

SB

117

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: May 7, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 11/27/97

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

SB 117

SENATE BILL NO. 117

INFANT CARE CURRICULUM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“An Act relating to an infant care curriculum in the public school system.”

recommends it be replaced the same title
 with the following committee substitute _____ a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): _____ (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: _____ (Dept/Date)

fiscal note(s) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DOE

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Con Bunde</i>	✓			
<i>John Bunde</i>	✓			
<i>Joseph Bunde</i>			✓	
<i>John Bunde</i>			✓	
<i>Tom Bunde</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Con Bunde* 1-22-98

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 117

Revision Date 1/26/98 Dept. Affected Education
 Title "An Act related to an infant care curriculum
in the public school system." BRU Teaching and Learning Support
 Component Quality Schools
 Sponsor Senator Donley
 Requester House HESS Component Serial No. 2147

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY98) cost: \$0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Any costs related to this bill would be absorbed at the school district level, as this bill encourages school districts to initiate and conduct a program in health education for kindergarten through grade 12, including infant care, but does not mandate such a curriculum.

Prepared by Barbara Thompson Phone 465-8727
 Division Teaching and Learning Support Date 1/26/98
 Approved by Commissioner Shirley J. Holloway, Ph.D. Date 1/26/98
 Agency Department of Education

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office



SENATOR DAVE DONLEY
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SPONSOR STATEMENT SB 117
Infant care education in the schools

SB 117 adds "infant care" instruction to what is currently encouraged in AS 14.30.360(a) for each school district to include in its' health education curriculum.

Prenatal and infant care programs are successfully reducing dangers to infants under 3 months of age but Alaska still suffers from a consistently higher rate of mortality for infants age 3 months to 1 year than the rest of the United States. This strongly indicates a problem in Alaska with a lack of proper infant care.

The attached matrix dramatically indicates the problem. In a study of six western states, Alaska was listed as having the best record for prenatal care, the fewest low weight births, and the lowest births to mothers under the age of 18. However, Alaska still had the highest infant mortality rate of the states studied. The disparity of these figures once again points to a lack of appropriate infant care.

Encouraging infant care to be included in high school health care curriculum will give young Alaskans the basic infant care skills that statistics indicate may be lacking and causing Alaska's infant mortality problems.

One of the leading causes of death for infants in both Alaska and the rest of the United States is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. 100% of infants who died of SIDS in Alaska from 1992 - 1995 were found in the prone sleep position, had been placed to sleep on inappropriate bedding, or had a mother who smoked cigarettes. These are factors that could be significantly reduced and hopefully eliminated with proper infant care education.

Abuse and neglect are also factors that figure in the health and welfare of infants. These are two problems that also could hopefully be prevented or reduced with proper infant care education.

DD/ljh

January-May: STATE CAPITOL • JUNEAU, AK • 99801-1182 • (907) 465-3892 • FAX: (907) 465-6595
June-December: 716 W. 4TH AVE. • STE. 430 • ANCHORAGE, AK • 99501 • (907) 258-8181 • FAX: (907) 258-1648

MEMBER: Senate Finance Committee • Legislative Budget & Audit Committee
• Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Produced in House

Backup for SB 117
The Statistical Case for Why Alaska Needs Better Infant Care

<u>SAMPLE WESTERN STATES & THEIR PROGRAMS THAT IMPACT INFANT MORTALITY</u>	¹ Infant Mortality per/1000	² Low Birth Weight	³ Early Prenatal Care	⁴ Births of Mothers < 18 y.o.
Alaska WIC, Medicaid, Healthy Babies (M of D) ⁵ Head Start, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, Prenatal Care II Program, Even Start, Home Health Svcs., Infant Learning Programs, & Indian Health Svc.	8.2 (worst)	4.9% (best)	83.3% (best)	3.9% (best)
Idaho WIC, Medicaid, Healthy Babies (M of D), Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Indian Health Svc.	7.2	5.3%	78.0%	4.8%
Wyoming WIC, Medicaid, Healthy Babies (M of D), Headstart, Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, Indian Health Svc., Extension Food Nutrition Education Program	7.9	7.3%	81.2%	4.7%
Washington WIC, Medicaid, Healthy Babies (M of D), Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, First Steps, Indian Health Svc.	6.4	5.2%	80.7%	4.0%
Montana WIC, Medicaid, Healthy Babies (M of D) Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies, Family Planning, MIAMI (MT's Initiative for the Abatement of Mortality in Infants), Indian Health Svc.	7.4	6.0%	80.5%	4.5%

¹ Rate of mortality of infants 3 months - 1 yr. of age per 1000 live births.

² Infants weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 lbs.) at birth

³ Prenatal care in the 1st or 2nd trimester of pregnancy

⁴ Births by mothers less than 18 years of age

⁵ March of Dimes Healthy Babies Program

7/26/97
ADN

Anchorage man charged with shaking month-old infant to death

By DANIELE STANTON
Daily News Reporter

An 18-year-old Anchorage man was charged Friday with second-degree murder in the death of his girlfriend's month-old baby.

Mark Adam Nusbaum allegedly killed the baby by shaking him while the mother was at work Sunday, according to documents filed

Friday in district court. Nusbaum was being held Friday at Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility in lieu of \$250,000 bail, police spokesman Ron McGee said.

The baby, Tim Kalmakoff, died Thursday at Providence Alaska Medical Center. He had been on a life-support system since Monday. An autopsy performed Friday by

a state medical examiner showed the baby had blunt traumatic injuries to the head, which are consistent with shaken baby syndrome. He also had fresh rib fractures, evidence of having been grabbed under the arms and violently shaken, the document says.

The autopsy also revealed evidence of earlier abuse — healed rib

fractures and bruising on the chest wall — the document says.

Nusbaum told police detective Linda Branchflower that he sometimes became frustrated with the baby and would abruptly lay him down.

On Sunday, the baby continued to cry after his 19-year-old mother, Karey Kalmakoff, left for work.

Nusbaum told police. He said he had tried to feed the baby. Then he put him in a swing. When Nusbaum bounced the baby on his knee, the infant finally quieted down.

Nusbaum told police he called his girlfriend twice at work to tell her the baby seemed unusually tired, he

Please see Page B-3 INFANT

ANCHORAGE MAN CHARGED WITH SHAKING MONTH-OLD INFANT TO DEATH (continued)

told police. Nusbaum took the baby when he went to pick up his girlfriend at work about 7 p.m. The mother noticed the baby seemed limp, that one pupil was larger than the other and that his skin was cold. The couple immediately drove the baby to Alaska Native Medical Center. Nusbaum told a doctor that the baby had been in that condition since noon. The child was later transferred to Providence.

Shaken babies

Cruelty that must be avoided

No one but a monster sets out to kill a baby. But sometimes, when the baby keeps crying, when apparently nothing

Anchorage Center for Families has developed peel-off stickers with emergency phone numbers including a 24-hour parent help line, to put on your phone or to give to new parents. For information or a free sticker call the center at 276-4994.

will stop that high-pitched wail, even adults who should know better are overcome with rage. They grab the helpless infant and shake it until the crying stops.

And if they shake hard enough, they're left with a child who is seriously injured or dead.

Two babies have died under similar circumstances in the Anchorage area recently;

a month-old boy whose mother's boyfriend has been charged in his death, and a 7-month-old Wasilla girl whose own father has been charged in her death.

The rest of us are left wondering, how can this happen?

It's normal for babies to cry. It's normal for the adults who care for them to feel frustrated. But there is never any reason to lash out in uncontrolled anger at a crying infant.

If you feel yourself starting to "lose it" with a child who won't stop crying, leave the room. Close the door. Cover your ears. Call a friend or relative for help to make sure the baby is OK. Call 911. Call Intermission Crisis Nursery at 276-8511. Do anything but shake that baby.

In response to the two recent infant deaths, Anchorage Center for Families has developed peel-off stickers with emergency phone numbers including a 24-hour parent help line, to put on your phone or to give to new parents. For information or a free sticker call the center at 276-4994.

We're reminded every time a child dies how fragile they are. Their tiny bodies and developing brains need gentle care from the adults around them.

Never, never shake a baby. In an instant, you can do a lifetime of damage.