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# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred: April 8, 1992

FURTHER REFERRALS:

HES  
Finance

Date of Committee Action: 4/15/92

Community & Regional Affairs Committee considered:

HB 577

HOUSE BILL NO. 577

HEALTH CARE, WATER, SEWER G.O. BONDS

An Act providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$295,295,454 for the purpose of paying the cost of water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects; and providing for effective date."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

to be replaced with CSHB 577 (C&RA)  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>[Signature]</i>	X				
<i>Betty Davis</i>	X				
<i>Garth Hulbert</i>	X				
<i>Richard [Signature]</i>	X				
<i>[Signature]</i>	X				
<i>Chris Davis</i>	X				

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

TO: HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS

FROM: Nancy Bennett

RE: Today's meeting: April 15, 1992

We have one bill on the agenda for today: HB 577 - issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$295,295,454 for the purpose of paying the cost of water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects; efd.

Section 1 provides for the sale of G.O. bonds limited to to \$295,295,454.

Section 2 Establishes a special fund for the proceeds of the sale of the bonds if authorized by the voters.

Section 3 Appropriates \$80,181,989 to DEC for grants to unincorporated communities under the village safe water program.

Appropriates \$338,500 to DEC for the cost of project overhead for the V.S.W. projects.

Appropriates \$53,456,215 to DEC for municipal matching grants for sewer, waste disposal and water projects.

Appropriates \$30,221,050 to DH&SS for health ty projects.

Appropriates \$80,297,700 to DOA for payment as grants to municipalities to sewer, water and waste disposal projects.

Appropriates \$15,000,000 to DOA for payments as grants for health facility construction.

Appropriates \$14,700,000 to DH&SS as a grant for a nursing home facility for the Kodiak Island Borough Hospital contingent upon the Borough supplying \$4,900,000 (5% can be in-kind).

Appropriates \$5,300,000 to DH&SS as a grant to Seward General Hospital for renovation and construction contingent upon the City supplying \$1,800,000 (5% can be in-kind).

Appropriates \$15,800,000 to DH&SS as a grant to Ketchikan General Hospital for renovation and construction contingent on the city supplying \$5,300,000 (5% can be in-kind).

- Section 4      Appropriates \$1,033,534 to pay expenses incident to the sale and issuance of the bonds.
- Section 5      Provides that the amount withdrawn from the public facility planning fund shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of bonds.
- Section 6      Provides that unexpended unobligated amounts under section 3 lapse and are appropriated to the state bond committee to redeem bonds; amounts expended from the general fund to pay principal, interest, and redemption premiums shall be reimbursed to the general fund if funds are not needed to redeem bonds.
- Section 7      The question submitted to authorized voters regarding this bond sale.
- Section 8      Immediate effective date.

AMENDMENT

By Mackie

Page 2, line 7

After sewer, add "and solid waste  
disposal"

HB 577 -- Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal, and Health Care Facility Projects

Water, Sewer, Waste Disposal, and Health Care Facility Capital Projects for Bonding Proposal									
District		Water and Sewer		Health Care		Total Bond Package		Legislators	
Sen	House	Count	\$ Amount	Count	\$ Amount	Count	\$ Amount	Representatives	Senators
Anchorage		33	\$40,952.493	1	\$7,600.0	34	\$48,552.493		
A	1	3	\$813.500	1	\$15,800.0	4	\$16,613.500	C. Davis, Taylor	Jones
	2	22	\$14,334.703	2	\$1,205.0	24	\$15,539.703	Mackie	
	3	4	\$5,625.000	1	\$80.0	5	\$5,705.000	Grussendorf	
B	(2 + 3)	26	\$19,959.703	3	\$1,285.0	29	\$21,244.703		Eliason
Juneau		11	\$20,999.000	2	\$7,600.0	13	\$28,599.000	Hudson, Ulmer	Duncan
D	5	15	\$14,226.375	0	\$0.0	15	\$14,226.375	Navarre, G. Phillips	Fischer
E-A	6	11	\$7,061.891	3	\$6,000.0	14	\$13,061.891	Kubina	Kerttula
E-B	16	3	\$3,200.000	1	\$3,000.0	4	\$6,200.000	Carney, Larson	Menard
	17	13	\$10,190.600	3	\$400.0	16	\$10,590.600	Gonzales	
	18	2	\$3,900.000	0	\$0.0	2	\$3,900.000	M. W. Miller	
J	(17+18)	15	\$14,090.600	3	\$400.0	18	\$14,490.600		Schultz
Fairbanks		10	\$13,800.000	2	\$3,900.0	12	\$17,700.000		
	22	20	\$14,503.900	3	\$800.0	23	\$15,303.900	MacLean	
	23	19	\$15,269.900	2	\$4,700.0	21	\$19,969.900	Foster	
L	(22+23)	39	\$29,773.800	5	\$5,500.0	44	\$35,273.800		Adams
	24	22	\$13,074.568	8	\$4,599.8	30	\$17,674.408	Lincoln	
	25	23	\$19,907.000	5	\$460.0	28	\$20,367.000	Ivan	
M	(24+25)	45	\$32,981.568	13	\$5,059.8	58	\$38,041.408		Hoffman
	26	17	\$13,457.254	17	\$10,021.2	34	\$23,478.464	Jacko	
	27	4	\$1,519.720	3	\$14,855.0	7	\$16,374.720	Davidson	
N	(26+27)	21	\$14,976.974	20	\$24,876.2	41	\$39,853.184		Zharoff
Statewide		1	\$1,438.500	0	\$0.0	1	\$1,438.500		
Overall		233	\$214,274.404	54	\$81,021.1	287	\$295,295.454		

UNDER SPECIAL ORDERS:

REP. JACKO'S FLOOR COMMENTS IN REFERENCE TO  
BOND BILL (HB 577) INTRODUCED TODAY  
4/8/92

INTRODUCTION

MR. SPEAKER, I ASK THIS BODY, IS THERE ANY QUESTION OUR STATEWIDE COMMUNITIES, URBAN AND RURAL ALIKE, SHOULD HAVE BASIC HEALTH AND SANITATION NEEDS?

BY ANY MEASURE, THE PROVISION OF CLEAN WATER AND PROPER SEWER SERVICES, ALONG WITH SUITABLE MEDICAL FACILITIES, ARE A FUNDAMENTAL OBLIGATION OF ALL GOVERNMENTS. FEW WOULD DISPUTE THIS POINT. MANY WILL ARGUE ON HOW TO ACHIEVE IT.

IN ORDER TO BRING THIS ISSUE BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE, THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM NOME THROUGH THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE HAS INTRODUCED A BILL ASKING THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO AUTHORIZE APPROXIMATELY 300 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF VITALLY NEEDED WATER, SEWER, AND HEALTH FACILITIES.

THIS BILL ADDRESSES THOSE NEEDS IN A TIMELY MANNER THROUGH A BONDING PROPOSAL. IT GIVES THE VOTERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONFIRM THEIR DESIRE FOR SUCH BASIC SERVICES BEFORE

FURTHER AND ANTICIPATED DECLINES IN REVENUE PRECLUDE FUTURE CONSIDERATION OR CONSTRUCTION OF SUCH CAPITAL PROJECTS.

EACH YEAR THE LEGISLATURE ATTEMPTS TO ADDRESS THESE BASIC HEALTH AND SANITATION NEEDS. MR. SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF THE BODY, LAST YEAR, AS YOU RECALL, WE PARTIALLY ADDRESSED THESE ISSUES AND A COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO DO MORE THIS YEAR. THAT TIME HAS ARRIVED.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE IN THIS AGE OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS, WE STILL HAVE HUMAN FECES TAKEN FROM HOMES IN THAT AGE OLD SYSTEM CALLED THE 'HONEY BUCKET.' WATER IS HAULED INTO THESE HOMES BY HAND. IN THESE SAME HOMES, THE HEALTH OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADULTS ARE THREATENED BY THE PRESENCE OF DISEASE AND CONTAMINATES THAT LEAD TO ILLNESS, EPIDEMICS, AND SOMETIMES DEATH.

DURING THE PAST MONTH, WITHIN THE LEGISLATURE, WE HAVE GRAPPLED WITH THE NEED FOR REDUCTIONS. IN THE PROCESS, WE HAVE HAD TO WEIGH OUR DESIRE FOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMS AGAINST PUBLIC EXPECTATION AND FINANCIAL ABILITY.

THIS BOND BILL RECOGNIZES THAT THE NEED FOR CLEAN WATER, PROPER WASTE DISPOSAL, AND ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE IS EVIDENT THROUGHOUT OUR STATE. IT CONTAINS THE PRIORITIES OF STATEWIDE COMMUNITIES AND THOSE IDENTIFIED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.

WE THINK LIKE A "POOR PERSON" MR. SPEAKER. WHEN WE CONTINUE TO FUND EVERYTHING WITH CASH, WE ARE OPERATING LIKE A PERSON WHO LIVES ON A "HAND-TO-MOUTH" BASIS. WE CAN'T ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE BASIC NEEDS -- MUCH LESS THE LONGER TERM ECONOMIC NEEDS -- THAT WILL ENHANCE AND SUSTAIN OUR FUTURE. WE, (THE STATE OF ALASKA), HAVE THE CAPACITY TO UTILIZE DEBT. WHAT GOOD IS THE STATE'S AA BOND RATING, IF WE DON'T USE IT FOR BONDING? WHAT GOOD IS THE STATE'S AA BOND RATING IF WE ALLOW CHILDREN TO SUFFER EXPOSURE TO DISEASE AND ILLNESS?

AT THIS TIME, OUR OUTSTANDING DEBT IS LOW AND OUR ABILITY TO BOND IS AN ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THE EXPENDITURE OF GENERAL FUNDS.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO QUESTION OUR ABILITY TO BOND AND THE THREAT OF A DROP IN OUR BOND RATING. THEY TALK ABOUT THE

PRUDHOE BAY CURVE, THE STATE'S AA BOND RATING, AND OUR DEBT CAPACITY AS A PERCENT OF OUR TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUE. THESE ARE GENERAL GUIDELINES BUT THEY ARE NOT SET IN STONE. THE 5% FIGURE HAS BEEN EXCEEDED IN THE PAST WITHOUT CONSEQUENCE AND WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF RATING AGENCIES AND BOND MARKETEERS. THE OVERALL CREDIT WORTHINESS OF THE STATE IS STILL HIGHLY REGARDED, AND THAT, MORE THAN ANY ARBITRARY RATING OR POTENTIAL FOR RATING DROPS, IS WHAT WILL SELL OUR BONDS.

IN ORDER TO GET A REALISTIC PERSPECTIVE, PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT A DROP IN RATING FROM AA TO A WILL COST ABOUT \$107,000 ON A 300 MILLION DOLLAR BOND PER YEAR. CAN WE AFFORD THAT SMALL PRICE TO MEET THE CRITICAL HEALTH AND SANITATION NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE? I BELIEVE THE ANSWER IS AN EMPHATIC YES.

LET THE VOTERS DECIDE.

SAY, FOR EXAMPLE, INSTEAD OF SPENDING 11 MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH FOR 17 WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS, AND ZERO ON HEALTH FACILITY CONSTRUCTION (AS THE GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED), WHY NOT SPEND ABOUT 31 MILLION DOLLARS,

VIA AN ANNUAL STATE DEBT PAYMENT) AND GET 290 WATER, SEWER, AND HEALTH FACILITY PROJECTS IN ALASKA ONLINE. WHY NOT PROVIDE JOBS FOR ALASKANS, DURING A TIME WHEN BUDGET REDUCTIONS, AS WE ALL KNOW, WILL RESULT IN LESS JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

IN CLOSING, MR. SPEAKER, RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENTS AND LEGISLATIVE BODIES EXIST TO PROVIDE BASIC HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ITS PEOPLE.

LET THIS BODY RECOGNIZE, AND NOT FORGET, THE DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS THAT STILL EXIST TODAY, IN 1992, IN COMMUNITIES WITHOUT SAFE WATER, SEWER, AND HEALTH FACILITIES. "OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND", IS NOT THE RATIONAL APPROACH WHEN PRIORITIZING NEEDS OF THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE.

GIVE THE CITIZENS OF ALASKA THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DECISION THAT RECOGNIZES THEIR BASIC NEEDS AND QUALITY OF LIVES.

THANK YOU.

APR-14-52 10E 09:03 ID: C111 OF KOTZEBUE TEL NO: 507 442 3142 4203 P02

Testimony on HB 577  
submitted to the House C & RA Committee  
By  
Willie Goodwin, Jr.  
Kotzebue, Alaska

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee my name is Willie Goodwin, Jr., of Kotzebue presently I sit on the Kotzebue City Council and I am also President of the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors. My comments today will voice concerns of all of Alaska but with emphasis on Rural Alaska. House Bill 577 is legislation that gets right down to the basic needs of Alaskans for a "healthy" state, and I support it whole heartedly. It is legislation that's been needed since Statehood and I hope this becomes a reality before returns from Prudhoe Bay are gone. When this package is presented to the people of Alaska for a vote there is no doubt in my mind of its passage because it will benefit all of Alaska. Kotzebue is one community that is a "regional hub" that is providing water and sewer for its residents. However, the system was put together in bits and pieces by both the Federal and State governments depending on the amounts of appropriation available. We continually have to upgrade or replace portions of our system and this legislation would enable us to continue to do so. We are not the only ones needing replacement or upgrade, the legislation lists those communities throughout Alaska. It also provides for new systems in those Communities that do not have any system.

It provides for waste disposal or management of these systems that all of Alaska needs, I do not believe that there is one community in Alaska that is satisfied with their own dump site or condition of the site. Unfortunately every community is not listed for consideration under this bill.

The Alaska Municipal League has gone on record calling for State support of health care facilities throughout Alaska. Alaska was ranked 49 in the country in terms of the overall health of its Citizens and the access to health care was a major factor used in this rating. The image of Alaska being an unhealthy place to live or visit damages many aspects of the State economy, especially tourism and the attraction of many new business development in the State. It has been years since the health clinics were built in rural Alaska and high quality health care cannot be adequately delivered until these facilities are upgraded or new ones built.

The league strongly supports and endorses the concept of State technical and financial assistance to rural communities to improve the most basic sanitation facilities.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to come before you Mr. Chairman.

# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

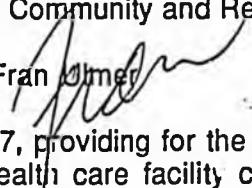


### REPRESENTATIVE FRAN ULMER

#### MEMORANDUM

April 14, 1992

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

FROM: Rep. Fran Ulmer 

RE: HB 577, providing for the issuance of GO bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facility capital projects

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I would like to request that HB 577, providing for the issuance of GO bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facility capital projects, be amended to include \$500.0 for water and sewer improvements in the Juneau Indian Village. Although the Juneau Indian Village is a protected tribal area, the streets, drainage, and water and sewer are the responsibility of the City and Borough of Juneau. The existing neighborhood does not have adequate water and sewer lines, paved streets or appropriate drainage. This appropriation would solve that problem and vastly improve the quality of life for residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

attachment



## **Juneau Water and Sewer Facilities**

### **Juneau Indian Village Infrastructure: \$500.0**

This project would reconstruct or install new water and sewer lines and streets in the Juneau Indian Village. Street construction would include drainage, excavation, and placement of new base material, curbs, gutters and pavement. Although the project is within the Indian Village, a protected tribal area, the streets, drainage, and water and sewer are the responsibility of the City and Borough of Juneau.

The existing neighborhood does not have adequate water and sewer lines, proper roadway drainage or paved streets. Some residences are not connected to the City and Borough of Juneau sewer system. Streets routinely flood because of poor drainage and are difficult to maintain in a smooth and safe driving condition. Existing water lines are undersized and antiquated.

Funds are not available from the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service for this work. The decrepit infrastructure in this neighborhood contributes to its poor appearance. This project would improve the quality of life for the residents in this neighborhood and enhance the area's appearance as a neighbor of commercial businesses and other uses in the center of the Capital City.

ALASKA STATE

# HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME

ASSOCIATION

April 14, 1992

Representative Jerry Mackie, Chair  
House Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Support HB 577 GO Bonds  
Water, Sewer, &  
Health Facilities

Dear Representative Mackie:

The Legislature began the process in 1981 to evaluate the plant conditions and functional adequacy of Alaska's rural health facilities.

Enclosed is a brief summary of that process and the recommendations made in 1982 to upgrade these facilities.

HB 577 would authorize general obligation bonds to complete a process began over 10 years ago.

We urge your support of HB 577.

Questions, please call. We will be available at the hearing on HB 577 before the Community and Regional Affairs Committee 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15.

Sincerely,



Harlan R. Knudson  
President/CEO

ALASKA STATE HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME ASSOCIATION  
S T A T E M E N T

April, 13 1992

SUPPORT -- HB 577 - General Obligation Bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facility capital projects.

The 1981 Legislature authorized and funded a study by the Department of Health and Social Services of the plant condition and functional adequacy of 15 rural hospitals and nursing homes in Alaska.

Anchorage and Fairbanks hospitals were not included. Valley Hospital, Palmer, and Sitka Community Hospitals did not participate as they were currently under construction or reconstruction in 1982. Denali Center in Fairbanks did not exist at this time.

OVERVIEW OF SURVEYED FACILITIES

A study team evaluated the adequacy of the physical facilities at each hospital or long term care unit. A number of serious problems and deficiencies were discovered.

Generally, the deficiencies observed in the health care facilities surveyed are due to the advances and changing techniques in the medical field, coupled with more stringent building, fire and life safety codes which have been adopted over the last few years.

1982 PRIORITIZATION OF SURVEYED HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES

In conducting the inventory and evaluation study of the 15 hospitals and long term care facilities in 1982, architectural consultants identified six facilities which were in greater need of immediate attention than others, due to their more severe physical and functional deficiencies. The Department assembled a committee to review the report.

This committee consisted of one member from:

The Alaska Medical Facility Authority,  
The Alaska State Hospital Association,  
Southeast Alaska Health Systems Agency, Inc.,  
South Central Health Planning and Development, Inc.,  
The Medical Care Advisory Committee, and  
The Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

The ranking provided by the committee was based only upon the relative severity of all physical and functional deficiencies found at each facility and did not consider other factors such as facility utilization or population trends.

(More)

The Committee ranking was as follows:

- \*1. Cordova Community Hospital and Long Term Care Facility
- \*2. Petersburg General Hospital and Long Term Care Facility
3. Seward General Hospital
4. Kodiak Island Hospital and Long Term Care Facility
5. Wesleyan Nursing Home, Seward
- \*6. Wrangell General Hospital
- \*7. South Peninsula General Hospital and Long Term Care Facility
8. Ketchikan General Hospital and Island View Manor
- \*9. Central Peninsula General Hospital
- \*10. Bartlett Memorial Hospital
11. Valdez Community Hospital
12. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Juneau
- \*13. Norton Sound Regional Hospital

\* Completed (Central Peninsula and Bartlett Memorial utilized local bonding)

HB 577: HEALTH FACILITY CAPITOL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS:  
KODIAK, KETCHIKAN, & SEWARD

Kodiak Island Borough Hospital/LTC	- \$ 14,700,000.00	
Kodiak Borough Appropriate	- \$ 4,900,000.00	(Local Match)
Total	- \$ 19,600,000.00	
Seward General Hospital	- \$ 5,300,000.00	(State Grant)
City of Seward Appropriate	- \$ 1,800,000.00	(Local Match)
Total	- \$ 7,100,000.00	
Ketchikan General Hospital	- \$ 15,800,000.00	(State Grant)
City of Ketchikan Appropriate	- \$ 5,300,000.00	(Local Match)
Total	- \$ 21,100,000.00	
** Wesley Rehabilitation and Care Center	- \$ 4,800,000.00	

\*\* Not included in HB 577, should be added

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harlan Knudson - 586-1790  
Alaska State Hospital & Nursing Home Association  
319 Seward Street, #11; Juneau, Ak 99801

# # # #



217 Second Street, Suite 200 ■ Juneau, Alaska 99801 ■ Tel (907) 586-1325, Fax (907) 463-5480

April 15, 1992

TO: Representative Jerry Mackie, Chair  
and  
Members, House Committee on Community and Regional Affairs

FROM: *WAB* Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director

RE: HB 577 - General obligation bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects.

The members of the Alaska Municipal League, through their policy development process, have expressed their strong support of state assistance for the construction of health care facilities, sewer and water systems, and solid waste facilities (1992 *Policy Statement*, I.I.2 and VI.B; Resolution 92-2).

The League and its members recognize the diverse needs of Alaska's communities for improved water and sewer systems and have for a long time advocated state support of a construction grant program to help meet these needs, the Village Safe Water Program, and other types of grants and loans to help communities develop infrastructure for essential services.

In addition to basic sanitary services, health care facilities, whether clinics in smaller communities or hospitals for larger communities, are critical to ensuring that Alaska's citizens have a chance for healthy, productive lives. Recent surveys that place Alaska near the bottom of the states in terms of citizen health underscore the necessity of the state's investing in such facilities in recognition of its constitutional responsibility to safeguard the health of Alaska's citizens (Article VII, sect. 4: "The legislature shall provide for the promotion and protection of public health.")

HB 577 provides one way of providing state support for facilities and systems essential for public health and safety. To that extent the League supports HB 577, although it does not have a position on the issue of bonding to achieve this goal.

Attachment

CSS92LEG:HB577.415

**Resolution of the Alaska Municipal League**

**Resolution No. 92-2**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR STATE SUPPORT OF  
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Constitution makes the health of the citizens of Alaska a responsibility of the State of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, a recent national poll ranked Alaska as 49th in the country in terms of the overall health of its citizens, and

WHEREAS, access to health care was a major factor in this rating, and

WHEREAS, the image of Alaska being an unhealthy place to live or visit damages many aspects of the state economy, especially tourism and the attraction of new business development to the state, and

WHEREAS, the need for high-quality health care is especially acute in the rural areas of the state, and

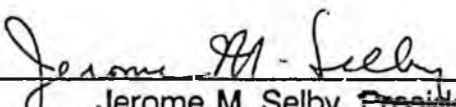
WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature has not appropriated significant funding for health care facilities for several years, and

WHEREAS, the 17th Legislature is considering SB 67, which would establish a program to help fund health care facility construction;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the Alaska State Legislature to pass SB 67 and to otherwise act responsibly to fund health care facilities in Alaska, with the first priority going to projects that are ready to construct within one year and have some federal or local match funds (cash or in-kind) provided.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges Governor Hickel to support legislation and funding to support health care facilities.

Adopted this 15th day of November 1991 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerome M. Selby, President

ATTEST:


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director



217 Second Street, Suite 200 ■ Juneau, Alaska 99801 ■ Tel (907) 586-1325, Fax (907) 463-5480

April 15, 1992

TO: Representative Jerry Mackie, Chair  
and  
Members, House Committee on Community and Regional Affairs

FROM:  Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director

RE: HB 577 - General obligation bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects.

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The League and its members recognize the diverse needs of Alaska's communities for improved water and sewer systems and have for a long time advocated state support of a construction grant program to help meet these needs, the Village Safe Water Program, and other types of grants and loans to help communities develop infrastructure for essential services.

In addition to basic sanitary services, health care facilities, whether clinics in smaller communities or hospitals for larger communities, are critical to ensuring that Alaska's citizens have a chance for healthy, productive lives. Recent surveys that place Alaska near the bottom of the states in terms of citizen health underscore the necessity of the state's investing in such facilities in recognition of its constitutional responsibility to safeguard the health of Alaska's citizens (Article VII, sect. 4: "The legislature shall provide for the promotion and protection of public health.")

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Attachment

CSS92LEG:HB577.415

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

VILLAGE SAFE WATER PROGRAM

HB 577: page 4, line 21, statewide/clinic water and sewer \$1,100,000

The following is the breakdown of the \$1.1 million:

**EXHIBIT A**  
**CLINIC IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**  
**PRIORITY LIST OF PROJECTS**

Clinic Name	Regional Area	Scope of Work	Cost	Lead Agency
1. Emmonak	YK	Conn. new clinic, w/s plumbing	\$30,000	VSW
2. Teller	Bering Str.	Conn. to washeteria w/s & plumb	70,000	IHS
3. Northway	TCC	Conn. new clinic to lagoon, water ser.	60,000	IHS
4. Kivalina	Maniilaq	Conn. clinic swr to sch. wtr. to tank 600 ft. utility	80,000	IHS
5. Chitina	Aetna	Plumb & improve clinic w/s	10,000	VSW
6. Stevens V	TCC	Conn. clinic w/s and plumb	50,000	IHS
7. White Mt.	Bering Str.	Conn. new clinic to system	30,000	IHS
8. Shageluk	YK	Conn. clinic w/s to washeteria	50,000	IHS
9. Levelock	Bristol Bay	Replace drainfield, ck. plumbing	12,000	IHS
10. Kotlik	YK	Conn. clinic w/s to washeteria	80,000	IHS
11. Manokotak	Bristol Bay	Ck. plumbing, insulate, heat tape	10,000	IHS
12. Nikolai	TCC	Conn. sewer to new village sewer	10,000	VSW
13. Ekwok	Bristol Bay	Ck. plumbing-insulate	3,000	IHS
14. N. Stuyahok	Bristol Bay	Correct plumbing prob., insulate	10,000	IHS*
15. Platinum	YK	Conn. clinic to w, instal. septic tank.	60,000	VSW
16. Napaskiak	YK	Conn. new clinic to wtr 600' util. 200' sewer to lagoon	160,000	IHS
17. Nunapitchuk	YK	Conn. new clinic to WTP water sewer to school lagoon	130,000	IHS
18. Koyukuk	YK	Conn. wtr (400') sewer (200') to washeteria and lagoon	110,000	VSW
19. Takotna	TCC	Conn. clinic wtr to washeteria 800' utility	130,000	IHS
Total			<u>\$1,100,000</u>	

\*Approximate building time

Note: The available funding is limited to \$500,000. The above project budgets are approximate and may vary. Some listed projects may be determined to be unfeasible and may have to be eliminated or revised.

# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

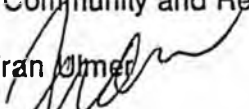


REPRESENTATIVE FRAN ULMER

### MEMORANDUM

April 14, 1992

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

FROM: Rep. Fran Ulmer 

RE: HB 577, providing for the issuance of GO bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facility capital projects

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I would like to request that HB 577, providing for the issuance of GO bonds for water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facility capital projects, be amended to include \$500.0 for water and sewer improvements in the Juneau Indian Village. Although the Juneau Indian Village is a protected tribal area, the streets, drainage, and water and sewer are the responsibility of the City and Borough of Juneau. The existing neighborhood does not have adequate water and sewer lines, paved streets or appropriate drainage. This appropriation would solve that problem and vastly improve the quality of life for residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

attachment



## Juneau Water and Scwer Facilities

**Juneau Indian Village Infrastructure: \$500.0**

This project would reconstruct or install new water and sewer lines and streets in the Juneau Indian Village. Street construction would include drainage, excavation, and placement of new base material, curbs, gutters and pavement. Although the project is within the Indian Village, a protected tribal area, the streets, drainage, and water and sewer are the responsibility of the City and Borough of Juneau.

The existing neighborhood does not have adequate water and sewer lines, proper roadway drainage or paved streets. Some residences are not connected to the City and Borough of Juneau sewer system. Streets routinely flood because of poor drainage and are difficult to maintain in a smooth and safe driving condition. Existing water lines are undersized and antiquated.

Funds are not available from the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service for this work. The decrepit infrastructure in this neighborhood contributes to its poor appearance. This project would improve the quality of life for the residents in this neighborhood and enhance the area's appearance as a neighbor of commercial businesses and other uses in the center of the Capital City.

# COUNCIL ANNETTE ISLANDS RESERVE

METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

CASEY D. NELSON, SR. MAYOR  
 BEVERLY J. GUTHRIE, SECRETARY  
 BARBARA J. FAWCETT, TREASURER

ESTABLISHED 1888

POST OFFICE BOX 5  
 METLAKATLA, ALASKA 99926  
 PHONE (907) 886-4441  
 FAX (907) 386-7997

April 15, 1992

Representative Jerry Mackie, Chairman  
 House Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
 Pouch V  
 Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: Metlakatla Indian Community of Annette Islands Reservation  
 Support of HB 577

Dear Representative Mackie:

The Metlakatla Indian Community supports the passage of HB 577, "providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds . . . for the purpose of paying the cost of water, sewer, waste disposal . . . and providing for an effective date." With the passage of this bill, Metlakatla would receive \$613,410 for water tank and feeder lines replacement. This is our number one capital project priority this session and is of the utmost importance to our Community.

This project has been included in the Department of Environmental Conservation's Village Safe Water Program but is unlikely to receive funding under that program this year. We ask your Committee's support of this legislation and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

*Barbara J. Fawcett, Treasurer*  
 for Casey D. Nelson, Sr., Mayor

cc: Representative Chori Davis, Vice-Chair  
 Representative Larry Baker  
 Representative Bettye Davis  
 Representative Richard Foster  
 Representative John Gonzales  
 Representative Gail Phillips  
 Representative George Jacko