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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

misc. backup

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.

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

#

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.

COUNCIL ANNETTE ISLANDS RESERVE

METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

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

ESTABLISHED 1887

POST OFFICE BOX 9
METLAKATLA, ALASKA 99926
PHONE (907) 886-1441
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 Cheri Davis, Vice-Chair
Representative Larry Baker
Representative Battye Davis
Representative Richard Foster
Representative John Gonzales
Representative Gail Phillips
Representative George Jackc



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

AML Position

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

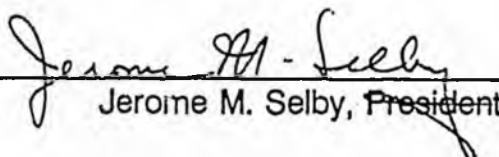
WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature has not appropriated significant funding for health care facilities for several years, and

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

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 facility 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).

HB 577 Sectional

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.

APR 20 1992 R

CITY OF UNALASKA

P.O. BOX 89
UNALASKA, ALASKA 99685
(907) 581-1251
FAX (907) 581-1417



April 15, 1992

Representative George G. Jacko, Jr.
Room 415
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Jacko, Jr.,

Enclosed please find copies of Resolutions #92-34 and #92-35 passed by the City Council of the City of Unalaska supporting House Bills #577 and #581 and urging passage by the Alaska State Legislature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra K. Dushkin".

DEBRA K. DUSHKIN
City Clerk

enclosures

APR 20 1992

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 92-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNALASKA SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL #577 OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE.

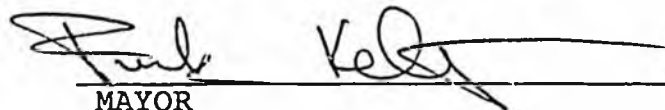
WHEREAS, House Bill #577 provides for an Act providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$295,295,454 for the purpose of paying the cost of water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Unalaska recognizes the importance of providing for adequate water, sewer, waste disposal and health care facilities to communities in Alaska; and

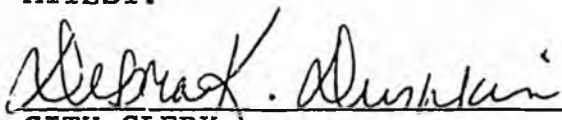
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Unalaska supports House Bill #577 and urges passage of this bill by the Alaska State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution will be sent to the members of the Alaska State Legislature, Governor Walter Hickel and the Dept. of Office of Management and Budget.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY A DULY CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNALASKA THIS 14 DAY OF April, 1992.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

APR 17 1992 R

COUNCIL ANNETTE ISLANDS RESERVE

METLAKATLA INDIAN COMMUNITY

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

ESTABLISHED 1887

POST OFFICE BOX 8
METLAKATLA, ALASKA 99926
PHONE (907) 886-4441
FAX (907) 886-7997

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

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE JACKO

NAME: LUCILLE VALINE
TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 90199
CITY: ANCHORAGE
PHONE: 333-2770
BILL NO: SB 8
SUBJECT: ANNUITY PROGRAM AMENDMENTS
MESSAGE: I URGE THAT YOU TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO STOP THE AMENDMENT OF SB 8
AND RETURN IT TO ITS ORIGINAL VERSION AS PASSED BY THE SENATE./CMR

ZIP: 99509

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DATE: 92/04/16
TIME: 16:23:17
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COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

BARNES
BOYER
BROWN
KOPONEN
LARSON
MACLEAN
NAVARRE
R. PHILLIPS
SHARP
ULMER

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE JACKO

APR 16 1992

NAME: ROBERT CLARK
TITLE: BBAHC, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 130
CITY: DILLINGHAM AK
PHONE: 842-5201
BILL NO: HB 577
SUBJECT: HEALTH CARE, WATER, SEWER G.O. BONDS
MESSAGE: THE BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION REQUESTS YOUR SUPPORT FOR
HB 577. QUALITY WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS ARE A TOP PRIORITY FOR OUR PEOPLE.
WITH THE INCREASE OF ELDERS IN OUR REGION WE NEED A LONG TERM CARE FACILITY
SO ELDERS WHO NEED CARE CAN REMAIN IN THEIR REGION. THANK YOU.

ZIP: 99576

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DAVIDSON
BARNES
BOYER
BROWN
KOPONEN
LARSON
MACLEAN
NAVARRE
R. PHILLIPS
SHARP
ULMER
CARNEY
B. DAVIS
C. DAVIS
GONZALES
HANLEY
LINCOLN
M. A. MILLER
ZHAROFF

ALASKA STATE

HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME

ASSOCIATION

April 16, 1992

Representative Georgianna Lincoln, Co-Chair
House Health, Education, & Social Services
Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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

Dear Representative Lincoln:

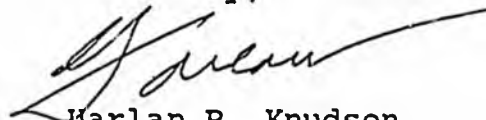
Please schedule HB 577, GO bonds for
water, sewer, and health facilities for
hearing before the House HESS Committee.

We are delighted to finally get a health
facility bonding bill that truly represents
the needs statewide.

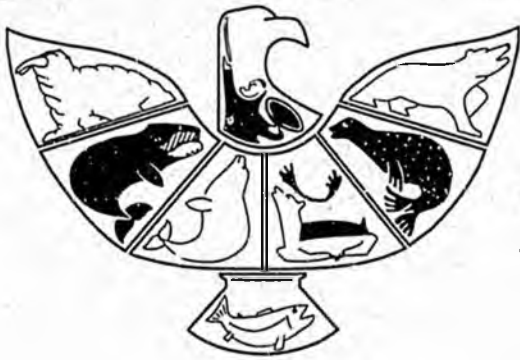
Enclosed is a summary of the 1982 study
that created a list of priorities for health
facility construction. Newton Chase, Chief
of the Facilities Section (465-3015), at DHSS
has study on need for clinics.

Any questions, call.

Sincerely,



Harlan R. Knudson
President/CEO



Alaska Native Health Board

1345 Rudakof Circle, Suite 206
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Phone: (907) 337-0028
FAX: (907) 333-2001

April 17, 1992

The Honorable Pat Carney, Co-Chair
Committee on Health, Education, and Social Services
Alaska House of Representatives
Post Office Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Carney:

I am writing to voice the Alaska Native Health Board's (ANHB) strong support for House Bill 577, a bill to authorize issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects.

Water, sewer, and sanitation have been at the top of ANHB's list of priorities for action by the state government for the last several years. The health board's concern is that the lack of adequate water supplies and poor sanitation in rural Alaskan communities poses a serious health threat to residents. H.B. 577 will provide necessary funds to begin addressing Alaska's unmet water, sewer, and sanitation needs in a most meaningful way.

Village and subregional health clinics are the focal point for providing primary health care services to rural Alaskans. A significant number of existing clinics are physically inadequate and in need of major renovation or total replacement. Fifty-two of 168 clinics surveyed last year did not even have piped water and sewer service. It is of paramount importance that health care services be provided in modern, sanitary facilities if rural Alaskans are to ever achieve parity in health status with the rest of the United States.

I urge you to support swift passage of H.B. 577. New or improved facilities to be funded by the bill will help protect the health and well-being of our people while providing a much-needed boost to the state's economy.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Walker
Executive Director

Southcentral Foundation



April 20, 1992

Members of the "HESS" Committee
House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska

TELEFAXED

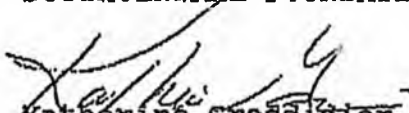
Honorable Representatives:

As the Executive Director of Southcentral Foundation, I am writing to ask that you act expeditiously to send on House Bill 577 from your committee with a "do pass." This bill, as you know, authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for water, sewer, waste disposal, and health care facility capital projects throughout the State of Alaska. The money generated from the bond sales would significantly improve the situation in many villages, with inadequate and unsafe water and sewer systems, crumbling health clinics, and other growing threats to the health and safety of residents.

Southcentral Foundation, the Alaska Native Regional Health Corporation serving the Native population of Anchorage and the Cook Inlet Region, urges the quick passage of this bill by the House. In addition to the many small villages and cities that will receive much needed assistance, the bill will enable work to begin on a replacement facility to house the Alaska Native Alcoholism Recovery Center and the Prematernal Treatment Center, two substance abuse programs located in Anchorage that serve clients from the entire State. These are important, cost-effective programs that save lives, reduce Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and altogether save the State a great deal of money that would otherwise be spent on medical care and other social services.

Sincerely yours,

SOUTHCENTRAL FOUNDATION, INC.


Katherine Grosdidier
Executive Director

APRIL 21, 1992

HB 577: WATER, SEWER, AND HEALTH CARE FACILITY BOND BILL

REP. JACKO'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE HEALTH,
EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

GOOD MORNING.

THANK YOU FOR PROMPTLY SCHEDULING HB 577 - A WATER, SEWER,
AND HEALTH CARE FACILITY - GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND BILL.

FIRST, I'D LIKE TO COMMENT WHY I THOUGHT THIS BILL SHOULD
BE INTRODUCED, AND SECOND, I'D LIKE TO EXPLAIN HOW THE
BILL WAS PUT TOGETHER.

WHY INTRODUCE A \$300 MILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND BILL?

CO-CHAIRPERSONS, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, FEW DISPUTE THE
RIGHT TO CLEAN WATER, PROPER SEWERS AND SUITABLE MEDICAL
FACILITIES. THIS IS THE MOST VIABLE WAY TO PROVIDE FOR
THESE NEEDS. HOUSE BILL 577 ASKS THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO
AUTHORIZE BONDS TO BUILD NEARLY \$300 MILLION OF NEEDED
FACILITIES. EVERY YEAR THE LEGISLATURE ATTEMPTS TO
ADDRESS THESE BASIC HEALTH AND SANITITATION NEEDS. AND IF
WE DON'T STEP UP TO THE "PLATE" AND ADDRESS THE BIG
PICTURE -- OF STATEWIDE URBAN AND RURAL NEEDS -- THE
PROBLEM WON'T GO AWAY.

OPPONENTS TO BONDING TALK ABOUT THE PRUDHOE BAY CURVE, AA RATINGS, AND DEBT CAPACITY AS A PERCENT OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUE WHILE ADVOCATING A "PAY AS YOU GO APPROACH." FOR PEOPLE WHO CARRY THEIR WASTE OUT IN A HONEY BUCKET, PAYING CASH UP FRONT FOR PROJECTS MEANS CONTINUING TO LIVE ON A HAND TO MOUTH BASIS.

HOW HOUSE BILL 577 WAS PUT TOGETHER

THIS BILL WAS PUT TOGETHER BASED ON BOTH DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES AND COMMUNITY PRIORITIES -- (DEPARTMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES). AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE SPREADSHEET IN YOUR FILE, HOUSE BILL 577 REPRESENTS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF PROJECTS WHICH ARE CRITICALLY NEEDED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE STATE.

WE DID ALOT OF WORK PUTTING THIS BILL TOGETHER - A BALANCING ACT, SO TO SPEAK, TO TRY AND MAKE THIS BILL EQUITABLE STATEWIDE.

WHEN YOU SERVE UP A PLATE OF FOOD, IN A TIME OF NEED, YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS EQUAL PROPORTIONS.

WHILE DRAFTING HOUSE BILL 577, WE TRIED TO PROVIDE A "BALANCE" FOR NEEDED PROJECTS BETWEEN DEC'S WATER AND SEWER

PROGRAMS -- AS WELL AS BALANCE THE NEEDS AND REQUESTS FOR DIRECT GRANTS TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR WATER, SEWER, AND HEALTH CLINICS. WE TRIED TO CONSIDER EQUITY THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

CO-CHAIRS, IF THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE, I COULD WALK THROUGH THE SECTIONS OF THE BILL WITH YOU.

PAGE 1 - SECTION 3 (a)

ABOUT \$80.2 MILLION TO DEC TO ENHANCE VILLAGE SAFE WATER IN NUMEROUS CITIES AND UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES. IT INCLUDES THE ENTIRE DEC LIST WHICH TOTALED ABOUT \$61 MILLION, PLUS ABOUT \$19 MILLION IDENTIFIED AS PRIORITIES BY COMMUNITIES.

PAGE 6 - LINE 15 - SECTION 3(b)

THIS AMOUNT OF \$338,000 IS FOR THE COST OF PROJECT OVERHEAD BY DEC - FOR BOTH THE VILLAGE SAFE WATER AND 50/50 MUNICIPAL MATCHING GRANT PROGRAMS.

PAGE 6 - LINE 18 - SECTION 3(c)

ABOUT \$53.5 MILLION TO DEC TO CARRY OUT CAPITAL PROJECTS IN VARIOUS MUNICIPALITIES - CONTINGENT ON A 50/50 MATCH.

PAGE 8 - LINE 22 - SECTION 3(d)

ABOUT \$30.2 MILLION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CLINIC CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, REPLACEMENT, REPAIR, AND DESIGN.

PAGE 10 - LINE 19 - SECTION 3(e)

ABOUT \$80.3 MILLION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION FOR PAYMENT AS GRANTS TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS.

THESE INCLUDED:

--COMMUNITIES WHICH HAVE NO BONDING CAPACITY

--COMMUNITIES WHICH ARE TOO LARGE TO QUALIFY FOR THE
VILLAGE SAFE WATER PROGRAM

--AND PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITIES TO MAKE THIS BILL EQUITABLE

PAGE 12 - LINE 29 - SECTION 3 (f)

\$15 MILLION TO THE DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION FOR GRANTS TO FAIRBANK'S MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION, BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION, THE SOUTH CENTRAL FOUNDATION AND COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL, AND THE FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION.

PAGE 13 - LINES 11 THROUGH 25 - SECTION 3 (a), (b), and (i)

THESE INCLUDE FUNDS FOR 3 OF THE LARGER HOSPITAL FACILITIES, WHICH ARE CONTINGENT ON A 25% LOCAL MATCH. THEY CAN MAKE AN IN KIND CONTRIBUTION TO SATISFY UP TO FIVE PERCENT OF THE REQUIREMENT.

PAGE 13 - LINE 26 - SECTION 4

ABOUT \$1 MILLION IS INCLUDED AS OVERHEAD BY THE BOND COUNCIL. THE AMOUNT VARIES WITH THE TOTAL COST OF THE BOND BILL. MORE SPECIFICALLY, IT'S .0035 (OR .35%) OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE BOND. SO, IF THE BILL IS INCREASED, THEN THIS OVERHEAD AMOUNT WILL INCREASE TOO.

THE REST OF THE BILL IS STANDARD BOND LANGUAGE.

SUMMARY

CO-CHAIRS, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, THE NUMBERS ARE QUITE SIMPLE. AN ANNUAL EXPENDITURE OF \$31 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS WILL CREATE JOBS FOR ALASKANS AND GET 290 PROJECTS ON-LINE.

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT MAY NOT FILM
LEGIBLY BECAUSE OF THE POOR QUALITY OF
THE ORIGINAL

Testimony on HB 577
submitted to the House Health, Education
& Social Services 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 continuously 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 Ms. Chairman.

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: April 16, 1992

FURTHER REFERRAL

Finance

Date of Committee Action: 4/21/92

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES 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 an effective date."

RECOMMENDATIONS: [] the same title
 be replaced with _____ [] 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 <u>DO</u> PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
		<i>Mark Harley</i>		X	
<i>Cheri L. Davis</i>	✓				
<i>J. G. Longaker</i>	✓				
<i>Patty Miller</i>	✓	<i>Mary Miller</i>		✓	

Patty Miller
 Co -CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

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 **EXHIBIT A**
of the \$1.1 million: **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	Manilaq	Conn. clinic swr to sch. wtr. to tank 600 ft. utility	80,000	IHS
5. Chitina	Aema	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. Takoma	TCC	Conn. clinic wtr to washeteria 800' utility	130,000	IHS
Total			\$1,100,000	

*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.

DEC. Clinic Priority List