

HCR

13



**Representative Allen Kemplen
Sponsor Statement
HCR 13**

“Creating the Commission on Alaska's Future”

As a youthful state on the frontier, Alaska has enjoyed the good fortune of being rich in both renewable and non-renewable resources. Through boom and bust cycles it has come of age, and now sits on the edge of the new millennium as a maturing state in need of a long-range vision for itself. Through the foresight of our past leaders, some of that good fortune was set aside with Alaska's long-range prosperity in mind; and now our savings are the envy of every state in the union.

Unfortunately, the conditions that led to Alaska's financial prosperity are waning. Oil production is down and oil prices have fluctuated wildly. In the face of this significant shift, Alaska is facing more than just a near-term budget dilemma. It is facing a broader dilemma that concerns the future well being of the state, in all of its aspects. As different budget scenarios are considered in the context of a zero sum game, tensions are created between different segments of the Alaska population. We need a tool to resolve these tensions. We have very sophisticated tools to map and analyze the budget, but a map does no good if we don't know where it is that we wish to arrive. The budget is merely a tool put in service of a common cause.

Right now that common cause is not apparent. To move into Alaska's future, manipulating each year's budget based on the last budget, is to base Alaska's future on how things have been rather than how Alaskans would like them to be. Determining the budget without a set of legitimate guiding principles that are fundamentally inclusive and based on long-range considerations is to put the cart before the horse.

In a democracy these determinations are not handed down to the people, but rather built by the people, for the people. This is especially critical in these times when people's trust in their government is declining and they have less and less confidence in the governments' ability to be fiscally responsible. It is fundamental to the future well being of the state that the people of Alaska be consulted, systematically and statewide. HCR 13 creates the Commission on Alaska's future, a bi-partisan group with extensive civic sector involvement, whose main task would be to reach out to Alaskans statewide and engage them in a dialogue about developing a vision for Alaska's future. The product of this engagement would be a document that would establish precisely where the Alaskan people would like for this state to go. Part of the mission of the commission is the development of performance benchmarks for state government, modeled after Oregon's award winning initiative “Oregon Shines”, that would ensure Alaskans receive full value for every dollar spent on public services.

This process will serve a number of functions. It will give state government the benefit of the collective knowledge and sensibilities of the Alaskan people. It will also ensure that the people of Alaska have a vested interest in the resulting plan. The benchmarks will serve to reinforce that interest and trust by giving clear expectations and performance measures for state government. The people of Alaska will be able to see that they are getting full value for state dollars spent.

In this environment of clear expectations, having come to a collective understanding and having established common goals, a long-range strategic plan can emerge, not merely considering spending or cutting but defining the people's vision of Alaska, as a united Alaska.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN KEMPLER

DATE: March 27, 2000 *Jennelle*
TO: Representative Jeannette James
Chair - State Affairs
FROM: Representative Allen Kempler *AKC*
RE: Committee Hearing Request - HCR 13

I find it heartening that some of my fellow legislators are willing to tackle the tough issues surrounding our fiscal dilemma. After the September 14th vote, it is a mark of courage and responsibility to put forth further plans that involve new revenue sources. I applaud that effort. My concern for these efforts lies in the fact that they seem to overlook a major reason for the failure of the September 14th vote. No matter how many responsible and thoughtful plans we put forth, without the trust of the public we cannot expect any greater support for a fiscal solution than was seen in the advisory vote.

It is my contention that we must be more aggressive in consulting and engaging the public in a dialogue on this issue. I have crafted a piece of legislation that I believe would go a long way towards overcoming the public's mistrust of the products of this body. HCR 13 creates a Commission on Alaska's Future, a bi-partisan group with extensive civic sector involvement, whose main task would be to reach out to Alaskans statewide and engage them in a dialogue about developing a vision for Alaska's future. The product of this engagement would be twofold. First, it would produce a long-range strategic vision for the state of Alaska, and second it would define solid performance benchmarks for state government.

If Alaskans can see clearly that they are getting value for monies spent by state government, then they will more willingly bear the burden of new revenue streams. In other words, in an environment of clear expectations and accountability, state government will be better able to earn the trust of Alaskans that is sorely lacking in our current political atmosphere.

Along with this request, I am including a copy of HCR 13, a sponsor statement, and a copy of the Oregon Shines 1999 Benchmark Performance Report, which is pertinent to the content of the resolution. Given the budget dilemma that we are in, and the plans that are being put forth, I believe that HCR 13 is a very timely piece of legislation. It is my hope that it will be able to receive a hearing in State Affairs at the earliest possible date. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Distributed by: Rep. Kemplen

ACHIEVING THE OREGON SHINES VISION:

The 1999 Benchmark Performance Report

HIGHLIGHTS



Report to the Legislative Assembly
Oregon Progress Board
March, 1999

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Any individual needing assistance with regard to alternate formatting of material should contact the Oregon Progress Board.

Cover: With the Elkhorn Mountains in the background, members of the Baker Progress Board and friends pose in front of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center outside Baker City, Oregon. Local strategic planning groups, fashioned after the Oregon Progress Board, are active in seven counties.

March 8, 1999

Dear Legislator:

We are pleased to present the Oregon Progress Board's report to the 1999 Legislative Assembly - *Achieving the Oregon Shines Vision: The 1999 Benchmarks Performance Report*.

The Progress Board, which was created by the legislature in 1989, has the daunting task of keeping Oregonians focused on the future by developing and implementing a state strategic plan. Called *Oregon Shines*, the plan has three major goals: quality jobs for all Oregonians; safe, caring and engaged communities; and healthy, sustainable communities.

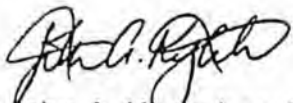
Many states have strategic plans. What makes Oregon unique is our Benchmarks. By tracking and reporting on a set of measurable indicators of economic, social and environmental health, the legislature and citizens of Oregon see just how Oregon is doing in achieving the goals set out in the plan.

This report does more than simply provide a desirable vision for Oregon. It analyzes the trends and provides other valuable information on how to achieve the goals we've set for ourselves. *Achieving the Oregon Shines Vision* is loaded with facts and figures that will increase your understanding of the issues facing Oregon today.

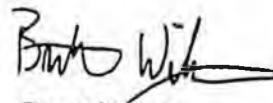
Not all of the news is good. Oregon has set its sights high by establishing goals that require concerted action on the part of all citizens, not just state government. If we are to enter the 21st Century prepared for the changes that lie ahead, we must continue to challenge ourselves to do better.

We hope that you'll enjoy reading this report and will use it in your deliberations as you chart Oregon's course into the future.

Sincerely,



John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Chair
Governor



Brett Wilcox
Vice Chair
President, Northwest Aluminum

Progress Report - Highlights

Summary

The Progress Board was established by the Oregon Legislative Assembly. Its mission is to develop "a strategy for Oregon that addresses the economic, social, cultural, environmental and other needs and aspirations of the people of Oregon." The Board is required to report to the legislature every two years on progress toward achieving the goals set out in that strategy, known as *Oregon Shines*. A summary of *Oregon Shines* can be found beginning on page 21.

To track how Oregon is doing in achieving the *Oregon Shines*' goals, the Progress Board has adopted 92 measures of success called Oregon Benchmarks. The benchmarks are divided into seven categories: Economy, Education, Civic Engagement, Social Support, Public Safety, Community Development and Environment. Examples of benchmarks include per capita, infant mortality, vehicle miles traveled and water quality.

Benchmark tables, beginning on page 10, show historical data, benchmark "performance targets" for the years 2000 and 2010 and grades. The Progress Board sets performance targets in consultation with citizens, policymakers and issue experts. Grades show how "on track" Oregon is in achieving the year 2000 benchmark performance target.

For the first time, the Progress Board is assigning an overall grade for each benchmark category. Generally, these grades are low. With a C+ as the highest score for any overall category, most parents would not welcome this report card. The target setting method used by the Progress Board can explain some of this. Year 2000 targets are meant to be ambitious, but realistic. Nineteen key benchmarks have actually improved since 1990, but only five qualified for an A.

These low grades do not mean that the Progress Board believes Oregon is headed in the wrong direction. Clearly, in certain areas, like employment dispersion and teen substance abuse, Oregon is heading away from the year 2000 targets. For the most part, however, the grades indicate that the pace of change is simply slower than hoped for. A summary of the grades and benchmark trends can be found beginning on page 3. (An explanation of how grades were determined can be found in the full report.)

This fifth biennial report to the legislature is also the Board's first attempt to provide an analysis of Oregon's progress toward achieving the state's performance targets for each of 25 benchmarks designated as high priority or "key." Chapter 2 of the full report contains two page descriptions about trends, factors affecting the benchmark, comparisons with other states, successful strategies and links to related "websites" for every key benchmark. Full reports are available from the Progress Board.

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This report is designed as a reference guide for legislators. Any comments about its usefulness or how it might be improved in the future are most welcome. Please send comments to Jeffrey Tryens, executive director.

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary Economy

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
1. Employment Dispersion	F
2. Professional Services	B+
3. New Companies	A
8. Industry Research and Development	C-
14. Per Capita Income	C+
Other Economy Benchmarks	C
OVERALL GRADE - ECONOMY	C+

Key Benchmarks

Key benchmarks for Oregon's economic performance show mixed results. Oregon's biggest economic problem is unequal employment dispersion. This measure of how well Oregon's areas outside the Willamette Valley are growing compared to their Valley neighbors has deteriorated throughout the 1990s. Oregon has done well in bolstering its professional services sector during the 1990s. Oregon continues to be a national leader in the number of new companies founded each year. Private investment in research and development, through 1995, has also increased, but at a slower than hoped for rate. The best overall measure of economic well being is per capita income. The goal is to bring Oregon back to its 1979 level of equality with the national average. While Oregon's economy has performed well during the 1990s, parity with the U.S. average per capita income will probably not be achieved by the year 2000.

Other Benchmarks

Other economy benchmarks indicate that Oregon has achieved its goal of producing 50,000 jobs per year for the four years between 1994 and 1997. Also, average annual wages have increased steadily, going from \$24,695 in 1990 to \$27,341 in 1997. Also in 1997, Oregon ranked as the western state with the lowest business taxes as a percentage of gross state product. Oregon also ranks well in workers' compensation costs, dropping from 44th highest in the nation to 14th lowest during that period.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

Grades for economic performance are lower in 1999. In 1997, the economic performance benchmarks generally received ratings in the A and B range. Employment outside the Willamette Valley maintained its F status.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE ECONOMY BENCHMARKS SEE PAGE 10.)

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary Education

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
21. Ready-to-Learn	N.A.
22. High School Dropouts	F
23. Eighth Grade Reading and Math Achievement	B-
26. College Graduates	B-
30. Adult Literacy	N.A.
Other Education Benchmarks	C+
OVERALL GRADE - EDUCATION	C

Key Benchmarks

While insufficient data was available to grade the readiness of children for kindergarten, Oregon is somewhat below the national average and fewer children are coming to school ready-to-learn than in 1990. Oregon is above the national average in adult literacy.

Oregon's dropout rate continues to exceed the year 2000 goal of 5% per class per year. Oregon receives a B- for the improvements in eighth grade math and reading scores that have occurred during the 1990s. Both math and reading have improved significantly since 1991. In 1998, just over 50% of students met the standards. (The grade is an average of the math and reading grades.) Oregon's influx of college graduates slowed between 1996 and 1998, leveling off at 29%.

Other Benchmarks

The percentage of third graders achieving the reading and math standards has improved steadily throughout the 1990s. Educational attainment other than college degrees – high school, some college, professional/technical – showed no real change between 1996 and 1998 after steady increases earlier in the decade. The percentage of Oregonians receiving skills training has not gone up significantly since 1994 (a sharp increase was erroneously reported in the 1997 report) and personal computer use is increasing steadily.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

The key benchmark was changed in 1996 from eleventh to eighth graders and no comparisons are available this for this report. Dropout received the same F grade in 1997. And, because the increase in the percentage of college graduates slowed, that grade dropped from an A to a B-.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EDUCATION BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 12.)

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary Civic Engagement

KEY BENCHMARK	GRADE
33. Volunteerism	D-
Other Civic Engagement Benchmarks	C-
OVERALL GRADE - CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	D

Key Benchmark

Oregon's single key benchmark in civic engagement is the percentage of Oregonians who volunteer at least 50 hours of their time per year. The goal for Oregon is to increase the rate of volunteerism from 30% to 35% by the year 2000. In 1998 the rate of volunteering had not increased significantly from the 1990 level.

Other Benchmarks

Oregon voter participation dropped to an all time low in 1998 with only 50% of registered voters participating in the general election. This is 6% lower than 56% participation rate in 1996, a non-presidential election year.

Oregon has three tax benchmarks relating to civic engagement - percentage of Oregonians who understand the tax system, state and local taxes per capita, and state and local taxes per \$1,000 of personal income. According to polling by Oregon State University, citizen understanding of the tax system has gone up rapidly during the 1990s. In 1992, only 11% understood the tax system. By 1996, 21% understood the system. Tax burden has gone down for Oregonians during the decade. Total state and local taxes per capita in 1998 were lower than in 1990. And taxes per \$1,000 of income were the lowest in over 20 years.

Governing magazine's analysis of public sector management quality placed Oregon in the middle of the pack with a rating of B-. Oregon is making slow progress toward an AA+ bond rating.

Oregon ranks near last in state arts funding. Public library quality has nearly achieved the benchmark target of 90% of all citizens served by a public library that meets minimum qualifications.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

Oregon received an A in 1997 for volunteerism. That year, an increase in the percentage of Oregonians who reported that they volunteered more than 50 hours per year indicated that Oregon might meet its goal of 35% by the year 2000.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 13.)

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary Social Support

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
43. Teen Pregnancy	C+
53. Eighth Grade Alcohol, Cigarette and Illicit Drug Use	D+
54. Child Abuse or Neglect	F
57. Poverty	C
58. Health Insurance Coverage	B+
Other Social Support Benchmarks	C+
OVERALL GRADE - SOCIAL SUPPORT	C

Key Benchmark

The 1997 teen pregnancy rate was down almost 10% from the 1990 level. Cigarette and illicit drug use increased during the 1990s with no statistically significant change for alcohol use. For child abuse and neglect, the number of confirmed cases went up to a decade long high of 12 per thousand children. The poverty rate in Oregon has not dropped during the 1990s despite an increase in average wages, an increase in the minimum wage and low unemployment. After a dramatic drop of four points between 1990 and 1996, the percent of Oregonians without health insurance has leveled off at 11%.

Other Benchmarks

The state's infant mortality rate reached a record low of 5.6 per 1,000 babies born, exceeding the year 2000 benchmark target. The percent of pregnant women who received adequate prenatal care crept upward during the decade but is still far from the year 2000 target. Similarly, the number of children who receive adequate immunization increased but is still far from the year 2000 target.

Child care remains affordable for 67% of Oregon families – below the 2000 target. At the same time, child care availability has increased from 14 slots per 100 children under 13 to the year 2000 target of 21. Other benchmarks that have improved are: substance abuse among pregnant women; court ordered child support, homelessness and seniors living independently.

Benchmarks that have either worsened or show little improvement are: HIV cases with an early diagnosis; premature mortality; self-perceived health status; and Oregonians who do not smoke.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

Two improvements occurred. Teen pregnancy went up from a D in 1997 to a C in 1999. Teen alcohol, cigarette and drug use moved up from an F to a D+. Child abuse went down, from a C to an F. Affordable child care fell from 70% in 1996 to 67% in 1998. All other benchmark grades remained the same.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SOCIAL SUPPORT BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 14.)

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary
Public Safety

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
64. Overall Crime	F
65. Juvenile Arrests	F
Other Public Safety Benchmarks	A-
OVERALL GRADE - PUBLIC SAFETY	D+

Key Benchmarks

Reported crime has trended upward for many years and reached an all time high in 1997. News reports of crime going down have focused on violent crimes, which have diminished. The overall crime rate, however, continues to increase. Similarly juvenile arrests have increased steadily throughout the 1990s, peaking in 1996. The performance targets for public safety key benchmarks, achieving 1990 levels by the year 2000, appear to be out of reach for Oregon.

Other Benchmarks

Other public safety benchmarks have shown significant improvement during the 1990s. The recidivism rate, offenders convicted of a new felony within three years, dropped from 38% in 1990 to 30% in 1997. The percentage of students who report carrying a weapon has dropped from 26% to 17%.

Public safety planning related benchmarks also improved. Seventy-two percent of communities have cooperative policing plans in place. And nearly 100% of communities have emergency response plans in place.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

The grades for the 1997 public safety key benchmarks were the same as the 1999 grades

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PUBLIC SAFETY BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 16.)

Benchmark Performance Summary Community Development

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
70. Urban Highway Congestion	F
78. Affordable Housing	D
Other Community Development Benchmarks	C+
OVERALL GRADE - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	D+

Key Benchmarks

It is unlikely that Oregon will achieve the year 2000 target for congestion.

The percentage of Oregon's lower income homeowners who have difficulty affording their homes has remained constant at 38% since 1990. The percentage of renters who have difficulty has remained at about 70% through the 1990's. Oregon is unlikely to achieve the target for either owners or renters.

Other Benchmarks

In community development, Oregon has made the most progress by keeping up with infrastructure demands. Percent of Oregonians served by public drinking water systems that are at or above health based standards; percent of Oregonians with adequate sewage disposal and percent of roads in fair or better condition are all at or above the year 2000 targets.

Benchmarks related to automobile use either worsened or did not improve. Urban Oregonians drove over 400 more miles per person in 1997 than they did in 1990. The percent of Oregonians who used some means other than the single occupancy vehicle to commute to and from work saw a rise in 1996 and then declined to 1990 levels in 1998.

Comparison with the 1997 Performance Report

The D grade for affordable housing is the same as 1997.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 17.)

Progress Report - Highlights

Benchmark Performance Summary Environment

KEY BENCHMARKS	GRADE
79. Percent of Oregonians Living Where Air Meets Gov. Stds.	A
81., 85., 86. Ag. and Forest Land and Wetland Preservation	A
89. Wild Salmon and Steelhead Restoration	F
Other Environment Benchmarks	C+
OVERALL GRADE – ENVIRONMENT	C+

(Note: A new set of environment benchmarks and targets is under development.)

Key Benchmarks

Since 1994 all Oregonians have lived where air quality meets government standards and that is expected to continue through the year 2000. Oregon has preserved its wetlands and forest lands losing no net acreage of either during the 1990s. Agriculture land has been slowly diminishing, but is expected to reach the year 2000 target. The salmon benchmark, the number of key sub-basins that are at target levels, has dropped from 48% in 1990 to 2% in 1997. Oregon will probably not achieve its year 2000 target of 13% of key sub-basins at target levels.

Other Benchmarks

While Oregon is meeting its ambient air standards, carbon dioxide emission has gone up sharply during the 1990s, increasing by 19% in six years. Hazardous waste clean up is at target levels and will probably achieve the year 2000 target. Water quality and water quantity measures have all improved during the 1990s and could meet or exceed Oregon's year 2000 targets. In 1997, fifty-two percent of monitored streams had significantly increasing water quality trends, compared to zero percent with significantly decreasing trends. Similarly, streams with adequate water supply 12 months per year jumped from 44% in 1990 to 70% in 1997. The percentage of "assessed groundwater" that meets drinking water standards is at the target level of 95%.

Four important environmental benchmarks are not trending toward their year 2000 targets. Solid waste generation has increased from 1,519 pounds per person to 1,640 pounds with a year 2000 goal of 1,506 pounds. The percentage of native fish and wildlife species that are healthy declined to 72% in the last few years and will probably not reach the target of 77%. The percentage of healthy plant species has leveled off at 85% and will probably not reach the year 2000 target of 90%. Finally, the number of acres of state owned parks has declined from 31 to 29 during the 1990s.

Comparison with the 1997 Report Card

All of the graded benchmarks received the same grades in 1997.

(FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENT BENCHMARKS, SEE PAGE 18.)

ECONOMY													
Business Vitality	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
1. Percentage of Oregonians employed outside the Willamette Valley and the Portland tri-county area	26.0%	25.8%	26.1%	26.1%	25.8%	25.5%	25.3%	25.1%	24.7%		26%	26%	F
2. Percentage of professional services exported (imported) relative to Oregon's industry demand		(16%)	(19%)	(17%)	(17%)	(14%)	(11%)	(11%)			(7%)	5%	B+
3. Oregon's national rank in new companies		12th	22nd	13th	7th	11th	4th	8th	7th	7th	5th-10th	5th-10th	A
4. Oregon's national rank in traded sector strength		33rd	36th	35th	38th	38th	36th	40th	36th	33rd	20th-25th	20th-25th	D
5. Oregon's national rank in business closings (1st = least business closings)		18th	16th	32nd	31st	39th	37th	28th	46th	13th	20th-25th	20-25th	B+
6. Net job growth	-8,711	43,276	-2,116	23,552	40,842	58,529	54,637	54,439	55,927		50,000	50,000	A
7. Oregon's national rank in economic diversification (1st = most diversified)	13th			4th		11th		15th					N/A
Economic Capacity	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
8. Industry research and development expenditures as a percentage of gross state product			0.6%		0.7%		0.9%				2.1%	3.5%	C-
9. Oregon's national rank in venture capital investments		4th	25th	11th	4th	16th	12th	29th	14th	22nd	1st-5th	1st-5th	F
Business Costs	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
10. Oregon's rank among seven Western states in business taxes as a percentage of gross state product (1st = lowest business taxes)			4th			2nd		1st					N/A
11. Oregon's national rank in health care costs (1st = lowest costs)	26th	15th	10th	13th	15th						20th-25th	20th-25th	A
12. Oregon's national rank in workers compensation costs (1st = lowest cost)		44th		30th		20th		18th		14th	15th-20th	15th-20th	A
13. Percentage of permits issued within the target time period or less													C
a. Air contaminant discharge			57%	57%	68%	66%	62%	73%	50%		67%	78%	F
b. Wastewater discharge				41%	32%	25%	36%	37%	60%		41%	49%	A

	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
Income													C+
14. Per capita personal income as a percentage of the U.S. per capita income	99%	91%	91%	91%	92%	93%	94%	95%	96%	95%	100%	110%	
15. Average annual payroll per covered worker (all industries, 1995 dollars)	26,304	24,695	24,847	25,279	25,240	25,368	25,837	27,021	27,341		26,304	27,266	A
16. Percentage of Oregonians in the middle income range	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%			39%	40%	D
17. Percentage of covered Oregon workers with earnings of 150% or more of poverty at a rate for a family of four		30%	30%	30%	31%	31%	31%	31%			32%	34%	B
18. Unemployment rate (civilian labor force, annual average)	8.3	5.5	6	7.5	7.3	5.5	4.8	5.9	5.8		5.0	5.5	F
International	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
19. Number of international cities of over 1 million population (outside Canada and Mexico) served by direct or non-stop flights to and from any Oregon commercial airport	1	4		5	5	5	3	3	3	4	5	6	D
20. Percentage of Oregonians who speak a language in addition to English				17%		16%		14%		14%	17%	20%	F

EDUCATION													
Kindergarten - 12	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
21. Percentage of children entering school ready-to-learn									58%		65%	80%	N/A
22. High school drop out rate		6.6	6.5	5.8	5.7	6.6	7.4	7.2	6.7 [†]		5.0	4.0	F
23. Percentage of 8th graders who achieve established skill levels													B-
a. Reading			40%		35%		48%	53%	56%	55%	63%	100%	B-
b. Math			40%		48%		49%	49%	49%	51%	59%	100%	C+
24. Percentage of 3rd graders who achieve established skill levels													A-
a. Reading			52%		59%		61%	70%	79%	78%	82%	100%	A-
b. Math			35%		51%		50%	53%	63%	67%	73%	100%	A-
25. Percentage of high school students completing a structured work experience					9%	13%	21%	14%	15%		65%	100%	D
Post Secondary	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
26. Percentage of Oregon adults (25+) who have completed a college degree	18%	23%		25%		26%		29%		29%	33%	45%	B-
27. Percentage of Oregon adults (25+) completing high school or equivalent	76%	85%		82%		89%		91%		91%	94%	100%	B
28. Percentage of Oregon adults (25+) who have completed some college	39%	53%		53%		58%		60%		62%	68%	89%	B-
29. Percentage of Oregon adults (25+) completed associate degree						4%		4%		3%	6%	10%	F
Skill Development	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
30. Percentage of all adult Oregonians with intermediate literacy skills													N/A
a. Prose		41%									48%	55%	N/A
b. Document		36%									46%	55%	N/A
c. Quantitative		39%									47%	55%	N/A
31. Percentage of Oregonians who report they use a computer to create, edit documents/graphics, to analyze data						50%		58%		60%	61%	70%	A
32. Percentage of labor force receiving at least 20 hours of skills training in the past year						35%		30%		37%	79%	100%	C

[†] See Endnotes

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT													
Participation	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
33. Percentage of Oregonians who volunteer at least 50 hours of their time per year to civic, community or, nonprofit activities				30%				33%		29%	35%	50%	D-
34. Percentage of eligible Oregonians who vote		55%		70%		56%		60%		50%	70%	84%	F
35. Percentage of Oregonians who feel they are a part of their community						36%		41%		36%	45%	60%	D
Taxes	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
36. Percentage of Oregonians who understand the Oregon tax system and where tax money is spent				11%	12%	18%	19%	21%	19%		25%	50%	B-
37. State and local taxes per capita (1995 dollars)	\$1,801	\$2,344	\$2,348	\$2,314	\$2,323	\$2,358	\$2,322	\$2,243	\$2,454	\$2,300			N/A
a. As a percentage of 1990	77%	100%	100%	98%	99%	101%	99%	96%	105%	98%			N/A
b. Oregon's rank	20th	19th	20th	22nd	24th	25th	27th						N/A
38. State and local taxes per \$1,000 of personal income	\$114	\$120	\$118	\$119	\$118	\$117	\$114	\$105	\$111	\$102			N/A
a. As a percentage of 1990	95%	100%	98%	99%	98%	98%	95%	88%	93%	85%			N/A
b. Oregon's rank	23rd	13th	12th	12th	17th	18th	26th						N/A
Public Sector	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
39. Public management quality										B-			B-
40. State general obligation bond rating (Standard and Poors)		AA-	AA-	AA-	AA-	AA-	AA-	AA	AA	AA	AA+	AAA	AA
Culture	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
41. Oregon's national rank in per capita state arts funding		41st	40th	39th	41st	44th	54th	54th	53th		39th	31st	F
42. Percentage of Oregonians served by a public library which meets minimum service criteria	73%	86%	83%	83%	86%	84%	85%	88%	89%		90%	99%	A-

SOCIAL SUPPORT													
	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
Health													
43. Pregnancy rate per 1,000 females age 10-17	24.7	19.7	19.3	17.9	18.2	18.9	19.2	18.8	18.0		15.0	10.0	C
44. Percentage of babies whose mothers received early prenatal care (beginning in the first trimester)	77%	76%	77%	79%	79%	79%	79%	80%	81%		90%	95%	C
45. Infant mortality rate per 1,000	12.1	8.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.1	5.6			6.0	5.6	A
46. Percentage of two-year-olds who are adequately immunized						67%	74%	72%	73%		90%	90%	C-
47. Annual percentage of new HIV cases with an early diagnosis (before symptoms occur)		72%		78%	80%	73%	78%	72%	76%		85%	98%	C
48. Percentage of adults who do not currently smoke tobacco		78%	79%	79%	78%	79%	78%	76%	79%		81%	90%	C
49. Premature Mortality: Years of potential life lost before age 70 (rate per 1,000)	76.4	64.3	60.0	59.2	61.7	61.9	61.4	59.6			57.4	49.3	A
50. Percentage of adults whose self-perceived health status is very good or excellent					63%	63%	62%	60%	59%		65%	72%	F
51. Percentage of families for whom child care is affordable				69%		67%		70%		67%	70%	75%	F
52. Number of child care slots available for every 100 children under age 13		14		15	15	16	16	19	20	21	21	25	A

Social Support Table Continued on Next Page

Protection	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
53. Percentage of 8th grade students who report using:													D+
a. Alcohol in the previous month		23%		26%		30%		30%		26%	26%	21%	B-
b. Illicit drugs in the previous month		14%		11%		19%		22%		19%	15%	12%	F
c. Cigarettes in the previous month		12%		15%		19%		22%		20%	15%	12%	F
54. Number of children abused or neglected per 1,000 persons under 18		11	10	11	11	10	10	10	12		9	6	F
55. Reported elder abuse rate per 1,000							12	14	15		12	12	F
56. Percentage of infants whose mothers used:													A
a. Alcohol during pregnancy (self-reported by mother)		5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%		2%	2%	A
b. Tobacco during pregnancy (self-reported by mother)		22%	21%	20%	19%	18%	18%	18%	16%		15%	12%	A
Poverty	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
57. Percentage of Oregonians with incomes below 100% of the Federal poverty level	11%	11%		13%		15%		12%		12%	11%	9%	C
58. Percentage of Oregonians without health insurance		16%		18%		14%		11%		11%	9%	4%	B+
59. Number of Oregonians that are homeless on any given night				7,607	5,196	7,262	6,141	6,819	7,130	7,050	5,196	5,196	D+
60. Percentage of current court ordered child support paid to families	44%	50%	47%	50%	54%	60%	68%	68%	68%	68%	72%	80%	A
Independent Living	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
61. Percentage of seniors living independently			97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	98%	98%		98%	98%	A
62. Percentage of Oregonians with a disability able to live on their own with adequate support										91%			N/A
63. Percentage of Oregonians with a disability living in households with incomes below the federal poverty level						20%		20%		22%			N/A

PUBLIC SAFETY													
Crime	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
64. Overall reported crimes per 1,000 Oregonians	133.6	139	138.3	138.7	139.5	145.9	150.5	141.8	150.2		133.6	106.9	F
65. Total juvenile arrests per 1,000 juvenile Oregonians per year	48.3	46.5	48.8	52.1	53.8	57.3	58.6	62	59		46.5	37.2	F
66. Percentage of students who carry weapons			26%		32%		19%		19%		15%	9%	B
67. Percentage of paroled offenders convicted of a new felony within three years of initial release		38%	38%	34%	34%	33%	30%	31%	30%		28%	27%	A
68. Percentage of counties that have completed a strategic cooperative policing agreement								31%		72%	100%	100%	N/A
Emergency Preparedness	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
69. Percentage of Oregon counties with the capability to respond to an emergency, and to assist communities to recover fully from the effects		50%	44%	56%	64%	83%	86%	92%	97%		94%	100%	A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT													
Growth Management	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
							48%	54%	53%		49%	49%	F
70. Percentage of miles of limited-access highways in urban areas that are congested during peak hours						49%	50%	55%	88%		75%	95%	A
71. Percentage of Oregonians served by public drinking water systems that meet health-based standards						3%	2%		1%		0%	0%	A
72. Percentage of Oregonians with sewage disposal that does not meet government standards			5%										
Infrastructure	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
73. Percentage of Oregonians who commute during peak hours by means other than a single occupancy vehicle		29%		30%		30%		33%		29%	23%	31%	D-
74. Vehicle miles traveled per capita in Oregon metropolitan areas (per year)	5,782	7,733	7,809	7,696	7,776	7,854	7,982	8,105	8,175		8,156	7,938	F
75. Percentage of Oregon households with personal computers at home that send and receive data and information over telecommunications				10%		13%		24%		35%	40%	80%	A-
76. Percentage of roads in fair or better condition													
a. State	57%	70%		73%	83%	80%	78%	78%	77%	77%	77%	90%	A
b. County									75%				N/A
Housing	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
77. Percentage of households that are owner occupied	65%	67%		70%		62%		67%		68%	68%	69%	C
78. Percentage of low income households spending more than 30 percent of their household income on housing (including utilities)													D
a. Renters		59%		68%		71%		69%		70%	55%	55%	F
b. Owners		38%		n/a		38%		38%		38%	32%	32%	C-

ENVIRONMENT													
Air	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
79. Percentage of Oregonians living where the air meets government ambient air quality standards	30%	54%	51%	58%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%	A
80. Carbon dioxide emissions as a percentage of 1990 emissions		100%	112%	125%	124%	132%	117%	119%			100%	100%	F
Water	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
81. Percentage of Oregon wetlands in 1990 still preserved as wetlands		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	100%	100%	100%	A
82. Stream water quality index													
a. Percentage of monitored stream sites with significantly increasing trends in water quality		8%					21%	32%	52%		25%	25%	A
b. Percentage of monitored stream sites with significantly decreasing trends in water quality		20%					8%	2%	0%		5%	0%	A
83. Percentage of assessed groundwater that meets drinking water standards	87%	95%		95%		94%		94%		95%	94%	94%	A
84. Percentage of key rivers meeting instream water rights													A
a. 9 or more months of year	53%	39%	50%	56%	72%	61%	94%	94%			60%	65%	A
b. 12 months a year	47%	44%	39%	22%	22%	28%	35%	70%			35%	40%	A

Environment Table Continued on Next Page

Land	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
85. Percentage of Oregon agricultural land in 1970 still preserved for agricultural use		98%		98%		97%	97%	97%	97%		97%	97%	A
86. Percentage of Oregon forest land in 1970 still preserved for forest use		92%	90%	92%	92%	92%	91%	91%	92%		92%	92%	A
87. Pounds of Oregon municipal solid waste landfilled or incinerated per capita				1,519	1,501	1,516	1,511	1,570	1,640		1,506	1,495	F
88. Percentage of identified hazardous waste sites that are cleaned up or being cleaned up		67%	68%	71%	70%	67%	66%	69%	69%	68%	67%	56%	A
a. Tank sites		66%	67%	71%	69%	66%	65%	69%	69%	68%	67%	55%	A
b. Other hazardous substances		97%	75%	79%	76%	73%	70%	69%	71%	74%	70%	69%	A
Plants and Wildlife	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
89. Percentage of wild salmon and steelhead populations in key sub-basins that are at target levels		48%	39%	30%	20%	11%	2%	2%	2%		13%	35%	F
90. Percentage of native fish and wildlife species that are healthy			76%	76%	76%	76%	75%	75%	72%	72%	77%	80%	F
91. Percentage of native plant species that are healthy			83%	86%	88%	86%	88%	85%	85%	85%	90%	95%	C-
Outdoor Recreation	1980	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000	2010	GRADE
92. Acres of state-owned parks per 1,000 Oregonians	35	31	31	31	30	30	29	29	29		35	35	F

Progress Report – *Highlights*

Oregon Shines Goal 1: Quality jobs for all Oregonians

- FINDINGS:** While the economy is more diversified and robust at the state level, some communities have been left behind; too many Oregonians are not qualified for the best-paying jobs.
- SOLUTION:** Provide better education from pre-school through universities and lifelong learning. Grow Oregon's companies so Oregonians will have opportunities to get better jobs.
- VALUES:** Opinion polls indicate economy, jobs and education continue to be among the most important issues in Oregon.
- VISION:** Oregon will have a high-wage economy and an excellent quality of life.
- OBJECTIVES:**
- Oregon's workforce will be the best educated and trained in America by the year 2000, and equal to any in the world by 2010.
 - Oregon will be one of the top 10 states in America to start and grow a technology generating company by 2000.
 - State agencies should coordinate their efforts with local communities to diversify and strengthen the economies of rural Oregon.
 - More Oregon companies will export higher-valued products.
 - Oregon will be a net exporter of high-end professional services by 2010.
 - Oregon's policies will support small business by providing adequate infrastructure while holding down the costs of doing business.
 - Oregon's per capita income will reach the national average by 2000, and 10 percent above the national average by 2010.
- KEY BENCHMARKS:**
- ✓ Professional services exported (imported)
 - ✓ Employment outside Portland and Willamette Valley
 - ✓ Per capita personal income relative to the US
 - ✓ Readiness-to-learn
 - ✓ Eighth grade reading/math skills
 - ✓ Oregonians with bachelors degrees
 - ✓ Adults with intermediate literacy skills

Progress Report – Highlights

Oregon Shines Goal 2: Safe, caring and engaged communities

FINDING: In spite of Oregon's economic turnaround, government social service agencies and nonprofit organizations have seen an increasing number of more complex cases in the 1990s. Poverty and criminal behavior have not declined. Changes in American society are placing a variety of stresses on families.

SOLUTION: Oregon must address the root causes of problems through local, targeted projects with shared responsibility for improved outcomes.

VALUES: Family life is at the top of our list of personal values, while civic affairs are near the bottom.

VISION: Oregon will be a place where all families and individuals can prosper.

OBJECTIVES:

- All aspects of society will encourage responsible parenting and adult mentoring of children.
- Oregon will be a leader in developing state and local partnerships that address the root causes of social problems.
- Oregon will prevent crime by emphasizing cost-effective prevention programs that avoid future incarceration costs.
- Oregon will be a leader in reducing personal abuse and protecting vulnerable individuals.
- More Oregonians will be healthy and self-sufficient.
- More Oregonians will actively participate in strengthening their communities.

**KEY
BENCHMARKS:**

- ✓ High school dropout rate
- ✓ Volunteerism
- ✓ Eighth grade use of alcohol, illicit drugs and cigarettes
- ✓ Incomes below 100% of federal poverty level
- ✓ Oregonians without health insurance
- ✓ Overall reported crime
- ✓ Juvenile arrests
- ✓ Child abuse

Progress Report – Highlights

Oregon Shines Goal 3: Healthy, sustainable surroundings

FINDING: Maintaining the *Oregon Shines*' goal of healthy, sustainable surroundings will be a challenge in the years to come. Even though Oregon has been growing at approximately the same rate for the last 50 years, population pressures are causing concern among Oregonians that our quality of life is threatened. The historic role of Oregon's natural resource base of providing jobs, recreation and natural beauty is changing dramatically. While some policies are in place to address these problems, more must be done if we are to avoid collisions between interests.

SOLUTIONS: Resolve debate on how to manage our surroundings so they remain healthy and productive into the future. Develop better systems for avoiding and resolving conflicts.

VALUES: Oregonians care about healthy, sustainable surroundings. The highest value associated with living in Oregon is its natural beauty and recreation opportunities.

VISION: Oregon will balance demands of a vital economy with demands of healthy ecosystems.

OBJECTIVES:

- Oregon will support thoughtful growth management strategies.
- Oregon will have a progressive system for resolving natural resource management issues.
- Oregon state government will support rural communities in solving natural resource dilemmas at the local level. Oregon will have a progressive system for resolving natural resource management issues.

**KEY
BENCHMARKS:**

- ✓ Urban highway congestion
- ✓ Affordable housing
- ✓ Air quality
- ✓ Forest, agriculture and wetlands preservation
- ✓ Wild salmon/steelhead recovery

Progress Report – *Highlights*

This report would not have been possible without the support and hard work of many people. First, a special thanks goes to consultant Jerry Kissler who drafted 15 key benchmark analyses. Consultant Robert Silverman, who drafted five key benchmark analyses, also provided valuable assistance. Kathryn Nichols was kind enough to contribute her time to draft the analysis of Benchmark 21, children entering school ready-to-learn.

Reviewers who went above and beyond the call of duty are: Arthur Ayre, Scott Bassett, John Charles, Ron Daniels, Kevin Downing, Clint Goff, Max Keele, Deirdre Molander, Janet Morland, Charles Sheketoff, David Steirs, Kanhaiya Vaidya, Sharlene Walker, and Jennifer Woodward.

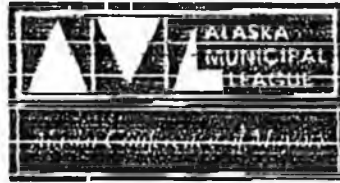
Others who made a significant contribution to the completion of this report are: Jeff Allen, Bruce Andrews, Larry Austin, Richard Benner, Richard Bjelland, Sue Cameron, Sandy Cutler, Pam Curtis, Elizabeth Davis, Robert DiPrete, Betsy Earls, Lee Erickson, William Feyerherm, Karmen Fore, David Foster, David Frohnmayer, Tina Garcia, Mark Gibson, Nancy Goldschmidt, Jim Good, Elinor Hall, Caleb Heppner, Kathleen Joy, William Kittredge, Phil Lemman, David McConnell, Jim Neely, Ranee Niedermeyer, Louis Rios, Chuck Sigmund, Sandra Suran, Leslie Schockner, Beverly Stein, Jim Sternbridge, Lynn Youngbar, Bruce Weber, Ed Whitelaw, Brett Wilcox and Sandra Woods.

Production assistance was provided by the Oregon Economic Development Department - Thanks to Natalie Barnes and Nan Davenport.

Staff member Scott Stewart coordinated the development of this report. Heather Mowry provided data analysis and editing assistance. Zoë Johnson provided valuable administrative support. All are extraordinarily committed public servants.

Finally, thanks to the members of the Progress Board for encouraging staff to undertake this ambitious project.

Jeffrey Tryens
Executive Director



Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors

Resolution Number 2000-02

**A Resolution in Support of Establishing a
Commission on Alaska's Future**

Whereas, the Alaska Municipal Leagues' top legislative priority for year 2000 is for the legislature to develop a long-range fiscal plan;

Whereas, Representative Allen Kemplan has introduced HCR 13 which creates the Commission on Alaska's Future;

Whereas, HCR 13 calls for establishing a Commission to operate as a steering committee in order to develop a long-term statewide strategic plan that includes benchmarks and goals for the State of Alaska;

Whereas, the Commission would consist of 13 members appointed by the Legislature and Governor;

Whereas, HCR 13 calls for the establishment of a working group to advise the Commission and would consist of a cross-section of Alaska's interests, including a local government member;

Whereas, HCR 13 requires that hearings be held in different regions and cities around the state to encourage citizen participation in formulating policies, plans, and programs at community and regional levels;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors encourages the Legislature to consider and pass HCR 13, Commission on Alaska's Future.

Passed 5th of April, 2000.

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	4-12-00	# of pages	1
To	Rep Kemplan	From	AML		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #		Fax #			

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: **State Affairs Committee Members**
 Rep. Jeannie James, Chair Rep. Scott Ogan
 Rep. Joe Green Rep. Hal Smalley
 Rep. Bill Hudson Rep. Jim Whittaker
 Rep. Beth Kertula

FROM: **Steve Lindbeck, Executive Director**

DATE: **April 13, 2000**

Dear Committee Members:

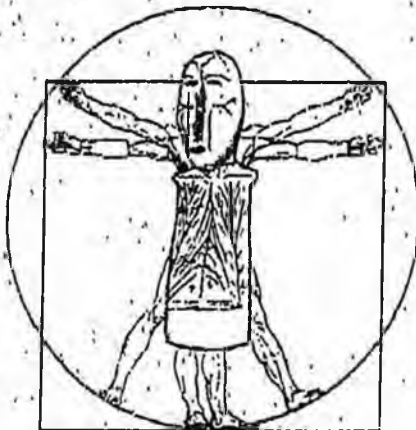
I have been asked to comment on HJR 13, a resolution creating the Commission on Alaska's Future. I appreciate your consideration of the following comments.

The Alaska Humanities Forum has been working with a variety of individuals and organizations over the past year to examine this concept and consider whether it might help guide Alaska through its fiscal, social, political and economic dilemmas. With small private contributions we have researched similar efforts in other states and convened several meetings to examine the notion that broad-based public dialogue, strategic planning, and performance measuring could combine to guide Alaska policy-makers — both public and private — and achieve better long-term results. We believe there is great promise in this three-part combined approach.

As part of our work we brought to Alaska Mr. Jeffrey Tryens, executive director of the Oregon Progress Board, which is widely viewed as the most successful state-based "futures" process. From discussions with Mr. Tryens and many Alaskans, we have developed a few key points:

- The process must be "owned" extremely broadly by Alaskans to succeed;
- Insofar as possible, existing institutions — Chambers of Commerce, school boards, civic groups, etc. — should be employed as partners in dialogue;
- Mechanisms must be developed to build trust in the process across the board among Alaska citizens and communities;
- Such a process, in the spirit of grassroots American democracy, must engage public, private, and civic sectors, with core leadership emerging from outside state government;
- Alaskans must be encouraged to take responsibility, individually and collectively, for their own future by overcoming attitudes of entitlement and dealing thoughtfully with social, political, fiscal, and economic issues facing us;
- "Benchmarking" measures, broadly developed and discussed, could help all Alaskans focus on the results of public dollars spent and purposes met.

We believe Alaskans have been deeply unsettled by fiscal, economic, and social developments over the past few years, and that the time is ripe for the emergence of new directions. We applaud your consideration of this concept and the prospect of re-engaging Alaskans in a shared search for a better future.



ALASKA HUMANITIES FORUM

421 West First Avenue, Suite 710
 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
 Telephone 907 / 372-5301
 Facsimile 907 / 372-3979

[Fwd: fiscal note]

Subject: [Fwd: fiscal note]
Date: Tue, 11 Apr 2000 11:38:23 -0800
From: Barbara Cotting <Barbara_Cotting@legis.state.ak.us>
Organization: Alaska State Legislature
To: pam_varni@legis.state.ak.us

Pam - I've forgotten who does fiscal notes for bills at LAA??? Thanks.

Subject: Re: fiscal note
Date: Tue, 11 Apr 2000 11:12:31 -0800
From: Shari Kochman <shari_kochman@gov.state.ak.us>
Organization: Alaska Office of the Governor
To: Barbara Cotting <Barbara_Cotting@legis.state.ak.us>

no need for us to do a fiscal note on this --it would be a leg affairs
note
thanks

Barbara Cotting wrote:

> I have scheduled HCR 13, Commission on Alaska's Future, for hearing in
> House State Affairs on Thursday, April 13, and need fiscal notes.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Barbara



as a e s a u r e

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 10, 2000

CONTACT: Chris Knight or Nathan Johnson
Office of Representative Allen Kemplen

TO
Barbara @
Rep. James' Office

Kemplen Advances Community Service Legislation

HB 355 recognizes and rewards community service participation

Rep. Allen Kemplen (D-Anchorage), introduced HB 355, establishing a state community service program. "It is important to recognize that the intermediary between the private sector and the government sector is the civic sector, those volunteers and groups that give back to the state and their community, free of charge," Kemplen said. Alaska's history is filled with heartfelt stories about volunteers saving lives, providing housing, teaching language skills and giving back to their community. HB 355 continues the give-back tradition by recognizing and rewarding community service participation.

"Volunteerism-voluntary service to your community makes people feel good, helps ease social ills and really, costs very little," Kemplen added. By creating a state community service program, HB 355, strengthens the existing Alaska Community Service Commission, which currently, only distributes federal grants. This bill addresses unmet community service needs, and rewards good neighbors for community service.

Kemplen stated, "Creating people involved in their state in like pulling math, this legislation is modeled after the G.I. Bill which provides an incentive for Alaskans to get involved and give a little to their community." In the bill, participants that successfully complete two-terms of community service would be eligible for higher-education and mortgage loan vouchers. Organizations like the United Way, Americorp, Vista, Catholic Community Services, SAGA, and ORCA, Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) and Access Alaska could be direct beneficiaries of the new bill.

"Volunteerism is an essential trait of the American character, and is responsible for much of what America is today. My legislation underscores this character trait, and brings it home to Alaska," Kemplen said.

###

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Alaska Democratic Legislators'
Jobs and Families Agenda 2000

Sen. Al Adams, Sen. Johnny Ellis, Sen. Kim Elton, Sen. Lyman Hoffman, Sen. Georganna Lincoln, Rep. Ethan Berkowitz, Rep. Tom Brice, Rep. Sharon Clsna, Rep. Eric Croft, Rep. John Davies, Rep. Ben Grussendorf, Rep. Reggie Joule, Rep. Mary Kapsner, Rep. Allen Kemplen, Rep. Beth Kertula, Rep. Al Kooksh, Rep. Carl Mosca, Rep. Hal Smalley

State of Alaska

Legislative Affairs Agency

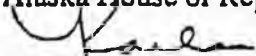
Administrative Services

Terry Miller Legislative Office Building

Mailing Address: State Capitol, Room 3 - Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182 - Phone (907)465-3852 - Fax (907) 465-3234



TO: Barbara Cotting, Legislative Assistant
to Representative Jeannette James
Alaska House of Representatives

FROM: 
Karla Schofield, Deputy Director
Legislative Affairs Agency

SUBJ: Fiscal Note - HCR 13

DATE: April 11, 2000

HCR 13 presents some problems in terms of preparing a fiscal note. The resolution calls for establishing a Commission on Alaska's Future and a working group to begin work immediately upon the appointment of its full membership or by June 15, 1999. The Commission is charged with presenting a preliminary report and action plan to the Governor and the Legislature by August 1, 1999, and a draft report by February 1, 2000, and a final report by April 30, 2000.

As it is already April 12, 2000, and much of the work to be accomplished by the Commission should have been accomplished by now, the Legislative Affairs Agency will await the work of the State Affairs Committee before preparing a fiscal note.

cc: Pam Varni, Executive Director, LAA