

HB

304

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: January 12, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS: Labor and Commerce
Finance

Date of Committee Action: 1/29/98

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 304

HOUSE BILL NO. 304

MOVE LEGISLATURE TO ANCHORAGE

“An Act relating to the location of the convening of the legislature in regular session; repealing provisions relating to student guests of the legislature; and providing for an effective date.”

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) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Jeannette James</i>			✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>		✓		
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CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

Jeannette James



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Sponsor Statement

HB 304 - Legislative Move

By Representatives Joe Green and Norman Rokeberg

House Bill 304 calls for the legislature to convene in the Municipality of Anchorage beginning in 2001. HB 304 does not propose to move the capital; it only addresses where the legislature meets.

The majority of Alaska's population lives well away from the committee hearings, floor sessions, and daily business of the legislature. Access to legislators is limited only to those Alaskans who can afford the expensive and irregular travel to Juneau. Special interest groups, lobbyists, and individuals with the financial means can access the legislature in its current remote location, but representative government demands that legislators hear from all citizens, not just the wealthy. The statewide teleconference system is a necessary improvement, but insufficient solution, to this problem.

The Anchorage area offers the advantages of access, including superior transportation access by rail, road, or air; superior commercial office space available at competitive rates; larger and more varied residential space for legislators and staff; and a larger labor pool from which to draw professional and clerical staff. There are also outstanding visitor facilities for individuals and groups doing business with the legislature. Both the private and public section will realize savings from such a move.

The legislature is presently housed in an obsolete building, constructed in 1931. The State Capitol and surrounding parking, are grossly inadequate and were not constructed for the primary purpose of conducting today's legislative activities. The building is clearly unsafe as it violates numerous life-safety and building codes. It does not have an automatic sprinkler system for fire suppression, has antiquated electrical service, fails to meet structural requirements for earthquakes, contains countless fire code violations, does not provide adequate access for the disabled community, and is inefficiently laid out and expensive to maintain and operate.

In Anchorage, where the bulk of the legislators are from and where they conduct their business during the legislative interim, a leased building provides year-round offices for 19 House members, 10 Senate members, the Ethics Committee, and the Anchorage Legislative Information office. It contains five conference rooms and various other rooms used by the Legislature. All in all, the Legislature leases 22,792 square feet in this building at the rate of \$1.63 per foot or a total cost during FY '97 of \$444,841.33. The Legislature's lease expires on May 31, 1998, and the lease has five 1-year renewal options.

Sponsor Statement
HB 304 - Legislative Move
Representatives Green & Rokeberg

Suitable premises for the chambers and associated office premises are readily available in the Anchorage commercial real estate market. The dimensions of the current House chamber are 60 feet by 52 feet; space is readily available in the Anchorage market. A minimum of cost would be necessary to refit the premises, and given current market conditions could be bargained for as part of the leasehold obligation. Additionally, the need for larger office space and chamber space would also allow the legislature to relocate what are now the offices of the Anchorage Legislative Information office and the associated interim offices. Economies of scale could be gained by this.

There is concern regarding the potential loss of jobs in Juneau. This could be offset by Juneau's economy becoming more dependent on private businesses: tourism, timber, fishing, mining, etc., together with the continued presence of the Executive branch of government could fill those jobs. In the short term, the economy in Juneau may feel the effects of a legislative move, but a majority of Alaskans would benefit during the long term.

Session per diem rates would be impacted as well as the legislature's travel budget. With more than three legislators being paid at the lower per diem rate and with less moving costs for the Anchorage-based legislators, savings could definitely be accomplished. Currently, the Municipality of Anchorage is home to approximately 9 senators and 15 representatives.

We have both recently asked our constituents in House Districts 10 and 11: "Should legislative sessions be held in Anchorage rather than in Juneau?". Overwhelming, they said "yes."

Moving the legislature to Anchorage would: (1) increase citizen access; (2) save money; and (3) provide a safer, more efficient premises to conduct the people's business.

We would appreciate your support of this bill.

expenses, or any other purpose, by a person employing, retaining, or contracting for the services of the lobbyist separately or jointly with other persons;

(B) a payment in support of or assistance to a lobbyist or the lobbyist's activities, including but not limited to the direct payment of expenses incurred at the request or suggestion of the lobbyist;

(C) a payment that directly benefits a public official or a member of the immediate family of that official;

(D) a payment, including compensation, payment, or reimbursement for the services, time, or expenses of an employee for or in connection with direct communication with a public official;

(E) a payment for or in connection with soliciting or urging other persons to enter into direct communication with a public official;

(F) a payment or reimbursement for expenses in the categories set out in AS 24.45.051(2);

(11) "person", in addition to the terms set out in AS 01.10.060 includes a labor union; and

(12) "public official" or "public officer" means a public official as defined in AS 39.50.200(a), a member of the legislature, or a legislative director as defined in AS 24.60.990(a); however, it does not include a judicial officer or an elected or appointed municipal officer. (§ 2 ch 167 SLA 1976; am § 39 ch 37 SLA 1986; am § 39 ch 127 SLA 1992)

Effect of amendments. — The 1992 amendment, legislature, or a legislative director as defined in AS effective January 11, 1993, inserted ", a member of the 24.60.990(a)" in paragraph (12).

Sec. 24.45.181. Short title. This chapter may be cited as the Regulation of Lobbying Act. (§ 2 ch 167 SLA 1976)

Chapter 50. Student Guests of Legislature.

- Section 10. Annual student guests
- 20. Selection by schools

- Section 30. Arrangements
- 40. Essay contest

Sec. 24.50.010. Annual student guests. The legislature may each year while in session serve as host to one member of each high school in the state for a stay of one week in the capital to observe and learn the legislative process. (§ 1 ch 130 SLA 1962)

Sec. 24.50.020. Selection by schools. Each high school of the state may annually and before the end of the calendar year select one member of its student body as a legislative guest. (§ 2 ch 130 SLA 1962)

Sec. 24.50.030. Arrangements. When the representative has been selected under AS 24.50.020, the principal of the school shall certify the selection to the legislative council. The legislative council is responsible for making all necessary administrative and fiscal arrangements for the transportation and housing of the selected students in coordination with the principals. Funds for the transportation, housing, and meals of the students shall be included in the general appropriation for legislative expenses as budgeted for by the legislative council. (§ 3 ch 130 SLA 1962)

Sec. 24.50.040. Essay contest. Before leaving the state capital, each legislative guest shall prepare and submit to the director of the Legislative Affairs Agency a paper of not less than 1,000 words entitled "The Legislature Should". Each paper

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shall be examined and judged as to content by the governor, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the minority leader of the senate, and the minority leader of the house. The author of the paper determined best by majority vote shall receive a one-year scholarship to the University of Alaska. (§ 4 ch 130 SLA 1962; am § 40 ch 53 SLA 1973)

Chapter 55. Office of the Ombudsman.

Article

1. Organization (§§ 24.55.010 — 24.55.090)
2. Jurisdiction and Initiation of Investigations (§§ 24.55.100 — 24.55.140)
3. Investigations (§§ 24.55.150 — 24.55.170)
4. Procedure and Reports After Investigation (§§ 24.55.180 — 24.55.220)
5. Miscellaneous (§§ 24.55.230 — 24.55.290)
6. General Provisions (§§ 24.55.300 — 24.55.340)

Legislative history reports. — For conference 1975 (FCCS HCS CSSB 1), see 1975 Senate Journal, committee letter of intent and analysis of ch. 32, SLA pp. 601-603.

Article 1. Organization.

Section

10. Office of the ombudsman
20. Appointment of the ombudsman
30. Qualifications; prohibition against political activity
40. Term of office

Section

50. Removal
60. Compensation
70. Staff and delegation
80. Office facilities and administration
90. Procedure

Sec. 24.55.010. Office of the ombudsman. There is created in the legislative branch of the state the office of the ombudsman. (§ 1 ch 32 SLA 1975)

Sec. 24.55.020. Appointment of the ombudsman. (a) A candidate for appointment as the ombudsman shall be nominated by the ombudsman selection committee composed of three members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate and three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house. One member of the minority party caucus in each house shall be appointed to the selection committee.

(b) The ombudsman selection committee shall examine persons to serve as ombudsman regarding their qualifications and ability and shall place the name of the person selected in nomination. The appointment is effective if the nomination is approved by a roll call vote of two-thirds of the members of the legislature in joint session and approved by the governor. However, the governor may veto the appointment and return it, with a statement of objections, to the legislature. Upon receipt of a veto message the legislature shall meet immediately in joint session and reconsider approval of the vetoed appointment. The vetoed appointment becomes effective by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the legislature in joint session. The vote on the appointment and on reconsideration of a vetoed appointment shall be entered in the journals of both houses.

(c) The appointment of the ombudsman becomes effective if, while the legislature is in session, the governor neither approves nor vetoes it within 15 days, Sundays excepted, after its delivery to the governor. If the legislature is not in session and the governor neither approves nor vetoes the appointment within 20 days, Sundays excepted, after its delivery to the governor, the appointment becomes effective. (§ 1 ch 32 SLA 1975)

Sec. 24.55.030. Qualifications; prohibition against political activity. (a) A person may not serve as ombudsman

1994 GENERAL ELECTION CAPITAL MOVE VOTES:

<u>SENATE DISTRICT</u>	<u>FOR MOVE</u>	<u>AGAINST MOVE</u>
A (Taylor)	623 (5%)	11,494 (95%)
B (Duncan)	853 (5%)	15,304 (95%)
C (Zharoff)	1,596 (17%)	7,609 (83%)
D (Torgerson)	6,128 (55%)	5,072 (45%)
E (Salo)	6,589 (61%)	4,260 (39%)
F (Pearce)	6,694 (61%)	4,220 (39%)
G (Leman)	6,220 (59%)	4,357 (41%)
H (Ellis)	4,708 (60%)	3,173 (40%)
I (Rieger)	7,285 (59%)	5,068 (41%)
J (Donley)	6,917 (62%)	4,246 (38%)
K (Kelly)	6,694 (60%)	4,408 (40%)
L (Phillips)	5,048 (64%)	2,830 (36%)
M (Halford)	8,529 (73%)	3,181 (27%)
N (Green)	10,001 (74%)	3,572 (26%)
O (Frank)	3,441 (31%)	7,752 (69%)
P (Sharp)	2,991 (37%)	5,114 (64%)
Q (Miller)	4,069 (38%)	6,690 (62%)
R (Lincoln)	3,738 (38%)	6,184 (62%)
S (Adams)	2,141 (24%)	6,844 (76%)
T (Hoffman)	2,133 (30%)	4,900 (70%)
TOTAL:	96,398	116,277

1994 GENERAL ELECTION CAPITAL MOVE VOTES:

HOUSE DISTRICT		FOR MOVE	AGAINST MOVE
1	Williams	251 (4%)	5,367 (96%)
2	Grussendorf	372 (6%)	6,127 (94%)
3	Elton	497 (6%)	7,879 (94%)
4	Robinson	356 (5%)	7,425 (95%)
5	Mackie	392 (7%)	4,920 (93%)
6	Austerman	1,204 (31%)	2,689 (69%)
7	Phillips	2,979 (51%)	2,853 (49%)
8	G. Davis	3,149 (59%)	2,219 (41%)
9	Navarre	2,856 (62%)	1,750 (38%)
10	Green	3,733 (60%)	2,510 (40%)
11	Rokeberg	3,309 (62%)	2,052 (38%)
12	Hanley	3,385 (61%)	2,168 (39%)
13	Toohey	3,699 (56%)	2,915 (44%)
14	Martin	2,521 (64%)	1,442 (36%)
15	Brown	2,690 (58%)	1,931 (42%)
16	Finkelstein	2,018 (62%)	1,242 (38%)
17	Parnell	3,232 (63%)	1,892 (37%)
18	Bunde	4,053 (56%)	3,176 (44%)
19	Sanders	3,463 (63%)	2,053 (37%)
20	Porter	3,454 (61%)	2,193 (39%)
21	B. Davis	2,990 (60%)	1,990 (40%)
22	Barnes	3,704 (61%)	2,418 (39%)
23	Mulder	1,641 (64%)	915 (36%)
24	Kott	3,407 (64%)	1,915 (36%)
25	Willis	3,892 (69%)	1,736 (31%)
26	Korbing	4,637 (76%)	1,445 (24%)
27	Ogan	4,840 (71%)	1,992 (29%)
28	Masek	5,161 (77%)	1,580 (23%)
29	Davies	1,831 (29%)	4,561 (71%)
30	Brice	1,610 (34%)	3,191 (66%)
31	Kelly	1,692 (35%)	3,106 (65%)
32	Vezey	1,299 (39%)	2,008 (61%)
33	Therriault	2,214 (36%)	3,907 (64%)
34	James	1,855 (40%)	2,783 (60%)
35	Kubina	2,029 (25%)	2,965 (75%)
36	Nicholia	1,709 (35%)	3,219 (65%)
37	MacLean	1,160 (25%)	3,396 (75%)
38	Foster	981 (22%)	3,448 (78%)
39	Ivan	1,241 (28%)	3,133 (72%)
40	Moses	892 (34%)	1,767 (66%)
TOTAL:		96,398	116,277

January 28, 1998

Honorable Senators and Representatives
State of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been listening to the radio and reading the paper lately about things that have happened, including your travels to Juneau. A couple of things I want to mention to you:

When you live in the state of Alaska, there are some adventures that you will have to encounter. That's why we live here. It is always exciting. If you don't want adventures, then go where there aren't any. When you travel to Juneau to be here for the session, it is a very big adventure. And when there are a couple of people that don't make it as fast as you did to the ferry terminal, what's wrong with being polite and waiting for those people? It's like a kind gesture - holding the door open for someone else. There were comments made that a lot were held up for a few. Be polite to each other.

It is also adventurous to fly in and out of Juneau. We all know we need to plan ahead for weather sometimes. Other places in Alaska have weather problems, it's not just Juneau.

If you feel the capital is too far away, then move to a state where the capital is near. That's another part of being in Alaska. It's not good to compare us to other states - we're not fond of that.

The capitol you preside in is an old building; however, it has been kept up to very good standards. Most people think it is a beautiful, old

building. Thinking that it is going to fall down soon is absurd. We have taken very good care of that building. Again, it is an adventure.

I was born and raised in Juneau. The legislative session and politics have been a major part of our lives for those of us who live here. We do take an interest in what's going on, and we do care that you are here. It is an adventure for us as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Florence E. Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Florence E. Johnson
P.O. Box 240175
Douglas, Alaska 99824

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. hb 304

Revision Date (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected All
 Title Relocate the legislature to Anchorage BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Green and Rokeberg
 Requester State Affairs Component Serial No. _____

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	2,736.5	2,805.0	2,875.1	2,947.0	3,020.6	3,096.1

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FIJND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	2,736.5	2,805.0	2,875.1	2,947.0	3,020.6	3,096.1

Estimate of any current year (FY98) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Consolidated fiscal note for Executive Branch. Utilizes same methodology as SB 19 (1995 Session, Phillips) with an annual inflation adjustment of 2.5%.

Prepared by Chanelle McDaniel
 Division OMB
 Approved by Commissioner J. Ransaw
 Agency Office of the Governor

Phone 465-4660
 Date 1/23/98
 Date _____

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FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HB 304
Relocating the Legislature to Anchorage
Consolidated Fiscal Note for Executive Branch*

Department	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
Governor	773.9	793.2	813.1	833.4	854.2	875.6
Administration	76.6	78.5	80.4	82.5	84.5	86.6
DCED	107.7	110.4	113.2	116.0	118.9	121.9
DCRA	46.6	47.8	49.0	50.2	51.5	52.8
Corrections	61.4	62.9	64.5	66.1	67.8	69.5
Education	95.0	97.4	99.8	102.3	104.9	107.5
DEC	88.9	91.1	93.4	95.7	98.1	100.5
ADF&G	211.9	217.2	222.6	228.2	233.9	239.7
DH&SS	572.4	586.7	601.3	616.4	631.8	647.6
Labor	56.8	58.2	59.7	61.2	62.7	64.2
Law	326.7	334.8	343.2	351.8	360.6	369.6
DMVA	8.2	8.4	8.6	8.8	9.1	9.3
DNR	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public Safety	72.5	74.3	76.1	78.0	80.0	82.0
DOR	149.0	152.8	156.6	160.5	164.5	168.6
DOTPF	89.1	91.3	93.6	95.9	98.3	100.8
Total	2,736.5	2,805.0	2,875.1	2,947.0	3,020.6	3,096.1

*Uses same departmental totals as SB 19 (1995 Session) with an inflation rate of 2.5%/yr.

OMB/BP
1/23/98 15:56