

HB

303

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: May 7, 2003

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

Date of Committee Action: May 12, 2003

The JUDICIARY Committee considered:

HB 303

HOUSE BILL NO. 303

USE CRIMINAL FINES FOR YOUTH COURTS

"An Act relating to youth courts and to the recommended use of criminal fines to fund the activities of youth courts; and relating to accounting for criminal fines."

Recommends it be replaced with HCS or CS for _____ (_____)
 For Senate Bills with new title: Technical Title New Title: HCR _____ Same Title New Title

- attach amendments
- add new referral to _____ Committee
- Letter of Intent _____ Committee

List of Abbrev for Depts.:

- ADM
- CED
- COR
- CRT
- EED
- DEC
- DFG
- GOV
- HISS
- LEG
- LAW
- LWF
- MVA
- DNR
- DPS
- REV
- DOT
- UA

<u>NEW FISCAL NOTES</u>				
*Assigned by Chief Clerk's Office				
List by Dept(s):	*FN#	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero
CRT				✓

<u>PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES</u>				
List by Dept(s):	FN#	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero

<u>Signing with recommendations</u>	Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
	SAMUELS	✓			
	HOLM	✓			
	GARG	✓			
	Gruenberg	-			
	Oga	✓			
Chair:	Melville	✓			
Chair:					



Committee Assignments:

Member:


House Special Committee on Fisheries
House Special Committee on Education
House Transportation Committee
House Judiciary Committee

Dan Ogg
Representative

Session:
Room 409
Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Phone: 907-465-2487
Toll Free: 800-865-2487
Fax: 907-465-4956
Email: rep.dan.ogg@legis.state.ak.us

Interim:
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Phone: 907-486-8872
Fax: 907-486-5264

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2003
TO: Representative Lesil McGuire, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
FROM: Representative Dan Ogg 
SUBJ: Request for Scheduling – House Bill 303

I respectfully request the House Judiciary Committee schedule a hearing for HB 303 at your earliest convenience.

This bill establishes a separate account for fines imposed and collected under AS 12.55.035 for the funding of Youth Courts. Nothing in this bill creates a dedicated fund.

Copies of the bill and sponsor statement are attached for your information. A fiscal note will be forthcoming as soon as this bill is posted for a hearing.

Please contact Cliff Stone of my staff at 2696 as necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.



Committee Assignments:

Member:

House Special Committee on Fisheries
House Special Committee on Education
House Transportation Committee
House Judiciary Committee

Dan Ogg
Representative

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Sponsor Statement – House Bill 303

5/09/03

“An Act relating to youth courts and to the recommended use of criminal fines to fund the activities of youth courts; and relating to accounting for criminal fines.”

AS 47.12.400 established Youth Courts in the State of Alaska. Youth Courts allow minors to have their case heard, determined and disposed of in a court of their peers. The department may use Youth Courts for any minor whose alleged act constitutes a violation of a state law that is a misdemeanor or a violation of a municipal ordinance that prescribes a penalty not exceeding the penalties for a class A misdemeanor under state law.

Youth Courts are an efficient and effective approach for dealing with the problem of juvenile crime. Studies show that Youth Courts provide a meaningful response to offenders that effectively reduces the likelihood that they will commit additional crimes within their community. In Anchorage, the recidivism among Youth Court participants was only 6%, compared to 23% utilizing the traditional approach. Another advantage to this program is the fact that approximately 1,000 Alaskan students are involved in the adjudication process located in 15 communities statewide. Their participation fosters respect for the law through education and action. Not only is it estimated that cases processed through Youth Courts cost less than half of the amount of cases processed through district and superior courts, but it allows officers of the court to focus on the most serious offenses or repeat offenders.

The foremost concern facing Youth Courts in the State of Alaska is funding. These programs are dependent on the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG), a federal grant administered through the Division of Juvenile Justice. The current federal budget for FY04 does not include any funding for the JAIBG.

This bill would separately account for fines that have been imposed under the Sentencing and Probation statutes. The legislature may then appropriate a prescribed percentage of those fines that have been collected to the Youth Courts.

The permissive “may” and the inclusion of the final sentence of the bill has been found by the Alaska Supreme Court to not constitute unconstitutional dedicated funds because the legislature continues to be able to appropriate money as it sees fit.

District 36 - Kodiak Island Borough/Lake & Peninsula Borough
Akiok • Chiniak • Karluk • Kodiak • Larsen Bay • Old Harbor • Ouzinkie • Port Lions
Iguigig • Iliamna • Kokhanok • Levelock • Newhalen • Nondalton • Pedro Bay • Port Alsworth

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 303
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title Youth Court and Criminal Fines BRU Alaska Court System
 Component Trial Courts
 Sponsor Representative Ogg
 Requester House Judiciary Component No. 768

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The court system does not anticipate any fiscal impact from the passage of HB 303.

Prepared by: Douglas Wooliver, Administrative Attorney Phone 463-4750
 Division: Alaska Court System Date/Time 5/11/03 10:46 AM
 Approved by: Stephanie Cole, Administrative Director Date 5/11/2003
 Agency: Alaska Court System

8663 Dudley St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801
February 20, 2003

APRIL

Representative Dan Ogg,
Alaska State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Representative Ogg,

Thank you for your support of Alaska Youth Courts and for volunteering to sponsor the proposed legislation. I've attached the information you requested during our recent meeting regarding the legislation. The attachments provide additional information about Youth Court's past funding, a list of legislators with Youth Courts in their district, and an informal list of our supporters.

After talking with supporters, we'd like to recommend two changes to the bill before its introduction. First, that the percentage of fines be changed from 25% to 15%. Second, that an effective date clause of July 1, 2003 be added. Our coalition is very excited about the bill and would like to work with you to get co-sponsors and help get the bill through the legislature expeditiously. The attached sheet shows that we have received positive reactions from numerous legislators about this legislation. We'd like to work with you and your staff to encourage legislators to co-sponsor this bill, since this would increase its chances of passage. Thank you very much for your time and your continued support. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Weston Eiler, Chair
Alaska Youth Court Sustainability Coalition
(907)-789-5053
westoneiler@hotmail.com

Attachments

March 24, 2003

Representative Dan Ogg
Alaska State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Representative Ogg:

I am writing to seek your support for State funding of Youth Courts in Alaska. Youth Courts have served Alaska since the 1980s, and have provided a positive alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system. The Alaska State Legislature first empowered Youth Court through Alaska Statute 47.12.400. Youth Courts allow first-time juvenile offenders to have their case heard in a court of their peers. This format has been successful both nationally and in Alaska.

Youth Courts are an effective approach for dealing with the problem of juvenile crime. In the report *The Impact of Teen Courts on Young Offenders* published by the Urban Institute (Washington D.C.), the recidivism (repeated criminal behavior) rate of juvenile offenders in Alaska, Arizona, Maryland, and Missouri was significantly less in Youth Court programs than the traditional juvenile justice system. In Anchorage, recidivism among Youth Court participants was only six percent, compared to twenty-three percent using the traditional approach. This study shows that Youth Courts provide a meaningful response to offenders that effectively reduces the likelihood that they will commit additional crimes within the community. Helping to break the cycle of criminal behavior at this early age increases the chance that these individuals will become productive members of society.

Youth Courts provide swift, meaningful, appropriate consequences, so that juveniles committing minor offenses relate consequences to actions and are more likely to take personal responsibility. This process of restorative justice, where offenders repair the harm they've caused, allows Youth Courts to construct tough sentences that fit the crime and demonstrate to the juveniles the true impact of their actions. The report also stated that Youth Courts can be very cost-effective since they operate with volunteer support and comparatively low budgets.

The impact of Youth Court is felt throughout Alaska. There are over 15 Youth Courts statewide which involve approximately 1,000 Alaskan students in implementing restorative justice in their communities. Programs exist in many areas of Alaska, including Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Mat-Su, Sitka, Ketchikan, the Kenai Peninsula, Nome, Kodiak, and Kotzebue. The most populace town without a Youth Court program is Bethel, and according to the Division of Juvenile Justice, the number of juvenile offenses and the recidivism rate are substantially greater there, compared to cities of similar size with programs. Currently, the Anchorage Youth Court assumes nearly 20% of the juvenile caseload, which reduces the burden on the judicial system. It is estimated that cases processed through Youth Courts cost less than half the amount of cases processed through district and superior courts. This allows for more efficient justice, at a lower cost. The enclosed information lists some other tangible advantages that Youth Courts can provide to the State of Alaska.

The major issue facing Youth Courts in Alaska is the lack of funding. These programs are currently dependent on the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG), a federal grant administered through the Division of Juvenile Justice. These funds go towards office space, operating expenses, and training. In FY03, Alaska Youth Courts receive about \$400,000 through this grant. According to the Division of Juvenile Justice, the most optimistic outlook for funding in FY04 is \$200,000 which would be a significant reduction. However, the most recent outlook, based on the

Federal Omnibus Spending Bill, is that JAIBG will be cut further and there may be little or no money left for Youth Court programs. There is a very real possibility that no funding will be available in FY04. The current Presidential Budget for Federal FY04 does not include any funding for JAIBG.

Youth Courts can have a significant impact on juvenile justice and deserve a stable source of funding. This program can play an important role in addressing the issues of juvenile crime and public safety. We are requesting legislation that five percent of collected court fines go to Alaska Youth Courts. This would greatly assist in the operation of this program and make it possible for these local organizations to focus on their primary objectives -- helping juvenile offenders. The Alaska Conference of Mayors as well as the Alaska Association of Student Government have endorsed funding for Alaska Youth Courts.

On behalf of the Youth Courts of Alaska, I request your support for legislation that would set aside five percent of collected court fines to support Youth Court programs in Alaska. Please contact me if you need additional information. Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Weston Eiler".

Weston Eiler, Chair
Alaska Youth Court Sustainability Coalition
(907)-789-5053
westoneiler@hotmail.com

For Many Teen Offenders, Peer-Run Court Means Less Recidivism

April 15, 2002

Teen courts may be a positive alternative to the normal juvenile justice process for jurisdictions that want to expand intervention options for young, first-time juvenile offenders and reduce youth recidivism. Recidivism rates among teen court youth were similar and in some cases lower than those of youth in the regular juvenile justice system, according to a four-state evaluation by the Urban Institute. Findings from the evaluation were released today by U.S. Assistant Attorney General Deborah J. Daniels at the National Youth Court Conference.

The report, "The Impact of Teen Court on Young Offenders," by Urban Institute researchers Jeffrey Butts, Janeen Buck, and Mark Coggeshall, is an evaluation of the impact of teen courts on youth recidivism in four states: Alaska, Arizona, Maryland, and Missouri. The jurisdictions in these states use the full range of teen court models currently in use across the country.

Teen courts are designed for young offenders who have committed less serious acts of delinquency, such as theft, shoplifting, possession of stolen property, or vandalism. They rely on the premise that if peer pressure can cause teenagers to get into trouble, positive peer pressure might help steer them away from future trouble.

Researchers measured pre-court attitudes and post-court recidivism among more than 500 juveniles referred to teen court for non-violent criminal charges, including theft, shoplifting, and vandalism. Recidivism of teen court youth was compared to that of nearly 500 similar youth in the regular juvenile justice system.

Key Findings

In Alaska, Arizona, and Missouri, teen courts were compared with the average juvenile justice response to young, first-time offenders. Youth handled by teen court were less likely to commit another crime and be re-referred to the juvenile justice system within six months. In Alaska, recidivism among teen court youth was 6 percent, compared with 23 percent of those handled by the traditional process. In Missouri, the recidivism rate was 9 percent for teen court youth and 27 percent for the traditional process. In Arizona, the rate was 9 percent, compared with 15 percent in the traditional system—though this difference is not statistically significant.

In Maryland, the results of the teen court process were compared with a more proactive police diversion program that provided similar services, but was managed and delivered by police officers and a police department social worker, and did not require youth to appear in court. Recidivism rates of both groups were extremely low, with 8 percent among teen court youth and 4 percent among youth in the police diversion program—but that difference is not statistically significant.

"Our evaluation shows that teen court might be a better alternative to the regular juvenile justice process in jurisdictions that do not, or cannot, provide a meaningful response for every young, first-time nonviolent offender," concludes Butts. "And, given the fact that teen courts operate with largely volunteer labor and with very low budgets, their cost-effectiveness might be very high."

Background

Teen courts (or youth courts) are specialized diversion programs for young offenders. The typical youth referred to teen court is 14 to 16 years old, in trouble with the police for the first time, and probably charged with vandalism, stealing, or some other non-violent offense. Teen courts offer these youth an alternative to the regular juvenile court process. Rather than going to juvenile court and risking formal prosecution and possible adjudication, a young offender can go through teen court and avoid what might have been the first stain on his or her legal record.

In return, however, a young person in teen court is almost certain to get a rather stiff sentence. Many are required to do community service and pay restitution for any damages they may have caused. They may be ordered to write apology letters to their parent(s) and the victim of their offense, and perhaps an essay about the effects of crime on the community. Often, they must return to teen court to serve on juries for other cases. Compared to what they might have received in the regular juvenile court process for a first-time, non-violent offense, youth that agree to go to teen court get relatively severe sanctions.

Teen courts operate much like juvenile courts except that fewer adults are involved in the process. The young offender (usually with a parent or guardian) may meet with an adult staff person before the teen court hearing. The purpose of the meeting is to explain the teen court process and obtain the youth's formal agreement to abide by the teen court's decision. In the teen court hearing itself, however, young people are responsible for much of the process, from calling the case, to reviewing the charges and presenting the facts, to choosing the proper sentence. Teenagers may serve as the court clerks, bailiffs, attorneys, jurors, and in some cases, even the judges that hear each matter brought before the court. Most of the youth who work in teen court are volunteers, but many are former defendants who return to participate in other cases as a condition of their sentence.

2003 Alaska Youth Court Sustainability Coalition INFORMATION SHEET

- **Youth Courts involve youth and communities throughout Alaska.**
There are presently more than 15 youth courts statewide which directly involve nearly 1,000 volunteer Alaskan students in implementing restorative justice in their communities. These courts historically hear an average of over 900 cases a year.
- **Youth Courts foster a respect for the law through education and action.**
Youth Courts provide criminal justice training to the volunteer members. The teen members are then empowered by their roles as judge, prosecutor, and defense attorney in actual cases involving their peers, gaining an invaluable appreciation for the law. Youth Courts enhance respect for the law in the offenders as well as in the student members.
- **Youth Courts produce a marked reduction in recidivism.**
The Anchorage Youth Court produced a 94% reduction in recidivism, dramatically decreasing the amount of cases to be processed in the court systems. (Based on a study titled "The Impact of Teen Court on Young Offenders" by Jeffrey A. Butts, Janeen Buck, and Mark B. Coggeshall.) This was the highest success rate of the four courts studied in this recent nationwide study by the Urban Institute.
- **Youth Courts ease the caseload of state officials.**
By providing diversion services for District and Superior Court Judges as well as Juvenile Probation Officers, Youth Courts allow these officials to focus on the most serious offenses or repeat offenders.
- **Youth Courts save the state money.**
It is estimated that cases processed through Youth Courts cost less than half the amount of cases processed informally or through district and superior courts. In Alaska's largest youth court, the Anchorage Youth Court operates with a 6% recidivism spending only \$574 per defendant, far lower than the equivalent juvenile justice system and substantially more effective for the cost. (Note: McLaughlin Youth Center costs \$40,000 per year per patient. If AYC prevents just 7 juveniles from going to McLaughlin, it equals AYC's entire operating budget.)
- **The juvenile population is increasing.**
The juvenile population in our state is expected to increase by 27% by 2015. With this dramatic increase in the juvenile population, juvenile delinquency will likely rise, making the sustainability of youth courts even more critical.
- **Alaska has already entrusted our Youth Courts with the most comprehensive legislation in the nation.**
Alaska was identified in another recent national study as the one state with the most comprehensive Youth Court legislation, in that our statute AS 47.12.400 specifically entrusts Youth Courts with adjudicatory as well as dispositional authority. (See The Organization and Operation of Teen Courts in the United States, A Comparative Analysis of Legislation, Michele Heward, JD, Juvenile and Family Court Journal, Winter 2002.)

Youth Courts do important work, save the state money and have good track records.

The time for sustainable funding is now.

Weston Eiler

Chair – Alaska Youth Court Sustainability Coalition
(907) 789-5053 - westonciler@hotmail.com



Alaska Conference of Mayors

A Resolution Supporting Continued Funding and Support for Alaska's Youth Courts

Whereas, the Alaska Conference of Mayors and the Alaska Municipal League have been encouraging youth to participate in student government throughout Alaska;

Whereas, the Alaska Association of Student Governments represents students and individuals throughout Alaska and has passed a statewide resolution supporting the Alaska Youth Court System;

Whereas, Youth Court is an innovative alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system and is empowered by state statutes to make a difference in Alaskan communities;

Whereas, for the past decade Youth Courts have served as a great method of decreasing repeat crime amongst juvenile offenders;

Whereas, Youth Court allows students to take a role as a judge or attorney in a courtroom to judge, prosecute, or defend first juvenile offenders in a court of their peers;

Whereas, Youth Court programs also ease the case load of district court judges and juvenile probation offices;

Whereas, there are at least 15 youth courts statewide which involve nearly 1,000 Alaskan students in implementing restorative justice in their communities;

Whereas, Alaska's Youth Courts are currently dependent of federal grants and uncertain avenues of funding;

Whereas, a program as beneficial and successful as Youth Court should not be left to uncertain means of funding;

Whereas, the Alaska Legislature first empowered youth courts and has the authority secure sustainable funding for the future of Alaska's Youth Courts;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Alaska Conference of Mayors commends Alaska's Youth Courts and encourage the Alaska State Legislature to implement a stable method of funding for Youth Courts across Alaska.



**Alaska Association of Student Governments
Sustained Support and Funding for Alaska's Youth Courts
Fall 2002 Conference**

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

Whereas, the Alaska Association of Student Governments represents high school students and student leaders throughout Alaska;

Whereas, Youth Court is an innovative alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system and is empowered by Alaska Statute 47.12.400 to make a positive difference in Alaskan communities;

Whereas, Youth Courts are established for the purpose of decreasing juvenile crime and the recidivism amongst juvenile offenders as well as to involve students in implementing restorative justice;

Whereas, Youth Court allows students valuable experience in assuming the role and responsibility of a judge or attorney in a courtroom to judge, prosecute, or defend first-time juvenile offenders in a court of their peers;

Whereas, Youth Court programs help ease the case load of district and superior courts, juvenile probation offices, and school districts;

Whereas, for the past decade Youth Courts have served as an effective method of decreasing repeat-crime amongst juvenile offenders in Alaska;

Whereas, there are at least 15 Youth Courts statewide which involve approximately 1,000 Alaskan students in implementing restorative justice in their communities;

Whereas, Alaska's Youth Courts are currently dependent on a federal juvenile justice grant which is in the process of being cut by 30% over a three year period and which is not guaranteed due to lack of congressional authorization;

Whereas, a program as beneficial and successful as Youth Court should not be left to unreliable means of funding;

Whereas, the Alaska State Legislature first empowered youth courts and has the authority to secure sustainable funding for the future of Alaska's Youth Courts;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments, that AASG commend Alaska's Youth Courts and encourage the Alaska State Legislature to establish a stable base of funding for Youth Courts across Alaska.

Alaska Court System
Schedule of State Fines Collected

State Fines Collected by Alaska Court System (as Reported in AKSAS)				
FY02	FY01	FY00	FY99	FY98
3,708,100.00	3,910,300.00	3,715,900.00	3,627,200.00	3,649,100.00

In addition to fines and forfeitures applied to fines this data also includes: bail forfeitures, other forfeitures not applied to fines, contempt sanctions, and court costs not related to Criminal Rule 8.

State Fines Collected by Court Location			
Court Location	FY02	FY01	FY00
	State Fines	State Fines	State Fines
Anchorage	335,442.29	392,442.89	369,543.32
Barrow	61,097.29	63,900.00	34,161.10
Bethel	42,471.00	64,287.25	81,549.15
Cordova	26,535.00	28,629.50	38,535.55
Craig	5,229.00	48,932.00	52,399.62
Delta Junction	62,066.69	50,436.73	39,826.75
Dillingham	77,088.25	95,479.00	49,438.50
Fairbanks	353,787.17	419,229.27	470,699.19
Glennallen	53,655.30	49,121.49	54,996.75
Haines	7,684.50	15,638.69	8,201.87
Healy	39,336.00	87,101.62	59,551.00
Homer	54,977.50	65,049.15	67,137.61
Juneau	152,040.30	128,677.92	137,933.38
Kenai	176,385.00	150,831.09	207,522.21
Ketchikan	104,661.47	103,568.98	130,234.37
Kodiak	138,273.54	177,135.86	146,537.00
Kotzebue	76,999.96	83,867.26	71,467.84
Naknek	96,045.00	145,588.79	105,803.30
Nenana	19,968.00	19,828.86	21,286.18
Nome	29,382.14	37,744.27	27,952.08
Palmer	476,417.39	531,066.18	412,801.28
Petersburg	27,288.90	27,417.34	23,193.31
Seward	49,592.50	50,618.50	47,953.00
Sitka	63,810.15	66,354.39	29,759.55
Tok	46,125.53	43,430.09	39,900.12
Unalaska	95,620.53	83,043.00	178,737.87
Valdez	52,293.25	41,953.70	35,610.50
Wrangell	24,106.00	16,790.00	30,680.00

State Fines Collected by Court System and Dept. of Law			
Agency	FY02	FY01	FY00
Alaska Court System	2,748,379.65	3,088,163.82	2,973,412.40
Department of Law	1,583,794.49	1,963,548.38	1,099,498.93
Totals	4,332,174.14	5,051,712.20	4,072,911.33

Court Data Source:

The fine data includes fines and forfeitures applied to fines and reflected on each court's Receipt Distribution Reports for the periods indicated. The dollar amounts represent actual funds received. Additional fines were collected and are not included in the analysis because the data is not readily available and the dollar amounts would not significantly impact the overall financial picture.

Department of Law :

Fines listed for the Department of Law include fines (court, traffic, and minor offense) and bonds.

Youth Courts/Community Panels

Grantee	Grant Program	FY02 Award Amount	FY02 Cash Match	FY03 Award Amount	FY03 Cash Match
Anchorage Youth Court	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,934.00	\$14,901.00
Anchorage Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$28,181.00	\$3,129.00	\$25,345.00	\$2,816.11
Delta Junction Youth Court	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$8,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Delta Junction Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$888.89
Native Village of Emmonak - Elder Panel to hear delinquency cases	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
Juneau Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$26,917.00	\$2,990.77	\$24,092.00	\$2,678.89
Kawerak	Formula Indian Pass-Through	\$5,948.00	\$0.00	\$8,864.00	\$0.00
Kanai Peninsula Youth Court	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$5,198.00	\$7,794.00	\$4,754.00	\$7,131.00
Kenai Peninsula Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
Southeast Regional Resource Center - Ketchikan Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$29,960.00	\$3,328.89	\$26,964.00	\$2,998.00
Kodiak Teen Court	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$9,992.00	\$14,988.00	\$5,410.00	\$8,115.00
Kodiak Teen Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
Nome Community Center- Nome Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
North Slope Borough - Community Panel Support	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$29,000.00	\$3,222.22	\$26,100.00	\$2,900.00
North Star Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$25,200.00	\$2,800.00
Sitka Prevention & Treatment Services - Sitka Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$29,528.00	\$3,280.87	\$17,000.00	\$1,886.89
City of Sitka - Sitka Youth Court	Title V	\$20,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00
Central Council of Tlingit-Haida	Formula Indian Pass-Through	\$4,573.00	\$0.00	\$4,540.00	\$0.00
United Youth Courts of Alaska - Data Collection for Youth Courts	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$9,785.00	\$14,677.50	\$9,987.00	\$14,950.50
United Youth Courts of Alaska - Training & Technical Assistance	Community Juvenile Justice Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,525.00	\$12,787.50
United Youth Courts of Alaska - Training & Technical Assistance	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$54,997.00	\$6,110.78	\$40,498.00	\$4,490.78
Valdez Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
City of Valdez - Valdez Youth Court	Title V	\$45,302.00	\$22,851.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
City of Wasilla - Mat-Su Youth Court	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	\$30,000.00	\$3,333.34	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$487,355.00	\$115,172.67	\$435,193.00	\$112,351.58

* Note: Cash Match information collected is the match reported by the agency for purposes of a given grant and does not necessarily represent all of the funds available to the agency for a given program.



MADD

Activism | Victim Services | Education™

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
JUNEAU CHAPTER
211 4th St., Suite 314
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone (907)463-2562
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May 8, 2003

To: Representative Ogg
Representative Gruenberg
Representative Wilson

RE: House Bill 303, Youth Court bill

The MADD Juneau Chapter supports House Bill 303 which would fund Youth Courts through criminal fines.

The MADD Juneau Chapter supports Youth Court as a creative alternative to District Court for certain minors charged with underage drinking. Often the offenders find Youth Court's sentences harder yet preferable to District Court. They are brought before a jury of their peers, which teenagers prefer as their sentence takes into consideration tools effective for their age.

The MADD Juneau Chapter has heard testimony from past youth offenders as well as parents of offenders on the merits of Youth Court. Both groups were unanimous in agreeing this system helped the offender realize how serious minor consuming is to their lives and in addition to the negative effect it has on their community.

Sincerely,

Cindy Cashen
Executive Director

Cc: Weston Eiler, Juneau Youth Court



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

Judiciary

committee name

Committee on

HB 303

bill # / subject

, dated

5/12/03

public hearing date

Youth Courts in this state need a reliable source of funding. Grants will not always be available to fund these programs.

The Youth Courts in Alaska have saved this state "thousands" of dollars that would otherwise be required to fund juvenile justice system personnel (DJT staff & Court System staff).

Youth Courts have provided juvenile offenders with an alternative to formal prosecution.

Youth Court has trained hundreds of young men and women to be leaders in their communities and to be responsible citizens as they are educated to handle youth court cases as judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys. I urge the Committee to pass this bill on to the House.

Signed:

Carol A. Brenckle CAROL A. BRECKLE

Testifier

Instructor Kenai Peninsula Youth Courts
Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (Member)

Representing (optional)

130 TRADING BAY, SUITE 340 KENAI, ALASKA

Address

(907) 283-4343

Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Judiciary Committee
committee name

Committee on H.B. 303, dated May 12, 2003
bill # / subject public hearing date

I am a retired Superior Court Judge. Since 1996 I have been a volunteer with the Kenai Peninsula Youth Court. Through my efforts the court was organized and I have taught classes and participated in the youth court program since then.

The Kenai Peninsula Youth Court has involved more than 1000 youth since its inception. By intervening early in a young person's criminal activities the youth court has reduced recidivism among defendants to an extremely low level.

Adequate funding is essential to a continuation of youth courts, in Kenai and elsewhere. As grant money becomes less available, competition becomes more acute. Ultimately the existence of the youth court program will hang in jeopardy. H.B. 303 offers a necessary and viable method of providing some consistency in youth court funding. Without H.B. 303, or some similar legislation, the unique contribution of youth courts to the juvenile justice system may cease to exist. Therefore I strongly urge this committee to favorably report this bill to the House.

Signed: Charles K. Crowston (Charles K. Crowston)

Testifier

Kenai Peninsula Youth Court

Representing (optional)

145 Main St Loop Room 215 Kenai AK 99611

Address

908-283-9265

Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Vanessa

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Judiciary Committee
committee name

committee on HB 303, dated 5-13-03

bill/subject

I have worked with juvenile offenders for over 17 years in Alaska and am currently the Program Coordinator of the Mat-Su Youth Court.

I would like to state that youth courts around the state are doing an important job for Alaska. Because of limited funds for state juvenile Probation Officer positions, the state cannot address juvenile crime in its earliest stage. Youth courts have taken a burden off the shoulders of local JPO's, who now can concentrate on the more serious juvenile offenders. Currently, the Mat-Su Youth Court handles 25% of the juvenile offenders in the Mat-Su Valley. Our recidivism rate has ~~remained~~ stayed under 9% and was 7.5% for 2002. Other significant statistics include: our student members have put in over 19,000 hours of service to their community in MSYC since program inception. Our students average 104 hrs each during their involvement in the MSYC program. Our program has also taken on first-time "minor consuming" or "minor in possession of alcohol" cases through Mat-Su Youth Court. Since starting this project, MSYC has dealt with 108 "minor consuming" or "minor in possession of alcohol" cases through Mat-Su Youth Court. With an annual growth rate of 7%, the Mat-Su Valley needs all the resources we can possibly get to address our community needs. Please

Signed:

Albert Konecky

Testifier

Mat-Su Youth Court

Representing (Optional)

290 E. Herning Ave., Wasilla, AK 99654

Address

907-373-9045

Phone No.

Please support House Bill 303. Much work has been done to get this far on the bill - I believe this is the time to put this Bill into law.

Thank you for your time & support!!