

HJR

37

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

gmd

DATE: 1/12/94

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 2/2/94

HES 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	1/12/94	✓	

Appropriation No Fiscal Note

DO PASS:

Mike Miller
Drew A. Roman
Judith E. Salo
Albert Mang

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Steve Klein Do Pass

Chair: Signature and Recommendation



Representative Lyman F. Hoffman

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

DISTRICT 39

- AKIACHAK
- AKIAK
- ALEKNAGIK
- ATMAUTLUAK
- BETHEL
- CHEFORNAK
- CLARKS POINT
- DILLINGHAM
- EEK
- EKUK
- GOODNEWS BAY
- KASIGLUK
- KIPNLIK
- KONGIGANAK
- KWETHLUK
- KWIGILLINGOK
- MANOKOTAK
- NAPAKIAK
- NAPASKIAK
- UNAPITCHUK
- OSCARVILLE
- PLATINUM
- PORTAGE CREEK
- QUINHAGAK
- TOGIAK
- TUNTUTULIAK
- TWIN HILLS

DATE: January 31, 1994

TO: Senator Steve Rieger, Chairman
Senate HESS Committee

FROM: Representative Lyman F. Hoffman 

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

Mr. Chairman, just over 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, our legislature passed 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.

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
----------------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
----------------------------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

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

Date: 1/12/94

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

FISCAL NOTE

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 reallocot-
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.H.A.

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING <u>DO</u> PASS	DP	<u>OTHER</u> RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Jim Sanders</i>	✓				
<i>Pat N. Curtis</i>	✓				
<i>Ed Willis</i>	✓				
<i>W.K. Williams</i>	✓				
<i>W.D. D. [unclear]</i>	✓				
<i>Harley Olberg</i>	✓				

(H) C & RA Report

Harley Olberg
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/26/93

FURTHER: HES

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 5/11/94

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:

R.D. O'Connell D. Pass
Paul Adams
James D. Lehman
Robin Taylor
And. J. Hoff

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

SENATE CIRA Report

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."

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

April 23, 1993

Representative Lyman Hoffman
Alaska House of Representatives
Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Hoffman:

The Alaska Federation of Natives supports House Joint Resolution 37 which urges the passage of HR 1033 in the Congress authorizing construction grants for publicly owned treatment works in rural communities.

AFN has been an active advocate for water and sewer availability in rural Alaska and encourages the State and Federal cooperation in addressing these needs. AFN has worked closely with the Alaska Sanitation Task Force on these issues and encourage the Legislature's support in addressing and alleviating these health and sanitation problems by supporting passage of HJR 37.

We hope you will do what you can to urge passage of HJR 37 immediately in the Alaska Legislature and convey the message to the Congress supporting HR 1033. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Julie Kitka
President

Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc.
P.O. Box 219
Bethel, Alaska 99559

Ph# (907) 543-3521
 FAX(907) 543-3596

April 12, 1993

Representative Cynthia Toohey
 Room 104
 State Capitol
 Juneau, AK 99801

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7871		# of pages	2
To	Rep. Hoffman	From	AVCP
Co.		Co.	
Dept.		Phone #	543-3521
Fax #	465-2278	Fax #	543-3596

Dear Representative Toohey:

Water and sewer needs in rural Alaska are extreme. The "Rural Community Clean Water Assistance Act of 1993" (H.R. 1033) introduced to the House in Washington D.C. is a positive step in the direction of alleviating the problems poor drinking water and unsanitary sewage systems that continue to plague our rural communities. I urge you to further state efforts to secure funding for this bill by supporting House Joint Resolution 37.

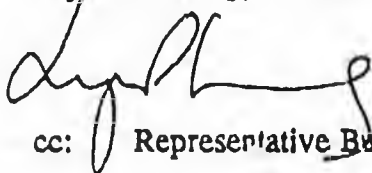
As almost everyone of the forty-eight villages in the AVCP region lacks adequate sanitation facilities, AVCP strongly supports statewide efforts to secure both capital project and community development assistance for sanitation system upgrades in rural communities. Currently, the majority of AVCP member villages lack the resources, technical expertise and managerial structure to adequately insure safe drinking water and sanitary sewage disposal systems. Without such systems, the immediate health and future well-being of AVCP member villages is severely jeopardized.

If H.R. 1033 passes \$300 million per year can be made available for six years to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities in economically distressed, rural areas. Every one of our communities would benefit from such a program. Now the state must do its part and first acknowledge the problem and then make a commitment to stand behind rural Alaskans to raise their standard of living to a level that most Americans take for granted. Again, I urge your support of HJR 37.

Sincerely,

ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS, INC.

Myron Naneng, President



cc: Representative Bunde, Representative Hoffman

AVCP