

Reappoint.

to Leg.

Ethics

Committee

# House Judiciary Committee

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~~Harvey~~

~~Green~~

~~Fooney~~

~~Intelstein~~

Joe Donahue

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Edith Vorderstrasse

852-2010 Home

852-5311 Work

# Alaska State Legislature



## House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

State Capitol, Room 120  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4990

Date: 1/9/96

To: Ms. Suzie Barnett, Dir. of Legislative Ethics Committee

From: Tom Meyer, Counsel to House Judiciary Committee

Re: Hearing for confirmation of Edith Vorderstrasse/Joseph Donahue

This is confirmation of this morning's discussion. I apologize for any earlier inconvenience.

We anticipate a hearing for the House Judiciary Committee for consideration of reappointment of the above individuals will occur this Friday, January 12, 1996, at 1:00 p.m..

To aid the committee, I would appreciate copies of any available resumes for Ms. Vorderstrasse and Mr. Donahue and any other pertinent materials. A fax would be sufficient and our number is 465-3834.

With respect to your concern about setting up teleconferencing for the hearing, I will get in touch with Ms. Vorderstrasse and Mr. Donahue on Thursday or earlier on Friday should their testimony be required.

# Alaska State Legislature



## House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

State Capitol, Room 120  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4990

Jan. 9, 1996

TO: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative Brian Porter, Chairman *Brian S. Porter*

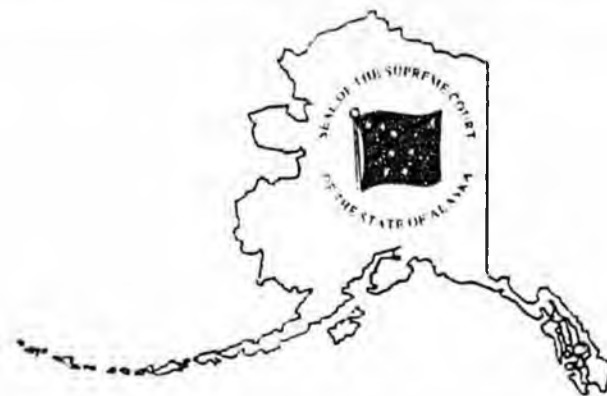
RE: Reappointment of two members to Legislative Ethics Committee

I was recently referred a request for reappointment of Mr. Joseph Donahue and Ms. Edith Vorderstrasse to the Legislative Ethics Committee. The House Judiciary Committee must consider their reappointment.

I am noticing a hearing for this matter for this coming Friday, January 12, 1996.

Should any committee member have any concerns about the individuals above, please have your office notify Tom Meyer, counsel for the Judiciary Committee, at 465-4990.

Attachment, Letter from C.J. Compton



Chambers of:  
Allen T. Compton  
Chief Justice

## Alaska Supreme Court

303 K Street  
Anchorage, Alaska  
99501-2083

(907) 264-0601  
FAX (907) 276-5808

December 18, 1995

Gail Phillips  
Speaker of the House  
716 W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 620  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2133

Drue Pearce  
President of the Senate  
716 W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2133

Re: Reappointment of Joseph Donahue and Edith Vorderstrasse  
to serve on the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

Dear Madam Speaker Phillips and President Pearce:

Pursuant to AS 24.60.130, I select Joseph Donahue and Edith Vorderstrasse each to serve another term as public members of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics commencing January 1, 1996.

Sincerely,

Allen T. Compton  
Chief Justice

ATC:dka

cc: Ms. Margie Mac Neille, Chair  
Mr. Joseph Donahue  
Ms. Edith Vorderstrasse



Alaska State Legislature  
House of Representatives  
*Office of the Chief Clerk*

*Official Business*

State Capitol, Rm 214  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3725

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: January 8, 1996  
To: Judiciary Committee  
From: Suzi Lowell, Chief Clerk *SL*  
Subject: Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

Speaker Phillips referred the following appointments to the Judiciary Committee:

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS**

Reappointment of Joseph Donahue

Reappointment of Edith Vorderstrasse

Attached is the letter from Chief Justice Compton appointing the members above.

Attachment as noted.

## RESUME SUMMARY

Joseph P. Donahue  
P. O. Box 1736  
Kenai, Alaska 99611

Telephones: (Home) 907-283-8051 (Business/fax) 907-283-7750

### Experience:

Private consulting business for four years, specializing in training on Board management, contracts, grants, business planning and development. Twenty five years progressively responsible experience in supervisory, management, and policy levels within Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. Technical experience in Agricultural Engineering, Real Estate & Natural Resources Management, Executive Direction, Policy Development and Liaison functions.

### Expertise:

General expertise on federal government policy, budget, and systems, with special knowledge of Department of Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs. Special knowledge of Alaska natural resources issues, legislation and policy. Expertise on Alaska Native issues, legislation and policy from over 20 years working on Alaska issues.

### Education:

Bachelor of Science - Agricultural Engineering, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana - 1966

### Training:

Extensive training in supervision & management; real estate, natural resources and environmental management; contract and grant management, communications, executive development, business planning and grant writing.

-Comprehensive listing available upon request-

### Awards:

High School Valedictorian, Certificate of Special Achievement (1974), Letters of Commendation (1974, 1977, 1980, 1982), Who's Who in the West (1975-1977), Federal Employee of the Year Award (Juneau 1979), Superior & Outstanding Performance Merit Awards (1984-1988, 1990)

### Miscellaneous:

Married, 2 grown children, no military, excellent health, Born: 12/14/43. Previous youth leader, School Board member; State Real Estate Appraisal Board, Kenai Lions Club & Chamber of Commerce, Chair-State Legislative Ethics Committee, Assoc. Member Commonwealth North.

### References:

(Available upon request-See Client Lists)

Edith Anne Vordørstrasse  
home  
1667 OKPIK STREET  
BOX 214  
BARROW, ALASKA 99723  
BARROW, AK 99723  
HOME 907-852-2010

CAREER OBJECTIVE

CONTINUE TO EMPLOY LOCAL RESIDENTS IN MEANINGFUL JOBS IN THE FIELD OF CONSTRUCTION AND TOURISM. ENJOYING AND RAISING OUR FAMILY.

WORK HISTORY

OWNER

BORDER VENTURES(Feb 1978 - Present)

BOX 214

BARROW, AK 99723

BARROW, AK 99723

SUPERVISOR: SELF-EMPLOYED

PHONE #: 907-852-2010

PAYRATE: N/A

ADMINISTRATOR

PAYROLL, BUDGET, INSURANCE COMPLIANCE, SUPERVISION OF JOB SUPERINTENDENT, BIDDING, BILLING, HIRING.

Special Asst. to Supt.

North Slope Borough School District(Oct 1994 - Present)  
Box 169

Barrow, AK 99723

SUPERVISOR: Supt. Leland Dishman

PHONE #: 907-852-5311

PAYRATE: 5400.00 per month

liason for 10 school advisory councils, public information officer, special projects, budget committee member for NSBSD at NSB,

Customer Service Agent

Alaska Airlines(Feb 1993 - Sept 1994)

Box 930

Barrow, AK 99723

SUPERVISOR: Jeanette Cook

PHONE #: 907-852-8821

PAYRATE: 11.42

ticketing, making reservation, weight & balance of flights,

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

STATE OF ALASKA(Jan 1988 - May 1988)

ALASKA STATE CAPITOL BLDG

JUNEAU, AK 99802

SUPERVISOR: HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE EILEEN MACLEAN

PHONE #: 907-465-4525

PAYRATE: 12.00 AN HOUR

SCHEDULING DAILY ACTIVITIES OF REP. MACLEAN

RESPONSIBLE FOR MINUTES OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL

AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

OFFICE MANAGER  
BARROW UTILITIES(Mar 1974 - Sept 1982)  
POUCH 4449  
BARROW, AK 99723  
SUPERVISOR: SHELDON TEIGLAND  
PHONE #: 907-852-6166  
PAYRATE: 22.00  
SUPERVISION OF OFFICE PERSONNEL

SECRETARY  
PACIFIC ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS(Oct 1973 - Mar 1974)  
NARL  
BARROW, AK 99723  
SUPERVISOR: JIM DALTON  
PAYRATE: 3.75 AN HOUR  
OFFICE TYPING AND FILING

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS(Jan 1973 - May 1974)  
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701  
GPA: 2.50 - SCALE: 4.00  
VARSITY BASKETBALL

WEST ANCHORAGE HIGH(Sept 1972 - Jan 1973)  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503  
HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA  
GPA: 3.00 - SCALE: 4.00  
INVOLVED IN NATIVE YOUTH GROUP

MT. EDGE CUMBE HIGH SCHOOL(Sept 1970 - May 1972)  
SITKA, AK  
GPA: 3.50 - SCALE: 4.00  
HONOR DORM  
CHEERLEADER  
VARSITY BASKETBALL  
CENTRAL COUNCIL DORM  
SOPHMORE HOMECOMING PRINCESS

BARROW DAY SCHOOL(ES Jan Feb Mar Apr)  
BARROW, AK 99723  
MADE HONOR ROLL

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Member of Select Committee on Legislative Ethics,  
President of BUECI, Chairperson of NSB Personnel  
Board, NSB Budget Committee, NSB Investment Commit-  
tee, Enjoy sports, skiing, basket, volley & soft-  
ball, improving education, community involvement.

REFERENCES

DORCUS THOMPSON  
Box 549  
BARROW, AK 99723  
907-852-6231

Wayne Parkin

General Manager, BUECI  
Box 449  
BARROW, AK 99723  
907-852-6616

# Alaska State Legislature



## House of Representatives House Judiciary Committee

State Capitol, Room 120  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4990

January 17, 1996

The House Judiciary Committee hereby recommends ratification of the reappointment of Edith Vorderstrasse as a public member to the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics commencing January 1, 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Toohy

Con Bunde  
Representative Con Bunde

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Al Vezey

Joe Green  
Representative Joe Green

Bettye Davis  
Representative Bettye Davis

David Finkelstein  
Representative David Finkelstein

Brian Porter  
Chairman Representative Brian Porter

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*Joe Green*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Joe Green

*Bettye Davis*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Bettye Davis

*David Finkelstein*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative David Finkelstein

*Brian J. Porter*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Representative Brian Porter

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Representative Joe Green

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Representative Bettye Davis

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Representative David Finkelstein

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Representative Bettye Davis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative David Finkelstein

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Representative Brian Porter

# ETHICS: Panel may urge changes

Continued from Page B-1

"not guilty" of ethics violations. The newsletter said last March that two ethics complaints against him had been dropped while a third "was investigated without finding wrongdoing."

Margie Mac Neille, committee chairwoman, said the panel had closed Sanders' case and could not bring it up again.

"We're not in a position to reopen it or initiate a new complaint."

Sanders said he would not comment Tuesday. Mulder said he considered the matter over.

"They accepted the corrective action, that chapter's closed," Mulder said. "They found probable cause that my wife used the telephone."

Mulder said he considered the ethics finding a vindication. In his news release last September, Mulder said there were no meaningful violations and that the committee had found "no basis for the personal allegations."

On Tuesday, the ethics committee agreed to propose several amendments to the ethics law, including getting tougher on lawmakers and staff who do not comply with commission opinions.



ANNE RAUP / Anchorage Daily News

Rep. Cynthia Toohey makes a point during a meeting Tuesday of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics as Sen. Jim Duncan listens.

## TOOHEY: Suggestion proves unpopular

Continued from Page B-1

Now the citizen majority is 7-to-2.

"We are literally unbalancing the very careful balance that was put in originally," Toohey told the committee.

But she wouldn't give any examples of the ethics subcommittees running into the problem.

Skeptics on the committee pointed out that a major goal of a new ethics law passed four years ago was

to put citizens in charge of the process. Also, they noted, the law already requires political balance among the five citizen members, providing that no more than two can be from the same party.

"It might be more fair, 3-to-2. I don't know," said Senate President Drue Pearce, R-Anchorage, another legislator on the Select Committee. "But I think what we have now is working fine."

Toohey raised the pro-

posal to see if the Select Committee would recommend that the Legislature change the ethics law. When there was no sign of support from the rest of the committee, she dropped the idea without even making a motion.

"This is just something I brought up to see if anybody agreed with me," Toohey said in an interview after the meeting. "Obviously, nobody did and that's fine."

## Computers top \$90-million bond

By PETER S. GOODMAN  
Daily News reporter

The Anchorage Assembly on Tuesday got its first look at a list of projects the school district hopes to pay for with \$90 million in bond issues.

The projects include two new school buildings and the purchase of more than 6,000 computers.

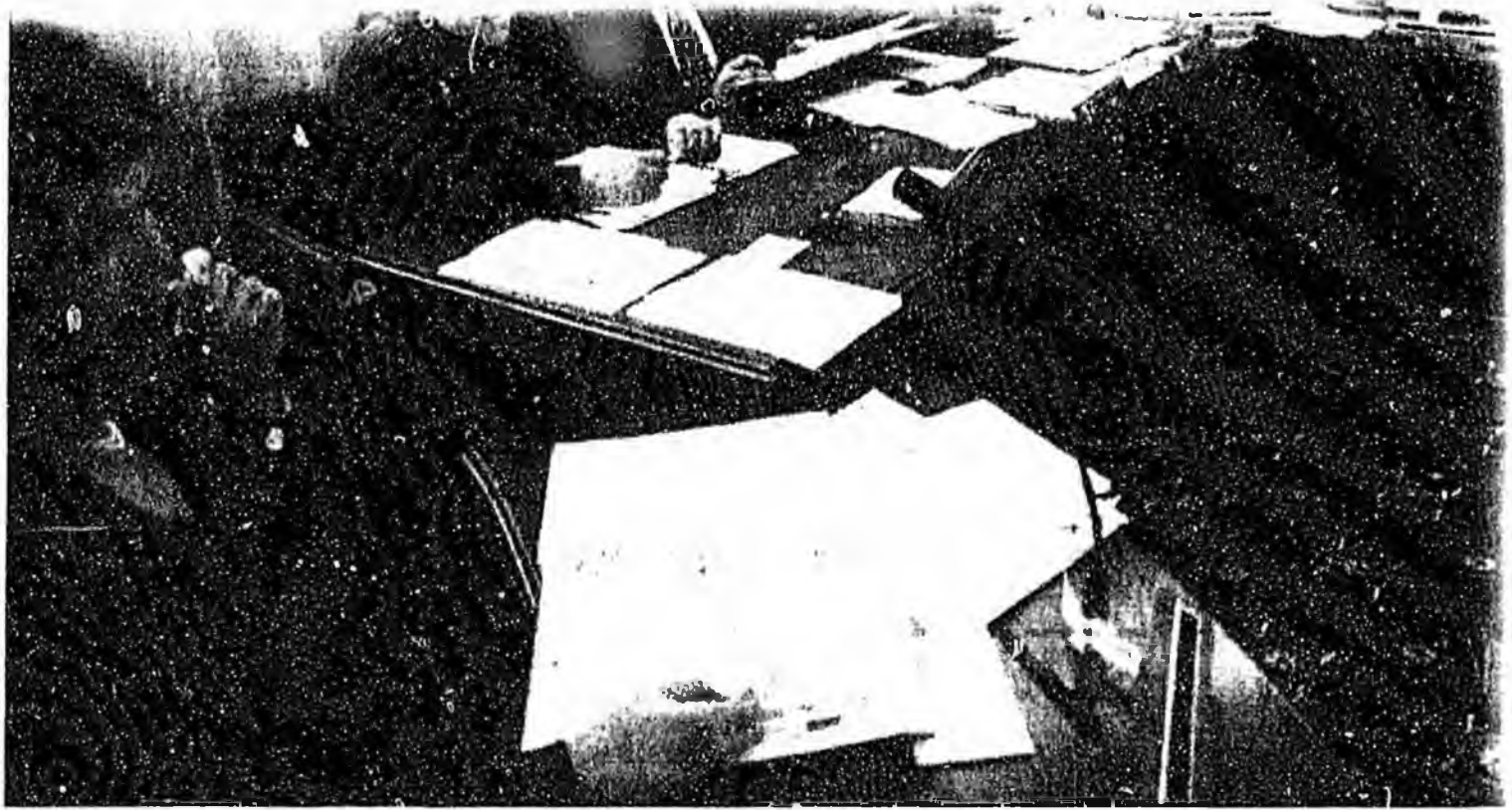
The Assembly must approve the Anchorage School District's list before the bond issues go on the ballot. If the Assembly goes along, voters will be asked to approve six different bond issues when they go to the polls on April 16.

Of the \$90 million total, about \$66 million to \$69 million would come from new bond issues. Voters would be asked to allocate the balance from money left over from previous bond sales.

The Assembly introduced the list of projects with little discussion. It set Feb. 6 as the date for a public hearing on whether to put the issues on the ballot.

According to the city's budget office, property taxes on a \$100,000 home would increase by \$87.40 if the bond issues are approved.

The biggest item on the school district's list is \$35 million to purchase new computers, upgrade the district's 3,450 computers and link the machines to the Internet. The district would then have one com-



ANNE RA

Members of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics meet Tuesday morning in the Alaska State Capitol in

## Ethics panel may ask for changes in

By **DIRK MILLER**  
The Associated Press

**JUNEAU** — The state Legislature's ethics panel says it does not have the power to punish lawmakers who do not comply or tell the whole story on sanctions levied by the panel.

"We have no authority to continue a media war with a legislator," said Joe Donahue, a member of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics.

As a remedy, the ethics committee may propose a change in state law that would give the House or Senate a chance to further review any cases.

The changes were prompted in part by two cases, one involving Rep. Jerry Sanders and the other involving Rep. Eldon Mulder. The ethics panel



agreed Tuesday that the Anchorage Republicans had completed corrective actions, but members say the two later misrepresented the panel's findings in a newsletter and a

press release.

The ethics panel last year found probable cause that Mulder allowed his wife, a lobbyist, to use his office phone for a private purpose. Wendy Mulder also worked as a volunteer in the office, the panel said.

The committee asked Mulder to arrange for ethics training for any volunteer who served more than four hours

annually in his office a policy restricting non-leg state telephones and fax. In Sanders' case, the panel determined there was probable cause that the lawmaker had allowed a lobbyist to use a ployee to seek business in a print shop.

Last February the panel asked Sanders to write a letter of apology and stop the practice. The panel also asked that Sanders keep his print shop items for his print shop legislative offices.

But Sanders announced a newsletter that he had

Please see P

## Committee cool to idea of reducing citizen oversight

By **STAN JONES**  
Daily News reporter

Rep. Cynthia Toohey's plan to water down citizen oversight of ethics complaints against legislators got no respect on Tuesday when she ran it by the committee in charge of the process.

Toohey's fellow committee members didn't agree with her claim that there are too many citizens, unfairly tipping the process against legislators and creating a risk that

party politics could contaminate ethics rulings when a legislator is accused of unscrupulous behavior.

"I kind of resent that comment," said Edith Vorderstrasse of Barrow, a citizen member of the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics. "I base my decision on what I have heard. . . . It's not based on what affiliation you are."

"I take exception," said Shirley McCoy of Juneau, another citizen member. "I

don't think it's been a problem in the three years I've been on the committee."

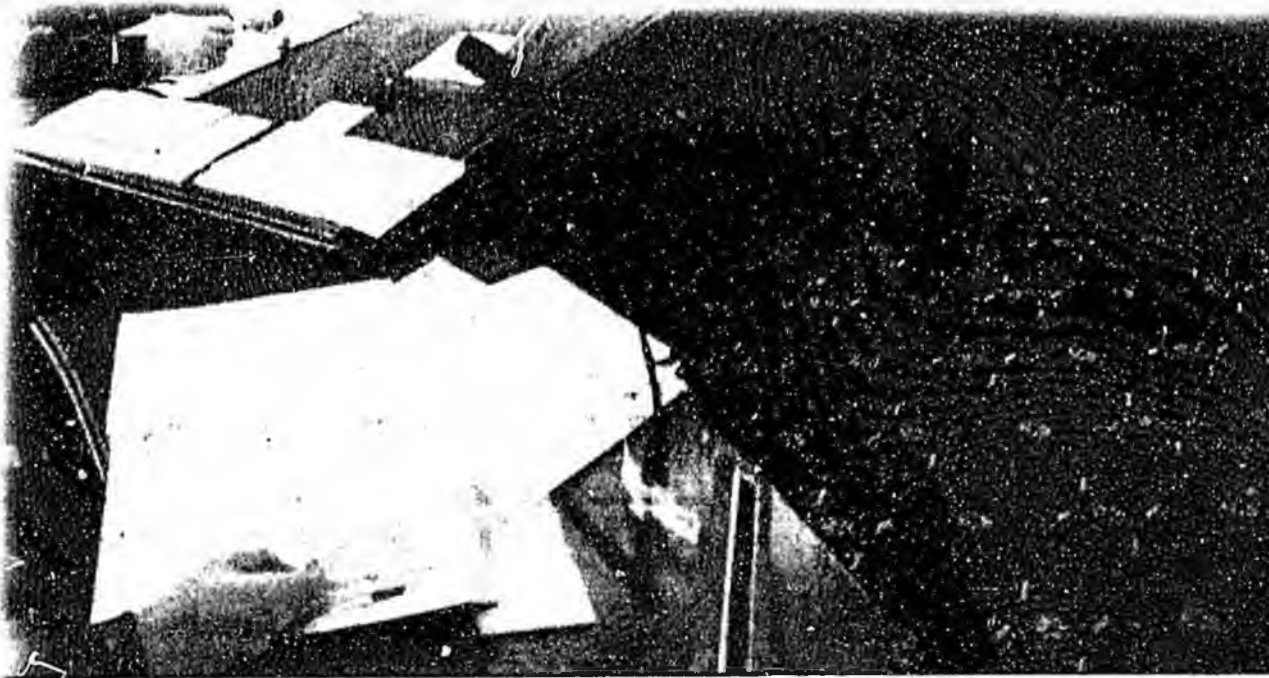
Toohey's argument has to do with the fact that the nine-member Select Committee breaks into two seven-member subcommittees to deal with complaints against legislators, one subcommittee for the state Senate and one for the House.

The Select Committee has five citizen members and four legislators, one of whom is

Toohey. The panel members each have the same number of citizen members as legislators.

Toohey, an Alaska Republican, thinks citizens should be removed from the subcommittees if two legislators are on the panel. That would strengthen the majority in the majority subcommittees, and a majority would be

Please see P



ANNE RAUP / Anchorage Daily News

ee on Legislative Ethics meet Tuesday morning in the Alaska State Capitol in Juneau.

## el may ask for changes in law

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Last February the panel asked Sanders to write a letter of apology acknowledging the violation and to promise to stop the practice. The committee also asked that Sanders keep advertising items for his print shop out of his legislative offices.

But Sanders announced in his constituent newsletter that he had been found

Please see Page B-2, ETHICS

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The Select Committee has five citizen members and four legislators, one of whom is

Toohy. The subcommittees each have the same five citizen members and two legislators.

Toohy, an Anchorage Republican, thinks two of the citizens should have to be removed from the subcommittees if two legislators are. That would still leave citizens in the majority on the subcommittees, but the majority would be only 3-to-2.

Please see Page B-2, TOOHEY

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## mmunity activist Mike Rose dies of bone ca