

S B

6 2

POSITION PAPER

Senate Bill No. 62

"An Act requiring the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, with the advice and cooperation of the Department of Health and Social Services, to establish and evaluate a pilot housing search service project for the homeless and those in temporary and unsafe housing; and providing for an effective date"

DISCUSSION

Senate Bill No. 62 calls upon the Department of Health and Social Services to advise and cooperate with the Department of Community and Regional Affairs to develop a pilot housing search project for the homeless and the near-homeless, and to establish criteria for the referral of eligible individuals and families to the project for the homeless.

DHSS is aware of the magnitude of the problem of homelessness and supports the concept of housing search projects for Alaska's homeless population. DHSS currently provides emergency housing assistance to financially needy individuals and families who are homeless or facing eviction, through the General Relief Assistance program.

The Department of Community and Regional Affairs currently provides funds for the development and maintenance of shelters for the homeless by providing grant funds to local organizations which operate these facilities. Experience has demonstrated that the operation of such projects is most effectively done with local control of project design and administration. The legislation at hand provides for the design, by DCRA and DHSS, of a single housing search pilot project to be operated at two sites in the state.

RECOMMENDATION

We believe that, if the state chooses to fund such a project, the most effective way to design and evaluate the project would be by granting funds to local organizations which would design, implement, and evaluate the effectiveness of the project. Local organizations already have knowledge and experience in assessing and addressing the needs of their homeless populations, and in the realities of local housing markets. Because most existing programs for the homeless are administered at the local level, local design and control of a housing search project would allow for effective coordination with existing programs for the homeless, and could serve to enhance the effectiveness of those programs already in place.

Position Paper
Senate Bill No. 62
Page 2

While we support the concept of a pilot housing search program for the homeless, we recommend against passage of this legislation.

Recommended by: Jan L. Hansen
Jan L. Hansen, Director
Division of Public Assistance

Date: 2/4/91

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

Date: 2/4/91

STATE OF ALASKA
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB62

Revision Date: _____ Department Affected: Health & Social Services
 Title: An act requiring IXRA to establish and evaluate a pilot housing search project. BRU: Public Assistance Administration
 Sponsor: Fahrenkamp Component: Admin
 Requestor: _____ COMPONENT SERIAL NO.

--	--	--	--

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TRAVEL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
CONTRACTUAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
SUPPLIES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
EQUIPMENT	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
LAND & STRUCTURES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
GRANTS, CLAIMS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
MISCELLANEOUS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TOTAL OPERATING	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

CAPITAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
FEDERAL FUNDS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
OTHER	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TOTAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
PART-TIME	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TEMPORARY	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

Estimate of current year impact: No fiscal impact.

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

 No fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Jan L. Hansen Phone: 465-3347
 Division: Division of Public Assistance Date: 2/4/91
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: _____ Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

STATE OF ALASKA
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB62

Revision Date: _____ Department Affected: Health & Social Services
 Title: An act requiring IXRA to establish and evaluate a pilot housing search project. BRU: Public Assistance Administration
 Sponsor: Fahrenkamp Component: Admin
 Requestor: _____ COMPONENT SERIAL NO.

--	--	--	--

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TRAVEL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
CONTRACTUAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
SUPPLIES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
EQUIPMENT	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
LAND & STRUCTURES	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
GRANTS, CLAIMS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
MISCELLANEOUS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TOTAL OPERATING	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

CAPITAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
FEDERAL FUNDS	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
OTHER	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TOTAL	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
PART-TIME	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
TEMPORARY	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø

Estimate of current year impact: No fiscal impact.

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Jan L. Hansen Phone: 465-3347
 Division: Division of Public Assistance Date: 2/4/91
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: _____ Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).