

SB 170

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred: May 19, 1991

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 5/21/91

The FINANCE Committee considered:

CSSB 170(FIN)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 170 (FINANCE)

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

"An Act directing the Department of Health and Social Services to develop a statewide plan and conduct a statewide public awareness campaign relating to adolescent pregnancy prevention and services for adolescent parents and their children; and establishing a program to fund adolescent pregnancy and parenthood projects; relating to a peer counselor program; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

be replaced with _____ 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) DHSS 5/17/91

zero fiscal note _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNF	NR	AM
<i>Mike Navarre</i> NAVARRE	✓				
<i>Mark Boyer</i> BOYER	X				
<i>Tan Brown</i> BROWN	-				
<i>[Signature]</i> KOPONEN	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i> JACKO	X				
<i>[Signature]</i> PHILLIPS	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i> SHARP	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i> ADAMSON	X				
<i>[Signature]</i> WILSON	X				

Mike Navarre NAVARRE

 66- CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

REQUEST: FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affect: Health & Social Services
 Title: Statewide adolescent pregnancy prevention program plan BRU: State Health Services
 Sponsor: Pearce, Uehling, Zharoff, Collins Components: Maternal, Child & Family Health
 Requester: Senate HESS

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
Personal Services	93.8	93.8	93.8	93.8	93.8	93.8
Travel	5.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Contractual		80.0	70.0	60.0	50.0	50.0
Supplies	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Equipment	7.5					
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims		200.0	175.0	150.0	125.0	100.0
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	107.8	384.3	349.3	314.3	279.3	254.3

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

General Funds	107.8	384.3	349.3	314.3	279.3	254.3
Federal Funds						
Other						
TOTAL	107.8	384.3	349.3	314.3	279.3	254.3

POSITIONS

Full-Time	2	2	2	2	2	2
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (attach a separate page if necessary)

Please see attached analysis.

Prepared By: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH, Director *P. Nakamura* Phone: 465-3090
 Division: PUBLIC HEALTH Date: 05/17/91
 Approved By Commissioner: Theodore Mala, M.D., MPH *T. Mala* Date: 05/17/91
 Agency: HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

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

May 17, 1991

Fiscal Note Analysis for CS-SB 170

FY 92

Personal Services: \$93.8

Permanent, fulltime Health Program Specialist II (Rg 19). This position will facilitate the involvement of all interested parties in the development of the statewide plan and will direct and coordinate the overall development, production, review and dissemination of the plan. Clerk Typist III (Rg 8) to provide support for all the activities related to development of the statewide plan.

Travel: \$5.0

Travel, as needed, to facilitate the involvement of all agencies and individuals who have expertise which will enhance the quality and comprehensiveness of the state plan.

Supplies: \$1.5

Office and computer supplies for the professional and clerical staff.

Equipment: \$7.5

Computers, printer and office furniture for the professional and clerical staff.

FY 93 thru FY 96

Personal Services \$93.8

Permanent full time Health Program Specialist II (Rg 19) to provide on-going technical assistance, training and support to the agencies and individuals delivering services and to provide overall direction for the implementation of the plan developed in FY 92. Clerk Typist III (Rg 8) to provide the clerical support needed to keep this project viable and the entire adolescent pregnancy prevention effort coordinated and delivering services to those in the field who need the materials and support.

Travel: \$9.0

Travel for the Health Program Specialist to provide training around the state, as needed, and to provide technical assistance and local level support.

Contractual: \$80.0 FY93 and reduced by \$10.0 each year

Staff operating costs associated with communications, materials reproduction and purchasing.

Professional contract services related to conducting a statewide awareness campaign, supporting the peer counselor program at the local level and support of local community projects.

Supplies: \$1.5

Office and computer supplies for the professional and clerical staff.

Grants: \$200 FY 92 and reduced by \$25.0 each year

Grants to local communities to fund a percentage of the startup costs for locally developed, targeted adolescent pregnancy prevention projects.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 170 (FINANCE)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/17/91
Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS PEARCE, Uehling, Zharoff, Collins

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act directing the Department of Health and Social Services to develop a statewide
2 plan and conduct a statewide public awareness campaign relating to adolescent pregnancy
3 prevention and services for adolescent parents and their children; and establishing a
4 program to fund adolescent pregnancy and parenthood projects; relating to a peer
5 counselor program; and providing for an effective date."

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

7 * Section 1. AS 47 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

8 CHAPTER 18. PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
9 RELATED TO ADOLESCENTS.

10 ARTICLE 1. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING.

11 Sec. 47.18.010. DEVELOPMENT OF STATEWIDE PLAN. (a) With the advice of the
12 Alaska Commission on Children and Youth, the department shall develop a comprehensive
13 statewide plan to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of state programs that relate to the

1 prevention of adolescent pregnancy and the provision of services to adolescent parents and their
2 children under AS 47.18.100 - 47.18.140, and to peer counseling under AS 47.18.200.

3 (b) The plan developed under (a) of this section must

4 (1) review and include existing programs and services of state government,

5 (2) examine and consider the achievements and experiences of projects that are
6 similar to those authorized under AS 47.18.100 - 47.18.140 and 47.18.200;

7 (3) give priority to the consolidation and improvement of existing programs;

8 (4) make recommendations with regard to the need for new or expanded programs
9 and services within the existing level of funding;

10 (5) consider the findings and recommendations of the Alaska's Adolescent
11 Pregnancy and Parenthood Task Force; and

12 (6) make recommendations concerning the incremental implementation of the
13 plan.

14 (c) The Department of Education, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs,
15 and the Department of Labor shall assist the department in developing the plan required under
16 (a) of this section. In addition, through appropriate means, the department shall solicit advice
17 from teens, parents, educators, school administrators, taxpayers, civic groups, community
18 organizations, Native organizations, officials of local governments, religious institutions, and
19 other concerned persons about how state programs can be coordinated and operated in a manner
20 that will enhance their effectiveness and efficiency in addressing the many needs associated with
21 adolescent parenting, the prevention of adolescent pregnancies, and the provision of adolescent
22 peer counseling.

23 **ARTICLE 2. PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS.**

24 **Sec. 47.18.050. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.** (a) The department shall develop
25 and implement statewide a continuing public awareness campaign, including appropriate public
26 forums and workshops, radio and television public service announcements, and press releases
27 designed to

28 (1) communicate to the public the scope and magnitude of the adolescent
29 pregnancy and parenthood problem in the state;

30 (2) encourage community activities that will educate adults and adolescents about
31 the importance of reducing adolescent pregnancy;

1 (3) enlist the active support and involvement of members of the public and
2 community organizations in the development and implementation of community based programs
3 and activities to reduce adolescent pregnancy and assist adolescent parents in obtaining needed
4 educational, vocational, and parenting skills.

5 (b) A primary policy and objective of the public awareness campaign required under (a)
6 of this section shall be to encourage adolescents to abstain from premarital sexual intimacy.

7 ARTICLE 3. ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PROJECTS.

8 Sec. 47.18.100. STATE FUNDING AUTHORIZED. In order to encourage and support
9 community based initiatives to combat the many problems associated with adolescent pregnancy
10 and parenthood, the department shall, from appropriations for that purpose, give grants or award
11 contracts to fund a percentage of the cost of local projects designed to prevent adolescent
12 pregnancy and assist adolescent parents in obtaining needed educational, vocational, and
13 parenting skills.

14 Sec. 47.18.110. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS. (a) Projects funded under AS 47.18.100 shall
15 be designed with a holistic approach that recognizes the interconnectedness of adolescent
16 parenthood and a broad array of related circumstances, such as low self-esteem, domestic
17 violence, substance abuse, economic security, financial responsibilities of having a child, cultural
18 integrity, sources of adolescent stress, parenting skills, educational and vocational opportunities,
19 and access to reproductive health services.

20 (b) Projects funded under AS 47.18.100 may include one or more of the following types
21 of activities:

- 22 (1) family life education;
- 23 (2) counseling services for adolescents who are, or who may think they are,
24 pregnant or who want to avoid pregnancy;
- 25 (3) prenatal care for pregnant adolescents;
- 26 (4) job training and placement for adolescent parents;
- 27 (5) educational and support services for adolescent parents;
- 28 (6) other activities that, in the judgment of the department, are likely to have a
29 tangible effect on combating a problem associated with adolescent pregnancy or parenthood.

30 Sec. 47.18.120. APPLICATIONS FOR PROJECT FUNDING. (a) A person or group
31 seeking funding under AS 47.18.100 shall apply to the department on a form provided by the

1 department.

2 (b) When applying under (a) of this section, the applicant must demonstrate to the
3 satisfaction of the department that the proposed project

4 (1) has been designed with extensive assistance from local community members
5 who represent a variety of interests, cultures, and perspectives on adolescent pregnancy and
6 parenthood;

7 (2) is based on sound research, to the maximum extent possible;

8 (3) will maximize collaboration among all relevant agencies involved in the needs
9 being addressed by the project;

10 (4) includes an evaluation component to measure project effectiveness;

11 (5) includes a public awareness campaign component.

12 Sec. 47.18.140. PROMOTION OF PROGRAM AND PROJECTS. (a) The department
13 shall take appropriate actions to publicize the availability of funds under AS 47.18.100 -
14 47.18.140.

15 (b) The department shall annually conduct regional conferences or workshops across the
16 state to

17 (1) showcase the activities and achievements of projects funded under
18 AS 47.18.100 - 47.18.140 for which the evaluation components have shown a high level of
19 success;

20 (2) encourage and support the replication of these successful projects; and

21 (3) increase public awareness of the availability of state administered services and
22 programs to address the many problems associated with adolescent pregnancy and parenthood.

23 ARTICLE 4. ADOLESCENT PEER COUNSELING.

24 Sec. 47.18.200. PEER COUNSELOR PROGRAM. (a) The department shall develop
25 and implement a continuing statewide program of technical support and assistance to encourage
26 school districts, municipalities, and nonprofit corporations incorporated under AS 10.20 that
27 initiate implementation, or that are considering implementation, of adolescent peer counseling
28 groups under adult supervision for

29 (1) prevention of adolescent behavioral patterns that jeopardize physical and
30 mental health and that hamper social, educational, and personal development; and

31 (2) spreading information about services that are available to adolescents to help

1 them with their health needs.

2 (b) The program of technical support required under (a) of this section must include

3 (1) suggested methods for maintaining a high level of adolescent, parental, and
4 community support for peer counseling groups;

5 (2) workshops, seminars, or other training opportunities for adolescent peer
6 counselors and their adult leaders; this training must include sessions to

7 (A) develop interpersonal communications skills;

8 (B) teach accurate health information, emphasizing sexual development;

9 (C) provide information about services that are available in the peer
10 counselors' areas and how those services can be obtained for pregnancy prevention, and
11 prenatal care; and

12 (D) encourage adolescents to avoid major risk-taking behavior and to
13 reinforce responsible behavior and self control;

14 (3) assistance in selecting appropriate resource materials for the groups;

15 (4) recommended mechanisms for effectively monitoring and evaluating the
16 activities and accomplishments of the groups; and

17 (5) other similar services to assist and encourage school districts and
18 municipalities in establishing and administering adolescent peer counseling groups.

19 (c) In developing the program of technical support and assistance required under (a) of
20 this section, the department shall review and consider the activities and accomplishments in other
21 states that have developed peer counseling networks. The department shall solicit contributions
22 of money and expertise from the private sector that may be available for this type of program.

23 ARTICLE 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

24 Sec. 47.18.900. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "department" means the Department of
25 Health and Social Services.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 47.18.050 - 47.18.200, as added by sec. 1 of this Act, take effect on the date the
27 Department of Health and Social Services completes the plan required under AS 47.18.010(a), as added
28 by sec. 1 of this Act. The commissioner of health and social services shall certify to the revisor of
29 statutes and the lieutenant governor the date the plan is completed.

Alaska State Legislature

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During Session:
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Senator Drue Pearce District G

TO: Representative Mike Navarre, Co-chair
Representative Eileen Maclean, Co-chair
House Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Drue Pearce

DATE: May 19, 1991

RE: CSSB 170 (FIN)

CSSB 170 (FIN) was originally two pieces of legislation which dealt with the problem of teen pregnancy. The original SB 170 would have established a public awareness campaign, and the original SB 172 would have provided technical support for coordinating peer counseling in Alaska. CSSB 170 (FIN) combines the concepts of the original pieces of legislation. The two original pieces of legislation had companion bills HB 243 sponsored by Representative Cheri Davis and HB 255 sponsored by Representative Johnny Ellis.

CSSB 170 (FIN) takes an incremental approach to implementing the public awareness and peer counseling campaign. This legislation would accomplish the following in an attempt to curb and prevent adolescent pregnancies:

- * Would first fund a position in the Department of Health and Social Services to create a plan for implementing the program enumerated in the other sections of the bill. This plan would be based on extensive research, coordination of existing resources, and collaboration with effected departments.
- * Upon receipt of the plan, grant and contractual money will be allocated to implement a statewide public awareness campaign and special projects for smaller communities. All of which would be directed to disseminate information about the gravity of teen pregnancy.
- * Coordinate, support, and initiate peer counseling programs around the state. Supplementing the current Natural Helpers Program with the human sexuality component which is now missing.

If we ever hope to quell the staggering figures that make up Alaska's teen pregnancy rate, public awareness and peer counseling will be essential steps.

I urge your individual support. Thank you.

RECOMMENDATION:

Mandate that the Department of Health and Social Services direct a statewide public awareness campaign and fund and monitor a program of comprehensive adolescent pregnancy prevention projects modeled after the Division of Mental Health Suicide Prevention Projects.

Issue

The magnitude of the problem of adolescent pregnancy is a result of a complex combination of factors that vary greatly from one community to the next. These factors are diverse and cannot be solved by a single approach; therefore, this Task Force has learned that the most successful approach to solving the problem of adolescent pregnancy will have to include a wide variety of programs and services. By forming diverse coalitions, respecting community cultures, and addressing adolescent pregnancy in context, set backs can be minimized and the potential for success maximized. Preventing adolescent pregnancy means changing the decisions adolescents make about sexuality and child bearing. These decisions are bound up in the adolescents ideas about family life, education, and their perception of their own abilities and opportunities. A variety of other circumstances related to mental health, family violence, substance abuse, and community development also impinge on the making of these decisions.

If the state is to reduce rates of adolescent pregnancy, it must employ a comprehensive approach. The various political entities must have the support and confidence of the public as a whole, and certainly changing people's values and attitudes takes time.

Implementation

- 1) The statewide public awareness campaign shall:
 - a) coordinate all interested and appropriate agencies in the state;
 - b) develop a multi-media program that communicates to the public the scope and magnitude of the adolescent pregnancy problem;
 - c) call for volunteers from other state agencies as well as the private sector;

- d) encourage community activities which will educate adults and adolescents alike about the importance of reducing adolescent pregnancy;
 - e) coordinates with existing programs for National Family Sexuality Education Month in October of each year.
- 2) Funded projects shall incorporate the following concepts:
- a) Adolescent pregnancy addressed in a holistic context, recognizing the interconnectedness of adolescent pregnancy and a broad array of related circumstances such as:
 - 1. low self-esteem
 - 2. domestic violence
 - 3. substance abuse
 - 4. economic security
 - 5. financial responsibility of bearing a child
 - 6. cultural integrity
 - 7. parenting skills
 - 8. educational and vocational opportunities
 - 9. access to reproductive health services
 - b) Projects will be defined and designed with maximum input from local community members who represent the variety of interests, cultures, and perspectives on teen pregnancy.
 - c) Projects should be based upon sound research, to the maximum extent possible.
 - d) Projects will maximize collaboration among all relevant agencies involved in the issues being addressed.
 - e) Projects will incorporate an evaluation component to measure project effectiveness.
 - f) Projects will include a public awareness campaign.

Cost

The cost of a statewide public awareness campaign would be dependent upon the complexity and type of media used. However, an adequate campaign could be mounted for approximately \$100,000.

The cost of the community based projects is estimated to be much the same as those for the Suicide Prevention Projects and to be dependent upon the number of projects funded. At the very least, the Task Force recommends that various level grants be designed to meet the needs of rural, semi-rural, and urban communities.

According to the office fiscally responsible for suicide prevention projects, grants average \$15,000 per year per project, and there are nearly 50 projects around the state. Grants are given to communities who have developed a proposal for preventing suicide in their localities. A copy of a grant application for a suicide prevention project is included in Appendix B.

Benefits

Initially, the expected benefits include a greater focus on the problem of adolescent pregnancies in many communities, which itself would result in better clarity. In addition, strategies for preventing adolescent pregnancy that are relevant to individual communities would be developed and implemented, evaluated, and possibly shared with other communities.

Over time, the number of adolescent births (and pregnancies, although this cannot be adequately measured) would decline. Additional benefits, perhaps not directly related to adolescent pregnancy, such as enhanced cultural pride, greater local support for domestic violence victims, or improved vocational training opportunities, are also likely.