

SB59

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/27/91

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3-26-91

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 59

"An Act to establish the Alaska Council on the Homeless; and providing for an effective date."

and recommended:

- replace with \_\_\_\_\_ CS SB 59 (FIN)  same title
- or adopt \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_  new title
- attached amendment(s)  technical title change (HB only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent adopted

- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

**APPROVES PREVIOUS:**

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) LAA CG.1 Dept/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) DIHSS 2/4/91

zero fiscal note(s) Gov. e

appropriation-no fiscal note

**SIGNING DO PASS:**

**OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
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1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Chairs: Signatures and Recommendations

STATE OF ALASKA  
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB59

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Department Affected: Health & Social Services  
 Title: An act to establish the Alaska BRU: Public Assistance Administration  
Council on the Homeless Component: Admin

Sponsor: Fahrencamp  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

2	3	3
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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS. CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: No fiscal impact.

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)  No fiscal impact.	Changes in <u>055B59 (Fin)</u> have no fiscal impact. This fiscal note is appropriate.  <u>3-26-91</u> date <u>JW</u> Comte Aide(initial)
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Prepared By: Jan L. Hansen Phone: 465-3347  
 Division: Division of Public Assistance Date: 2/4/91

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 2/4/91  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

FISCAL NOTE

No. 2  
 Bill Version: CSSB 59(SA)  
 (S) Publish Date: 2-11-91

STATE OF ALASKA  
 1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 2/8/91 Department Affected: Office of the Governor  
 Title: "An Act to establish the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless;" BRU: Commissions and Special Offices  
 Component: Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless  
 Sponsor: Senator Fahrenkamp  
 Requestor: Senate State Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

N	A		
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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: none

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)  
 Task Force has been placed under the jurisdiction of the legislative council and therefore has no fiscal impact on the Office of the Governor

Prepared By: Michael A. Nizich, Director *Michael A. Nizich* Phone: 465-3616  
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 2/8/91  
 Approved by Commissioner: D. Max Hodel, Chief of Staff *D. Max Hodel*  
 Agency: Office of the Governor Date: 2/8/91

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

FISCAL NOTE

No. 3

II Version: CSSB 59(SA)

(S) Publish Date: 2-11-91

STATE OF ALASKA  
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: "An Act to establish the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless;...  
 Sponsor: Senator Fahrenkamp  
 Requestor: Senator Fahrenkamp

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
 BRU: Legislative Council  
 Component: Council and Subcommittees

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	50.9	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	7.2	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	8.0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES		0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT		0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES		0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS		0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS		0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	66.1	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	1	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

see attached page.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director  
 Division: Administrative Services

*Pamela A. Stoops*

Phone: 465-3850  
 Date: 2/8/91

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director  
 Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

*Warren W. Endicott*

Date: 2/8/91

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

It is anticipated the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless will need staff assistance as follows:

#### PERSONAL SERVICES

Researcher - Range 17A

\$3,006 x 12 months=	\$36,072
\$36,072 x 41% benefits	<u>\$14,835</u>
	\$50,907

50.9

#### TRAVEL

It is anticipated there will be 2 meetings of the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless. Travel for the majority of the sixteen members will be absorbed within their existing travel budgets. Travel is being requested for the following members of the task force: two members from the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless and two members, one each from two communities that have an identified homeless population. Also travel for above mentioned staff.

2 meetings x 4 task force members & 1 staff at 3 days each  
airfare - 2 meetings x 5 individuals = 10 airfares

10 airfares x \$435=	\$4,350
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per diem - 2 meetings x 5 individuals= 10

10 x 3 days per diem= 30
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30 x \$95=	<u>\$2,850</u>
	\$7,200

7.2

#### CONTRACTUAL

Phones and postage - \$500 a month x 12 months= \$6,000

6.0

Advertising - advertising of public notice of meetings - \$1,000

1.0

Printing - of report - \$1,000

1.0

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 59 (Fin)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR FAHRENKAMP

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act to establish the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless; and providing  
2 for an effective date."

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

4 \* Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

5 (1) homelessness is gradually being recognized as a significant and widespread problem  
6 in both urban and rural parts of the United States, including Alaska;

7 (2) the diverse causes and characteristics of homelessness are endemic to various  
8 combinations of overlapping factors including unemployment, underemployment, deinstitutionalization,  
9 mental illness, the lack of affordable housing, domestic violence, parentless children, and other less  
10 visible personal crises;

11 (3) the diversity of factors contributing to homelessness require combinations of programs  
12 and measures to relieve the causes and characteristics, including temporary shelters, social services,  
13 physical and mental health programs, long-term affordable housing, community development, and  
14 institutionalization;

*Amend. p. 3*

1 (4) in order for the state to increase its effectiveness in the battle against homelessness,  
2 we must first understand the scope and nature of the problem and examine the responses to the problem  
3 that are currently being utilized by the federal government, our state government, and by the "third  
4 sector", private and non-profit groups and organizations; and

5 (5) numerous states and the federal government have established councils or task forces  
6 on the homeless as an effective way to collect and exchange information and resources, reduce  
7 duplication of effort, identify ways in which the homeless may be better served and the homeless  
8 problem better addressed, and to develop a coordinated response to combat homelessness and to most  
9 effectively use limited resources;

10 (6) the needs of the homeless would be better served by the development of a field  
11 network to share professional and technical expertise among federal agencies, state agencies, local  
12 governments, and private and nonprofit organizations serving the homeless.

13 \* Sec. 2. ALASKA INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON THE HOMELESS ESTABLISHED. (a)  
14 The Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless is established under the jurisdiction of the  
15 legislative council.

16 (b) The task force consists of 16 members appointed by the legislative council as follows:

17 (1) three members from the Department of Health and Social Services who are the  
18 directors or program administrators or their designees in the following areas:

19 (A) mental health;

20 (B) alcoholism and drug abuse; and

21 (C) public assistance;

22 (2) one member from the Department of Community and Regional Affairs who is the  
23 director or program administrator for rural development or the designee of the member;

24 (3) one member from the Department of Education who is the director or program  
25 administrator for adult education or the designee of the member;

26 (4) one member from the Department of Administration who is the director or program  
27 administrator of the office of public advocacy or the designee of the member;

28 (5) one member from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs;

29 (6) one member who is the executive director of the Alaska State Housing Authority or  
30 the designee of the member;

31 (7) one member from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;

- 1 (8) one member from the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault;
- 2 (9) one member from the Alaska Job Service;
- 3 (10) one member from the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian
- 4 Affairs;
- 5 (11) two members from the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless; and
- 6 (12) two members, one each from two communities that have an identified homeless
- 7 population; one member shall be from a community with a population of less than 3,000 people.
- 8 *(13) two legislative members, one appointed by H. Speaker, one by President*  
 (c) Members of the task force serve without compensation, but are entitled to per diem and travel
- 9 expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

10 \* Sec. 3. DUTIES OF TASK FORCE. The Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless shall

- 11 (1) collect and disseminate information relating to the homeless;
- 12 (2) study and report on the best means to establish a field network of professional and
- 13 technical expertise to assist federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, and private and nonprofit
- 14 agencies serving the homeless;
- 15 (3) recommend changes in statutes, regulations, procedures, and policy to reduce
- 16 duplication of effort among federal, state, and local agencies; and
- 17 (4) review, monitor, evaluate, and recommend improvements in federal, state, and local
- 18 programs to assist the homeless.

19 \* Sec. 4. POWERS OF TASK FORCE. The Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless may

20 request the cooperation, provision of technical assistance, and may utilize the services of executive

21 branch departments, federal agencies, local governments, consultants whose advice is considered

22 necessary to assist the task force in obtaining information, or any other person or entity to assist the task

23 force in fulfilling its duties under this Act.

24 \* Sec. 5. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The Alaska Interagency Task Force on the

- 25 Homeless shall submit to the legislature by the third day of the Second Session of the Seventeenth
- 26 Alaska State Legislature a preliminary report of
- 27 (1) its proceedings for the previous year and its fulfillment of its duties under sec. 3 of
  - 28 this Act;
  - 29 (2) its assessment of the nature and extent of the problems of the homeless in the state;
  - 30 (3) the levels of state and local assistance necessary to meet their needs; and
  - 31 (4) recommendations for legislative and administrative action to alleviate the problems

1 of the homeless.

2 (b) The task force shall submit a final complete report no later than June 30, 1992.

3 \* Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 1991.

4 \* Sec. 7. This Act is repealed June 30, 1992.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA  
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SB 59

(S) Publish Date: 2-11-91

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor

Title: "An Act establishing the Alaska Council on the Homeless, ..."

BRU: Commissions and Special Offices

Component: Alaska Council on the Homeless

Sponsor: Senator Fahrenkamp

Requestor: Senator Fahrenkamp

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

n	a		
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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES	52.9	54.7	56.5	58.3	60.2	62.1
TRAVEL	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
CONTRACTUAL	35.3	35.3	35.3	35.3	35.3	35.3
SUPPLIES	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
EQUIPMENT	8.7	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>105.1</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>100.5</b>	<b>102.3</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>106.1</b>

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	105.1	98.7	100.5	102.3	104.2	106.1
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105.1</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>100.5</b>	<b>102.3</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>106.1</b>

POSITIONS.

FULL-TIME	1	1	1	1	1	1
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: none

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

See attached analysis

Prepared By: Michael Nizich, Director *Michael Nizich* Phone: 465-3616

Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 2/4/91

Approved by Commissioner: D. Max Hodel, Chief of Staff

Agency: Office of the Governor Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

PERSONAL SERVICES 52.9

Fiscal note assumes Juneau location of Council's program coordinator with needed clerical support provided by Executive Branch departments involved in Council. Request for New Position form is attached. Salary shown is step A for FY 91 and includes a one-step merit increase for subsequent years.

TRAVEL 6.5

Travel assumes one face-to-face meeting annually in either Anchorage or Juneau - additional meetings will be conducted through teleconference.

Per diem calculation based on three non-state employee members only.

Annual face-to-face meeting

Airfare	3,824
Per Diem	1,380

Teleconference meetings

Per diem for non-state employee members	1,260
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Total Travel: 6,464

CONTRACTUAL 35.3

Communication:

Telephone (toll costs, base/local fixed costs, centrex network costs) 400/mo x 12 months	4,800	
Telecopier charges -- 50/mo x 12 months	600	
Teleconference charges -- 4 @ 1400	5,600	
Postage -- 300/mo x 12	3,600	14,600

Transportation:

Freight and express charges -- 50/mo x 12	600
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Advertising, Printing & Binding:

Subscriptions	75	
Advertising -- 5 meetings x 750	3,750	
Printing -- 5 newsletters x 800 each	4,000	
Annual report	7,500	
Forms, misc.	750	16,075

Minor Repair, Maintenance	1,200
Rental for Space:	
150 sq. ft. x \$1.55/sf	2,790
Total Contractual:	35,265

**SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS 1.7**

Office and library supplies, 100/mo x 12 =	1,200	
Data processing supplies =	500	1,700

**EQUIPMENT 8.7**

Communication Equipment:

Phone	500
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Data Processing Equipment:

1 PC/printer/software	6,600
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Furniture/Office Equipment:

Desk, chair, etc.	=	900	
2 file cabinets	=	400	
Bookcase	=	200	
Calculator	=	75	1,575

Total Equipment:	8,675
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Position Title Project Coordinator		No. of Positions 1	Range / Step 17/A	Bayt. Unit X
Time Status PFT	Staff Months 12	Location Juneau		Election District
TYPE OF EXPENDITURE		Amount	Justification  Staff to Council on Homeless - provides support to Council and serves as central information source for federal, state and private agencies for services to the homeless.	
Salary		37,875.60		
Benefits		14,991.01		
Premium Pay				
Other				
Total Personal Services		52,866.61		
Travel				
Contractual				
Commodities				
Equipment		1,575.00		
Other				
Total Cost		54,441.61		
FUNDING SOURCE FOR TOTAL COST				
Federal Receipts	1002			
G.F. Match	1003			
General Fund	1004	54,441.61		
I-A Receipts	1007			
CIP Receipts	1061			
Other				

**Request For  
New Position**

AGENCY Office of the Governor  
 BRU Commissions and Special Offices  
 COMPONENT Alaska Council on the Homeless

**FY** 92

Page 1 of 1  
 Revised Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP  
CHAIRMAN, RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
119 N. CUSHMAN STREET, SUITE 201  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
OFFICE (907) 452-4882  
HOME (907) 456-2899



Senate

WHILE IN JUNEAU  
PO. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
CAPITOL, ROOM 125  
OFFICE (907) 465-3834  
HOME (907) 780-6027

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Pat Pourchot  
Senator Jalmar Kerttula  
Co-Chairs, Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp

DATE: March 26, 1991

SUBJECT: SB 59 Proposed Committee Substitute

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In response to a valid concern by Senator Adams that the rural homeless be represented on the task force established in Senate Bill 59, attached you will find a proposed Finance Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 59.

The only change to the bill is on page 3, line 7, where we added:

"; one member shall be from a community with a population of less than 3,000 people."

It is our desire that this task force be as balanced as possible as it addresses provision of service to the homeless, and we believe that this amendment enhances this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY  
MARCH 26, 1991**

**STATE AFFAIRS CS FOR SB 59: TO ESTABLISH THE ALASKA INTRA-AGENCY  
TASK FORCE ON THE HOMELESS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE  
SPONSOR: FAHRENKAMP  
FISCAL: \$66.1- LEG COUNCIL**

**ESTABLISHES A 16 MEMBER 1 YEAR TASK FORCE TO LOOK AT PROBLEMS  
OF HOMELESSNESS AND RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS**

**USED TO BE UNDER GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND HAVE 15 MEMBERS AND IT  
COST TWICE AS MUCH**

**"YOU" SUGGESTED AN AMENDMENT THAT WILL BE BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE TODAY. IT HAS TO DO WITH THE FACT THAT DESPITE THE  
ANCHORAGE STUDY WHICH SHOWED THAT A DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER  
OF THE HOMELESS WERE NATIVE AND BLACK, THAT THIS GROUP COULD  
HAVE ENDED UP BEING A GROUP OF WHITE BUREAUCRATS DECIDING  
(AGAIN) WHAT IS BEST FOR MINORITIES.**

**"YOUR" AMENDMENT BRINGS IN THAT ONE OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS  
SHOULD COME FROM A COMMUNITY OF 3,000 OR LESS. JOAN FROM  
FAHRENKAMP'S OFFICE PROMISED THAT THE PERSON WOULD BE NATIVE-  
THEY WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE SELECTION OF THE TWO PUBLIC  
MEMBERS.**

# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP  
CHAIRMAN, RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
119 N. CUSHMAN STREET, SUITE 201  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
OFFICE (907) 452-4882  
HOME (907) 456-2899



Senate

WHILE IN JUNEAU  
P.O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
CAPITOL, ROOM 125  
OFFICE (907) 465-3834  
HOME (907) 780-6027

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Pat Pourchot  
Senator Jalmar Kerttula  
Co-Chairs, Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp

DATE: March 12, 1991

SUBJECT: CS SB 59 (State Affairs)  
"An Act to establish the Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless; efd"

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### BILL SUMMARY:

- \* Establishes a 16-member task force made up of federal, state, municipal and non-profit providers of services to the homeless.
- \* Charges the task force with collecting and disseminating information relating to the homeless, recommending ways to reduce duplication of services, recommending ways to improve programs to assist the homeless, and studying and reporting on how to best establish a field network of professional and technical expertise to assist those serving the homeless.
- \* Requires a preliminary report to the Legislature at the beginning of session in 1992, and a final report on June 30, 1992 (the date on which the task force is terminated).

\*\*\*\*\*

Homelessness is a complicated issue. It is not just about being without shelter. To quote a recent report by the Council of State Governments, "The diversity of factors contributing to homelessness requires combinations of temporary shelter, social services, physical and mental health programs, long-term housing, community development and institutionalization."

This bill recognizes the difficulty of coordinating services to the homeless. The federal government and numerous states have found a council or task force to be an effective way to better use limited resources to combat homelessness.

Senate Bill 59 has the support of the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless, the Municipality of Anchorage, and the Governor. In your packets you will find excerpts from some of the source documents I used in drafting this bill, and I would be happy to provide you with more information if you wish. I strongly urge your support for SB 59.

## Alaska Coalition for the Homeless

Approved Resolution No. 91-2

(Supporting the Speedy Passage of Senate Bill 59)

*WHEREAS* the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless recognizes an increasing homelessness problem in Alaska's urban areas; and

*WHEREAS* the factors contributing to our state's homelessness include the lack of affordable housing in both urban and rural areas, as well as unemployment, under-employment, domestic violence, mental illness, alcohol and other substance abuse, and runaway and throwaway children; and

*WHEREAS* the solution to homelessness requires a partnership among government, public and private, non-profit and for-profit agencies, as well as homeless persons; and

*WHEREAS* the services needed to relieve the emergency of homelessness include shelter, food, clothing, physical and mental health care, counseling and social service access assistance; and

*WHEREAS* the elimination of homelessness will require the development of transitional housing with support services as well as an increase in low income, permanent housing; and

*WHEREAS* there is a need to gather additional, specific information and data on homelessness in Alaska and to identify and prioritize a coordinated response aimed at its elimination; therefore,

*BE IT RESOLVED* that the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless supports the creation of an Alaska Interagency Task Force on the Homeless in order to bring together the various entities who serve the homeless; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless supports the mission of the Task Force, to-wit: to collect and disseminate information relating to the homeless; to recommend ways to reduce duplication of services and ways to improve programs to assist the homeless; to study and report on how best to establish a field network of professional and technical expertise; and to recommend changes to statutes and regulations in order to better meet the needs of the homeless; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless encourages the Alaska Legislature to pass Senate Bill 59 as quickly as possible, so that this important work can begin without delay; and

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Alaska Coalition for the Homeless encourages Governor Hickel to continue to support Senate Bill 59, and thanks Governor Hickel for his strong support of the measure to date.

*COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION* shall be sent to the Honorable Richard Eliason, President of the Alaska Senate; and to the Honorable Ben Grussendorf, Speaker of the Alaska House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Walter J. Hickel, Governor of Alaska; and to all other members of the Alaska Legislature.

*PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH, 1991.*

  
Eileen Cummings, Chair

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dear Mr. Chair and Committee Members

Senate Bill 59 is an example of the the first rung on the ladder of sucessful solutions to this devastating condition of Homelessness

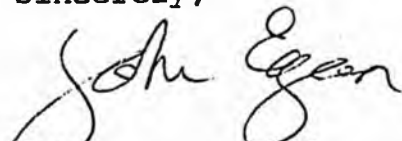
The concept of a State Interagency Council on The Homeless is not new nor is it uncommon. Aside from The federal organization headed by Jack Kemp, most states have some typr of similar council within their governments that allows the agencies with the resources to talk directly with one another.

This model is also demonstrated through the Alsaka Coalition for The Homeless which conjoins advocates, service providers and concerned citizens around the state. This group has made homelessness it's priority and share their hands-on experience with others. Two members of the Coalition have been indicated to serve on this Council.

Great success in solving thje problem of homelessness will not come unless everbody - the governments, the non-profit providers, and the business/housing sector - understands all the issues involved and only when all these groups work from the same base of accurate information.

As chairman of The Alaska Coalition for the Homeless, I fully support this bill and its intent to finally bring the reality of the problems AND the solutions to homelessness to the state level.

Sincerely,



John Egan, Chairman  
Alaska Coalition For The Homeless