

**HB**

**147**

# Alaska State Legislature



District 32  
Representative John Coghill

## Committees:

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## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### HB-147

The Joint Senate/House Long-Term Care Task Force presented this legislation to the House HESS Committee. The Committee then assigned it to a sub-committee for review and revisions. House Bill 147, "An Act relating to vulnerable adults," is before us today.

Current law states that the Department of Administration must terminate an investigation if the suspected abused vulnerable adult requests them to do so. Additionally, an alleged perpetrator who is the guardian or surrogate may also terminate the investigation.

We have a responsibility to protect those seniors who are no longer able to protect themselves. House Bill 147 does that by allowing the Department to continue with their investigation if they have reason to believe the vulnerable adult is in need of protection.

Please join me and the members of the sub-committee by offering your support for this much needed and very important legislation. Thank you.

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 147

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: "An Act relating to vulnerable adults...."

Department Affected: Administration  
BRU: Senior Services  
Component: Protection, Community Services, Administration

Sponsor: Health, Education & Social Services  
Requestor: (H) HES

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2083

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)  
Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
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

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE 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						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 99) cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

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

This bill will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Administration.

HB 147 increases the department's legal authority to protect vulnerable adults from harm perpetrated by guardians, attorneys-in-fact, or surrogate decision makers by making changes and additions to AS 47.24.015 (c), .019 (a), .019 (c), and .050 (b). The amended language in these sections includes the additions of the terms "guardians, attorneys-in-fact, or surrogate decision makers" as possible perpetrators of harm. Additional amended language gives the department clear authority to petition for a "change of guardian." The amended language also gives the department authority to not disclose a report of harm to "guardians, attorneys-in-fact, or surrogate decision makers" who are alleged perpetrators who are being investigated as such.

Prepared by: Dwight Becker  
Division: Senior Services

Phone: (907) 269-3674  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Commissioner: Robert Poe Jr.  
Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 3/26/99

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