

HB

263

# Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE  
MARK BOYER

VICE CHAIRMAN  
HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE



House of Representatives

FAIRBANKS

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FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
(907) 456-6473

JUNEAU

P.O. BOX V  
STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-3466

To: Rep. Jerry Mackie, Chair  
Community and Regional Affairs Committee

From: Rep. Mark Boyer *MB*

Date: April 9, 1991

Subject: Request to schedule HB 263 for hearing

I would appreciate a committee hearing at your earliest convenience of HB 263, an act relating to human services community matching grants.

The Anchorage and Fairbanks Health and Social Services Block Grants have been included in the Department of Health and Social Services budget for many years. However, primarily due to the fact that these grants have no statutory base and require no local matching appropriation they remain subject to veto. This bill establishes a statutory basis for the grants and includes a community match requirement, beginning at 10 percent and increasing by five percent a year until a 50/50 match is reached. I believe the statutory recognition and the match requirement will allow the grants to receive the funding stability they need.

Additionally, this bill will expand the number of communities that can apply for the matching grants to include all unified municipalities and cities with a population over 20,000. Anchorage, Juneau, and Sitka are the current unified municipalities in Alaska. Fairbanks is the only additional city to meet the population requirement. In this way the block grant concept can be expanded into Southeast Alaska

FAIRBANKS 20B

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: April 8, 1991

FURTHER REFERRALS:

HES  
Finance

Date of Committee Action: 4-24-91

The COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 263

HOUSE BILL NO. 263

HUMAN SERVICES MATCHING GRANTS FOR MUNI'S

"An Act relating to human services community matching grants; and providing for an effective date."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

be replaced with CS HB 263 (CRA)  the same title

a new title

have attached amendments(s)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendations

individual recommendations

additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal impact \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Foster</i> Richard [Signature]	X	[Signature]		X	
[Signature]	X	Cheri Davis		X	
[Signature] BAKER	X	J. G. [Signature]		X	
[Signature] MACKIE	X				

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

# Human Services Coalition

P.O. BOX 102052 • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510 • PHONE 532-4483

April 24, 1991

Rep. Jerry Mackie  
Chairman  
Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Chairman Mackie,

As Chair of the Anchorage Human Services Coalition, I represent 60 human service agencies in the Anchorage Area that serve Alaska Citizens from all areas of the state. I am writing on behalf of the Coalition to urge the Committee's support of HB263.

We offer our gratitude to all those legislators who have supported this bill with their cosponsorship. They have recognized the need to have some degree of predictability for these services, some way to leave the rollercoaster of this past year.

Having statutory authorization for social services block grant was a third step in our Social Services Block Grant Recovery Program. The Social Services Block Grant fulfills all the intentions of cost-effective use of state funds. Local citizens determine the needs and allocate the funds to the nonprofit community which provides them at an extremely low cost. Local determination of need and cost-effective service delivery--these two concepts satisfy a truly valuable return of state dollars to the local levels with no bureaucracy.

Preserving these two concepts with statutory language will help conserve very valuable services that reach those Alaskans least able to talk to Juneau. Block Grant funds truly help Alaskans help themselves. Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

*Nancy K. Scheetz-Freymler*  
Nancy K. Scheetz-Freymler  
Chair

\*\*\*\*\*  
 FAX TRANSMITTAL MEMO  
 TO: MARK KURT Parham  
 DEPT: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FROM: Sally Crowder  
 CO: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX #: 452 5120  
 Post-It brand fax transmittal memo 7871

NO. OF PAGES
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April 20, 1991

The Honorable Mark Boyer  
 Alaska State Legislature  
 P.O. Box V  
 Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Boyer:

The Fairbanks Health and Social Service Commission has reviewed House Bill 263 on block grant funding. We are very supportive of putting these funds into law and most appreciative of all your efforts to this end. We do, however, have serious concerns over the match.

The suggested changes are attached. Most critical, as you know, is the role of the municipality. We are unanimous in support of administrative reductions and in matching efforts by local communities. We can not support cash matches by the municipality.

Matches for other grants from both federal, state and private sources all allow in-kind as part of the match. We want to be consistent, and more importantly get credit for the volunteer hours, materials and rents which clearly document community support.

Municipality match is a major problem in Fairbanks and completely at odds with the governor's position that governmental administration must be reduced. Neither the city nor the borough has a Health and Social Service Department or a HSS budget to provide a cash match. Surely we should not add a new layer of bureaucracy to qualify!

The city currently runs a very lean budget, including taking only a 1% administrative fee for the HSS block grant in order to maximize the dollars going directly to health services. They are obviously absorbing some costs in time and materials.

The match should come from the people of the community, not a government body. Each year the people of Fairbanks donate over \$1,000,000 to these agencies through the United Way. In addition, Fairbanks residents donate thousands of hours of volunteer time to support these agencies. These donations must be included in the definition of "matching funds".

The other changes are minor, but we do want to call attention to the wording for the time table. We meet in March to review proposals for a July 1 funding start. At this point agencies have a program plan and a good idea of other funding and what they require from the "last resort" block grant funds. The prior October the commission would not have this information. We can establish needs priorities in October and provide the scoring criteria for the grant as well as the prior years allocations, but actual program recommendations for nine months ahead is impossible.

In summary, thank you all (and Curt Parham who has been most diligent and a great communicator) for your efforts to continue the Health and Social Service Block Grant. We only ask that municipalities who do not have Health and Social Service Departments be able to show the level of

community support and match through all community resources, including volunteer and United Way donations.

Cordially,

Sally Crawford  
Chairman  
Fairbanks Health & Social  
Service Commission

cc: Niilo Koponen  
Bert Sharp  
Tom Moyer  
Wayne Nelson, Mayor of City of Fairbanks  
Juanita Helms, Mayor of FNSB  
Commissioner Brice  
Commissioner Bartos  
Commissioner Ganley  
Commissioner Kingrea  
Commissioner Mather  
Commissioner Turkal

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

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fiscal impact ASS

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Foster</i> Richard (Sorey)	X	Neil Phillips		X	
Betty Davis	X	Cheri Davis		X	
Jan Baker	X	J. G. Douglas		X	
Jan Mackie	X				

Jan Mackie  
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. CS HB 263**

Revision Date April 29, 1991 Dept. Affected Health & Social Services  
 Title: An Act relating to human services BRU: Family Services  
community matching grants" Component: Southeastern, Southcentral & Northern  
 Sponsor: Boyer, Ellis, Gruenberg, Koponen, Ulmer, Barnes & Sharp  
 Requestor: House COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0259

**Expenditures/Revenues**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY92	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96	FY97
PERSONAL SERVICES	134.5	169.7	169.7	169.7	169.7	169.7
TRAVEL	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
CONTRACTUAL	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8
SUPPLIES	3.7	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
EQUIPMENT	20.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>176.3</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
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<b>REVENUE</b>						
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**FUNDING:**

(Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	176.3	188.8	188.8	188.8	188.8	188.8
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176.3</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>	<b>188.8</b>

**POSITIONS:**

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

Estimate of current year impact: NONE

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

SEE ATTACHED

Prepared by: Michael L. Price, Director *Michael L Price*  
 Division: Family & Youth Services

Phone: 465.3191

Date: 4/29/91

Approved by Commissioner: Theodore A. Mala, MD, MPH *Theodore A Mala*  
 Agency: Department of Health and Social Services

Date: 4/30/91

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance      OMB  
 Legislative Sponsor      Impacted Agency(ies)  
 Requestor

POSITION PAPER  
HOUSE BILL 263

"An Act relating to human services community matching grants; and providing for an effective date."

The Department of Health and Social Services generally supports House bill 263.

House Bill 263 creates a new community matching grant program to provide local social services in the largest communities in Alaska. This program replaces two designated grants which have been part of the Department of Health and Social Services budget for several years.

Creation of a local matching grant program is in keeping with the Governor's goal of reducing dependence on the State budget for services. A statutory basis for these programs will provide some certainty of funding while showing a clear State commitment for needed social programs. Using the block grant concept, as well as requiring local match, should also strengthen local involvement and commitment to these services as State dollars continue to decline.

While the Department supports the concepts in this legislation we would like to highlight some issues of interest.

1. The local match should be comprised of cash appropriated for that purpose by the municipality.
2. Requirements for Department review and oversight of the grant awards or match requirements should not be burdensome as to require significant administrative staff.
3. The allocation for proration should be simple and easy to implement.

Prepared by: Janet Clarke 4/30/91  
Janet Clarke

Approved by: Theodore A. Mala 6/50  
Theodore A. Mala, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

HB 263 creates a community matching block grants for municipalities over 20,000. In the past the Social Services Block grants went to Anchorage and Fairbanks and in FY 91 two communities have a total of 62 grants. Under this bill the Department will be responsible for reviewing all the applications and determining if they meet the goals established under AS47.75.010, as well as being involved with each of the communities in carrying out a needs assessment to back up the communities requests for services. In order for the Department to carry out its functions under this bill it becomes imperative that the Department receive funding for three positions. These positions would be located in the three major population areas Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks.

The responsibilities of these positions include:

1. Working with the communities to develop a needs assessment to determine if the services requested by the non-profits is necessary to prevent or alleviate serious mental or physical hardship.
2. Develop plans for and administer the grants program which includes receiving the grant applications, sending out the notifications of grant award, and monitoring the grant program thru review of fiscal and program reports.
3. Conduct on site review of the grants.
4. Assisting the communities to make sure that they have the increased matching funds available for each succeeding year.

Some of the Department in the current version of the bill is ambiguous and it is difficult to estimate the scope and depth of our involvement. If the Department's recommendations enumerated in the Position Paper are incorporated in the bill, the Fiscal Note will be substantially reduced.