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*ALASKA COURT SYSTEM*  
*State of Alaska*  
*Office Of The Administrative Director*

**Doug Wooliver**  
Administrative Attorney

820 West 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
(907) 264-8265  
FAX (907) 264-8291

April 7, 1997

Dear Representative Green;

The Alaska Court System requests that CSSB 112(JUD) be scheduled for a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee at your earliest convenience.

This bill transfers responsibility for issuing marriage licenses from the judiciary to the executive branch of government.

Currently, marriage licenses are issued by the Alaska Court System. After the ceremony, the licenses (which are now called certificates) are filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics. The Bureau is part of the Department of Health and Social Services and is administered by the State Registrar who is authorized to appoint local registrars throughout the state.

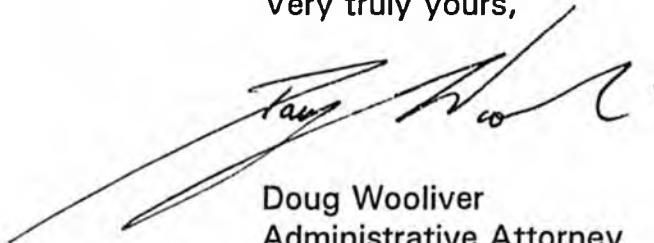
Under this bill, the issuance of marriage licenses will become an executive branch rather than a judicial function. Judges will remain empowered to solemnize marriages and appoint marriage commissioners, but the issuance of licenses will be under the auspices of the Bureau rather than the judiciary. In practice, in those areas where the Bureau does not have a field office, court system employees will continue to act as local registrars. The difference will be that they will do so on behalf of the Bureau rather than as judicial employees.

Inasmuch as the Bureau of Vital Statistics creates the marriage license form and is the ultimate keeper of these and other vital human records, it is more efficient for the Bureau to manage the distribution and issuance of the licenses.

in locations where the Bureau has opened field offices, this bill will benefit the public by providing one location for applications, licensing, and recording. This bill will also increase the efficiency and streamline yet another function performed by government.

Thank you for your consideration on this bill. If I can be of any assistance or provide you with any information please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Wooliver", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Doug Wooliver  
Administrative Attorney

At the present time, marriage licenses are issued by the Alaska Court System. After the ceremony, the licenses (which are then called certificates) are filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics. The Bureau is part of the Department of Health & Social Services and is administered by the State Registrar who is authorized to appoint local registrars throughout the state.

Under this bill, the issuance of marriage licenses will become an executive branch rather than a judicial function. Judges will remain empowered to solemnize marriages and appoint marriage commissioners, but the issuance of licenses will be under the auspices of the Bureau rather than the judiciary. In practice, in those areas where the Bureau does not have a field office, court system employees will continue to act as local registrars. The difference will be that they will do so on behalf of the Bureau rather than as judicial employees.

Inasmuch as the Bureau of Vital Statistics creates the marriage license form and is the ultimate keeper of these and other vital human records, it is more efficient for the Bureau to manage the distribution and issuance of the licenses.

In locations where the Bureau has opened field offices, this bill will benefit the public by providing one location for applications, licensing, and recording. This bill will also increase the efficiency and streamline yet another function performed by government. The legislation has been drafted jointly by the court system and the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO. CSSB 112 (JUD)**

Revision Date: 04/07/97  
 Title: Marriage licensing

Dept. Affected: Alaska Court System  
 BRU: Trial Courts

Sponsor: Judiciary by request  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Component: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 768

**Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)**

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS & CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**Fund Source (Thousands of Dollars)**

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: None

**Positions**

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: C. S. Christensen III, Staff Counsel  
 Agency: Alaska Court System

Phone: 264-8228  
 Date: 04/07/97

Approved by: Stephanie J. Cole, Acting Administrative Director  
 Agency: Alaska Court System

Date: 04/07/97

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# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

No. 1

BILL/Version: SB 112

(S) Publish Date: 4-1-97

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dept. Affected: Alaska Court System

Title: Marriage licensing

BRU: Trial Courts

Component: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: Judiciary by request

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 768

**Expenditures/Revenues**

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS & CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES (</b>						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Fund Source**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: None

**Positions**

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: C. S. Christensen III, Staff Counsel  
 Agency: Alaska Court System

Phone: 264-8228  
 Date: 03/10/97

Approved by: Stephanie J. Cole, Acting Administrative Director  
 Agency: Alaska Court System

Date: 03/10/97

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STATE OF ALASKA  
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 2  
Bill Version: SB 112  
(S) Publish Date: 4-1-97

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Transfer of marriage licensure from the  
judicial offices to the state registrar of vital statistics  
Sponsor: Senate JUD  
Requestor: Senate JUD

Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services  
BRU: State Health Services  
Component: Bureau of Vital Statistics  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 961  
See also (SN#): \_\_\_\_\_

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGES 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 (please specify)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$0.0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

A C-4 transfer has been completed for this function in the FY 98 Governor's Request.

Prepared by: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH *P.M.N.*  
Division: Public Health  
Approved by Commissioner: Karen Perdue, Commissioner  
Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Phone: (907) 465-3090  
Date: 03/14/97  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: April 4, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/26/97

The JUDICIARY Committee considered:

CSSB 112(JUD)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 112(JUD)

MARRIAGE LICENSING FUNCTIONS

“An Act relating to marriage licenses; and transferring responsibility for marriage licensing from judicial officers to the state registrar of vital statistics.”

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) \_\_\_\_\_  zero fiscal note(s) HSS, COURTS

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Brian Porter</i> PORTER	✓			
<i>Joseph Green</i> GREEN	✓			
<i>Walter James</i> JAMES	✓			
<i>Con Bunde</i> BUNDE	✓			
<i>Chad Berkowitz</i> BERKOWITZ	✓			
	(5)			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Joseph Green*  
(Green)