

HB

333

**Interested groups list for
HB 314, HB 326 & HB 333**

HB 314

Pro - Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Council on Domestic Violence, Department of Law, and victims groups.

con - none known

HB 326

Pro - Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Council on Domestic Violence, Department of Law, and victims groups.

con - some defense attorneys

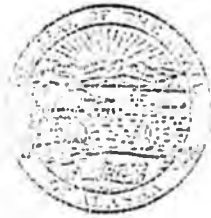
HB 333

Pro - Public Defenders Agency and the office of public advocacy.

con - none known

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
SEAN R. PARNELL



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While in Session
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR STATEMENT House Bill 333

"An act relating to licensure requirements for employees of the office of public advocacy and the Public Defender Agency."

HB 333 would afford the office of public advocacy and the Public Defender Agency the same hiring privilege currently enjoyed by the Attorney General's office. HB 333 would allow each of these agencies to hire attorneys before passing the Alaska Bar and allow them a ten month period to pass the Bar in Alaska.

Since the state of Alaska has no law schools and the cost moving to Alaska without a job can be prohibitive, a ten month window will help in recruiting competent attorneys and help reduce some of the initial hiring cost of the respective agencies.

I respectfully request your support.

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA

DATE: January 18, 1996

TO: Representative Sean Parnell/Rich Vitale

FROM: John B. Salemi *JBS/sh*
Public Defender

SUBJECT: HB 333/Potential Civil Liability

It is my understanding that you have questions about the effect of HB 333 in terms of potential increase of malpractice claims against PD staff lawyers.

It is highly unlikely the passage of HB 333 will increase the PD Agency's exposure to such claims. Being a member of the Alaska Bar does not insulate lawyers from a malpractice suit. Conversely, lack of membership will not be a determinative factor in such claims. Furthermore, individuals who become members of the PD staff as a result of HB 333 will be subject to strict supervision until they become full members of the Alaska Bar Association.

JBS:sh

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 333

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act relating to licensure requirements for employees of the office of public advocacy and the Public Defender Agency"
 Sponsor: Rep. Pamell
 Requestor: Rep. Pamell

Department Affected: Administration
 BRU: Public Defender Agency
 Component: Public Defender Agency
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES	***	***	***	***	***	***
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	***	***	***	***	***	***

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	***	***	***	***	***	***
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	***	***	***	***	***	***
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FUND SOURCE: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	***	***	***	***	***	***
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	***	***	***	***	***	***

Estimate of any current year (FY 96) cost: \$ -0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	***	***	***	***	***	***
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill will result in some savings for the PD in its personal services line. Currently the PD is only able to recruit staff attorneys from among those individuals who are members of the Alaska Bar. Because of this state's relatively small population, and the fact that there is no law school, the number of eligible applicants for a given position is sometimes quite small. Passage of this bill will expand the pool of applicants, making recruitment much more competitive. It is anticipated that with increased competition PD will be able to subfill positions on a regular basis while at the same time attracting experienced lawyers for its staff.

Prepared by: John B. Salemi, Director
 Division: Public Defender Agency

Phone: (907) 264-4412
 Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer *MB*
 Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 1/22/96

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