

SB

90

Paula Haley

From her view, rather than working w/ business, landlords, etc immigrants might get the impression that filing a complaint is what the legislature wants them to do. Also, she's not aware of any existing problems w/ immigrants who are having problems filing Human Rights claims → why fix something that ain't broke?

She's afraid that this has an unintended effect — it discriminates on the basis of national origin. Help locating all these services is a benefit and requirements/criteria for assistance

3rd Party communication issue addressed by CS

AS 18.

Commissioners are the boss... shouldn't testify
April 4 is their next mtg

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

22-LS0524V
Lauterbach
3/9/01

P. Kelly
3.9.01

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 90()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATORS KELLY, Austerman, Ellis, Taylor

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the Office of Citizenship Assistance and relating to its powers and**
2 **duties; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1. AS 24 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:**

5 **Chapter 52. Office of Citizenship Assistance.**

6 **Sec. 24.52.010. Office created. (a) There is created in the legislative branch**
7 **the Office of Citizenship Assistance.**

8 **(b) The office shall**

9 **(1) provide information, including referrals to public and private**
10 **resources, to persons eligible under AS 24.52.020 who have become naturalized**
11 **citizens of the United States or are about to become naturalized citizens of the United**
12 **States;**

13 **(2) upon written authorization of a naturalized citizen who is eligible**
14 **under AS 24.52.020(1), act as a liaison between the naturalized citizen and the office**

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

22-LS0524L

1 of the ombudsman established under AS 24.55 or between the naturalized citizen and
2 the State Commission for Human Rights established under AS 18.80.

3 (c) The ombudsman appointed under AS 24.55 shall appoint a director for the
4 office. The director may contract with other persons to perform the duties of the
5 office.

6 **Sec. 24.52.020. Persons eligible for assistance.** The following are eligible to
7 request assistance from the office:

8 (1) persons who live in the state who have become naturalized citizens
9 of the United States within the 24 calendar months preceding the month of the person's
10 request for assistance; and

11 (2) persons who live in the state who are eligible for United States
12 citizenship and who can demonstrate that they are actively in the process of becoming
13 naturalized citizens of the United States.

14 **Sec. 24.52.030. Types of assistance available.** (a) A person who is eligible
15 under AS 24.52.020 may request information and referrals for services, including
16 information and referrals relevant to the following areas:

17 (1) immigration services, including how to help the person's relatives
18 or friends to obtain visas, to immigrate to the United States, or to become naturalized
19 citizens;

20 (2) employment services, such as job placement services and
21 information about how labor unions, administrative agencies, and court actions may be
22 used to deal with claims or charges of job discrimination, illegal termination of
23 employment, sexual harassment, and unsafe working conditions;

24 (3) affordable legal services;

25 (4) affordable medical care;

26 (5) affordable housing;

27 (6) education, including the availability of scholarships and loans;

28 (7) credit counseling and disputes with credit card companies;

29 (8) law enforcement.

30 (b) A person who is eligible under AS 24.52.020(1) may request the office to
31 act as a liaison for the person with the office of the ombudsman or with the State

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

22-LS0524\L

1 Commission for Human Rights.

2 **Sec. 24.52.090. Definition.** In this chapter, "office" means the Office of
3 Citizenship Assistance established under this chapter.

4 * **Sec. 2.** AS 18.80 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 18.80.102. Authorized liaison for certain complainants.** If the Office
6 of Citizenship Assistance files with the commission a written document signed by a
7 person who has filed a complaint under AS 18.80.100 and who is eligible for the
8 office's assistance under AS 24.52.020(1), authorizing the office to be a liaison for the
9 person with the commission, the commission shall communicate information and
10 notices relevant to the person's complaint to the office in the same manner and to the
11 same extent that the commission communicates the information and notices to the
12 person who filed the complaint.

13 * **Sec. 3.** AS 24.55 is amended by adding a new section to read:

14 **Sec. 24.55.285. Authorized liaison for certain complainants.** If the Office
15 of Citizenship Assistance files with the ombudsman a written document signed by a
16 person who has filed a complaint under this chapter and who is eligible for the office's
17 assistance under AS 24.52.020(1), authorizing the office to be a liaison for the
18 complainant with the ombudsman, the ombudsman shall communicate information
19 and notices relevant to the person's complaint to the office in the same manner and to
20 the same extent that the ombudsman communicates the information and notices to the
21 complainant.

22 * **Sec. 4.** AS 18.80.102; AS 24.52.010, 24.52.020, 24.52.030, 24.52.090; and AS 24.55.285
23 are repealed June 30, 2006.

24 * **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2001.

Alaska State Legislature



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau AK
99801-1182

Senator Alan Austerman District C

January 23, 2001

Jessie R. Pelayo ✕
9023 Long Run Drive
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Mr. Pelayo,

This is a follow up on our conversation we had yesterday concerning the establishment of a Minority Affairs Office within the State of Alaska.


The Filipino community along with other Asian countries has a rich and proud culture. Having lived all of my life in Kodiak, I have witnessed the shift in demographics in our community to include many families from the Philippines and a burgeoning Hispanic population. This scene has been repeated all across Alaska.

People like Jessie Vizcocho in Kodiak have worked tirelessly in helping the members of his community sort out the many problems that arise in their lives. After listening to you and Mr. Raphael Castanos, I realize that he is not alone. The members of your community must not be lost and disenfranchised by our government.

A Minority Affairs Office such as the one we discussed could be a clearinghouse, if you will, to assist individuals with problems they may be having with state government. This office could also serve to help people find the right contacts within the federal bureaucracy.

I have met with Senator Pete Kelly on this matter. After further review, I will be in touch with you in regards to what direction we will go from here.

Best regards,


Alan Austerman
Senator District C

* Home phone: 790-2952
Wife: DIVINA PELAYO
WORKING WITH PETA. FISH &
GAME

Cc: Raphael Castanos
Jessie Vizcocho

Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR

PETER KELLY

Mailing Address:

119 N. Cushman, Suite 201

Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Senator_Pete_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us

(907) 456-8161



Senate

While in Juneau
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
(907) 465-2327

Senate District P

Memorandum

To: Senator Gene Therriault
Chair, Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Senator Pete Kelly *Pete*
Co-Chair, Senate Finance Committee

Date: 7 March 2001

Re: "An Act establishing the Office of Citizenship Assistance; and providing for an effective date."

I respectfully request that SB 90 be scheduled for a hearing in the Senate State Affairs Committee at your earliest possible convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alaska State Legislature

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Senator Pete Kelly
District P

SB 90

“An Act establishing the Office of Citizenship Assistance; and providing for an effective date.”

Senate Bill 90 would create an office to assist naturalized citizens and citizen candidates in Alaska.

SB 90 establishes the Office of Citizenship Assistance as a branch of the State’s Ombudsman Office. Naturalized citizens and people who are actively pursuing United States citizenship could receive navigation through state and private service agencies.

The Office of Citizenship Assistance would act as a liaison between individuals, the Office of the Ombudsman and the State Commission for Human Rights. Under this legislation the Office would assist in immigration services, employment services, affordable legal service, medical services, and educational opportunities. The Office also assists with credit counseling, interactions with law enforcement agencies including the court system.

Through this legislation, the Office shall be sensitive to the diverse cultural backgrounds of the people they would help. The Office of Citizenship Assistance would help new citizens adjust to life in the United States while respecting the social customs of their clients.

Alaska has always carried rich opportunity. SB 90 would expand our melting pot as people come from across the globe in search of an improved quality of life.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NO. _____
BILL VERSION: SB 90
PUBLISH DATE: _____

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act establishing the Office of
Citizenship Assistance; and providing for an effective.."
Sponsor: Senator Kelly
Requestor: Senate Finance

Department Affected: Legislature
BRU: Legislative Council
Component: Council and Subcommittees
Administrative Services

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING | FY 02 | FY 03 | FY 04 | FY 05 | FY 06 | FY 07 |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 218.0 | 218.0 | 218.0 | 218.0 | 218.0 | 0 |
| TRAVEL | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 0 |
| CONTRACTUAL | 53.2 | 53.2 | 53.2 | 53.2 | 53.2 | 0 |
| SUPPLIES | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 0 |
| EQUIPMENT | 32.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | | | | | | |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS | | | | | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 309.8 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CAPITAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|

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

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| GENERAL FUND | 309.8 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 0.0 |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | | | | | |
| OTHER FUND SOURCE | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 309.8 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 277.4 | 0.0 |

POSITIONS:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FULL-TIME | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 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) SB 90 establishes the Office of Citizenship Assistance. The office shall provide information and referrals to public and private resources, to person in the state who have become naturalized citizens of the United States or are about to become naturalized citizens of the United States. Each year in Anchorage, 1200 people are naturalized. The Office of Citizenship Assistance will have one office located in Anchorage, and one office located in Juneau. The Offices will be staffed by a Director, a professional assistant and an administrative assistant. The office will establish a toll free number, set up a web page, and retain the services of language interpreters. Administrative support services for accounting, payroll, supply, maintenance, and data processing will be absorbed within the Legislative Affairs Agency budget.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director *Karla Schofield* Phone: 465-3852
Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/7/01

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director *Pamela Varni*
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency Date: 3/7/01

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

Personal Services

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| Director | Range 26A | 92,373 | |
| Professional Assistant | Range 21C | 74,098 | |
| Administrative Assistant | Range 15C | 51,454 | |
| | | <u>217,926</u> | 218.0 |

Travel

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----|
| <u>Travel for the Executive Director</u> | 1,930 | |
| 2 trips to Juneau from Anchorage to meet with the Juneau Office | | |
| <u>Travel for the Professional Assistant</u> | 752 | |
| 1 trip to Ketchikan to assist clients | | |
| | <u>2,682</u> | 2.7 |

Contractual Services

| | | |
|---|---------------|------|
| Interpreter Fees (200 hrs @ \$120/hour) | 24,000 | |
| Phones (office and toll free number) | 6,000 | |
| Postage | 1,000 | |
| Office Lease expense | | |
| 1 office Anchorage - 500 square ft | 11,100 | |
| 1 office Juneau - 500 square ft | 11,100 | |
| | <u>53,200</u> | 53.2 |

Supplies

| | | |
|---|--------------|-----|
| Office Supplies | 2,000 | |
| Informational booklets and publications | 1,500 | |
| | <u>3,500</u> | 3.5 |

Equipment

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|------|
| 3 desktop computers | 6,300 | |
| 2 printers | 3,284 | |
| 2 copiers | 17,000 | |
| Phones | 1,950 | |
| Fax machine | 600 | |
| 3 desks | 1,200 | |
| 3 chairs | 1,350 | |
| 3 side chairs | 600 | |
| 4 chairs for waiting clients | 84 | |
| | <u>32,368</u> | 32.4 |

Total Annual Cost 309.8

Alaska State Legislature

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Senator Pete Kelly
District P

Senate Bill 90 Sectional Analysis

“An Act establishing the Office of Citizenship Assistance; and providing for an effective date.”

* **Section 1.** AS 24 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

Sec 24.52.010(a) creates an Office of Citizenship Assistance through the Alaska Legislative branch.

The Office shall (b)(1) provide information, and referrals to naturalized citizens or those wishing to become naturalized citizens of the United States and Alaska. The Office shall (2) act as a liaison between the citizen and the Office of the Ombudsman; (3) as a liaison between the citizen and the State Commission for Human Rights under AS 18.80.

The (c) Ombudsman shall appoint a director for the Office of Citizenship Assistance. The director shall have the power to contract services of the office that is intended to include multi-lingual services, legal advice, and other services the State may be not capable in handling.

Sec. 24.52.020

This section states those citizens eligible to request information and referrals from the office. A person (1) living in Alaska who has become a naturalized citizen of the United States. Also, a person (2) who lives in Alaska that is eligible for United States citizenship and who can demonstrate active involvement in obtaining citizenship in the United States.

Sec. 24.52.030

This section explains the information the Office must provide and be available to those who fit under AS 24.52.020. The Office of Citizenship Assistance must provide services relevant to (1) immigration services, including how to help the person's relatives or friends obtain visas, to immigrate to the United States, or to become naturalized citizens. Also, the Office shall provide

(2) employment services, such as placement programs, information about labor unions, administrative agencies, and court actions may be used to deal with claims or charges of job discrimination, illegal termination of employment, sexual harassment, and unsafe working conditions.

The Office of Citizenship Assistance also offers services and information regarding (3) affordable legal services; (4) affordable medical care; (5) affordable housing; (6) education, including the availability of scholarships and loans; (7) credit counseling and disputes with credit card companies; and (8) law enforcement.

Sec 24.52.090

This section defines the term "Office" refers to the Office of Citizenship Assistance established under this chapter.

*** Sec. 2.**

This section places a five-year sunset date on the legislation. The law will be repealed June 30, 2006.

*** Sec. 3.**

This Act takes effect July 1, 2001

Alaska State Legislature



State Capitol
Juneau AK
99801-1182

Official Business

Senator Alan Austerman District C

January 23, 2001

Raphael Castanos
Post Office Box 20241
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Mr. Castanos,

This is a follow up on our conversation we had yesterday concerning the establishment of a Minority Affairs Office within the State of Alaska.

The Filipino community along with other Asian countries has a rich and proud culture. Having lived all of my life in Kodiak, I have witnessed the shift in demographics in our community to include many families from the Philippines and a burgeoning Hispanic population. This scene has been repeated all across Alaska.

People like Jessie Vizcocho in Kodiak have worked tirelessly in helping the members of his community sort out the many problems that arise in their lives. After listening to you and Mr. Jessie Pelayo, I realize that he is not alone. The members of your community must not be lost and disenfranchised by our government.

A Minority Affairs Office such as the one we discussed could be a clearinghouse, if you will, to assist individuals with problems they may be having with state government. This office could also serve to help people find the right contacts within the federal bureaucracy.

I have met with Senator Pete Kelly on this matter. After further review, I will be in touch with you in regards to what direction we will go from here.

Best regards,


Alan Austerman
Senator District C

Cc: Jessie Pelayo
Jessie Vizcocho

MARIO D. Lim
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463-4312.

RAFAEL S. CASTANO
P.O. Box 20241
Juneau, AK 99802

Tel: (907) 586-4940

HERMIE RAMIREZ

Testimony for the Alaska Legislature in support of House Bill 90, creating an OFFICE FOR CITIZENSHIP ASSISTANCE for the purpose of helping new immigrants to accelerate their familiarity to blend in the American way of life most especially in the State of Alaska.

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen: I would like to express my thanks to the Alaskan Legislature and the various committees in allowing me to testify in support of House Bill 90.

My name is Jessie R. Pelayo. I came to Juneau, Alaska in the summer of 1970 and have lived in this town in an off and on basis up to the present. The testimony that I am about to give you is based on my personal experiences while living and raising my family in this great state of ours.

During the 70's, the number of Asian, Russian and European minorities in the State of Alaska was very minimal as compared to the whole population. Problems that new migrants faced were handled by naturalized citizens who migrated from the same area and have managed to establish themselves in this state. As a result of the pipeline days plus the shift in our economy, Alaska became a haven for new migrants not only for people from the lower 48 states but for those from other countries seeking a better way of life. With the increase in migration (which continue to the present), so was the increase in problems regarding our future citizens. These problems have escalated that in the fall of 1989, a meeting of all Filipino organizations throughout the State was held in Anchorage to discuss what our leaders can do in their respective communities to alleviate the sufferings of our people. It was really surprising to know that these problems not only existed in big cities like Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks but in small villages like Sitka, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, etc. Allow me now to discuss briefly these problems for your perusal.

1) IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS:

Prior to the resolution made by the City and Borough of Juneau requesting a permanently assigned Immigration Officer in Juneau, a citizen applying for naturalization had to spend an average of \$ 300.00 plus a day's wage in having fingerprints taken. This is under the assumption that no errors are made and the FBI accepts the submitted fingerprints. Otherwise, he or she has to spend the same amount of time and money to repeat the process.

Many naturalized citizens call the immigration offices in Ketchikan and Anchorage to request forms and information regarding the process of petitioning their immediate families. From my experience, depending on who receives the call, wrong information is disseminated and improper forms sent to these persons. It is unfortunate though that with every submitted form, it has to be accompanied with a non-refundable fee that ranges from \$100 to \$200 dollars. Because of this misinformation, expenses incurred double since another payment has to be enclosed upon resubmission of their forms. As a result, these people suffer in silence.

2) EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS:

This is probably one of the most frequent and multi-faceted difficulty that an immigrant encounters upon his or her arrival in the United States. When I was applying in one of our state agencies for an entry-level position, out of several applicants I was the only person asked to write an essay in English on why I wanted the job. I thought that in my resume where my college degree, membership in civic organizations like the Rotary Club, involvement in international and local engineering projects, business interests in engineering and manpower development, I have presented myself as a professional with a good command of the English language. I tried to convince myself that this is not a form of discrimination, but my heart and my emotions said otherwise.

Another case I encountered when I was the President of the Filipino Organization here in Juneau was regarding a person who has worked for six years in the City and Borough of Juneau. The new supervisor fired him because he left his post five minutes early to catch the last bus on his way home. Leaving one's post (5) minutes early was a common practice and was permitted via a verbal agreement with the former supervisor who left town. No consideration was given by the Director of that institution. After meeting

with the terminated worker, he decided not to pursue the case and instead elected to find another job and suffer the humiliation in silence.

Another case brought to my attention was regarding a 65-year-old grandmother who was working in a private-owned food preparation firm for three years. She went to work the next day and was asked to get her final paycheck at the end of the shift. With her consent, I asked her supervisor why she was fired and the immediate response given was that she was too old. I tried getting her consent to file a court case against the firm but she elected not to pursue the situation. When I took her to the airport on her return to the Philippines, it was only then that I had known her resentments. Her husband was killed during World War II when Filipinos were fighting side by side with the Americans against the Japanese.

3) LEGAL PROBLEMS:

There were numerous times that I have advised many Filipinos to get retributions in court. Unfortunately, they ask questions which I could not answer. "How much will it cost me?" "How long will the court proceedings take?" "Will I be terminated if I take them to court?" If I take them to court, I will be a target and called a persona non-grate. I will feel uncomfortable working to a point that will make one quit his job. Who will pay for my apartment's rent when I'm out of work?

A recent incident that was brought to my attention was regarding a house sold by a local realtor. The house was certified to be structurally sound and passed all the codes mandated by the City and Borough of Juneau by an engineer selected by the realtor. After a year, the water was seeping through the walls that had to be replaced. Due to financial difficulties, the owner was forced to apply for a loan in order to repair the walls. During the process of refinancing the loan, an engineer's certification was required as a supporting document. When the engineer's certification was received, it was found that the manner of construction in the roof was a failure and that it needed to be replaced. This was identified as the cause of water seeping through the walls. Therefore, the loan to repair the walls could not be granted until the roof was repaired. After telephone calls were made, we found that the engineer who gave the old certification left town and the realtor is also nowhere to be found however, the company that the realtor was working for still exists. Our biggest chance to get justice was to sue the realty company. To this date, nobody has been brought to court and repairs to the roof and walls are being done by the owner and their relatives.

4) MEDICAL PROBLEMS:

This might come as a surprise to everyone but as I said before I am talking from my personal experiences. In all my years in Juneau, seldom do people come to me regarding their medical problems. It is common knowledge that a majority of Filipinos work in small firms that have minimal or no insurance coverage for their employees. This is where close family ties plays a huge factor in coping with medical problems. It is not unlikely for us Filipinos to hear that some of our old relatives are being sent back to the Philippines when we feel that he or she becomes a burden to our finances with regards to their medical problems.

5) HOUSING PROBLEMS:

This is another area where I feel that Filipinos have few problems because of their culture and customs. In my observation, I have yet to see a Filipino that is homeless. Filipinos are known for their great hospitality and are willing to share their humble home to a fellow Filipino regardless of their situation. The small problem occurs when there is no awareness on assistance available for low cost housing or referrals to agencies with affordable rental rates.

6) EDUCATION PROBLEMS:

To a Filipino family, the most sacred duty a parent commits to is to do everything within their power to ensure their children get the best education. During the 70's, I have already noticed that Filipinos, and even those with mixed marriages have instilled the great importance of a good education in their children. Instilling good values and having the finances to put them through a good system of education are two very different things. We could enhance and promote this attitude by informing Filipino parents about availability of academic, athletic and other scholarships from non-profit organizations, grants and financial aid from federal and state entities.

7) CREDIT PROBLEMS:

During the early years of my stay here in Juneau, credit problems regarding Filipino families were unheard of. For the past 10 years, I have known quite a number of Filipinos faced with problems concerning bad credit and excessive debts. Easy accessibility and misuse of credit cards, consumer advertisements and other factors that lead to potential mismanagement of earnings are the early beginnings of a financial crisis. Seminars, workshops and free counseling services should be made available for them to develop sound credit management practices.

8) LAW ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS:

Of all the problems that I have discussed so far, this area is the one that has raised the greatest apprehension. With the increase in population and the continuous migration most especially with Asians in Alaska, our law enforcement is behind in studying the different cultures that exist in our community. We also have to educate our future immigrants about these differences in order to have a peaceful atmosphere in our communities. History will tell us that most of the third world countries have witnessed colonization and violence all their lives. Proper education and understanding of the different cultures will help us in implementing proactive remedies to the problems that we will be facing now and in the future.

I have had a number of traumatic experiences with the police forces here in Juneau. At one time, an intoxicated man came to my house around 9:00 P.M. and was pounding my door with his fist. I opened the door to ask him what his problem was and if I could help out. He accused me with driving too fast in the neighborhood a while ago. Completely astounded, I told him that I was at my home as early as 5:00 PM and being employed with the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, I was aware of the speed limit. I told him that there was no way that I was the same person he was talking about. I told him to go home and closed the door. He pounded on my door again. At this point, I called the police and informed them that a heavily intoxicated man is at my front yard pounding on my door, and told them that if they will not get this man and he happens to break my door I will shoot him. I also told the police that the man tried to scare me by telling me "he can do anything he wants because his brother is a police officer." After a few minutes the police came. I was waiting so that I could direct them where this man lived. I opened my door and to my surprise two squad cars came with four police officers with drawn guns. I asked them why their guns were drawn? I told them that instead of confronting me why don't they confront the person pounding on my door? At this point, my wife came and she pointed to the police officers where this person lives. To my surprise the police officer lectured me that I have violated the law by having a gun in my house. This lecture went on for the past five minutes and they insisted that I have violated the law. Finally I told them about my right to bear arms under the constitution and since when does owning a gun locked safely in my house for the protection of my family and myself a crime? Suddenly they left without saying another word. This is an example where a law enforcement officer assumed that because I am a Filipino I am stupid and do not know my rights. This would show us also that the law officer did not know the law he was enforcing.

Another incident that happened a few years ago referred to me was a fight that started inside a house owned by a native Alaskan and resulted in serious injuries. Witnesses informed the police that a Filipino was involved in the stabbing. A number of young Filipinos were invited to the police station and questioned if they knew who may have committed the crime. All of the young Filipinos came to me and asked my help because the police threatened them with deportation if they wouldn't divulge who was responsible for the crime. Seriously concerned, I immediately conducted my own research and investigation knowing practically most of the young Filipinos in Juneau. After checking their alibis, I came to the conclusion that the perpetrator was not a Filipino. I told the Chief of Police this information and complained about the manner in which his police officers conducted their investigations. I also told the Police Chief it was unlawful for his police officers in their pretense as immigration officers and strongly protested the way the investigation was conducted. I suggested that reforms should be developed in gathering information from immigrants. At that point, I was berated and threatened by the Chief for interfering with police affairs. Four days later, they found the assailant and he was not a Filipino. Up to now, no apologies were ever made to those young Filipinos threatened with deportation.

SUMMARY

With this testimony, ladies and gentlemen, I hope to convince the committee on the importance of this bill. Do not allow a segment of your constituents to suffer in silence. America is a land of immigrants. Let us not be afraid anymore to bring injustices resulting in the lack of understanding between different cultures.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Attached to this testimony is a brief summary of my professional career.

Civic involvement includes but no limited to are:

- Vice President, Filipino Community of Juneau 1975-1976;
- Charter Member and President of the West Triangle Rotary Club International
Manila, Philippines 1985-1986
- President of the Filipino Community, Inc.
Juneau, Alaska 1989-1990

PERSONAL DATA:

JESSIE R. PELAYO
9023 Long Run Drive
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Birthdate: June 23, 1947
Married : Four (4) children
Home : (907) 790-2952

PROFESSIONAL CAREER HISTORY:

JS CONTRACTOR INC. 423 Magallanes St. Intramuros, MetroManila, PHILIPPINES - (8/77 to present)
International Marketing Manager (11/96 to present)
Member - Board of Directors (8/86 to present)
President and Chairman of the Board (8/77 to 7/86)

Conducted research and assessment meetings with station managers, workers, marketing managers of offices situated in the MIDDLE EAST and ASIA in identifying prospective clients and contact persons needing Filipino skilled workers. Initiated discussions, made presentations on contents of both technical and financial proposals with emphasis on the quality of labor manpower and cost savings to the client. Evaluated performance of satellite offices, brokers, and managers covering contract negotiations, financial matters, status of exported manpower. Coordinated with existing clients, consular offices and government agencies regarding trends and changes affecting labor personnel requirements or significantly contribute to the development of related services markets. Accomplishments included:

- Generated a 400 % growth in business through development of new accounts.
- Computerization of operations and training of personnel to adopt on new technologies.
- Established inter-related companies (shipping manning and crewing, entertainment, food export, and diagnostic medical clinic) to compliment recruitment markets.
- Acquired real estate (buildings) properties to centralize multi-faceted operations.

STATE OF ALASKA, DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES (07/90-10/96)
Design and Construction Division (Southeast Regional Office) 6860 Glacier Highway, Juneau, AK 99801
Engineering Assistant II

Responsible in determining alternatives for proposed road projects through cost effective analysis. Designed road projects and prepared cost estimates utilizing AUTOCAD version and AASHTO standards for presentation to the public. Procured and analyzed traffic numbers and accident statistics. Prepared reconnaissance reports for management's decisions in determining project priorities and funding allocation. Coordinated with Traffic, Environmental, Right-of-Way, Utilities, Location and Materials sections during project development. Oversee draftsmen as they prepared drawings, corrected and amended drawings for computer design. Checked preliminary plans for conformity to current design standards and located possible design problems. Calculated project construction costs. Determined the best alternative, unit prices based on quantity, local area and present market factors, and added costs due to special or unusual design considerations. Wrote materials and construction specifications which must be flexible enough to reject inferior or inappropriate material or workmanship; conform to State and Federal law, generally accepted engineering practices and departmental policy; be clear, concise and grammatically well written, and free from any ambiguity.

GEODESY SERVICES, INC. 601A BenLor Bldg. 1184 Quezon Blvd, Manila, PHILS. (08/76-08/87)
President and General Manager (01/80 to 08/87)
Vice-President, Marketing and Operations (08/76 to 12/79)
Member, Board of Director (08/76 to 08/87)

As chief executive officer for the corporation that engaged in surveying, civil works, construction management and supervision, coordinated with government agencies on various projects and contract

solicitation. Reviewed technical specifications, financial requirements plus the environmental impact on the community and its constituents on contracts negotiated for the corporation. Attended pre-bid conferences and meetings geared towards educating the public on projects that were implementing government programs. Reported on the company's financial performance during its Annual Stockholders meeting. Responsible for the recruitment of administrative and technical managers. Assigned and distributed work responsibilities to the division heads and project managers. Managed acquisition or sale of major equipment or instruments requiring the Board of Director's concurrence. Undertook disposition of incentive saving from completed projects. Approved personnel, action recommendations such as promotions, layoffs, terminations, transfers.

Served as the company's Geodetic Consultant for projects with foreign counterparts such as: James M. Montgomery, CampDresser & McKee, Kampsax Kruger, Green International. Scope of project involvement include:

- Detailed Engineering and Design of Roads and Building Structures Medium-scale
- Irrigation Systems and Water Impounding Projects Geothermal Watershed
- Photogrammetric Mapping Drainage, Sewer Lines, and Flood Control Overhead
- Power Distribution Lines Ports and Property Development Water Utilities Development

MOLAVE CONSULTANCY SVCS United St. Pasig, MetroManila – PHILS. (09/15/85-07/31/87)
Project Director, Member (Board of Director)

As a member of the technical group composed of engineers, managers, and planners that organized the firm to provide consultancy services to the government and private sector mainly in areas related to the development of rural communities. Services coverage included:

- Infrastructure – Highways and bridges with particular emphasis on the development of primary, secondary, and feeder roads, upland access roads, trails and foot bridges.
- Water Management – Water supply, irrigation drainage and sewerage with efforts mainly directed in the development of water resources, wells and springs in villages and outlying areas, designing and constructing mini-dams including small hydro-electric stations and simple cost-effective irrigation systems where water sources are limited.
- Training and Technology Transfer – Was involved in the preparation of feasibility studies relative to the Philippines loan application for \$30 million with the US-IBRD (United States International Bank for Rehabilitation and Development) as well as feasibility studies for the development and agricultural projects as they relate to the betterment of small communities.
- Design and/or Construction – School buildings, village and community hospitals including communal buildings, utilizing native labor and materials to the extent possible.

MARBELLA CLUB, INC. CCP Bldg. Complex Roxas Blvd., MetroManila – PHILS. (01/16/84-08/15/87)
Technical Consultant

Duties Reviewed and approved project cost estimates prepared by technical staff for bidding or contract negotiation purposes. Developed work schedules to synchronize the different survey crews activities with contract completion dates and stipulations. Inspected project sites nationwide. and coordinated in the identification of work methodology and equipment needs. Directed work for all projects covered under the company's surveying capabilities.

TONER & NORDLING – Registered Engineers 100 North Franklin Street, Juneau – ALASKA 99801

Surveyor (10/70-03/76)

Responsible for raw data gathering in the field used in the design of civil works or a variety of projects. Job entailed extensive travel throughout the state. Coordinated with land owners, village officials regarding subdividing parcels of property for housing purposes. Acted as the company's technical representative in meeting with village or city officials on community projects. List of projects involved but not limited to:

- Juneau International Airport Phase I & II
- State of Alaska Tax Maps
- Mendenhall Shopping Mall
- Berners Bay and Red Bay Road Projects
- Smith and Gravel Pit
- City and Borough Water Storage project
- Turnkey Housing and Land Development in Southeast Alaska
- Subdivision Surveys: Sunrise, Lakeshore, Riverview, Green Acres, Sunset, Lakeview, Riverside Drive, Tall Timber, and Mendenhaven Phase I & II

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:

Bachelor of Science in CIVIL ENGINEERING (April 1970)
University of the Philippines - Diliman, Quezon City MetroManila - PHILIPPINES

CONFERENCES & TRAINING:

- April 6-7, 1995: NHI Course #38032: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide Conducted by U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration National Highway Institute. Held in Juneau, Alaska
- January 30, 1991: Introduction to MAC at University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau
- November 9-16, 1981: Observation trips, lectures, and demonstrations on modern electronic surveying instrument and photogrammetric equipment of HEWLETT-PACKARD in Los Angeles, California
- October 15-19, 1981: Observation trips, lectures, and demonstrations on modern electronic surveying instrument and photogrammetric equipments of CARL ZEISS in Oberkochen, West Germany
- October 11-14, 1981: Observation trips, lectures, and demonstrations on modern electronic surveying instrument and photogrammetric equipments of WILD in Heerbrugg, Switzerland
- October 5-8, 1981: 38th Photogrammetric Conference held in Stuttgart, West Germany. Sponsored by Carl Zeiss and the University of Stuttgart