

SB

69

Alaska State Legislature

Interim: (May - Dec.)
716 W. 4th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 269-0144
Fax: (907) 269-0148



Session: (Jan. - May)
State Capitol, Suite 30
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3822
Fax: (907) 465-3756
Toll free: (800) 770-3822

Senator_Bettye_Davis@legis.state.ak.us
<http://www.akdemocrats.org>

Senator Bettye Davis

Date: 3/2/2009

To: Senator Linda Menard, Chair
Senate State Affairs

From: Senator Bettye Davis

Handwritten signature of Bettye Davis, appearing as "BjD".

RE: Request for Hearing -- SB 69 "An Act reestablishing the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women; and relating to the purpose and power of the Alaska Human Relations Commission"

This is a request that you schedule a hearing on SB 69 at the earliest possible date.

I have attached a copy of the bill, a sponsor statement, and a sectional analysis for your use. I appreciate your consideration.

Handwritten signature of Lynda O'Zang.

Attachments:

1

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Senator Bettye Davis

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SB69

It is time to once again acknowledge the contributions of women across Alaska. It is time to re-establish the Commission on the Status of Women.

In 1976 the legislature established the first Commission on the Status of Women to address the unique needs of Alaska's women and children. The Commission was tasked with implementing the recommendations contained in the preliminary study on the status of women. The Commission was to improve the status of women in Alaska through research, making and implementing additional recommendations on the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women. The improvements made by the commission of women were to include but not limited to the areas of education, homemaking, civil & legal rights, labor and employment. The Women's Commission was merged with Alaska Human Relations Commission in 1993.

Since that time the problems identified by the Commission on the Status of Women have continued to exist with minimal change. These problems continue to have negative impact on Alaskan women and their families. Women represent half of our state's

population as well as half of our ability. In order for us to continue to explore and develop our state to it's full potential we must improve the opportunities for all our citizens including women.

In Alaska, women in government still earn only ⁸⁰75% the income of men while in the private sector women earn ^{62.4}67% of men. Women and children continue to be the most common victims of domestic abuse. Women in Alaska lead the nation as victims of sexual assaults. We have a struggling foster child system. Our high school students, both male and female, drop out at alarming rates. We have one of the lowest percentages of students entering and completing higher education programs. We have a significant economic divide between our urban and rural communities which negatively impacts all of us. These are just a few of the issues facing women and children in our state that need to be addressed.

Reestablishing the Commission on the Status of Women is an excellent way to focus attention on the major issues that impact women and children across our state.

The purpose of the commission would be to improve the status of women by conducting research, as well as serve as a referral service for information and education to help women avail themselves of existing resources to meet their needs. Additionally the commission would make and implementing recommendations on the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in the areas of education, homemaking, civil and legal rights, and labor and employment.

Alaska with it's unique culture, history, and challenges combined with it's large size and small population, calls for innovative forward thinking to deal with many of the difficult issues facing Alaskan women and their families. The creation of a Commission on the Status of Women will once again focus the attention of Alaskan on these critical issues.

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

February 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary of Senate Bill No. 69
(Work Order No. 26-LS0326/A)

TO: Senator Bettye Davis
Attn: Thomas Obermeyer

FROM: Alpheus Bullard *AB*
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1. Adds a new article to AS 44.19 (Office of the Governor).

Sec. 44.19.628. Establishes the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women (commission).

Sec. 44.19.629. Provides the terms of office and compensation for members of the commission.

Sec. 44.19.630. Relates to meetings of the commission.

Sec. 44.19.631. Establishes the powers and duties of the commission.

Section 2. Repeals the purpose and powers of the Alaska Human Relations Commission relating to women's issues.

Section 3. Provides that the terms of the first members of the commission will be set to achieve staggered terms.

ALB:lmb
09-010.lmb

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB 69
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): SB069-OOG-CSW-3-13-09
 Title "An Act reestablishing the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women;..."
 Sponsor Senators Davis, Ellis
 Requester (S) State Affairs

Dept. Affected: OOG
 RDU Commissions & Special Offices
 Component Commission on Status of Women
 Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	264.1	264.1	272.3	280.4	289.3	297.5	307.5	
Travel	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2	
Contractual	159.3	159.3	159.3	159.3	159.3	159.3	159.3	
Supplies	7.2	7.2	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	
Equipment	52.4	52.4						
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	505.2	505.2	460.6	468.7	477.6	485.8	495.8	

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	505.2	505.2	460.6	468.7	477.6	485.8	495.8
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	505.2	505.2	460.6	468.7	477.6	485.8	495.8

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Analysis attached

Prepared by: Linda Perez, Administrative Director
 Division: Administrative Services
 Approved by: Linda Perez, Administrative Director
Administrative Services

Phone 465-3876
 Date/Time 3/13/09 1:30 PM
 Date 3/13/2009

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 69

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

Fiscal note assumes:

3 Commission staff:
Program Manager Rg. 23
Research Analyst Rg. 18
Admin. Assist. Rg. 15

7 public members with geographic representation: 3 Anchorage/valley, 1 Juneau, 1 Nome, 1 Ketchikan, 1 Fairbanks

4 face-to-face meetings annually. Additional meetings as required via teleconference.

2 Anchorage meetings (one winter, one summer)
transportation: $\$2,015 \times 2 = \$4,030$
lodging: $\$1,448 + \$800 = \$2,248$
M&IE: $\$720 \times 2 = \$1,440$

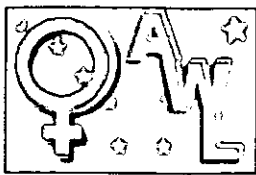
1 Juneau meeting (during legislative session)
transportation: \$3,623
lodging: \$1,680
M&IE: \$1,440

1 Fairbanks meeting (during summer)
transportation: \$3,898
lodging: \$2,400
M&IE: \$1,440

All meetings assume full commission and 2 staff attendance, and further assumes 2 Executive Branch members travel costs paid by employing agencies.

Contractual includes core services charges, communications, advertising, printing, office space lease, and postage.

Initial equipment costs reflects set-up of office work stations, computers, phones, fax, copier, etc.



ALASKA WOMEN'S LOBBY

AWL Mission: To defend and advance the rights and needs of Women, Children and Families in Alaska

P.O. Box 20891
Juneau, Alaska 99802-0891
www.akwomenslobby.org

**2009
AWL Steering
Committee
Members**

**Caren Robinson
Lobbyist**

**Geran Tarr,
Chair**

Jayne Andreen

Nancy Courtney

Grace Danborn

Torie Foote

Cady Lister

Patricia Macklin

Rebecca Madison

Jorden Nigro

Taber Rehbaum

**Nancy Scheetz-
Freymler**

Libby Silberling

Rose Wysocki

Letter of Support SB 69 Commission on the Status of Women

The Women's Lobby is a statewide group with steering committees in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau whose mission is to defend and advance the rights and needs of women, children and families in Alaska. The Lobby fully supports SB 69. As Alaska celebrates 50 years of statehood, re-establishing a commission on the status of our women is a wise investment which can move us forward in the next 50 years.

During the twentieth century, women made significant economic, political and social advances, but we are far from enjoying gender equality. Throughout the United States, women earn less than men, are seriously under-represented in political office, and make up a disproportionate share of people in poverty. Even in areas where there have been significant advances in women's status, rates of progress are slow. For example, at the rate of progress achieved over the past ten years, women will not reach wage parity for more than 60 years. If women's representation in Congress changes at the rate it did during the 1990s, it will take more than a century to achieve equality in political representation.

To make significant progress toward gender equity policymakers, researchers and advocates need reliable data about women and the issues affecting their lives. Recognizing this, the first Alaska Women's Commission initiated a series of reports researching the status of women in the state. It was one of the most valuable things they did to advance solutions to the issues facing women.

Status of Women reports are needed today to inform citizens about the progress of women in Alaska relative to women in other states, to men and to the nation as a whole. Some of the goals of a women's commission could be to 1) analyze and disseminate information about women's progress in achieving rights and opportunities; 2) provide baseline measures to monitor women's progress in achieving equity and 3) most importantly to identify, measure and propose solutions to remaining equality barriers.

Women in Alaska, and the United States as a whole, are seeing important changes in their lives and in their access to political, economic and social rights, but we still have more to do. Alaskan women could benefit from stronger enforcement of equal opportunity laws, better political representation, adequate and affordable child care, stronger poverty reduction programs, and other policies to improve their status and a Women's Commission will provide focus and direction in achieving these goals. Please join us in supporting SB69.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/21/09

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3/12/09
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
 IN TO OFFICE: 3/19/09

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 69

SB 69 COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

"An Act An act reestablishing the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women; and relating to the purpose and powers of the Alaska Human Relations Commission."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS SB69 (STA)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
HOUSE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
GOV	3/13/09	✓			

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	PRINTED LASTNAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>[Signature]</i>	French	X			
<i>[Signature]</i>	Meyer	X			
<i>[Signature]</i>	PARKMAN	X			
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	MENARD	X			