

HJR

37

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/26/93

FURTHER: HES

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 1/11/94

CRA Committee considered HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

Urging the Congress to enact H.R. 1033 or similar legislation authorizing construction grants for publicly-owned treatment works in economically distressed rural communities.

and recommends:

- replace with _____ CS _____ ()
- or adopt previous _____ CS _____ ()
- attaches amendment(s)

- same title
- new title
- technical title change (HB only)

adopts _____ Letter of Intent

further referral to the _____

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

NEW FISCAL NOTES

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
LAA	4/6/93	0	

Appropriation No Fiscal Note

DO PASS:

Roll & Roll D. Pass
Joe Adams
Don A. Luman
Robin Taylor
And. J. Hoff

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Roll & Roll

Chair: Signature and Recommendation

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HJR 37

Revision Date: _____
Title: Urging the Congress to enact H.R. 1033
or similar legislation authorizing construction grants.....
Sponsor: Representative Hoffman
Requestor: House C&RA

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00
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						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
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: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director
Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3852
Date: 1/12/94

Approved By: Pamela A. Stoops, Executive Director
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Pamela A. Stoops
Date: 1/12/94

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

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: HJR 37
(H) Publish Date: 4/7/93

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
Title: FED MONEY FOR RURAL WATER/SEWER PROJECTS BBU: _____
Sponsor: Representative Hoffman Component: _____
Requestor: _____ COMPONENT SERIAL NO. _____

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY94	FY95	FY96	FY97	FY98	FY99
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING:

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
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 (FY93) impact \$ None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: _____
Division: COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: CHAIRMAN - CARRA

Phone: 465-4853
Date: April 6, 1993
Date: 4-6-93

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1/11/94

Delta Junction AK 99737 895-4658

NON-CONSTITUENT

BILL#: SB 136 NATIVE LANGUAGE EDUCATION
SUPPORTS

MESSAGE: I TOTALLY SUPPORT THIS BILL WITH ITS EMPHASIS ON
PRESERVATION OF NATIVE LANGUAGES. I AM COMPLETING MY
MASTERS EDUCATION WITH EMPHASIS IN LANGUAGE LITERACY.
THIS BILL IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR PEOPLE'S WELL-BEING AND
SELF-ESTEEM. I AM FROM MAE HERMAN NINGEOLUK'S FAMILY, A
GRANDDAUGHTER. WE MUST GIVE EQUAL MERIT TO THIS.

DISTRIBUTION 06



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Fax: 907-463-3312

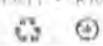
HJR 37

The Alaska Environmental Lobby supports HJR 37; a resolution that supports H.R.1033 a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a grant program for construction of publicly owned treatment works in economically distressed rural communities.

AEL considers the deplorable drinking water and sanitation conditions that exist in many of our rural communities, one of the most egregious environmental problems facing us today. Every effort must be made to bring rural water and sanitation services up to the same standards that urban Alaska and the rest of the nation expect and demand.

AEL feels that it is imperative that funds granted to these communities are wisely used. We feel that the following considerations must be at the forefront of any planning and implementation process:

- Active community involvement. This includes both leadership and expertise. There are countless numbers of projects done by organizations who know little of the culture, physical environment or requirements of rural Alaska which have ended in costly and humiliating failure. It is the communities themselves that must initiate, plan and organize these systems . This may require extensive political and social organization and development. But without this first step - any project will fail. Successful solutions are not *imposed* on a community.
- Technologies appropriate to Alaska must be researched and developed. Sewer and water systems that are appropriate to California, will fail in rural Alaska. These require Alaskan solutions developed by people intimately involved with rural Alaska. An example of a solution adapted to Alaskan needs is a composting toilet developed by an Alaskan company called AlasCan.
- Systems must be energy and water efficient. Systems that require high volumes of either will be too expensive and too complex to maintain over time.



- Both state and federal agencies must be constructively flexible in their requirements and regulations. Cultural, environmental, financial and practical considerations frequently preclude following "standard operating procedures" that are acceptable elsewhere.
- Solutions to drinking and solid waste problems must be economical. The state of Alaska can not and probably over the long term, will not be able to subsidize high cost systems whose operating costs can not substantially be met by the communities themselves.
- Systems must be low maintenance. Spare parts should be cheap and readily available. Maintenance personnel should be easily trained and resident in the community.
- State and federal funding must be made available. But it should not be available with terms and regulations not "appropriate" to community needs or capabilities. However communities must be accountable for all money spent.

Healthy and hygienic rural water and sewage systems may not resemble those in other parts of the country, but if they meet the above requirements, they will keep Alaskans healthy at a price Alaska can afford.



Representative Lyman F. Hoffman

Alaska State House
State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182 • (907) 465-4453

DISTRICT 39

- AKIACHIAK
- AKIAK
- ALEKIAGIK
- ATMAUTLUAK
- BETHEL
- CHEFORNAK
- CHARKS POINT
- DILLINGHAM
- EEK
- EKUK
- GOODNEWS BAY
- KASIGLUK
- KIPNUK
- KONGIGANAK
- KWETHLUK
- KWIGILLINGOK
- MANOKOTAK
- NAPAKIAK
- NAPASKIAK
- NUNAPITCHUK
- OSCARVILLE
- PLATINUM
- PORTAGE CREEK
- QUINHAGAK
- TOGIAK
- TUNTUTULIAK
- TWIN HILLS

DATE: January 11, 1994

TO: Senator Randy Phillips, Chairman
Community and Regional Affairs Committee

FROM: Representative Lyman F. Hoffman 

RE: HJR 37 - Urging the Congress to enact H.R. 1033
or similar legislation authorizing construction
grants for publicly-owned treatment works in
economically distressed rural communities.

Less than one month ago, a 4 year old girl drowned in a sewage lagoon in the community of Newhalen.

In the summer of 1990, nearly 1/4 of the residents of the village of Kotlik were victims of viral meningitis caused by two leaky underground pits filled with human sewage.

Fifty-two village clinics have no running water or flush toilets, forcing community health aides to find alternative sources to clean themselves between patients. Some have resorted to heating water on the stove.

Less than 6 years from the turn of the millennium, while many national economies become dependent on advanced science and technology, Alaskan villagers rely on honeybucket dumpsters for sewage disposal and central watering spigots for drinking water.

90% of the wastewater facilities in Alaska Native villages have been assessed by the federal government as inadequate

and DEC has identified a need for \$1.2 billion to correct water and sewer problems in rural Alaska.

Congress is now considering HR 1033 which establishes a federal grant program for construction of treatment works in economically distressed rural communities. This program would provide \$300 million per year for 6 years to fund these grants.

During the 1993 legislative session, this committee sponsored SJR 25 urging the federal government to recognize the dire water and sanitation conditions in rural Alaska and to become a full partner with this state in improving this health-threatening situation.

I believe HR 1033 in Congress could be an integral part of the solution. I also believe it is imperative that the Alaska State Legislature voice its support for this measure by endorsing HJR 37.

Thank you for your consideration.

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1033

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a grant program for construction of publicly owned treatment works in economically distressed rural communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 23, 1993

Mr. HAYES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a grant program for construction of publicly owned treatment works in economically distressed rural communities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Rural Community
5 Clean Water Assistance Act of 1993".

HR 1033

1 SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CON-
2 TROL ACT.

3 The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
4 1251-1387) is amended by adding at the end the follow-
5 ing:

6 **“TITLE VII—CONSTRUCTION**
7 **GRANT PROGRAM FOR**
8 **TREATMENT WORKS IN**
9 **RURAL COMMUNITIES**

10 **“SEC. 701. GRANTS.**

11 **“(a) IN GENERAL.—**The Administrator is authorized
12 to make grants to any State, municipality, or
13 intermunicipal or interstate agency for the construction of
14 publicly owned treatment works located in economically
15 distressed rural communities and for any purpose for
16 which a grant may be made under sections 319(h) and
17 319(i) of this Act (including innovative and alternative ap-
18 proaches for the control of nonpoint sources of pollution).

19 **“(b) APPLICATION.—**Any State, municipality, or
20 agency referred to in subsection (a) interested in receiving
21 a grant under this title shall submit to the Administrator
22 an application for such grant. Such application shall be
23 in such form and contain such information as the Admin-
24 istrator may require by regulation.

25 **“(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—**Grants made under
26 this title shall be subject to such terms and conditions as

1 the Administrator may require by regulation to carry out
2 the objectives of this title.

3 **"SEC. 702. FEDERAL SHARE.**

4 "The Federal share of any grant made under this
5 title shall be 90 percent of the cost of construction. The
6 non-Federal share of such costs shall be provided from
7 non-Federal sources of funding.

8 **"SEC. 703. ALLOTMENT.**

9 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Sums authorized to be appro-
10 priated for a fiscal year pursuant to section 704 shall be
11 allotted among the States for such fiscal year by the Ad-
12 ministrator not later than the 10th day which begins after
13 the date of the enactment of this title in the ratio which
14 the population in economically distressed rural commu-
15 nities of each State bears to the total population in eco-
16 nomically distressed rural communities of all the States.

17 **"(b) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY; REALLOTMENT.—**

18 Sums allotted to the States for a fiscal year shall remain
19 available for obligation for the fiscal year for which au-
20 thorized and for the period of the next succeeding 12
21 months. The amount of any allotment not obligated by the
22 end of such 24-month period shall be immediately realloc-
23 ted by the Administrator on the basis of the same ratio
24 as applicable to sums allotted for the then current fiscal
25 year, except that none of the funds reallocated by the Ad-

1 administrator for a fiscal year shall be allotted to any State
2 which failed to obligate any of the funds being reallocated.
3 Any sum made available to a State by reallocation under
4 this subsection shall be in addition to any funds otherwise
5 allotted to such State for grants under this title during
6 any fiscal year.

7 **"SEC. 704. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 "There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
9 this title \$300,000,000 per fiscal year for fiscal years
10 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999. Such sums
11 shall remain available until expended.

12 **"SEC. 705. DEFINITIONS.**

13 "In this title, the following definitions apply:

14 "(1) **CONSTRUCTION.**—The term 'construction'
15 has the meaning such term has in section 212.

16 "(2) **ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED RURAL COM-**
17 **MUNITY.**—The term 'economically distressed rural
18 community' means a rural community in which the
19 median household income of the residents of such
20 community is less than 75 percent of the national
21 median household income, as determined by the lat-
22 est decennial census of the United States.

23 "(3) **RURAL COMMUNITY.**—The term 'rural
24 community' means a political subdivision of a State

1 with a population of less than 20,000, as determined
2 by the latest decennial census of the United States.

3 “(4) TREATMENT WORKS.—The term ‘treat-
4 ment works’ has the meaning such term has in sec-
5 tion 212.”.

○

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: March 30, 1993

FURTHER REFERRALS:

HESS

Date of Committee Action: 4-6-93

The COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 37

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

FED MONEY FOR RURAL WATER/SEWER PROJECTS

Urging the Congress to enact H.R. 1033 or similar legislation authorizing construction grants for publicly-owned treatment works in economically distressed rural communities.

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 L.A.A.

[] zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Ang Sander</i>	✓				
<i>Pat N. ...</i>	✓				
<i>Ed Wilho</i>	✓				
<i>W.K. Williams</i>	✓				
<i>...</i>	✓				
<i>Harley Olberg</i>	✓				

(H) CIRA Report

Harley Olberg
 CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

EPA offers help

Bush sanitation woes addressed

By STACEY JOYCE
States News Service

WASHINGTON — EPA Administrator Carol Browner promised Thursday to help Alaska combat unsanitary water and sewage conditions that are jeopardizing the health of rural villagers.

Browner appeared before the Senate Appropriations subcommittee that has jurisdiction over the Environmental Protection Agency to discuss the agency's future environmental strategy and funding.

At the hearing, Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, asked Browner to form a federal-state alliance dedicated to improving sanitation facilities and rural Alaska's quality of life.

About 170,000 villagers in Alaska have no running water or flush toilets, Stevens told Browner. In rural areas it is customary for people to

WATER: EPA takes a look

Continued from Page B-1

use honey buckets or cart waste out to a sewage lagoon. To shower or wash clothes, residents often must rely on a community water point. Such accommodations are not just primitive, but unhealthy, Stevens said.

The senator displayed poster-sized photographs of children playing near lagoons containing raw sewage and of waste floating down streams in warm weather.

Calling the photos "compelling," Browner said, "It's far too easy to forget that some people don't have basic health and hygiene facilities."

Since August, more than 150 people in Alaska have contracted hepatitis A, which can cause liver damage or — in extreme cases — death, said Keith Kelton, director of facility construction and operation for the state's Department of Environmental Conservation.

Browner told the lawmakers that EPA already has convened a joint task force to address the inadequate, and in some cases nonexistent, water and sewage facilities.

"We are working to address these very pressing concerns, and we look forward to working with you and the Alaska delegation to develop whatever it takes to solve this problem," Browner said.

Stevens also spoke of the difference a financial partnership could make.

"If state and federal government put up \$10 million for 10 years at least we could make a dent," he said.

To succeed, however, priorities are critical, Stevens said. Otherwise, money can be wasted and the program could unravel if projects are not thought out.

Jeff Silverman, spokesman for the Alaska Federation of Natives, echoed those sentiments.

"It's more than just capital outlays. More than that, success depends upon human resources," such as training people in a village to operate new sewage facilities, Silverman said in a phone interview.

"The problem is going to take five to 10 years to be resolved, but each step is very valuable," he said. "It's clear from what Carol Browner said that we're started on our way."