equivalent.

The Labor and Commerce C.S. clarified that the residential requirement would be an endorsement to the general contractor's license rather than a separate license, allowed participation in programs equivalent to the Alaska Craftsman Home program, and allowed the exemptions in current statute for small projects and owner-built projects.

Committee Memo
April 26, 1989
Page 2

SB 157, An Act relating to imposition of a civil fine for violation of a statute, regulation, or ordinance related to alcoholic beverages

SB 157 would authorize the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to assess civil fines against liquor licensees who violate liquor laws. The fine would be in addition to license suspension or revocation, and would follow the suspension/revocation hearing required under current statute. The amount of the fine would be determined by the Board.

The bill would also provide the Board with program receipt authority. Fees and fines would be separately accounted for and could be appropriated by the legislature to fund the Board's operation.

SB 192, An Act relating to legislators' eligibility for long-term per diem

SB 192, which would limit eligibility for long term per diem during the interim to days spent attending meetings of a legislative committee or subcommittee, was heard by the State Affairs Committee on April 10. No action was taken pending action by the Legislative Council on a revised per diem policy.

The Council policy, adopted April 24, is attached. It provides that to qualify for interim per diem a legislator must attend a meeting for a legislative or public purpose, or spend at least four hours of that day on legislative and constituent business.

Also attached is a fiscal note for SB 192, indicating savings of \$161,700. Fiscal impact of the new Council policy has not yet been determined.

CSHB 93(Jud), An Act relating to a duty of the director of the division of elections and to voter registration by the Department of Public Safety

HB 93 would require that the Division of Elections provide voter registration forms to the Division of Motor Vehicles, and that DMV advise persons registering their vehicles or applying for drivers' licenses that they may also register to vote.

According to the Division of Elections, most motor vehicle registration outlets currently provide voter registration services. Elections provides training to DMV personnel; DMV forwards completed voter registration forms to Elections.

In addition, SJR 38, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to terms of legislators, will be before the committee. Due to time constraints, the bill was not heard on April 24 as scheduled.

Alaska State Legislature

Al Adams
District L

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(907) 465-3707

OUT OF SESSION
P.O. Box 333
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(907) 442-3245

3111 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 561-7622

Official Business

April 24, 1989

TO: Senator Pat Pourchot, Chairman
Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senator Al Adams *AAA*

RE: SJR 46

Thank you for scheduling a hearing on SJR 46--Supporting the establishment of a Joint Commission on the Status of Alaska Natives by Congress.

The purpose of the joint commission is to make a comprehensive review of federal and state policies affecting Alaska Natives, the social and economic status of Alaska Natives and implementation of those policies.

It is envisioned that the Commission will study such things as the most up-to-date information on the social, educational, economic and health status of Alaska Natives. It will also review decisions and regulations that have affected the substance or implementation of federal and state policies. Then it will develop recommendations as necessary to improve the human resource potential required of a healthy and productive economy, an effective and modern labor force, and healthy and stable government and social order.

Enclosed for your review is a draft resolution by Senator Inouye, co-sponsored by Senators Stevens and Murkowski. As I understand it, the actual size of the Committee and the issue of whether Committee membership should be Congressionally driven or driven by the Executive Branch with Congressmen as ex officio members are still up in the air.

I feel it very important that the Alaska Legislature go on record in support of a Joint Commission to deal with issues affecting Alaska Natives.

DANIEL K. INOUE, ALASKA, CHAIRMAN
JOHN MCCAIN, ARIZONA, VICE CHAIRMAN

DENNIS DUNCAN, ARIZONA
QUENTIN N. BURDYGE, NORTH DAKOTA
THOMAS A. DABCHLE, SOUTH DAKOTA
KEVIN CONRAD, NORTH DAKOTA

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, ALASKA
THAD COCHRAN, MISSISSIPPI

ALAN R. PARKER, STAFF DIRECTOR
PATRICIA M. ZELL, CHIEF COUNSEL
ERIC EBERHARD,
MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR/COUNSEL

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-8450

May 2, 1989

Honorable Tim Kelly
President
Alaska Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Kelly:


We were pleased to learn of the resolution introduced in the Alaska Senate and House of Representatives supporting the establishment by the U. S. Congress of a joint commission on the status of Alaska Natives and committing the State to actively participate in its work.

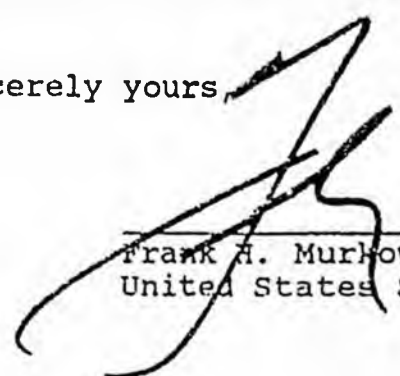
Passage of the resolution by the State Legislature will provide a clear indication to our colleagues in the Senate that the proposed commission will be the joint effort that we envision it to be. In our view, the State's financial support and active participation will be critical to the success of the proposed commission's work.

At the hearing on March 3 in Washington, D. C., the Senate Select Committee heard broad support expressed for the establishment of a joint State-Federal commission to review policies and programs affecting Alaska Natives, and we expressed our support for the concept as well. The committee will be conducting a field hearing in Anchorage on May 27 on the status of Natives, and following that hearing, our plan is to carefully consider the form that a joint commission should take and what level of appropriations would be required to enable it to carry out its work.

Action by the State Legislature would certainly provide further encouragement for us to proceed expeditiously toward the goal of acting on the proposal before the end of this year. If you have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our offices or Bob Arnold of the committee staff at (202) 224-2251.

Sincerely yours,


Daniel K. Inoué
United States Senator
Chairman


Frank H. Murkowski
United States Senator

SR46POOP.TXT
4/26/89

SJR 46 JOINT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF ALASKA NATIVES

TO TESTIFY

SEN. ADAMS, SPONSOR (MARLA)

JULIE KITKA, A.F.N. (ON TELECONFERENCE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.)

F.V.I.

PAGE 2, LINE 18 READS: "LEGISLATURE COMMITS THE STATE OF ALASKA TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE ON THE COMMISSION AND IN ITS WORK". THERE WILL BE A COST. A.F.N. SENT AL AND BINKLEY A \$250,000 PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS HALF OF THE ANTICIPATED COST OF THE COMMISSION, THE OTHER HALF TO BE BORNE BY THE FEDS.

AL AND BINKLEY WANT A ZERO FISCAL NOTE (WHICH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE IS PREPARING) -- THINK IT'S PREMATURE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS BECAUSE THE RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION AND LAYING OUT THE DETAILS IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION.

SENATOR STEVENS AND OTHERS ARE ADVOCATING THAT THE COSTS BE EQUALLY SHARED BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE FEDS. -- THERE WILL ALSO BE AN EFFORT TO RAISE PRIVATE FUNDS. BINKLEY TOLD A.F.N. HE MIGHT TRY TO GET \$50,000 OR SO SOMEWHERE IN THE OPERATING BUDGET.

IF WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE FUNDING ISSUE NOW, JANIE SAYS WE MIGHT WANT TO DELETE THE "STATE COMMITMENT" LANGUAGE.