

HB

309

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: January 12, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 1/20/98

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 309

HOUSE BILL NO. 309

NAMING ATWOOD BLDG IN ANCHORAGE

"An Act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title
 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) LGA, GOV zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Jeanette James</i>	✓			
<i>Ken Smith</i>	✓			
<i>Robert</i>	✓			
<i>Martha</i>	✓			
<i>Fred Dymally</i>	✓			
<i>Ed Perry</i>	✓			
<i>Tom Miller</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE _____

HB 309
“An Act Naming the Robert B. Atwood Building”

Sponsor Statement

HB 309 allows for the State's recently acquired Bank of America Building in Anchorage to be renamed in the honor of one of Alaska's great leaders, Robert B. Atwood.

Bob Atwood lived in Alaska for over 61 years. He began his career in the newspaper business. Atwood spent over fifty continuous years, as publisher of The Anchorage Times. His endeavors, accomplishments and influence reached all corners of Alaska. His priorities were not focused on himself, but on the bettering of the community and state.

Atwood was emerged in many facets of the state. He was instrumental in the battle for statehood. He worked hard to promote infrastructure development, not only in his community but the entire state. He tirelessly promoted the presence of the military in Alaska. Atwood was an advocate for education, promoting the Journalism and Media Departments at Alaska Pacific University and University of Alaska. From the "Statehood Era" to present-day education, Atwood has left his mark and impression in the minds of all generations.

Some people talk about other people. **Some** people talk about things. **Great** people talk about ideas! A man full of ideas and dreams for the state he loved! Robert B. Atwood never stopped doing good for Alaska. His spirit remains! This Great Man, Bob Atwood, has earned the honor for a State building to hold his name.

From the office of . . . **Representative John J. Cowdery**

716 West 4th Ave., Suite 320

Anchorage, AK 99517

907-258-8188 phone

907-258-8727 fax

OK

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative James

FROM: Representative Cowdery

DATE: January 13, 1998

RE: HB 309

CC:

J.C.

Notes:

I would like to request a State Affairs Committee Hearing be held for HB 309, titled "An Act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building".

A hearing date set for your earliest convenience would be appreciated.

Subs
Jan 20
8:00 a.m.

From the office of . . . **Representative John J. Cowdery**

State Capitol Bldg., Room 416

Juneau, AK 99801

907-465-3879 phone

907-465-2069 fax

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative James office, Barbara

FROM: Representative Cowdery J.C.

DATE: January 16, 1998

RE: HB 309

CC:

Notes:

Names of individuals testifying on behalf of HB 309, "An Act Naming the Robert B. Arwood Building."

Through **Anchorage** LIO Teleconference:

Dr. Doug North
Chancellor Lee Gorsuch
Auggie Hiebert
Mr. Bill Tobin
Mrs. Gloria McCutcheon
Mr. Ed Rasmusson
Mr. Vic Fisher
Fuller Cowell
Ms. Katie Hurly (telephone hook-up)

Through **Ketchikan** LIO Teleconference:

Mr. Lew Williams

At Hearing in **Juneau**:

Judge Tom Stewart

Proposed Amendment to House Bill No. 309

Section 1 is amended to read: **Sec.35.40.110. Robert B. Atwood Building** The state office building at 550 West Seventh Avenue in Anchorage is named the Robert B. Atwood Building (.) subject to the termination or expiration of existing name and signage provisions contained in the lease between the Bank of America and the State of Alaska

1
Moved by Rep Elton
Defeated 3-2

FAREWELL



What advice would he give young people today who are beginning their careers in Alaska?

Robert Atwood's answer to the question came with simple words from a complex man. Do it. Have the courage to persist in what you believe. Overcome the obstacles that rise from those who challenge change.

Before a roomful of young journalists, Robert Atwood spoke the essence of his success. He did it.

His career in Alaska is that of legends. He built the Anchorage Times, making it a voice of Alaska, one unafraid of challenging presidents, senators and the common man alike.

He believed Alaskans deserved the benefits of statehood and he let no one, absolutely no one, impede that dream. He believed a strong military presence was good for Anchorage and good for Alaska. He let no one forget.

He saw benefit in the development of Alaska's natural resources and he never let that belief wither from lack of voice. He was a journalist who found it his duty to be that voice.

He believed in keeping that voice alive, and founded the Atwood Chair of Journalism at the University of Alaska Anchorage so professionals can teach young minds the ways of the field.

Last September, he spoke at a luncheon meeting of the Alaska Press Women. His hands shaking, his gait unsteady, his viewpoint rock solid. The secret to his success, he said, is that he found the courage to do, to follow through on his beliefs of right and wrong.

Robert Atwood's legacy is best measured by not only what he did, but why he dared to try, and how he persevered.

He was born to will and determination. He lived in the hope and promise of this great land. He carved his dreams in bold idea.

Doing, he knew, was the soul of thought.


Robert Atwood

March 31, 1907

January 10, 1997



Anchorage Daily News



Fuller A. Cowell
Publisher

Kent Poillock
Editor

Michael Carey, Editorial Page Editor

Gerald E. Grity, Publisher, 1964-1968
Katherine Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1971-1983
Lawrence Fanning, Editor and Publisher, 1967-1971
Founded in 1948 by Norman C. Brown

Fitting tribute

Lawmakers propose Atwood building

Lawmakers in both houses have proposed legislation to rename the Bank of America building, which the state bought last year, after the long-time publisher of the Anchorage Times, Robert Atwood. The suggestion is both timely and appropriate.

Mr. Atwood, who died last January, had a major role in transforming Anchorage from a dusty country town into a serious city. His name is synonymous with civic service. At the state level, he was a leader in the fight for statehood and figured prominently in the development of Alaska's oil industry.

Robert Atwood left his mark all over Alaska. Now the state building will mark his achievements.

STATEMENT TO THE STATE HOUSE AND SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEES ON:

HB 309 and SB 222

An act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building.

My name is Lew M. Williams, Jr. I began running Alaska newspapers in Wrangell in 1946. I retired as publisher of the Ketchikan Daily News after owning and/or running newspapers in Juneau, Wrangell, Petersburg, Sitka and Ketchikan over a period of 44 years. I currently serve on the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska.

I have known Robert (Bob) Atwood since 1946. I am currently editing a history of Alaska newspapers authored by his late wife, Evangeline.

Bob Atwood was chairman of the Alaska Statehood Committee in the 1950s which successfully lobbied for the legislation that created the State of Alaska. For that reason alone there is justification for naming the building at 550 West Seventh Avenue, Anchorage, for the man. We already have named state facilities for the other prominent fighters for Alaska statehood such as Gruening, Bartlett, Egan. It's appropriate to commemorate Atwood's contribution.

In addition, Atwood was a major contributor to the economy and to education in Alaska. He editorially supported development of resources and made a school of journalism and communications at the University of Alaska Anchorage possible with annual endowments of \$50,000 to \$100,000 for the past 17 years.

He similarly contributed to Alaska Pacific University, was one of its founders and served on its board of trustees. He also supported other public and private organizations for the benefit of the state and community.

He was one of the founders, with this retired publisher, of the Alaska Newspaper Association in an effort to improve newspaper performance in Alaska. He was recognized nationally as a leader in the newspaper field by his service as a judge for Pulitzer Prizes and as an officer in various national organizations.

Although the newspapers I operated may have disagreed with Atwood and his Anchorage Times on Alaska issues on occasion, I always found Atwood a true Alaska statehood pioneer. And unlike some who made their fortune in the state and left, Atwood maintained his home in Alaska and continued to contribute to the betterment of the state after he retired from the newspaper business.

Renaming the Bank of America Building in Anchorage the Robert B. Atwood Building is very appropriate.

**THE FOLLOWING PAGE~~S~~ MAY NOT
FILM LEGIBLY BECAUSE OF THE
POOR QUALITY OF THE ORIGINAL**



261

The members of the 19th Alaska Legislature will today
celebrate fifty years as writer and publisher of one of the oldest
and foremost newspapers, "The Anchorage Times."

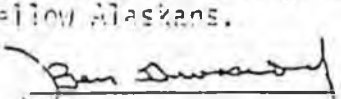
Members of the Allied Daily Newspapers will gather in
conjunction with members of the Alaska Newspaper Association
later this week. A highlight of the event will be a special
tribute to the man who is known to nearly every Alaskan for his
battles on behalf of the people of the 49th State. There is little
question that Bob Atwood is revered among a wide range of
Alaskans who have made contributions toward progress of the
settlement, development and growth of our state.

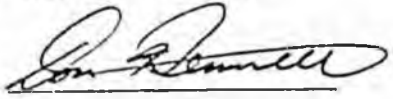
Indeed it might be said that without the untiring efforts of
Bob Atwood Alaska might never have become a state. It is his
little ice creamery in the old building and his "Anchorage Times"
that led the way, starting out with 150 subscribers and
newspapers for residents of the Territory and the old Alaska.

In addition, over the past fifty years, it has almost surely
never been more single-mindedly produced than in today's
and most newspapers are in Alaska. He inspired the people of
Alaska to settle for a new horizon, to pioneer their way to
thought of as a crossroads to the world. He fought for hospitals,
for highways, higher education and for a variety of other beneficial
projects.

Bob began his career in the newspaper business, as have many
before him, as a reporter. Very few, however, have ever been
honored for fifty continuous years as publisher of a major daily
newspaper. Fewer still, at age 78, continue to put in 10-hour days,
six days a week at their desk.

We applaud the members of the Allied Daily Newspapers
Association for their recognition of Robert B. Atwood and extend to
our friend and occasional worthy opponent our congratulations,
commendations and sincere best wishes. Surely he has earned the
praise of his peers and his fellow Alaskans.


SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE


PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: May 12, 1985

Requested by: Senators Ziegler, Ray, V. Fischer,
Murgulewski, Josephson, Kelly, Rodey, Halford, Fajks, Abood, Zharoff, Paul Fischer,
Hill & Eliason; Representatives Pearce, Hanley, Jenkins, Furnace &



* HONORING *

* ROBERT B. ATWOOD *

It is all too rare in our day and age that a private citizen, by his own courage and instinctive readiness to act against impending peril, can overcome a life-threatening crisis and perform an act of heroism without regard to his own life.

One of Alaska's most honored and respected leaders, Robert B. Atwood, did precisely that in the face of an armed and deranged gunman who entered the offices of The Anchorage Times on the morning of October 21, 1986. Igniting grenades, firing an automatic weapon and terrifying employees, the assailant turned his rifle on Elaine Atwood, assistant publisher of The Times, spraying her office and an adjacent reception area with bullets.

Mr. Atwood, without regard to personal safety, charged into the field of fire and wrestled the assailant into submission. In the melee, he suffered burns on his fingers from the hot barrel of the automatic weapon and cuts on his fists from blows he struck while bringing the gunman under control.

The members of the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature, in recognition of this distinctive example of Alaskan courage, are pleased to honor Bob Atwood for the bravery he displayed and to salute him for action that represents the finest possible example of heroes who set aside their own well-being in order to aid others in danger.

By his fearless response, Bob Atwood quelled a terrifying incident that otherwise might have resulted in the tragic injury or death of a number of his fellow workers and employees. His action added new luster to a long and distinguished career and a lifetime of service to the State of Alaska.

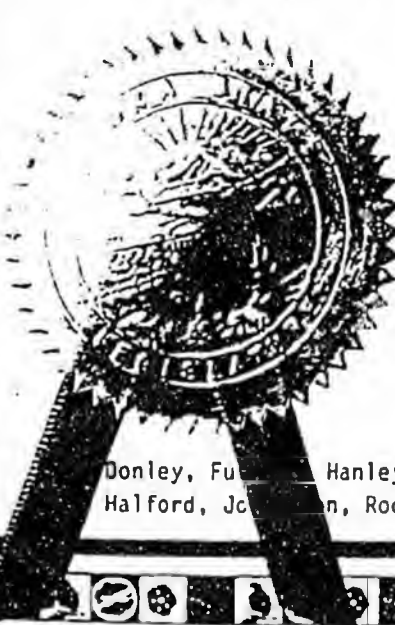
The Legislature proudly salutes a courageous friend.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: January 30, 1987

Requested by: Representatives Boucher, Barnes, Collins, Donley, Fulkerson, Hanley, Martin, Menard, Pearce and Zawacki; Senators Faiks, Bennett, Uehling, Halford, Johnson, Rodey, Sturgulewski and Abood



* HONORING *
* THE ROBERT B. ATWOOD FAMILY *

The members of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature honor the Robert B. Atwood family for their long-standing commitment to the State of Alaska.

Mr. Atwood began his newspaper career while a student at Clark University in Massachusetts. Following graduation, he worked as a reporter in Massachusetts and in Springfield, Illinois.

Robert Atwood married Evangeline Rasmuson Atwood in 1932 and moved to Alaska with her in 1934. The two purchased the Anchorage Times the following year.

A longtime champion for statehood, Mr. Atwood served as the chairman of the Alaska Statehood Commission from 1949 to 1959. He served as President of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and received an honorary Doctorate of Literature from the Alaska Methodist University and a Doctorate of Journalism from the University of Alaska in 1979. Mr. Atwood also established the Atwood Chair of Journalism at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

A daughter of pioneer missionaries, Mrs. Atwood was born in Southeast Alaska and later moved to Anchorage. A recognized contributor to her community and all of Alaska before her death in 1987, Mrs. Atwood was named Historian of the Year in 1975 by the Historical Society and Alaskan of the Year in 1981. She was one of Alaska's best known historians and an author of many books on politics and history. Among some of her outstanding accomplishments, Mrs. Atwood founded the Alaska World Affairs Council, the first League of Women Voters chapter in Alaska and the Alaska Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Atwoods have two daughters, Elaine and Marilyn. Elaine has served as the Assistant Publisher of the Anchorage Times and was the first woman president of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce. Marilyn Atwood served as the Anchorage Times' Washington, D.C. correspondent.

Indicative of his commitment to Alaska, Mr. Atwood only recently sold the Anchorage Times after a search for an Alaskan buyer who would continue the paper's pro-development focus.


The members of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature commend the entire Atwood family for their untiring dedication to the betterment of life in Alaska through their work at the Anchorage Times and their outstanding personal contributions to the State of Alaska.



Sam Guste *Tim Kelly*
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: January 29, 1990

Proposed by: Senators Pearce, Faiks, Sturgulewski, Binkley,
Uehling, Fisco, Kerttula, Rodey, Fahrenkamp, Jones, Kelly, Szymanski, Halford, Coghill,
Zhanoff, Elias, and Frank; Representatives Barnes, Boucher, Leman, Martin, Zawacki, Brown,
Collins, Cotten, Hanley, Furnace, Gruenberg, Hanley, Hudson, Larson, Menard, Pettyjohn, Phillips,
Rieger and Ulmer



In Memoriam

* ROBERT B. ATWOOD *

The Twentieth Alaska State Legislature pays tribute to Robert B. Atwood, a man who stood tall, not only in stature, but in his unsurpassed influence on the direction of his state and the Anchorage community. Bob Atwood looms large in what Alaska was, what it is and what it will become.

Bob Atwood lived in Alaska for more than 61 years and was a community leader whose sphere of influence reached from east to west and north to south. He loved his community and state with a fervor that continued until his death. He was a force with which to be reckoned.

Among his many endeavors, Bob will be remembered as the driving force in the battle for statehood. He was certainly the chief cheerleader and one of the main strategists. Bob Atwood and his beloved *Anchorage Times* were instrumental in developing much of our state and community infrastructure. Anchorage International Airport became a reality because of Bob and his editorial leadership. Alaska's enviable relationship with the Department of Defense is due largely to Bob's relentless crusade to get the military to commit to a large, permanent operation in our state. He convinced the oil industry to explore the Swans on River area and was the founding father and a major benefactor of Alaska Methodist University and its successor, Alaska Pacific University.

Atwood also expended himself greatly in promoting the Department of Journalism & Public Communications at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He contributed his tremendous Alaskan wisdom, and gave generously to create an endowed chair that so appropriately bears his name. Owing largely to Atwood's efforts, the educational horizon is much brighter for Alaskan scholars, particularly those who want to follow Atwood's footsteps into the world of media.

Atwood was one of the most ardent and vocal advocates of moving the state capital from Juneau. His ardent aspirations to relocate the seat of government to somewhere farther north, most likely Anchorage, won Bob Atwood numerous friends and enemies. As this controversial issue continues to inspire Alaskans to speak their minds, Bob's energy and enthusiasm are recalled in fond memory.

To those of us who knew Bob Atwood on a personal level, we knew a man who gave his all to those things about which he cared deeply; who would cajole us for our opposition to a stand he had taken; who always had a ready handshake, a smile and some word of wisdom to offer.

The Alaska State Legislature honors the memory and accomplishments of Robert B. Atwood and extends its most sincere condolences to his family and friends, especially to his daughter Elaine. Our lives are richer for his having been among us.



Earl Phillips *Mike Miller*
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: January 13, 1997

Irue Peace
PRIME SPONSOR

Cosponsors: Senators Leman, Miller, Sharp, Donley, Adams, Kelly, Taylor, Lincoln, Phillips, Cowdery, Berkowitz, Austerman, Brice, Bunde, Croft, Davies, Davis, Dyson, Elton, Foster, Green, Johnson, Ramsey, Sells, Hudson, Ivan, James, Joule, Kelly, Kempen, Kohring, Kookesh, Kott, Kuhina, Martin, Masek, Moses, Mulder, Nicholson, Porter, Roken, Swanson, Sanders, Therriault, Vezey, Williams

VICTOR FISCHER

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Testimony on HB 309 and SB 222, for "An Act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building" January 20, 1998

I am testifying on behalf of the three living Anchorage delegates to the Alaska Constitutional Convention, each of whom also served in the Alaska territorial legislature: Seaborn J. Buckalew, Jr., Steve McCutcheon, and myself, Victor Fischer. The three of us enthusiastically support naming the new office building for Bob Atwood.

As you know, the state constitution was written as part of Alaska's fight for statehood. And statehood was Bob Atwood's biggest cause. There was not one person who so fervently and outspokenly argued for statehood as Bob Atwood. As an individual, as a publisher, and as Chairman of the official Alaska Statehood Committee, Atwood devoted endless energy to bringing self-governance to Alaska. He fully deserves to be remembered and honored for this tremendous contribution to Alaska.

Statehood was an overriding, non-partisan goal, and the fight was waged together, on a completely bi-partisan basis. Bob Atwood, a Republican, worked shoulder to shoulder with Democrats Bob Bartlett, Alaska Delegate to Congress, and Ernest Gruening, our Territorial Governor, in providing the leadership and drive for statehood, in which each of us participated. It was a long, tough battle, and it was glorious when we finally did become a state. And Bob Atwood was there all the way.

In addition to acknowledging Bob Atwood's contribution to statehood and his total dedication to Anchorage, Steve McCutcheon, Judge Buckalew, and I also considered Bob a good friend. We were sad when he left us, but we will be glad to see his name emblazoned on Anchorage's state office building.

Thank you.

2864
ATTN:
Marty

**THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT
HAS NOT BEEN FILMED
BUT IS AVAILABLE IN THE
ORIGINAL FILE**

The Atwood Times

Vol. 1, No. 1 Anchorage, Alaska, Sunday, November 6, 1994 FREE



FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 309

Revision Date: (Note if correction)
Title: "An Act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building...."
Sponsor: Rep. Cowdery
Requestor: (H) STA

Department Affected: Administration
BRU: Centralized Administrative Services
Component: Leasing and Facilities
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 81

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						
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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						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 98) cost: \$ none

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

The building located at 550 West Seventh Avenue in Anchorage is currently named the Bank of America Center in accordance with specific lease provisions entered into 1993 between the Bank of America and the Equitable Life Insurance Company. The State of Alaska (through AHFC) became the successor in this lease upon purchase of the building in July of 1997. The terms of this lease are now incumbent upon the state.

This fiscal note assumes that the bill will be amended as recommended by the Department of Administration to make the new building name become effective upon termination of existing exclusive rights to the name contained in the lease between the State of Alaska and the Bank of America, or expiration of the lease in March of 2002, whichever comes first.

Prepared by: Duqan Petty
Division: General Services

Phone: 465-2250
Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer
Agency: Department of Administration

Alison M. Elger
Date: 1/16/98

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NO. _____
BILL VERSION: HB 309
PUBLISH DATE: _____

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act naming the Robert B. Atwood Building."
Sponsor: Representative Cowdery
Requestor: House State Affairs

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director
Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3852

Date: 1/16/98

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Date: 1/16/98

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).