

**SB**

**103**

SFIN

FILE

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/16/97

FURTHER: 4/29/97

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 4/29/97

Finance Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 103

"An Act relating to hearings before and authorizing fees for the State Commission for Human Rights; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_ CS SB 103 ( STA )

adopt previous \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

attached amendment(s)

adopt Letter of Intent by \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

further referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**Senate Bill:**  
 same title  
 new title  
**House Bill:**  
 same title  
 technical change  
 new: SCR# \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Rock E. ...</i>	✓				
<i>Alan R. ...</i>	✓				
<i>Lee Adams</i>	✓				
<i>W. ...</i>	✓				
Co-Chair: _____		Co-Chair: _____			
Co-Chair: <i>Bob ...</i>	✓	Co-Chair: _____			

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department                      Date    Zero    Fiscal

Gov./Human Rights Comm.	4/29/97	0	

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):\***

Department                      Date    Zero    Fiscal


APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

\*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

REPORTED OUT OF  
SEC 4/29/97

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CS SB103 (STA)

Revisor's Date April 29, 1997 Dept. Affected Office of the Governor  
 Title 'An Act relating to hearings and BRU Commissions/Special Offices  
 authorizing fees for the State Comm. on Human Rights Component Human Rights Commission  
 Sponsor Senate Rules  
 Requester Senate Finance Component Serial No. 1

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 95	FY 96	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services	22.2	24.7	24.7	27.2	27.2	27.2
Travel	(18.4)	(18.4)	(18.4)	(18.4)	(18.4)	(18.4)
Contractual	(3.8)	(3.8)	(3.8)	(3.8)	(3.8)	(3.8)
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES [ ]						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GI						
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	2.5	2.5	5.0	5.0	5.0
1007 GI/Mental Health						
All other funds						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)  
 SB103 would reduce the Commission's travel and contractual costs associated with conducting public hearings. Funds currently required for the HRC advocate and hearing examiner to travel to the site of alleged discrimination and for transcription costs would be transferred to the personal services line to allow for investigator overtime costs and potential temporary help to work on the Commission's substantial case back-log. Fees that may be generated for educational services and training would also be utilized to provide additional resources to the investigative unit. These changes are being pursued to assist the Commission in meeting the public demand with their current budgetary resources.

The figures above are estimates based on the existing hearing schedule from July 1, 1997 through May 1998. Future hearings are not possible to estimate and are directly impacted by the investigative unit production, settlements prior to hearings, etc. FY97 costs for hearing travel/transcriptions est. 18.0. Investigator OT average cost is \$44/hr.

Prepared by Paula M. Haley, Executive Director Phone 276-7474  
 Division Human Rights Commission Date 4/28/97  
 Approved by Jim Ayers, Chief of Staff Date 4/29/97  
 Agency Office of the Governor

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE  
 For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

# FISCAL NOTE

No. 1  
 Bill Version: SB103  
 (S) Publish Date: 2/24/97

**STATE OF ALASKA  
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Office of the Governor  
 Title: "An Act relating to hearings before and authorizing BRU: Commissions and Special Offices  
fees for the State Commission for Human Rights: ...." Component: Human Rights Commission  
 Sponsor: Rules Committee  
 Requester: Governor COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1

**Expenditures/Revenues (in 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>

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						
<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 (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

**POSITIONS**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

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

The Commission has seen a dramatic increase in the number of Alaskans requesting services at a time when the Commission is operating with fewer staff. As a result, the Commission now has more cases in its inventory than ever before in its 33-year history and Alaskans must wait upwards of eight (8) months prior to cases reaching an investigator's desk. Passage of this bill will assist the Commission by reducing costs and allowing it to reallocate these resources to investigations.

This legislation will provide the Commission with authorization to conduct hearings at its office, rather than incur the expense of travel for the Hearing Advocate, and Hearing Examiner to the place where the unlawful conduct is alleged to have occurred. Any savings resulting from passage of this bill will be utilized in responding to the public's increased demand for services.

This bill also provides authorization for the Commission to charge fees for certain services. After legislative authorization is provided and required regulations are promulgated, the Commission will estimate the level of fees to be collected and seek the appropriate level of authority for receipts in the budget process.

Prepared by: Paula M. Haley, Executive Director *Paula M. Haley* Phone: 278-7474  
 Division: Human Rights Commission Date: 11-19-96  
 Approved by Commissioner: Jim Ayers, Chief of Staff *J. Ayers* Date: 11-20-96  
 Agency: Office of the Governor

**PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE**  
 For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

**TONY KNOWLES**  
GOVERNOR



**STATE OF ALASKA**  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001  
(907) 465-3500  
Fax (907) 465-3532

February 24, 1997

The Honorable Mike Miller  
President of the Senate  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Miller:

In our efforts to reduce budgets, some actions that save money also create efficiencies which better meet public service goals. That is the case with this bill regarding the Human Rights Commission. This proposal provides the Commission more flexibility in its operations and helps the body perform its essential work for the state.

The bill would allow the Human Rights Commission to hold hearings at its office in Anchorage rather than where the alleged discrimination occurred, as is required under current law. This will save time and money in travel costs. The Commission would continue to ensure that complainants may participate in the hearings.

This bill would also allow the Commission to charge fees to cover the costs of services, information and materials and to provide tapes rather than transcriptions of the hearings, as currently required.

These changes would reduce the cost and time involved in resolving cases, helping the Commission to work through its tremendous backlog of cases, and better respond to the public's increased requests for its services. The result will be better human rights protection for Alaskans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Knowles".

Tony Knowles  
Governor