

LEGISLATIVE FINANCE-HOUSE/SENATE FINANCE COMM. FILES 8879

SB 8 cont. - SB 12 1989-1990 578 169

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8

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred: February 6, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 2/23

The FINANCE Committee recommends that:

~~AS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am~~ [ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION]

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

be replaced with HCS CSSB8(FIN) the same title
 a new title

have attached amendment(s)

- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact
- zero fiscal note
- zero with analysis

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

- fiscal note(s) published: _____
- zero fiscal notes(s) published: _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

Tay Brown Brown

Roll E. Phillips Phillips

Ray Wallis Wallis

SIGNING OTHER THAN DO PASS:
(Do Not Pass, No Recommendation, Amend)

Stuart Rieger Rieger

Barbara Barnes Barnes

Ronald J. Larson Larson

Jan Umer needs amendment Umer

Swackhamer Swackhamer

NO REC Schultz

Stacy No Rec

Hopson simplify Hopson

Ronald J. Larson
Chairman's signature

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 1/9/89
Title: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission and providing for an effective date."
Sponsor: Fahrenkamp, Sturgulewski,...
Requestor: Fahrenkamp

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Commissions/Special Offices
Components: Alaska Women's Commission

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Funding for the Alaska Women's Commission is contained in the Office of the Governor budget. No additional funding is required.

Prepared by: Michael A. Nizich, Director *Man* Phone: 465-3616
Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 1/12/89

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1/12/89
Agency: Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

Original sponsors: Fahrenkamp, Sturgulewski,
Eliason, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission;
7 extending the termination date of the Interim Women's
8 Commission; and providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 44.19.167(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) The members shall be appointed on a nonpartisan and nondis-
12 criminatory basis by the governor [WITHIN 60 DAYS OF OCTOBER 6, 1978].
13 The members shall be residents of the state. At least one member
14 shall be a person who manages a household that includes the person's
15 spouse and at least one child and [HOMEMAKER] who is not otherwise
16 employed. In making the appointments, the governor shall give due
17 consideration [SHALL BE GIVEN] to

18 (1) the recommendations made by civic organizations, wom-
19 en's organizations, educational and vocational groups, employer
20 groups, labor unions, church groups, homemakers' clubs and organiza-
21 tions, and other groups having an interest in the welfare [STATUS] of
22 women;

23 (2) statewide geographical representation of the commis-
24 sion; [AND]

25 (3) minority and low-income representation;

26 (4) representation of senior citizens, persons with dis-
27 abilities, and persons from a variety of occupational categories; and

28 (5) representation of persons with different marital sta-
29 tuses and persons with various numbers of children.

1 * Sec. 2. AS 44.19.167 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (c) No more than three seats on the commission may be held by
3 persons who served on the commission before July 1, 1989. Except for
4 the representative of the attorney general's office who serves ex
5 officio, the governor may not appoint to the commission a person who
6 is

7 (1) a state employee;

8 (2) an employee of a legislator; or

9 (3) the parent, sibling, spouse, or child of the governor
10 or of a legislator.

11 * Sec. 3. AS 44.19.168 is amended to read:

12 Sec. 44.19.168. MEETINGS. [WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE APPOINTMENT
13 OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL CALL THE
14 FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.] A majority of the members consti-
15 tutes a quorum for conducting business and exercising the powers of
16 the commission. The commission shall meet at the call of the chair-
17 person, at the request of a majority of the members, or at a regularly
18 scheduled time as determined by a majority of the members.

19 * Sec. 4. AS 44.19.169 is amended to read:

20 Sec. 44.19.169. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office of each
21 member is three [FIVE] years. Terms shall be staggered. [INITIAL
22 TERMS SHALL BE THREE MEMBERS SERVING FOR ONE YEAR, THREE MEMBERS
23 SERVING FOR THREE YEARS, AND THREE MEMBERS SERVING FOR FIVE YEARS.] A
24 vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the
25 same manner as original appointments. A person may not serve more
26 than six consecutive years.

27 * Sec. 5. AS 44.19.171 is amended to read:

28 Sec. 44.19.171. PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to
29 [IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE PRELIMINARY STUDY

CORRECTION

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1 THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN ALASKA WHICH WAS MANDATED BY THE NINTH LEGISLA-
2 TURE, SECOND SESSION, UNDER CH. 99 SLA 1976, AND] improve the status
3 of women in the state [ALASKA] by conducting [FURTHER] research, by
4 servng as a referral service for information and education that will
5 help women avail themselves of existing resources to meet their needs,
6 and by making and implementing [ADDITIONAL] recommendations on the
7 opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in the
8 state [ALASKA] including, but not limited to,

- 9 (1) education; [,]
- 10 (2) homemaking; [,]
- 11 (3) civil and legal rights; and [,]
- 12 (4) labor and employment.

13 * Sec. 6. AS 44.19.171 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (b) When conducting research, acting as a referral service,
15 serving as a forum for ideas, and developing recommendations related
16 to the welfare of women, the commission shall solicit and consider
17 information and views from a variety of constituencies in order to
18 fully represent the broad spectrum of diversity that exists with
19 respect to possible approaches for meeting women's needs in the state.

20 * Sec. 7. AS 44.66.010(a)(12) is amended to read:

21 (12) Alaska Women's Commission -- June 30, 1993 [1987];

22 * Sec. 8. EXTENSION OF INTERIM COMMISSION. The termination date of the
23 Interim Women's Commission established by the governor under Administrative
24 Order No. 110 is extended to June 30, 1989.

25 * Sec. 9. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS. (a) The members of the Alaska
26 Women's Commission appointed by the governor to serve terms of office
27 beginning on July 1, 1989, shall serve initial terms under AS 39.05.055(7),
28 as determined by the governor.

29 (b) The Alaska Women's Commission reestablished by this Act is a

1 continuation of the Interim Women's Commission except as otherwise specif-
2 ically addressed by this Act.

3 * Sec. 10. Section 8 of this Act is retroactive to the date of adjourn-
4 ment of the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legisla-
5 ture.

6 * Sec. 11. Sections 8 and 10 of this Act take effect immediately under
7 AS 01.10.070(c).

8 * Sec. 12. Except for secs. 8 and 10 of this Act, this Act takes effect
9 July 1, 1989.

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A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY BROWN

TO: CSSB 8 (Finance) am

Page 1, line 11:

Delete "[NONPARTISAN AND]"

Insert "nonpartisan and"

Page 1, line 13, to page 1, line 19:

Delete "The governor shall appoint at least two members of each of the two political parties whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes in the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected. The appointees from each of these two parties shall be chosen from a list of names to be submitted by the central committee of each party."

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY BARNES

TO: CSSB 8(Finance) am

Page 1, line 19:

Delete "homemaker"

Insert "person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child and [HOMEMAKER]"

Page 1, line 25:

Delete "status and welfare"

Insert "welfare [STATUS]"

Page 1, line 28:

Delete "and"

Insert "[AND]"

Page 1, line 29, after "representation":

Insert new paragraphs to read:

"i

(4) representation of senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and persons from a variety of occupational categories; and

(5) representation of persons with different marital statuses and persons with various numbers of children"

Page 1, after line 29:

Insert a new bill section to read:

"* Sec. 2. AS 44.19.167 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) No more than three seats on the commission may be held by persons who served on the commission before July 1, 1989. Except for the representative of the attorney general's office who serves ex officio, the governor may not appoint to the commission a person who is

(1) a state employee;

(2) an employee of a legislator; or

(3) the parent, sibling, spouse, or child of the governor or of a legislator."

Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

Page 2, line 22, after "research":

Insert ", by serving as a referral service for information and education that will help women avail themselves of existing resources to meet their needs,"

Page 2, after line 29:

Insert a new bill section to read:

"* Sec. 6. AS 44.19.171 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

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information and views from a variety of constituencies in order to fully represent the broad spectrum of diversity that exists with respect to possible approaches for meeting women's needs in the state."

Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

Page 3, line 14:

Delete "6"

Insert "8"

Page 3, line 17:

Delete "6 and 8"

Insert "8 and 10"

Page 3, line 19:

Delete "6 and 8"

Insert "8 and 10"

A M E N D M E N T # 2

BY REP. BROWN

TO: CS SB 8 (Finance)

Page 1, Lines 13-18:

Delete: "The governor shall appoint at least two members of each of the two political parties whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes in the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected. The appointees from each of these two parties shall be chosen from a list of names to be submitted by the central committee of each party."

Testimony by Ruth Lister, Executive Director, Alaska Women's Commission - January, 1989

The Alaska Women's Commission serves women by developing research on women's issues, by recommending solutions to the problems encountered by women, by publishing documents and handbooks to inform women, and by conducting conferences to aid women, both individually and collectively, in their struggle for equality. These are the three main functions: research, advocacy and education.

Why do we need to research issues such as the economic impact of divorce and dissolution on women or review the Alaska Statutes for sex discrimination or monitor compliance with Title IX and Alaska Chapter 18 laws? Because our data clearly substantiate that women have not achieved equal legal, economic, social and political status in Alaska.

Women comprise 51% of the workforce in Alaska, the second highest in the nation, but earn less than two thirds of what men earn. Most women have no access to parental leave after the birth of a child, a critical time for bonding to help ensure the child's future welfare. For many Alaskan families child care is either inadequate or too costly. An estimated 1/3 of Alaskan women are or have been victims of domestic violence, rape or child sexual abuse, often seriously affecting their job productivity, family and emotional well-being. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63% compared with a national average of 47%. Women's per capita income declines 33% after divorce while divorced men's increases 17%. In addition, the overall economic decline in Alaska is seriously impacting women, particularly single head of households. More than 20,000 women and children in Alaska receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

How do we advocate for change? The Commission, on the basis of our research and the needs voiced by women across the State, proposes and supports changes in legislation, regulations and public policy and funding of programs which assist women in achieving equity.

I have worked at the Commission now for a little over a month. For the last 7 1/2 years I ran a program for domestic violence and sexual assault victims, serving Fairbanks and, as much as we were able, villages in the Interior. Prior to that I ran a large day care center. While some women are being elected to public office, obtaining well paid management or technical jobs, their numbers are small. There are thousands of women in this State who are barely able to feed themselves and their children, who are fighting to maintain sobriety in life situations whose pain is enormous, who cannot stop working at their minimum wage jobs to get the degree which would improve their opportunities. Last week, a recently divorced woman with four children and no resources came to us asking for help in getting a small business going. Another woman, who had been in a battering relationship for 9 years and left with

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I would like to give some examples of what the Women's Commission has done in the past. Perhaps most critical has been the research because this work has formed the documentation for legislative and policy change. For example, our study of pension equity led to a bill which required a spouse's signature if he/she was not the beneficiary of a State worker. This bill, which passed the legislature, helps to protect women who have been homemakers and so have limited or no personal resources for their old age. The research on divorce and dissolution, again the basis of a proposed bill, shows that after divorce women's per capita income declines 33% and men's increases 17%. With a divorce rate of 63% in Alaska, compared with 47% nationally, we cannot ignore the economic and emotional impact on family members. What happens if you stay home with your children and get "fired". You have no job training, no severance pay and no social security? More women now are not only entering but re-entering the job market than ever before. The Department of Labor reports that 65% of women over age 16 working, and women comprise 51% of the workforce in Alaska, yet women earn less than two thirds of what men earn, comparing year round, full-time work. Minority women earn relatively less.

The Commission has long been an advocate of quality, affordable child care both in homes and in centers. The difficulties in balancing work and family are huge and knowing your children are cared for by someone you are comfortable with is very important. The need for child care is not a question of conservative vs. liberal, it is a reality for thousands of working parents. We are in a culture that requires women to do the vital work of child rearing and at the same time devalues it. What is the cost of not adequately supporting women who work by providing good child care, parental leave, flexible work time, and adequate health care benefits? The cost is often seen later on and is much greater because the well being of children is strongly related to the well being of their parents.

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all the bills, wanted to know if creditors would understand that she had not been able to see beyond her own survival and now wanted to try to clear her record. A woman called who had been running a volunteer mother's group for 4 years in a smaller community. The group provided outreach to isolated young mothers, giving them information on everything from crafts to child sexual abuse, an excellent form of early prevention and support. She wanted to know if there were any small grants to help pay for babysitters.

The question is not why women are on welfare, unable to get credit or living in abusive relationships. The question is why are there still educational and employment barriers to women, why is there insufficient support for women with families, both at work and home, why are women and children not safe in their own homes. I am always amazed and so proud of the courage and resourcefulness of women, of their hard work and their caring for others. Women do not choose to be poor, they do not choose to be hurt or feel badly about themselves.

We need to improve the economic status and employment options of women by assisting women to enter and re-enter the work force and to work in a wider variety of jobs. We need to implement changes that support working women who have children. The Commission will advocate for the needs of rural women, working with them to create more job opportunities and healthier communities.

We must value and support women's choices both at home and in the work force. Better access to health care, counseling, legal representation and personal safety are critical issues for many women. The Commission is committed to educational equity and to addressing the needs of teens and young women. Finally, women across the State must be given the opportunity through Boards and Commissions and through local and state government to help make the decisions which affect all of our lives.

By improving the status of women in Alaska, we will benefit all Alaskans, strengthening our families, communities and economy.

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The Commission has long been an advocate of quality, affordable child care both in homes and in centers. The difficulties in balancing work and family are huge and knowing your children are cared for by someone you are comfortable with is very important. The need for child care is not a question of conservative vs. liberal, it is a reality for thousands of working parents. We are in a culture that requires women to do the vital work of child rearing and at the same time devalues it. What is the cost of not adequately supporting women who work by providing good child care, parental leave, flexible work time, and adequate health care benefits? The cost is often seen later on and is much greater because the well being of children is strongly related to the well being of their parents.

A research study four years ago by the Commission on educational equity pointed out that we still have much to do in this area. In some previous testimony the concern was raised that educational equity means that boys would not become the men needed to lead the nation. What we are in fact addressing is changes in attitude and curriculum that will assist young women and minorities to become leaders, to be prepared for a wider diversity of jobs, to be proud of who they are and what they can be. Last week I participated in a statewide conference on educational equity, sponsored by the Department of Education and spurred by this study. In the workshops teachers clearly identified that educational inequity for girls and minorities is still very much a reality. The high dropout rate of urban, native teenagers can in part be addressed by meeting their needs in school.

An estimated 1/3 of Alaskan women are or have been victims of divorce, rape or child sexual abuse, often seriously affecting their job productivity, family and emotional well being. The Commission, early on, documented violence against women and children in Alaska and advocated for the formation of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, worked with shelters on regional workshops, and produced the Legal Rights Handbook which has been widely used by the shelters. We are now in the process of revising and reprinting this handbook. Women who have been living in abusive relationships and choose to leave often have not been working. For many, even going to a job interview is more than they can do without help. It is these women, women on AFDC, women who are single parents in low paying jobs with inadequate training for advancement, young women who have dropped out of school and don't believe they can achieve, older women with few resources, unemployed women in villages, women who are victims of violence, these women may not testify that changes are needed but clearly their needs must be heard and the roots of problems that are putting women in poverty or abusive relationships must be addressed.

I also agree that the needs of many women who have testified must be heard. I started this job a little over two months ago. Having worked in the shelters, I am very aware of how difficult it can be for many women to testify at public hearings and that women with differing opinions and needs would hear each other better in smaller forums. In December, for example, we set up a forum for women who are pro-life and pro-choice activists to talk with each other. There was a surprising amount of common ground. The forum gave an opportunity for the people involved to really talk about this very complex issue. I am committed to continuing to enable women to articulate their concerns and participate in the solutions.

The Commission drafted this year a long term plan, a copy of which is in your packet. There is still much work to be done.

Page 3

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By improving the status of women in Alaska, we will benefit all Alaskans, strengthening our families, communities and economy.

Statement of DOVE KULL advocating a Women's Commission

The need of Alaska for a Women's Commission reminds me of a saying of my Grandmother, which went something like --

"Man who objects to being born of woman may have been like a buzzard who laid an egg on a post to be hatched by the hot sun."

For Alaska this saying might have to be modified to: man who objects to being born of woman may be like a raven's egg covered with ice and snow which doesn't hatch even with the summer sun.

Therefore, the Women's Commission should be available for ALL Alaskans to help those who have trouble understanding the many problems faced by our women who are our neighbors, friends and family.

I strongly urge the immediate extension and authorization of the Women's Commission.

FY 90 ACTIVITIES PROPOSED BY ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION**EDUCATION:**

Statewide Women's Conference: topics to include health, substance abuse recovery, homemakers, legal rights, balancing work and family, personal safety, starting small businesses, women in non-traditional jobs.

Workshops in 4 rural communities.

Minority Women's Leadership Conference.

Provide workshops on request at 6 conferences or trainings sponsored by other organizations and agencies in Alaska.

Revise and reprint Legal Rights Handbook.

RESEARCH:

Impact of changes in child support guidelines and enforcement.

Extend divorce/dissolution study to rural communities.

Minority women's papers: an historical perspective.

Young women who drop out of school: causes and recommendations.

Teenage pregnancy: recommendations to address needs.

Update data on women in the workforce.

Convene advisory groups of women around the state to solicit input on issues affecting women.

ADVOCACY:

Increased minority female hire in State jobs, especially in rural Alaska.

Increased availability of flexible and part-time work, and parental leave.

Welfare Reform: creating positive options for women on AFDC enabling them to move into the workforce.

Educational equity in Alaska's schools through teacher training and curriculum materials.

Divorce/dissolution legislation.

Student loans for part-time students. Encourage female participation in programs that result in jobs which provide economic self-sufficiency and opportunities for advancement.

Increased number of women on Boards and Commissions.

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

The budget of the Women's Commission is composed of three parts:

	221.9	General Funds
	11.2	I/A Receipts
	<u>36.0</u>	Program Receipts
Total	\$269.1	

GENERAL FUNDS:

An increase of \$4.8 thousand in general funds over FY 89 is requested for benefits increase (health insurance) and is the same for all state employees. The FY 90 budget represents a decrease of 34% over the FY 86 budget of \$337.0 thousand in general funds. This decrease necessitated the loss of one staff person and reduction of funds for printing Commission publications, research and travel in Alaska. The FY 90 budget will fund 3 staff: an Executive Director, Range 23, an Information Officer, Range 17, and a Secretary, Range 10. Funds also provide for three meetings per year for ten Commission members, staff travel to communities in Alaska to provide workshops and hear concerns of women, preparation and printing of publications, limited contractual work for specific areas of expertise required for research and training, office supplies, equipment rentals, and telephone and teleconference costs.

INTERAGENCY RECEIPTS:

The Women's Commission provides a half-time clerical training position through Older Alaskans Commission Title V funding.

PROGRAM RECEIPTS:

The Commission proposes to apply to private foundations for \$30,000. If we are successful, this funding will enable the Commission to provide a statewide conference. An additional \$6,000 in program receipts is projected from the sale of publications and donations. This money will be used for printing as several publications are now out of print. The Women's Commission is one of the few State agencies that has sought and received private funding in the past.



NEA-ALASKA

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ANCHORAGE REGIONAL OFFICE

1411 W. 33RD AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 274-0536

JUNEAU OFFICE

105 MUNICIPAL WAY, SUITE 302
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801
(907) 586-3090

FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE

2118 CUSHMAN STREET
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
(907) 456-4435

February 14, 1989

To: Representatives Ron Larson and Lyman Hoffman,
Co-Chairs, and
Members, House Finance Committee

Re: HB 56 and SB 8; "Alaska Women's Commission"

NEA-Alaska strongly supports and encourages your favorable consideration of HB 56 and SB 8.

The Alaska Women's Commission is an essential entity and must be continued if the commitment to the eventual elimination of all forms of discrimination in our State is to be meaningful.

Their responsibilities in the areas of research, education, and advocacy are not being effectively performed by any other organization or agency of government.

History has clearly demonstrated too many times and in too many different ways that discrimination for whatever reason is acceptable until some group or organization has the means and resource to raise the collective conscience of society. Discrimination against women can and must be eliminated. The Alaska Women's Commission is essential if we are to attain that goal.

We urge that you look beyond their budget and staffing level which is extremely modest by any standard and consider these bills on their merit and importance to all Alaskans.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Manners
Executive Secretary

cc: Governor Steve Cowper
Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp

Health Care (Cont.)

Midwifery

Law passed, but no regulations developed for licensing, no insurance.

Develop regulations that allow the practice and the ability to be covered by insurance.

Research and advocate.

Health Care

Inadequate health care for many women, particularly older women.

Adequate health care for all.

Research and advocate for implementation.

Education

Legal Rights Handbook

Out of print.

Revised and printed.

Revise and print. Add health rights sections. Develop Public Service Announcements on legal rights.

Alienation of Homemakers

Segment of homemakers who feel alienated.

Positive recognition of homemakers.

Develop brochure that includes supportive resources and brings positive message about choices.

Education of Younger Women on Equality Issues

Lack of understanding of women's history.

Educated and aware.

Classroom, school papers, sex equity and curriculum development.

Gender Stereotyping

Stereotyping continues.

Elimination of stereotyping.

Develop Public Service Announcements and brochure.

Lack of Political Representation

Unequal political representation.

Equal representation.

Legislation on gender balance. Redistribution of "Making a Difference".

Assertiveness & Empowerment

High rate of violence in relationships. Rural women have no access to training in self esteem.

Breaking cycle of violence, gaining self esteem, assertiveness.

Coordinate with Board of Education, interim Commission on Children and Youth, Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Council and State Office of Alcohol and Drug Addiction.

Economic Equity

Equity in Divorce/Dissolution

Pending bill.

Passage of bill.

Passage of bill and education through video and brochure.

Feminization of Poverty

(See Welfare Reform Administrative Review Pay Equity)

Displaced Homemakers

Lack of services. Lack of data on homemakers.

Comprehensive program of services.

Research and advocacy.

Rural Women

Data Base

No data base.

Data base.

Research. Develop a standardized survey that volunteers conduct. Decennial census.

Isolation

Lack of access to needed services. Lack of jobs.

Access to training, services, job opportunities.

Regional training and conferences. Work with women and regional corporations to advocate change.



Alaska Women:

R E S O U R C E S

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POSTERS:

Families - A Shared Experience

Be What You Want to Be

Women: Alaska Women's Commission

Women in Alaska History. A Timeline of Famous Alaskan Women

CORRECTION

**THIS DOCUMENT
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

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Midwifery

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ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
LONG RANGE PLANNING

PROBLEM/ISSUE PRESENT STATUS	IDEAL STATUS	LONG RANGE OBJECTIVE
<u>Employment</u>		
Pay Equity Women earn approximately 62% of male earnings.	100% comparable worth.	Update research, advocate implementation, continue education.
Affirmative Action Losing ground, Office of E.E.O. & Human Rights involved with enforcement.	Employment for percent of population who are qualified.	Education. Advocacy to locate qualified persons. Research on affirmative action in private sector.
Parental Leave Available up to nine weeks unpaid in State employment. Sporadic in private sector.	Parental leave available for women and men.	Advocate for parental leave legislation. Education for private sector.
Employment Practices in Private Sector Women under-represented in management and non-traditional jobs.	Employment equity.	Education. Assist women to obtain management and non-traditional jobs.
Unavailability of Part-Time, Flexible Work Lack policy, nothing uniform.	A policy in public and private sector that permits job shering.	Research and education.
<u>Watch Dog</u>		
Title IX Underfunded and poorly monitored according to Commission study.	Sex Equity in education. State funding for monitoring and program development.	Establish a formal relationship with Boards of Education & Regents. Request status report from each board.
Court System Inequitable sentencing for women. Inequitable employment of women in court related jobs.	Equity in judicial process for litigants and agents of court.	Research required.
Administrative Review of Regulations and Policies	Gender neutral in language and impact.	Address specific areas of regulations where the potential impact to women is the greatest.
Welfare System Pending reforms. Present system promotes single families and dependence on government.	System that takes care of people's needs but doesn't foster dependency.	Advocate welfare system that empowers women.
Gender Balance on Boards & Commissions	Equal representation on all municipal and state boards.	Solicit women to serve on boards and commissions. Legislation requiring equal representation.
<u>Health</u>		
Fertility Insurance Coverage Presently no coverage.	Insurance coverage.	Review legislation and advocate change.



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- POSTERS:**
- Families - A Shared Experience
 - Be What You Want to Be
 - Women: Alaska Women's Commission
 - Women in Alaska History. A Timeline of Famous Alaskan Women

BROCHURES & FACT SHEETS:

- Highlights of the Alaska Women's Commission.** Historical summary of events, activities and actions of the Women's Commission. 1987
- Summary of Family Equity at Issue: A Study on the Economic Consequences of Divorce on Women and Children.** 1987
- Alaska Women & Education.** A review of Title IX and Alaska's Chapter 18 educational equity legislation. 1985
- Alaska Women & Insurance.** Summary information on insurance discrimination in Alaska and the nation. 1985
- Alaska Women & Pensions.** Summary of federal reform legislation on private pension plans and its effect upon women in Alaska and in the nation. 1985
- Alaska Women's Commission.** Describes the purpose of the Commission and its current activities. 1984
- Alaska Women: A Profile.** Summary information on the economic, educational, and family status of Alaska women. 1984
- Alaska Women in Politics.** Summary information on growth of women's participation in politics in Alaska and in the nation. 1984

More Highlights . . .

1985 - Alaska Women's Commission organizes Legislative Alliance for Women Statewide (LAWS), a coalition of 15 statewide women's organizations whose purpose is to analyze and take positions on legislation, monitor budget and policy decisions which have direct impact on women's lives.



1985-1986 - On behalf of the Commission, seven bills are introduced by the Governor which have a significant economic impact on women. Three of the bills pass.

1986 - Commission works with state government to initiate an expanded register to increase the hiring of women in ranges 18 and above.

1986 - Court system and the Commission work together to revise forms for marital dissolutions so that lay people can more easily understand their rights and obligations.



1986 - Commission evaluates implementation of Alaska's sex equity in education law, Chapter 18. Results are published in *Commitment or Complacency: An Assessment of Sex Equity in Alaska's Educational Institutions*.

1986 - Four hundred rural women in attendance at four regional Commission sponsored conferences in Bethel, Huslia, Sitka, Wasilla. A report is published summarizing the events and recommendations.

1986 - Two leadership seminars are conducted by the Commission. Held in Juneau, the seminar "Women in Prison" provides policy makers with an overview of issues surrounding the Alaskan female prison population. In Fairbanks, "Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life" provides training session for women considering running for public office. A handbook for political involvement is issued following seminar and is mailed to 1700 women.

1986 - Commission produces 30 public service announcements for television and radio profiling Alaskan women and their accomplishments. Profiles play throughout the state on commercial and public radio and television during March, Women's History Month.

1986 - Women's history timeline poster is produced by the Commission and sent to all schools, libraries and to every social studies teacher in the state.

1986 - Commission member serves on state Commission on Child Support Enforcement, providing governor with findings and recommendations to make child support more uniform and equitable.

1987 - Commission co-sponsors Female Minority Leadership Conference with Anchorage School District. Commission member serves as program chair.

1987 - Commission targets efforts to improve family equity. Conducts research on the economic impact of divorce on women and children. At the request of the Commission, legislation is again introduced by the Governor to ensure that career assets are considered marital property and to provide for heightened judicial scrutiny of dissolution cases.

1987 - Commission sponsors seminars in Anchorage and Juneau on the state Human Services Budget and the impacts of cuts on women and children. Legislators, policy makers, providers and advocates participate.

1987 - March, Women's History Month, is again commemorated with Commission-produced television and radio profiles aired statewide throughout the month.

1987 - Services to rural women are highlight of Commission-sponsored seminar in Bethel.

1987 - Legal Rights for Women, a day-long conference with a broad spectrum of workshops, is produced in Anchorage by Commission. Nearly 125 people participate.

1987 - HB4 and SB89, companion bills to extend the Alaska Women's Commission to 1991, are introduced. HB4 is sponsored by Representatives Davis, Koponen, Ulmer, Ellis, Brown and Donley. SB89 is sponsored by the Governor.

Highlights...

In Alaska Women's Commission History

1977 - *The Status of Women in Alaska* identified numerous problems confronting women in Alaska and recommended the formation of a women's commission to implement the recommendations contained in the study.

1977 - Statewide conference honoring International Women's Year is convened in Anchorage. 1,000 women in attendance. Conference recommendations include the need to establish a women's commission to address widespread discrimination.

1978 - Tenth Alaska Legislature passes HB303, creating the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women. Bill is sponsored by Rep. Lisa Rudd. On July 8, 1978, governor signs bill into law. Ten Commissioners appointed October 1978.

1979 - Public hearings conducted by the Commission are held on violence against women, sex bias in education, welfare, and displaced homemakers.

1979 - Commission conducts research on the status of homemakers in Alaska.

1979 - Commission develops training manuals and "how-to" guides on assertiveness training, applying for foundation funding and sex equity in education.

1980 - Status reports written and presented by Commission on child support enforcement, displaced homemakers and battered women.

1980 - Commission convenes task force on "Violence Against Alaska Native Women." Report and recommendations are forwarded to the governor for action.

1980 - Commission sponsors two conferences: Voices of Black Women in Alaska, second Alaska Native Women's Statewide Organization Conference.

1980 - Legislation on displaced homemakers and domestic violence is supported by the Commission. Domestic violence legislation passes into law.

1981 - *Women's Legal Rights in Alaska* is published by the Alaska Women's Commission. Over 5,000 copies distributed.



1981 - Commission sponsors five regional conferences: Filipino Alaskan Women's Network Conference in Anchorage; "Piqatigich" a conference held in Kotzebue to discuss sharing together; Women of Hoonah meet to discuss "Community Concerns"; Kenai women discuss "Action or Reaction"; conferences on communication and roles of women in the village held in Fairbanks and Galena are conducted by ANWSO-Doyon Region, Tanana Chiefs and WIC-CA.

1981 - Commission holds hearings on "Women in Construction" to identify employment opportunities and potential barriers during construction of the proposed gas pipeline.



1981 - Commission forms task force on "Women and Corrections" and advocates improved facilities and programming for female inmates.

1981 - Commission coordinates meeting of lieutenant governor with major women's organizations in the state to discuss policies affecting women's equality.

1981 - Commission backed bill, "Mini Title IX" becomes law in Alaska. The bill (SB99) prohibits sex discrimination in education. Four other bills supported by the Commission are also passed into law which encompass domestic violence and sexual assault, child care assistance, child support enforcement, insurance coverage of midwives.

1981 - The governor proclaims Women's History Week, March 8-14.

1982 - Alaska Women's Commission testifies before State Human Rights Commission and Blue Ribbon Commission on Personnel regarding changes to the state's personnel system which would make it more equitable and accessible to women.

1982 - Alaska Women's Commission responds to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding affirmative action goals for hire on proposed natural gas pipeline.

STATUS REPORT is published by the Alaska Women's Commission. The Commission was established in 1978 to improve the status of Alaska women through research and advocacy. Its members are appointed by the Governor on staggered five-year terms. Commission members serve on a voluntary basis and at the pleasure of the Governor. They include Kris Chatfield, Chair, Joy Green-Armstrong, Vice Chair, Loretta Bullard, Marcia Johnson, Pat Kennedy, Mary Pete, Betty Ramage, Wendy Redman, and Paula Ziegler. For further information about the Commission, contact us at 3601 'C' St., Suite 742, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 561-4227. Christine Callahan, Executive Director, Barbara Baker, newsletter editor.

More Highlights...



"Communicating" woodcut print used with permission of Polly Lee.

1982 - Commission sponsors a statewide women's conference "Alaska's Women: Determining Our Futures". Attendance reaches nearly 1,000 people from all over Alaska.

1982 - Commission develops media campaign on sex role stereotyping which airs on television throughout the state.

1982 - Assists the Department of Education in drafting regulations for the implementation of sex equity in education law.

1982 - Commission is appointed to the Equity Coordinating Council for Alaska to assist school districts with implementation of new sex equity law.

1982 - Co-sponsors "Women and Alcohol" Conference with the state Office on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

1982 - Sponsors seminar on "Women in the Political Process" in Kodiak.

1982 - Commission forms Health Task Force to define women's health needs. A statewide teleconference is held on the issue and Commission acts upon recommendations.

1982 - Commission makes recommendations concerning 40 pieces of legislation pending before Alaska State Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

1982 - Alaska Legislature and the governor proclaim March, Women's History Month.

1982 - Commission co-sponsors conference with U.S. Women's Bureau on "Women in Apprenticeship."

1982 - A regional conference in Barrow is sponsored by the Commission.

1982 - Commission releases *Five Years Later*, a status report on the recommendations contained in *A Preliminary Study: The Status of Women in Alaska, 1977*.

1982 - SB63, a bill to permanently establish the Alaska Women's Commission, passes the legislature and is signed into law by the governor. Senators V. Fisher, Rodey and Sturgulewski sponsor bill.

1983 - Three posters, targeted at school children encouraging them to explore all of their talents and interests, are produced by the Commission and sent to schools statewide.

1983 - Commission publishes brochure for Women's History Month that suggests activities and projects suitable for classroom setting. Brochures are sent to schools statewide.

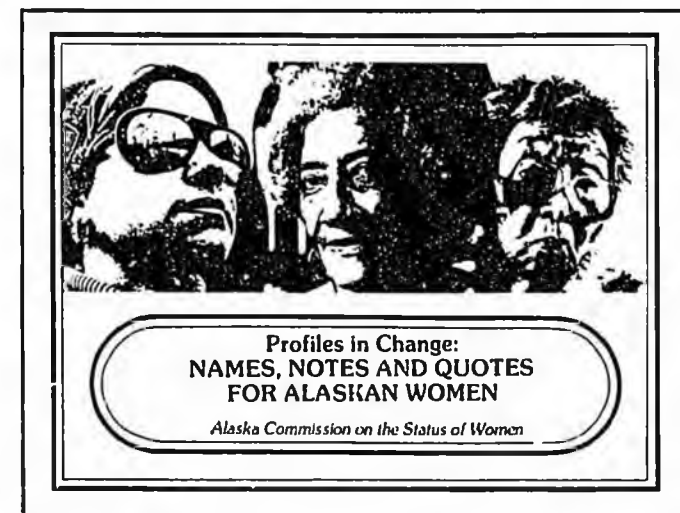
1983 - A comprehensive study on the *Economic Status of Alaska Native Women* is conducted and published by the Commission.

1983 - Public service announcements regarding non-traditional employment opportunities, fetal alcohol syndrome and non-sexist language are produced by the Commission and aired on statewide television.

1983 - Six conferences and seminars are sponsored by the Commission; in Fairbanks "Making the System Work for You"; in Juneau, "Southeast Alaska Women's Leadership Conference"; in Ketchikan "Work and Network: Southeast Alaska's Immediate Future for Women"; in Anchorage "The Future of Alaska-Protecting Human Resources as Industry Grows"; in Kodiak "Women as Managers and Decision Makers," in Anchorage "Pay Equity/Comparable Worth."

1983 - Commission reviews and critiques pilot edition of the Alaska History textbook.

1983 - Profiles of 60 Alaskan women who have contributed to the state's economic, social and political development are published by the Commission in *Profiles in Change - Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women*.



1984 - "Barriers to Employment Conference" is co-sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Written Biographies of 20 women in Alaska history are distributed by the Commission to statewide media for use during Women's History Month.

1984 - Commission sponsors "Labor Union Workshop" in Anchorage and publishes results of the conference.

1984 - A statewide *Directory of Women's Organizations* is released by the Commission.

1984 - *Alaska Women: A Databook*, a profile of Alaska Women based upon the 1980 census, is published by the Commission.

1984 - A revised edition of *Women's Legal Rights in Alaska* is published by the Commission. Over 5,000 copies distributed since its second release.

1984 - Commission co-sponsors and helps publish *Child Care Directories* for Anchorage, Juneau/Ketchikan and Fairbanks.

1984 - Local Women's Councils are established in Anchorage and Sitka with the assistance of the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Commission supports ten bills in the legislature, five signed into law.

1984 - Workshop on "American Women: Three Decades of Change" is co-sponsored by the Commission with the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the state Dept. of Labor.

1984 - Commission conducts study on pension reform within the public employees retirement system and submits recommendations for legislative changes. Changes are adopted in 1985.

1984 - Native Women's Task Force convened by Commission to address employment issues within state government.

1984 - Commission testifies before legislative committee on improving women's economic conditions through expansion of business loans targeted at women owned businesses.

1984-86 - Commission serves on Sex Equity Advisory Committee of Anchorage School District.

1985 - Commission completes *Review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination* which identifies over 80 discriminatory laws.

1985 - As a result of the Alaska Women's Commission's efforts, former spouses and widows of State employees are able to purchase group health insurance at a comparable price at no expense to the State.

1985 - Commission works with the Department of Administration to increase recruitment and hiring of Native women.

1985 - Commission publishes *A Sense of History*, the first annotated bibliography of books, articles, audio-visual aids and photo displays about Alaska Women. Distributed to schools, libraries and all social studies teachers in the state.

1985 - Commission establishes third local women's council in Juneau.

1985 - Commission holds statewide women's conference in Anchorage on the economic status of women. "At the Edge of Opportunity" brought together more than 700 people from more than 30 communities.

1985 - A workshop on the United Nations Conference for Women is sponsored by the Commission and held in Anchorage.

1985 - A seminar on Equal Educational Opportunities for Girls is sponsored by the Commission in Wasilla.



Photo by Sabra McCracken

RESOURCES:

Community resources exist to assist people who are considering divorce. The following is a list of some of the agencies who provide legal assistance or counseling.

Legal Assistance:

Alaska Legal Services — Provides legal assistance to low income people. It also screens applicants for the Pro Bono Program which provides free legal assistance to low income people. "Do It Yourself" (Pro Se) Divorce Clinics are also conducted by Alaska Legal Services in some communities. Legal Services is located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, Unalaska.

Dispute Resolution Services, Fairbanks

Counseling and Support:

Women's Resource Centers are located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Kenai/Soldotna, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome and Wasilla.

Men's Support Network, Anchorage

Father's Rights Group, Fairbanks

RELATED RESEARCH ON DIVORCE:

Lenore Weitzman, *The Divorce Revolution: The Unexpected Social and Economic Consequences for Women and Children in America* (New York: The Free Press, 1986).

Heather Wishik, "Economics of Divorce: An Exploratory Study," *Family Law Quarterly*, Vol. 20, No. 1, Spring 1986.

California Senate Task Force on Family Equity (Sacramento, State of California, 1987).

S. Hoffman and T. Holmes, "Husbands, Wives, and Divorce," *Five Thousand American Families — Patterns of Economic Progress* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, 1976).

William Goods, *After Divorce* (New York: The Free Press, 1956).



ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

RESEARCH SUMMARY

October 1987

FAMILY EQUITY AT ISSUE: A Study of the Economic Consequences of Divorce on Women and Children

During the 1970's social reformers sought to ease the acrimony of divorce and create more fairness and equity for the families involved. "No fault" divorce reform was introduced in many states including Alaska. In addition, Alaska developed a dissolution procedure that allows people to file without the expense of an attorney. Unfortunately, many of these changes have had unintended economic results for women. It now appears that women and children are suffering major financial inequities as a direct result of some of the changes in divorce law and procedure.

The most striking documentation of the "downward mobility" of women and children created by "no fault" divorce was in the state of California. Because of the seriousness of the findings there, in 1986 the Alaska

Women's Commission undertook a study to determine if Alaskan women and children were suffering the same effects.

The study of divorce is important because so many people are affected by it. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63 percent compared to 46 percent nationally. More than 11,000 people are affected each year, 3,000 of them children. Even though the two-decade increase in the divorce rate seems to have peaked, each year thousands of Alaskan families are affected by divorce.

The study site chosen was Anchorage, where more than half of the state's divorces occur. A statistically valid sample drawn from all divorce and dissolution cases occurring in a one-year period was analyzed.



ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
3601 "C" STREET, SUITE 742
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503

Members of Commission:

Kris Chatfield, chair
Anchorage
Joy Green-Armstrong, vice chair
Anchorage
Loretta Bullard
Nome
Elizabeth (Pat) Kennedy, Anchorage
Mary Pete, Bethel
Betty Ramage, Anchorage
Wendy Redman, Fairbanks
Paula Ziegler, Juneau

Executive Director
Christine Callahan

Research Analyst
Barbara Baker

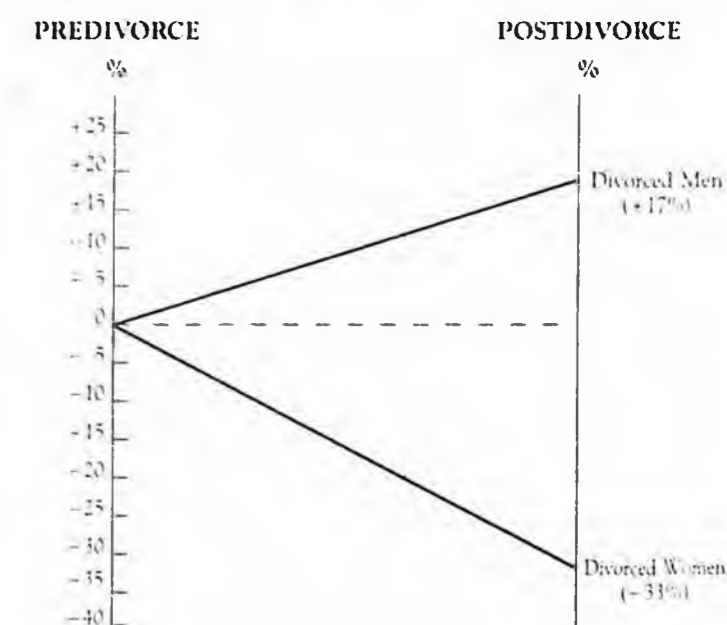
State of Alaska
Steve Cowper, Governor
Stephen McAlpine, Lt. Governor

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Anchorage, AK

GENERAL FINDINGS:

- In Alaska, divorce has substantially different economic consequences for women and men.
- Divorced women and their children experienced a 33 percent decline in per capita income resulting in a radical downward shift of their standard of living (see Figure 1). The greatest relative deprivation was experienced by women and children of middle and upper middle class families.
- Divorced men, however, experienced an improvement in their standard of living as a result of a 17 percent rise in their per capita incomes (see Figure 1).
- In many marriages the couple's major investments were in the education and career of the primary wage earner. Yet the division of marital property often excluded career assets. Disregarding this property allows the major wage earner, usually the husband, to keep what are often the most valuable assets of the marriage.

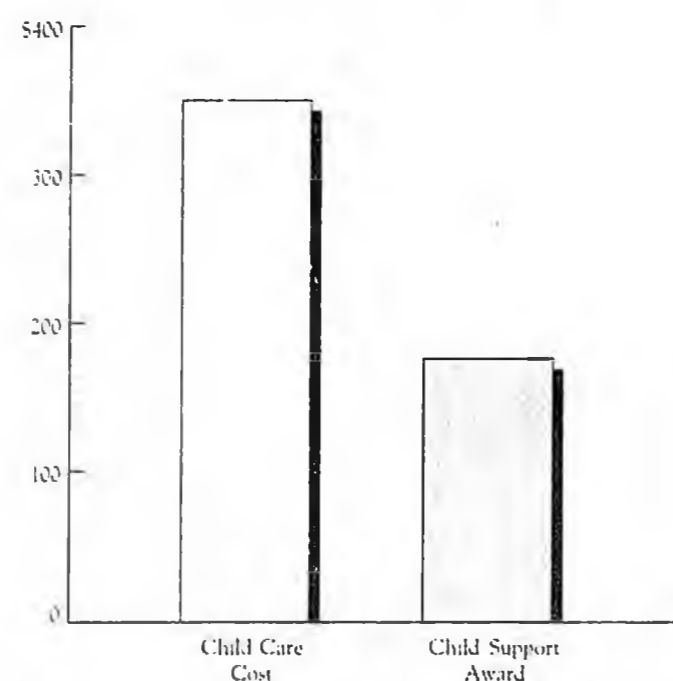
FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PER CAPITA INCOME OF DIVORCED MEN AND WOMEN



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

- Fifty-four percent of divorcing men had pensions compared to 33 percent of divorcing women. The median value of the husband's pension was worth more than 3 times that of the wife's (\$27,500 and \$7,500 respectively). Yet, only 20 percent of the couples in the study divided pensions.
- Other types of career assets such as life insurance, paid leave, professional licenses, medical and dental insurance were rarely included in the division of property, even though they were acquired during the marriage.
- Award of the family home was influenced by the presence of children. In 74 percent of the cases, the home was given to the parent having physical custody. Fathers with physical custody almost always got the home (93 percent) while mothers with custody were awarded the family home only 68 percent of the time.
- Among the families who moved following divorce were accounts of children traumatized by the dislocation. New schools and neighborhoods increased the disruption already generated from economic and emotional distress.
- In the absence of children, husbands were awarded the family home and mortgage more frequently (60 percent) than wives (40 percent).
- Alimony was awarded in only 10 percent of the divorces surveyed. For the few who receive it, this "safety net" appears to be an illusion. Awards usually lasted for only one year and provided an average of only \$500 a month, despite the fact that most who received it had no job, no other income or were of an age which makes it difficult to find paid work.
- Divorced mothers are the primary caretakers of children. Sole custody was awarded to mothers in 58 percent of the cases, while fathers received it in 18 percent of the cases. Joint custody was awarded 19 percent of the time.
- Child support was awarded in 80 percent of the divorces where minor children were present. However, the average amount per child was \$191. This barely meets half the monthly cost of child care in Anchorage today (see Figure 2). This figure also falls below the standard used to determine eligibility for welfare.
- Cost of living increments were included in only 23 percent of the child support awards. Without these adjustments, the purchasing power of the support award continually declines because of inflation and the increased costs associated with older children.
- Only 22 percent of child support awards were written beyond the age of majority although financial burdens such as education continue for several years beyond this point.

FIGURE 2: AVERAGE MONTHLY COST OF CHILD CARE COMPARED TO AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD



- Only 58 percent of the people in the survey received the full amount of child support awarded. This is consistent with statewide data from the Child Support Enforcement Agency.
- Divorced men are rarely required to pay more than 15 percent of their predivorce income to support their children.

IMPACT OF DISSOLUTION:

In Alaska people can end their marriage in two ways. Both are considered "no-fault." One, a divorce, usually involves attorneys' fees and court hearings, with the judge making a final decision in areas where the two parties cannot agree. The other, a dissolution, can be done without attorneys, with minimal expense, and requires that both parties agree about every issue. About two-thirds of all Alaskan couples who end their marriages choose a dissolution.

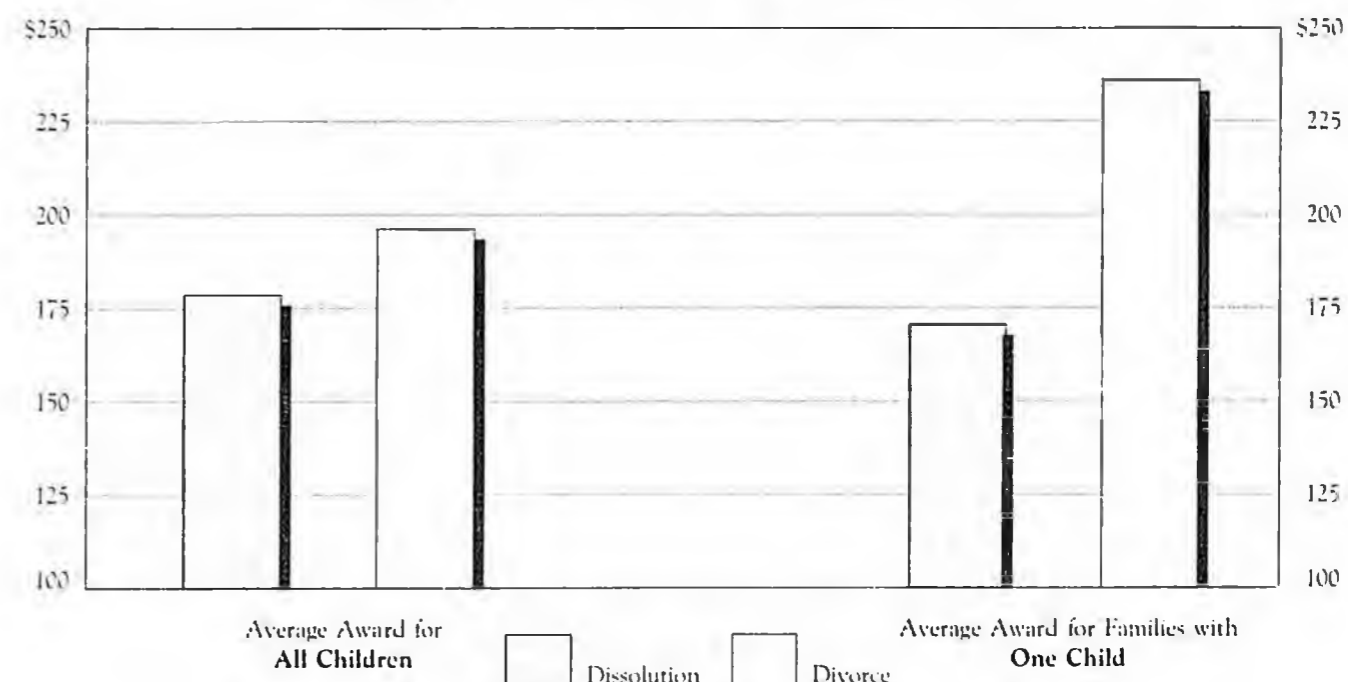
Alaska is one of only 8 states that permit dissolutions. It is also one of the most liberal in its provisions. Most

other states do not permit dissolutions if there are minor children, if the marriage is one of long duration, or if the couple has property. Alaska law places no limitations on the use of dissolutions.

In addition to the study's general findings, it appears that women who choose dissolution suffer even more financial hardship than women who go through a divorce.

- Women who used the dissolution procedure received far less than half of the couple's property. Wives received only 29 percent of the property in dissolutions. Women who used divorce received 50 percent of the marital property.
- Child support awards were lower when the dissolution procedure was used. Particularly hard hit were families with one child where average awards were 27 percent lower than in divorce (see Figure 3).

FIGURE 3: AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ONE CHILD FAMILIES BY LEGAL PROCEDURE



SUMMARY:

The findings of this study together with a growing body of research suggest that the current legal system of divorce creates economic hardships for women and children instead of providing greater family equity. Inadequate and poorly enforced child support awards, the near absence of spousal support, and unequal division of marital property are creating a new class of poor.

Divorced women and their children face a precipitous drop in family income. Some face certain impoverishment. Women who choose the dissolution procedure suffer even more financial hardship than those who go through a divorce.

The Alaska Women's Commission was created to ensure equity for women in Alaska. The Commission's current legislative platform attempts to correct many of the inequities that occur under existing divorce laws. The findings of the Commission's study support these efforts.

The report was written by Barbara Baker, research analyst for the Alaska Women's Commission. For a copy of the full report or for more information about the Commission's legislative advocacy, research efforts and educational services, please contact the Commission office at 3601 "C" Street, Suite 742, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 or call 561-4227.

STATE OF ALASKA BILL VERSION: CSSB 8 (FIN)
 1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION PUBLISH DATE: 2/3/89
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST: _____

REVISION DATE: _____ AGENCY: OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
 TITLE: ACT RELATING TO THE BRU: COMMISSIONS/SPEC.OFFICES
ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
 SPONSOR: FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI COMPONENTS: ALASKA WOMEN'S
 REQUESTOR: SENATE FINANCE COMMISSION

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
OPERATING						
PERS. SERVICES	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2	163.2
TRAVEL	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7	28.7
CONTRACTUAL	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7
SUPPLIES	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND/BUILD.	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS/CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

GENERAL FUNDS	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9
GF/PRGM	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0
I/A RCPTS	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2
TOTAL	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1	269.1

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

ANALYSIS:

THE ABOVE FIGURES REFLECT THE GOVERNOR'S FY 90 BUDGET.

PREPARED BY: _____

Rick Uehling
 SENATOR RICK UEHLING, CO-CHAIRMAN
 SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 1989
 PHONE No.: 465-4821

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R/0 SFC 3-3-89

STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CSSB 10 (Finance)
PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Deadlines For Action on Funding
of Public Education
Sponsor: Senate Finance
Requestor: Senate Finance

Agency Affected: Education
BRU: K-12 Support
Components: Foundation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Mary Hakala Phone: 465-2800
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 3/2/89
Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 3/2/89
Agency: Education

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

Original sponsors: Coghill, Faiks,
Eliason, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 10 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to deadlines for action on funding
7 of public education; and providing for an effective
8 date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 14.11.100(c) is amended to read:

11 (c) The school construction account is established. Funds to
12 carry out the provisions of this section may be appropriated annually
13 by the legislature to the account. Before April 7 the legislature
14 shall appropriate funds to school districts under this section for the
15 next fiscal year. If amounts in the account are insufficient for the
16 purpose of providing the share to which a borough or city is entitled
17 under this section, those funds that are available shall be distribut-
18 ed pro rata among the eligible local governments except that the
19 legislature may direct that additional debt service on refunding bonds
20 that exceeds the total debt service on the refunded bonds be disre-
21 garded in whole or in part.

22 * Sec. 2. AS 14.14.060(c) is amended to read:

23 (c) The borough school board shall submit the school budget for
24 the following school year to the borough assembly by April 20
25 [APRIL 1] for approval of the total amount. Within 30 days after
26 receipt of the budget the assembly shall determine the total amount of
27 money to be made available from local sources for school purposes and
28 shall furnish the school board with a statement of the sum to be made
29 available. If the assembly does not, within 30 days, furnish the

1 school board with a statement of the sum to be made available, the
2 amount requested in the budget is automatically approved. By May 31,
3 the assembly shall appropriate the amount to be made available from
4 local sources from money available for the purpose.

5 * Sec. 3. AS 14.17.225(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) Money to carry out the provisions of AS 14.17.010 - 14.17.-
7 190 may be appropriated annually by the legislature into the public
8 school foundation account. Before April 7 the legislature shall
9 appropriate funds for direct and indirect services and other funding
10 under this chapter for the next fiscal year. If amounts in the ac-
11 count are insufficient to meet the allocations authorized under AS 14.-
12 17.010 - 14.17.190 for a fiscal year, each district's basic need shall
13 be reduced pro rata as necessary to make the funds available suffi-
14 cient to meet the allocations for that fiscal year.

15 * Sec. 4. AS 37.07.030 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 37.07.030. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEGISLATURE. The legis-
17 lature shall

- 18 (1) provide for a budget review function;
- 19 (2) analyze the comprehensive operating and capital im-
20 provements programs and financial plans recommended by the governor;
- 21 (3) adopt legislation to authorize implementation of the
22 governor's comprehensive operating and capital improvements programs
23 and financial plans or appropriate alternatives to those plans;
- 24 (4) provide for a post-audit function to cover financial
25 transactions, program accomplishment, and compliance with legislative
26 intent;
- 27 (5) adopt or revise the estimate or receipts required to
28 balance the succeeding fiscal year's budget in order that proposed
29 expenditures do not exceed estimated receipts for that fiscal year;

1 (6) adopt, revise, or initiate revenue measures in order to
2 balance the succeeding fiscal year's budget and the capital improve-
3 ments section of the budget for the succeeding six years;

4 (7) appropriate money for public school construction debt
5 retirement under AS 14.11.100, public school foundation program under
6 AS 14.17, pupil transportation, student lunch program, cigarette tax
7 distribution, tuition students, boarding home grants, youth in de-
8 tention, and schools for the handicapped no later than April 7 of each
9 year for the succeeding fiscal year.

10 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1989.
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Alaska State Legislature

SENATE

Committee on Finance

Official Business

P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

2/24

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS APPEARING IN DRAFT CSSB 10 (FIN), An Act relating to deadlines for action on funding of public education; and providing for an effective date.

1. On page 1, line 13 of Draft CSSB 10 (FIN) - The deadline by which the Legislature shall appropriate funds to school districts has been amended to April 7th (was March 14th in HESS CS; March 16th in the original Bill).
2. On page 1, line 24 of Draft CSSB 10 (FIN) - The date for borough school boards to submit the following school year's budget to the borough assembly has been amended to April 20th (was April 15th in HESS CS and the original Bill).
3. On page 2, line 8 of Draft CSSB 10 (FIN) - The deadline by which the Legislature shall appropriate funds for direct and indirect services and other funding into the public school foundation account has been amended to April 7th (was March 14th in HESS CS; March 16th in the original Bill).
4. On page 3, line 8 of CSSB 10 (FIN) - The deadline for appropriation has been amended to April 7th (was March 14th in HESS CS; March 16th in the original Bill).

Senator Frank
3/1/89

SB 10 An Act relating to deadlines for action on funding of public education.

	Current law	SB 10	SB 10 CS (HESS)	CS (Fin)	
Legislature appropriate funds		Mar 16	Mar 14	Apr 7	
Borough School Board submit budget for following year to Bor Assembly (AS 14.14.060(c))	Apr 1	Apr 15	Apr 15	Apr 20	<i>Binkley</i> 5/30
Borough Assembly 30 days to furnish School Board with statement of sum of local approp (AS 14.14.060(c))	* May 1	* May 15	* May 15	* May 20	6/30
must appropriate local source	May 31	->	->	->	6/30
determine rate of levy before	Jun 15	->	->	->	6/30
& mail tax statements (AS 29.45.240(b))	Jul 1	->	->	->	7/15

* 30th day after date of receipt of school board budget per existing statute.

ASSOCIATION OF ALASKA SCHOOL BOARDS

316 W. 11th St. • Juneau, Alaska 99801-1510 • (907) 586-1083

MARCH 1, 1989

The Honorable Rick Uehling
The Honorable John Binkley
Alaska State Legislature
Co-Chairmen
Senate Finance Committee
Members
Senator Jim Duncan
Senator Paul Fischer
Senator Steve Frank
Senator Drue Pearce
Senator Fred Zharoff
PO Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: POSITION PAPER: DRAFT CSSB10(FIN) / EARLY FUNDING

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the draft form of CSSB10(FIN). The Association of Alaska School Boards supports and encourages passage of the amendments contained in the draft CSSB10(FIN), an early funding bill.

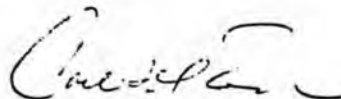
AASB encourages the legislature to determine the funding level for education for the following fiscal year prior to April 7 to allow school districts adequate time for planning and budget preparation before submission to the Department of Education.

AASB also supports modification of the due date for submission of a municipal school district budget to the municipal government to the April 20 deadline contained in the draft CSSB10(FIN).

Early planning of programs, staffing and procurement of supplies, equipment and maintenance are critical for providing students with quality education. The ability to plan wisely is largely dependent on knowing what the available financial resources will be early in the planning process.

We understand the legislature's wish to review first quarter revenue projections before appropriation, and support the compromise contained in this bill. Districts around the state applaud the early funding knowledge provided by the Legislature last year, and encourage passage of a bill to establish this as a standard practice.

Sincerely,




Carl F.N. Rose,
Executive Director

Alaska MUNICIPAL League

TELEPHONE
(907) 586-1325
FAX 463-5480

217 SECOND STREET, SUITE 200
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

TO: Senator Rick Uehling, Co-Chair
Senator John Binkley, Co-Chair
Members of the Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director 

DATE: March 2, 1989

SUBJECT: SB 10 - Deadline for Education Funding

The AML supports full, forward, and early funding of education, in that order. Toward those ends, AML supports SB 10 which sets a deadline for informing municipalities and school districts of the level of state funding for education costs, including foundation, debt reimbursement and pupil transportation. The AML municipalities can accept the Finance Subcommittee's proposed changes of pushing back the dates until April 7, April 20 and May 20.

The AML supports full funding of education as a legislative priority. Early notification of the amount to be appropriated by the Legislature annually assists school districts and municipalities in planning and budget preparation. Education is a major portion of a municipality's budget. Early decisions on the level of state appropriation is important to the State in that education is a funding priority as well as a major portion of the state budget. Perhaps another benefit of the deadline may be to stimulate earlier decisions on the rest of the budget. It is important that the amount approved for appropriation under SB 10 is a "real" number; otherwise, the intent of the legislation is thwarted.

The proposed delay from the legislative deadline date in the legislation as introduced from March 14 until will provide more certainty and, thereby, comfort for legislators because the final financial data on which to base the budget - the March revenue forecast - will be available. Understand that the local process of information exchange and negotiation between the municipality and the school district is an important, sensitive and time consuming process; therefore, the process cannot be shortened too much. The approval of the local contribution to education takes place in the larger context of the overall municipal budget process and is also bound by the administrative deadlines of the tax rate setting and notification process.

Again, the AML supports full funding first and supports SB 10 to provide the school districts and municipalities early notification of funding levels and adequate time to plan and budget in the best interests of the children and the taxpayers. In the unfortunate circumstance that the State does not meet its constitutional responsibility for education and its statutory level of funding, early notification for school districts and municipalities is also important.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 1989

SUBJECT: Education funding deadlines - CSSB 10(Finance)
TO: Senator Rick Uehling
Attn: Carol Horos
FROM: Michael F. Ford *M.F.*
Legislative Counsel

You have asked whether the use of the term "may" in the first sentence of sections 1 and 3, and the use of the term "shall" in the amended language of those sections results in a conflict in terms. The short answer is no. The first sentence in each section is permissive, concerning appropriations by the legislature. The inserted language using the term "shall" is intended to require the legislature to make appropriation. The inserted language is mandatory, but does not conflict with the permissive language in the first sentence.

Please contact me if you have further questions.

MFF:gc
WKG7/086

Alaska
MUNICIPAL
League

TELEPHONE
(907) 586-1325
FAX 463-5480

217 SECOND STREET, SUITE 200
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator John Binkley, Co-Chair
Senator Rick Uehling, Co-Chair
Members of Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director

DATE: February 1, 1989

SUBJECT: SB 38 - Education Funding
SB 10 - Education Funding Deadline

The Alaska Municipal League supports early and adequate funding of the education program, including debt reimbursement, as a top priority.

I have attached support and background materials and regret that, due to the AML Board meeting, I will not be able to appear before you today.

SAB:ph1

Attachments

State Aid to Municipalities Funding Package

The Alaska Municipal League urges the Governor and the 16th Alaska State Legislature to provide full funding of the state-mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program and to provide adequate funding of municipal entitlement programs to help municipalities continue to meet the basic service needs of Alaskans and mitigate the fiscal hardships of declining revenues.

Therefore, the Alaska Municipal League requests:

- A. Full funding of state-mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program (AS 29.45.030) at an estimated cost of \$8.4 million, and**
- B. Adequate funding for FY 90 for municipal entitlement programs, to include appropriations for:**
 - the Municipal Assistance Program (AS 29.60.350) at not less than the FY 89 level of \$56,084,400**
 - the State Revenue Sharing Program (AS 29.60.010) at not less than the FY 89 level of \$40,773,400**
 - the School Construction Debt Reimbursement Program (AS 14.11.100) at not less than the FY 89 level of \$109,472,700 (the estimated annual cost for FY 89 and FY 90 is \$117 million)**
 - the Education Foundation Formula (AS 14.17.010) at not less than the estimated cost of \$480,000,000**
 - the Pupil Transportation Account (AS 14.09.010) at not less than the FY 89 level of \$25,121,700**

It should be noted that in FY 89 underfunding of mandatory and entitlement programs by the Legislature resulted in municipalities absorbing \$23 million, which included the following items:

- \$4,641,000 in underfunding for the state-mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program
- \$7.3 million in underfunding of entitlements under the School Debt Reimbursement Program
- \$11,059,502 in underfunding of the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account of the State Revenue Sharing

For FY 90, the League is requesting full funding only of the state-mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program. However, if appropriation levels for municipal entitlement programs are not increased for FY 90, municipalities will once again be forced to absorb the shortfalls through increased taxes or decreased local services.

Background

State transfers of funds to Alaskan municipalities vary, ranging from school foundation funding to municipal assistance payments to reimbursement of state-collected taxes. A top legislative priority of the Alaska Municipal League for 1989 is full funding of state-mandated programs and adequate funding for the municipal entitlement programs for FY 90. The specific programs involved and their funding histories are discussed in more detail below.

SENIOR CITIZENS/DISABLED VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM

The League requests the Legislature to fully fund the state-mandated Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program for FY 90 at an estimated amount of \$8.4 million.

In 1973, the program to exempt senior citizens from local property taxes was enacted. The intent of AS 29.45.030(e), which exempts persons over 65 from such taxes, was to make it easier for senior citizens to remain in their own homes and, thus, remain in Alaska. A complementary program, which provides refunds directly to senior citizen renters to compensate for property tax included in their rent charges, was also enacted at this

Table 1. Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption Program Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Entitlement	State Appropriation	Shortfall/ Cost to Municipalities*	% ^b
1985	\$4,005,075	\$4,005,075	\$ 0	100.0
1986	4,977,451	4,008,600	968,851	79.5
1987	6,325,763	2,770,300	3,555,463	43.8
1988	6,753,663	2,622,969	4,130,694	38.8
1989	7,430,000	2,782,300	4,647,700	37.4
1990	8,400,000 (est.)	8,400,000 (req.)	0	100.0

*The actual cost to municipalities exceeds this figure by \$100,000 - \$160,000, depending on the underfunding of the renters program.

^bRatio of state appropriation (reimbursement to municipalities) to the total cost of the program.

Source: Department of Community and Regional Affairs

time. In 1985, the programs were extended to include disabled veterans with a disability of 50 percent or more and their widows who are at least 60 years of age. That was also the last year the State provided full funding for the homeowners program, the total cost of which grew from \$197,050 in 1973 to over \$7 million in 1989.

The *Policy Statement* of the Alaska Municipal League includes the following statement with reference to state-mandated tax exemption programs: "if the reimbursements for state-mandated exemptions are not fully funded, currently or in the future, the exemptions should be repealed" (1989 *Policy Statement*, I.C.2). The League's top legislative priority for the Sixteenth Legislature is to enact legislation making any new mandate legislation that increases costs for municipalities null and void if adequate funding is not provided by the State. This program provides an excellent example of the way unfunded or underfunded state mandates can harm municipalities.

As Table 1 shows, for FY 86, the legislative appropriation for the property tax exemption program was just under 80 percent of the total program cost. Partially in response to AML efforts on the issue, in that year the Legislature amended AS 29.45.030 to make those covered by the program eligible for an exemption from taxes only on the first \$150,000 of the value of their property. Locally granted exceptions to this are allowed. Even with this amendment, the number of those eligible for the exemption and the cost to local governments of this state-mandated program continue to grow.

In FY 89, the total cost of the program was \$7,430,000 and only \$2,782,300 was appropriated by the Legislature, leaving local governments responsible for \$4,647,700, or over 60 percent of the total cost of this state-mandated program. In comparison, another program to aid senior citizens, the Longevity Bonus Program, will cost the State \$52.9 million in FY 89. In July 1988, Governor Steve Cowper vetoed legislation (HCS SS SB 56(Fin)) that would have converted this program to an annuity program with contributions from potential participants. That legislation would have saved the State almost \$327 million over the next fifteen years. In vetoing the legislation, Governor Cowper said that the State had sufficient funds to help its senior citizens.

In effect the cost to municipalities is even greater than the funding shortfall noted in Table 1 because of the costs of administration and the underfunding of the renters program. The renters refund program, through which the State makes payments directly to individuals, has not been fully funded since 1986. Reflecting a policy that favors renters to the detriment of municipalities, funds from the appropriation for the homeowners program have been transferred to the renters program, with the effect of increasing the burden on municipalities. Approximately \$100,000 was transferred in this way in FY 86 and in FY 87; in FY 88, the amount transferred was \$160,000.

Full funding of this state-mandated program is a state responsibility.

MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Alaska Municipal League requests that no cuts be made in funding for the Municipal Assistance Program and that the FY 90 appropriation remain at the FY 89 level of \$56,084,400.

In 1979, the Gross Business Receipts Program, which had returned 20 percent of the tax collected by the State within a jurisdiction to that jurisdiction, was repealed by the Legislature. The Municipal Assistance Program (AS 29.60.350) was established to replace this revenue source for local governments. Distributions under the program use the FY 78 allocation of Gross Business Receipts to municipalities (\$10.6 million) as a base, with additional appropriations divided among all recipients on a per capita basis. The primary objective of the Municipal Assistance Program as originally enacted was to reduce property taxes. The statutory guideline utilized for funding the program is to appropriate an amount equal to or greater than [emphasis added] 30 percent of the annual receipts from the Corporate Income Tax for the previous fiscal year.

Funding for this program has decreased from \$81,306,000 in FY 85 to \$56,084,400 in FY 89, a 31 percent decrease.

Table 2. Municipal Assistance Program Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Total Appropriation
1985	\$81,306,800
1986	81,306,800
1987	65,858,500
1988	56,084,400
1989	56,084,400
1990	56,084,400 (req.)

Source: Department of Community and Regional Affairs

STATE REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM

The Alaska Municipal League requests the Legislature to fund the State Revenue Sharing Program for FY 90 at the FY 89 level of \$40,773,400. The Legislature should be aware, however, that the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account of the State Revenue Sharing Program was not fully funded in FY 89 and an appropriation of an additional amount estimated at \$11,059,052 would be necessary to provide full funding of the entitlement for this portion of the program for FY 89. An estimated \$12,077,300 would be required for FY 90 full funding of the Miscellaneous Services Account.

The Alaska State Revenue Sharing Program was created in 1969. The original intent of the revenue sharing legislation was to 1) help ease fiscal problems facing local governments, 2) stabilize or reduce local property tax rates, 3) encourage local governments to provide adequate levels of public services, 4) inject a measure of budget planning and stability into local governments, and 5) improve the allocation of state funds by sharing them with local governments. This last point was based on the premise that local governments are more in tune with the needs of the public and are better able to respond and provide public goods and services in accordance with taxpayer preferences (Report of the Governor's Task Force on State Shared Revenue, 1985).

The total appropriation for the program in FY 70 was \$2 million. The original categorical program distributed funds based upon public services offered in a number of categories. In 1980 (when \$26.9 million was appropriated for the

Table 3. State Revenue Sharing Program Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Total Appropriation*
1985	\$60,350,000
1986	59,632,200
1987	47,879,100
1988	40,773,400
1989	40,773,400
1990	40,773,400 (req.)

*Including both the Tax Resources Equalization Account and the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account.
Source: Department of Community and Regional Affairs

program), the program was changed and there are now two separate accounts, the Tax Resources Equalization Account and the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account. Another program, the Hospital Construction Account was repealed in 1983 and is being phased out. Each of the two active accounts is distributed according to separate criteria (see below for more information on each part of the program).

As Table 3 shows, funding for the State Revenue Sharing Program, which reached a high of \$60,350,000 in 1985, has been cut drastically since then. The FY 89 appropriation is \$40.7 million, a 33.3 percent decrease in just four years. This precipitous decline has had a particularly strong impact on Alaska's municipalities because during the same period the assessed values of property throughout the State have dropped over \$3.2 billion, thus reducing revenues from local property taxes.

Tax Equalization Account

The central feature of the current State Revenue Sharing Program is the Tax Resource Equalization Account. Funds for this portion of the revenue sharing program account for over 65 percent of the total appropriation for revenue sharing in FY 89 and are a major source of revenue for local governments. The formula for this program takes into consideration the amount of local fiscal effort and the property tax base from which the municipality has to draw and rewards communities for their local taxing efforts. Decreases in local tax revenues because of devaluation of property may result in smaller grants under this program, thus doubling the negative impact of drops in assessed valuation.

Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account

The Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account of the State Revenue Sharing Program retains some of the categorical features of the original program. It provides aid for the following public services: local roads (\$2,500 per mile), ice road maintenance (\$1,500 per mile), hospital facilities (\$1,000 per bed provided for in construction design, with a minimum of \$50,000), health facilities (\$2,000 per bed actually used for patient care), and fire protection (\$10 per capita for population served). In addition, this account provides for a basic entitlement of \$25,000 for each unincorporated community with at least 25 permanent residents that is located in the unorganized borough.

Table 4. Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Entitlement	State Appropriation	Shortfall/ Cost to Municipalities	%*
1985	\$20,898,641	\$20,000,000	\$ 898,641	95.7
1986	21,978,021	20,000,000	1,978,021	91.0
1987	23,703,918	16,332,000	7,371,918	68.9
1988	25,059,785	13,908,181	11,151,604	55.5
1989	24,969,804	13,908,181	11,059,052	55.7
1990	25,985,481 (est.)	13,908,181 (req.)	12,077,300	53.5

*Ratio of state appropriation (reimbursement to municipalities) to total cost of the program.
Source: Department of Community and Regional Affairs

As Table 4 shows, the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account has not been fully funded for nine years, which has caused a prorated reduction in the payments to each municipality. The underfunding of this account has hit the smaller communities, those in the most need, particularly hard.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION DEBT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

As part of its state aid to municipalities funding package, the Alaska Municipal League requests that the Legislature fund the School Construction Debt Reimbursement Account at not less than the FY 89 level of \$109,472,700. However, the Legislature should be aware that a supplemental

appropriation of \$7.3 million would be necessary to full fund the State's obligation for the School Construction Debt Reimbursement Account for FY 89 and full funding for the program for FY 90 is estimated to be \$117 million.

In 1970, the Legislature established a program of reimbursing municipalities for a portion of their school construction debt in recognition of the requirement of the Alaska Constitution that the State provide education for its children. Under this program (AS 14.11.100), municipalities issue bonds for the entire cost of a school construction project and then are reimbursed annually for a portion of the cost of their debt service.

Table 5. School Construction Debt Reimbursement Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Entitlement	State Appropriation	Shortfall/ Cost to Municipalities	%*
1986	\$109,707,963	\$106,315,600	\$3,392,363	96.9
1987	125,272,615	115,845,000	9,427,615	92.4
1988	118,701,313	109,472,700	9,228,613	92.2
1989	116,784,855 (est)	109,472,700	7,312,155	93.7
1990	117,000,000 (est)	109,472,700 (req.)	7,527,300	93.6

*Ratio of state appropriation (reimbursement to municipalities) to the districts' full entitlement.
Source: Department of Education

Over the years, the program has changed several times. At one time the percentage of debt reimbursed was as high as 100 percent, and at the present time municipalities are eligible for reimbursement of from 80 to 100 percent of their costs, depending on when their projects were originally approved. However, because of the continuing underfunding of the program, not only are they not reimbursed at their entitlement level, but they do not know what the reimbursement level will be until after the Legislature completes its annual appropriation process.

As Table 5 shows, in the last four years the reimbursement has ranged from 92.2 to 96.9 percent of the districts' statutory entitlement. Municipalities and their voters have made financial decisions based on the reimbursement rate in effect when they proposed bonding for school construction, and long-range budget decisions and financial plans have been based on this obligation and commitment of the State. Nevertheless, as state resources have shrunk in recent years and the Legislature has underfunded this entitlement program, those plans and decisions have been undermined by uncertainty. The funds available for the debt

reimbursement program have been prorated to eligible communities, and the municipal budget process has been upset because local governments have had to pay a larger share of the debt service than was anticipated and budgeted for. The unpredictability of reimbursement rates has been especially critical in the areas of the State with high growth during the early 1980s. It will continue to be a major problem during the lifetime of the bonds issued for construction in these areas if full funding of the entitlement is not guaranteed.

As Table 5 shows, in FY 88 the shortfall in funding to fully reimburse local governments for school construction debt service amounted to \$9,228,613; in FY 89, the shortfall is estimated at over \$7.3 million.

EDUCATION

Funding for education is the largest single item in the state budget, approximately 25 percent, and is the largest transfer of funds from the State to local governments. The Alaska Municipal League *Policy Statement* supports the "State's assuming full financial responsibility for basic education including funding of school construction" (1989 *Policy Statement*, II.A.1) because of the Alaska Constitution's mandate to establish and maintain a system of public education open to all children.

Education Foundation Formula

The Alaska Municipal League requests funding for the Education Foundation Formula for FY 90 of not less than the estimated cost of \$480,000,000 to make it possible for Alaska's municipalities to provide basic education for all children.

Table 6. Education Foundation Formula Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Entitlement	State Appropriation	% ^a
1986	\$491,159,214	\$491,159,214	100.0
1987	451,529,200	414,729,423	91.9
1988	437,438,385	437,438,385	100.0
1989	480,000,000 (est.)	447,500,900	100.0
1990	480,000,000 (est.)	480,000,000 (req.)	100.0

^aRatio of state appropriation (reimbursement to municipalities) to entitlement.
Source: Department of Education

The main component of the state government's support of education for all Alaskan children is the Foundation Formula. This formula distributes funds to the local school districts based on the instructional unit concept. Minimum state aid to city and borough districts is now defined as 65 percent of basic need (with local governments required to contribute 35 percent of basic need or a 4-mill equivalency, whichever is less). Rural Education Attendance Areas are funded at 100 percent of basic need. On a statewide basis, approximately 72 percent of the cost of education is funded by the State, 22 percent by local governments, and 6 percent by the federal government with PL 874 grants for federally impacted school districts. Table 6 shows the historical trend in funding of the Foundation Formula.

Pupil Transportation

The Alaska Municipal League requests funding of the Pupil Transportation Account for FY 90 at not less than the FY 89 level of \$25,121,700.

Alaska has provided funding for pupil transportation since 1924-25, when the Territory of Alaska set up the first school transportation fund. As Table 7 shows, the Pupil Transportation Account has been underfunded for many years, which has placed a burden on the local governments that must provide transportation but bear the burden imposed by underfunding. In FY 89, the Pupil Transportation Account was fully funded.

Table 7. Pupil Transportation Account Funding, FY 1985 - FY 1990

Fiscal Year	Entitlement	State Appropriation	%*
1985	na	\$24,648,300	na
1986	\$24,497,832	23,131,176	94.4
1987	23,713,035	21,343,816	89.9
1988	21,268,600	21,171,000	87.8
1989	25,121,700	25,121,700	100.0
1990	25,121,700 (est.)	25,121,700 (req.)	100.0

*Ratio of state appropriation (reimbursement to municipalities) to entitlement.
Source: Department of Education

Resolution of the Alaska Municipal League

Resolution No. 89-14

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FORWARD AND EARLY
FUNDING FOR EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, until 1988 the Alaska State Legislature acted on funding for education during the last few days of the Legislative Session, and

WHEREAS, in most municipalities, the largest segment of the overall budget is the education budget, and

WHEREAS, in 1988 the Alaska State Legislature acted on education funding during the early part of the 1988 legislative session, enabling municipalities to project funding sources and to complete their budget in a timely manner, and

WHEREAS, early funding allows municipalities to know the amount of funds available from the State at an early date, and

WHEREAS, forward funding would allow a municipality to know a year in advance the amount of funds which will be available for education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges Governor Steve Cowper to include both forward funding and early funding in his budget and to support both programs.

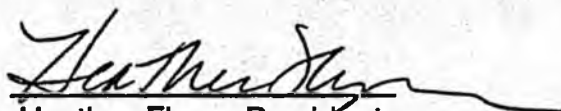
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Alaska Municipal League that the Alaska State Legislature is requested to enact legislation that will allow forward funding for education and to appropriate the necessary funds for forward funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event forward funding for education is not enacted by the Legislature, the Alaska Municipal League respectfully requests the Alaska State Legislature to pass early education funding during the first half of the legislative session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to approve legislation pertaining to educational funding enacted by the legislature, whether that funding is forward funding or early funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League's strong and unwavering support for education is not meant to diminish the importance to many communities of adequate funding for the municipal assistance and revenue sharing programs.

Adopted this 18th day of November 1988 in Fairbanks, Alaska.


Heather Flynn, President

ATTEST:


Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director

Resolution of the Alaska Municipal League

Resolution No. 89-3

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADEQUATE FUNDING
OF MUNICIPAL ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, declining oil revenues have resulted in a 10 percent decrease in spending in the State budget while State aid to municipalities has been reduced by over 30 percent, and

WHEREAS, by statute the State has established several entitlement programs that share state revenues with municipalities to assist them in the provision of basic services for Alaskans at the local level, and

WHEREAS, the State Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption Program and the companion Renters Equivalency Program have cost Alaskan municipalities over \$13,000,000 since 1986 because of underfunding by the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, inequities and inconsistencies in State funding of school construction have cost municipalities over \$29,000,000 in unreimbursed school debt since 1986, and

WHEREAS, the State Revenue Sharing Program, created by the Alaska State Legislature in 1969 to encourage local governments to provide adequate levels of public services and to inject a measure of stability into the municipal budgeting procedure, has been reduced by fully one third since 1986, and

WHEREAS, the Miscellaneous Municipal Services Account of the Revenue Sharing Program, which provides specific funds for local roads, ice roads, hospital and health facilities, fire departments and unincorporated communities, has not been fully funded for nine years, and


WHEREAS, the Municipal Assistance Program has also been reduced by over 30 percent since 1986, and

WHEREAS, basic education for Alaska's children is a constitutionally mandated function of the State, and the Education Foundation Formula is the single most important component in the state system for funding this need, and


WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League wishes to indicate its fiscal responsibility and recognizes that the price of oil may not allow increases in the entitlement programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the Governor and the 16th Alaska State Legislature to provide funding for municipal entitlement programs in an amount not less than was appropriated in FY 89.

Adopted this 18th day of November 1988 in Fairbanks, Alaska.


Heather Flynn, President

ATTEST:


Scott A. Burgess, Executive Director

Senator John B. (Jack) Coghill
Alaska State Legislature

Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4797

Box 55028
North Pole, Alaska 99705
(907) 488-0862



MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Rick Uehling
Co-Chairman Senate Finance

From: Senator Jack Coghill

Re: SB 10

Date: January 25, 1989

Today, SB 10, "an Act relating to the deadlines for action on funding of public education; and providing for an effective date" has passed out of the Senate HESS Committee and will be read across the Senate Floor tomorrow and transmitted to Senate Finance.

SB 10 sets a deadline of March 14 by which the Legislature shall appropriate funds to school districts for the next fiscal year. It would also change the date from April 1 to April 15 by which borough school boards have to submit the following school year's budget to the borough assembly.

I would appreciate if you would schedule SB 10 for a Senate Finance Committee hearing as soon as possible. Enclosed is backup material on the bill.



ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

• ALASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS •
326 Fourth St., Suite 408 Juneau, Alaska 99801 586-9702

POSITION STATEMENT
ON

SB 38 APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR K-12
SUPPORT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

THE ALASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS SUPPORTS SB 38
BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS FULL AND EARLY FUNDING FOR THE FOUNDATION
PROGRAM AS WELL AS FOR THE OTHER FLOW THROUGH FUNDS FOR THE
GENERAL OPERATION OF THE K-12 SCHOOL SYSTEM.

WHILE WE WOULD RECOMMEND TO AMEND THE BILL TO INCLUDE DEBT
RETIREMENT PAYMENTS, THE BENEFITS OF FULL AND EARLY FUNDING HAVE
BEEN REALIZED THIS YEAR IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS;

1. EARLY AND FULL NOTIFICATION OF FUNDING ALLOWED FOR A SMOOTH
END OF THE YEAR LAST YEAR.
2. MUNICIPALITIES WERE ABLE TO APPROVE SCHOOL BUDGETS EARLIER
THAN IN PAST YEARS.
3. EARLY FUNDING HELPED TO BRING ABOUT A SMOOTHER OPENING AND
HIRING OF STAFF FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.
4. IT HAS HELPED TO STABILIZE EDUCATIONAL FUNDING AND PROGRAMS IN
SCHOOL DISTRICTS ACROSS ALASKA.

WE ENCOURAGE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO PASS THIS IMPORTANT
LEGISLATION AND URGE IT'S IMMEDIATE PASSAGE BY THE SENATE.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Deadlines For Action on Funding
of Public Education...
Sponsor: Coghill, Faiks, et al
Requestor: Senator Coghill

Agency Affected: Education
BRU: K-12 Support, School Debt
Reimbursement
Components: Foundation, Pupil Transportation
Tuition, et al: Debt Retirement

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Mary Hakala Phone: 465-2800
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 1/13/89
Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 1/13/89
Agency: Education

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

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SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/12/90

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 3/29/90

The Finance Committee considered

SB 11

"An Act authorizing compensation for members of the state Local Boundary Commission; and providing for an effective date."

and recommended:

replace with _____ CS SB 11 (Finance)
 or adopt _____ CS _____
 attached amendment(s)
 _____ letter of intent adopted

same title
 new title
 technical title change (HB only)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) DCBRA 3/7/90

zero fiscal note(s) _____

appropriation-no fiscal note

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

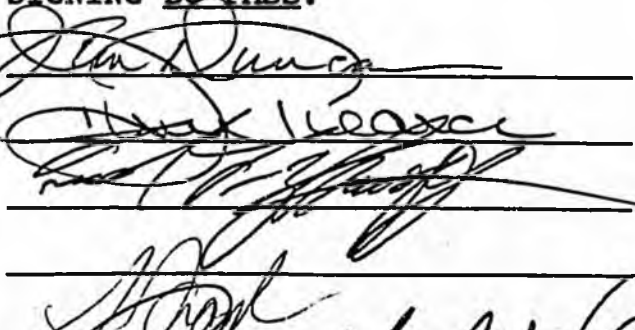
Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:



1. John D. ...

Co-Chairs: Signatures and Recommendations

R/o JFC 3-29-90

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SB 11
PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act..compensation for members of the State Boundary Commission..."
Sponsor: Senator Sturgulewski
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary) No fiscal impact in FY 90.

This fiscal note assumes 25 days of meeting per year with compensation at \$150 per day.

Prepared by: Jim Plasman, Deputy Director
Division: Municipal & Regional Assistance

Phone: 465-4750
Date: March 7, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Department of Community & Regional Affairs

Date: 3-7-90

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Changes in CSSB // (Fin) have no fiscal impact. This fiscal note is appropriate. 3/29/90 JL

R/p JFC 3-29-90

Original sponsor(s): SEN. STURGULEWSKI

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IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 11 (Finance)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act authorizing compensation for members of the state Local Boundary Commission; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. AS 44.47.579 is repealed and reenacted to read:

Sec. 44.47.579. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES. A member of the Local Boundary Commission is entitled to compensation at a rate of \$150 for each day the member is attending a meeting of the commission. A member is also entitled to receive per diem and travel expenses authorized for members of boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1990.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE
JANUARY 1990

Senate Bill 11 - "An Act authorizing compensation for members of the state Local Boundary Commission".

This bill is virtually identical to a measure approved by the Senate in 1988 to provide compensation to each member of the Commission at a rate of \$150 for each day the member attends a meeting. The Commission supports this legislation.

The merits of compensation to the Commission were perhaps first recognized by the Public Administration Service (PAS) which assisted the Alaska Statehood Committee and Alaska Constitutional Convention in setting the framework for the operation of the State of Alaska. In a 1959 report, the PAS provided suggestions on the significant issues requiring immediate attention to effect Alaska's transition to statehood. In its proposed program for action by the First Session of the First State Legislature it is recommended that the Local Boundary Commission be established. The report goes on to state that "*Members of the Commission should be adequately compensated . . .*" (Local Government Under the Alaska Constitution, A Survey Report, Public Administration Service, Chicago, Illinois, January 9, 1959, p. 23.)

It would appear that compensation was not a particularly significant issue with the Commission during the years immediately following Statehood. When the Local Boundary Commission was first formed, there were only about 30 municipal governments in Alaska. Records indicate that the Commission met only a few times each year. By contrast, there are 163 municipalities in the state today. The current Commission typically meets 15 - 20 times a year, often in remote parts of the state.

The increase in the number of municipal governments and the number of meetings alone do not fully account for the additional demands placed on the Commission. Procedures which were simple thirty years ago have, regrettably, grown much more complex. For example, the Commission operated without regulations until it was mandated to establish such by a ruling of the Supreme Court in 1971. Today, the Commission's regulations take up more than 50 pages. Another example of added procedural responsibilities is the relatively recent requirement that the U.S. Justice Department review and approve every municipal incorporation, dissolution and boundary change approved by the Commission.

Further, given our litigious society and the typically controversial nature of the issues brought before the Commission, actions taken by the Commission are often challenged in court. Decisions of the Commission have been the subject of four landmark rulings by the State Supreme Court. A host of other Supreme and Superior

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE
JANUARY 1990

Court decisions affect each and every action taken by the Commission. The ever present threat of legal challenge of actions by the Commission demand that the Commission often spend several days preparing for a single meeting.

To deal with the current burden placed upon the Commission requires a level of expertise and perseverance beyond that which might be reasonably expected of volunteers. The fiscal impact of such legislation would be minimal. Based upon 25 one-day meetings per year with compensation of \$150 per day, the total compensation to the Commission would amount to \$18,750. Therefore, the Commission urges the Legislature to approve Senate Bill 11.

COMPENSATION TO STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The State of Alaska Boards and Commissions Book published by the Governor's Office in March, 1989 lists 116 "statutorily established boards and commissions that are currently functioning in state government". An examination of this publication shows that certain of these boards and commissions receive compensation as follows:

<u>BOARD OR COMMISSION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission:	Salaried
Commercial Fisheries and Agricultural Bank - Board of Directors	Not to exceed \$250/day
Public Employees" and Teachers' Disability Review Board	Hourly Compensation "consistent with normal hourly earnings" for 2 members who are physicians
Board of Fisheries	\$150 - \$100/day
Board of Game	\$150 - \$100/day
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation	\$100/day
Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority	\$100/day
Occupational Safety and Health Review Board	\$50/day
State Board of Parole	"Set by Governor"
Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation Board of Directors	\$400/day
Professional Teaching Practices Commission	"administrative leave; state reimburses for more than 15 days"
Public Offices Commission	\$50/day
Board of Directors of the Alaska Railroad Corporation	\$400/day
Alaska Science and Technology Foundation - Board of Directors	\$200/day
Alaska Public Utilities Commission	Salaried
Alaska Workers' Compensation Board	\$50/day

*Supplied by the
Dept. of Comm. & Reg Affairs*

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HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

File

(11)

Date Referred: April 27, 1990

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 5/4/90

The FINANCE Committee considered:

CSSB 11 (FINANCE)

CS SB NO. 11 (Fin)

BOUNDARY COMMISSION COMPENSATION

"An Act authorizing compensation for members of the state Local Boundary Commission; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with _____ the same title
- have attached amendment(s) a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

(Date/Dept)

- fiscal impact _____
- zero fiscal note _____
- zero with analysis _____


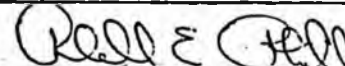

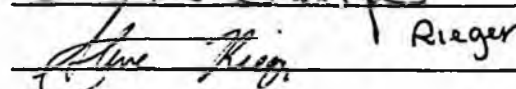
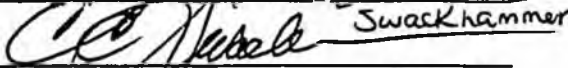
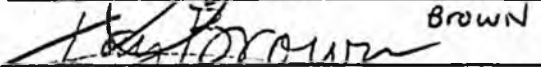
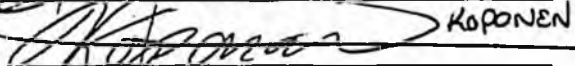
- fiscal note(s) 3/29/90 / C&RA
- zero fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fn/analysis _____

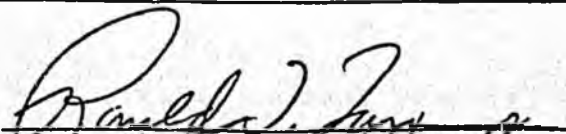
SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

Do Not Pass No Rec Amend

 Hoffman	 Phillips		✓	
 Carson	 Rieger		X	
 Swackhammer				
 BROWN				
 KOPONEN				


Chairman's Signature

R/O HFC 5-4-90

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: CS SB 11 (Fin)
PUBLISH DATE: 3/29/90

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act..compensation for members
of the State Boundary Commission..."
Sponsor: Senator Sturgulewski
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary) No fiscal impact in FY 90.

This fiscal note assumes 25 days of meeting per year with compensation at \$150 per day.

Prepared by: Jim Plasman, Deputy Director Phone: 465-4750
Division: Municipal & Regional Assistance Date: March 7, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 3-7-90
Agency: Department of Community & Regional Affairs

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

Changes in CSSB // (Fin)
have no fiscal impact.
This fiscal note is
appropriate. 3/29/90 ML

Offered: 3/29/90
Referred: Rules

R/O HFC 5-4-90
6-0089E

Original sponsor(s): SEN. STURGULEWSKI

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 11 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act authorizing compensation for members of the
7 state Local Boundary Commission; and providing for an
8 effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 44.47.579 is repealed and reenacted to read:

11 Sec. 44.47.579. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES. A member of the
12 Local Boundary Commission is entitled to compensation at a rate of
13 \$150 for each day the member is attending a meeting of the commission.
14 A member is also entitled to receive per diem and travel expenses
15 authorized for members of boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

16 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1990.

STATE OF ALASKA

LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

949 EAST 36TH AVENUE, SUITE 404
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508
PHONE: (907) 561-8586

May 4, 1990

Testimony of Charles Bettisworth, Chairman
Local Boundary Commission

TO: House Standing Committee on Finance
Co-Chairmen Ron Larson and Lyman Hoffman

I'd like to first thank you for the opportunity to provide my comments regarding Senate Bill 11 "An Act Authorizing Compensation for Members of the Local Boundary Commission".

The Commission supports this legislation for the following reasons:

The duties and responsibilities of the Commission have increased since the creation of the Local Boundary Commission 33 years ago. At that time, there were only 30 Municipal governments in the State and today there are 163 Borough and Cities.

The Commission, at the time of its creation, met a few times a year. Presently, we meet 15-20 times a year - often in remote communities under hazardous weather conditions.

The additional number of meetings do not account for the additional demands placed upon the commission. Procedures which were simple years ago have become increasingly complex. With revisions adopted last year, Local Boundary Commission regulations make up more than 50 pages of the State code. Actions which used to be processed in 60 days, now may take as long as 9 months.

All of this means that substantially more time is required for Local Boundary Commission members to appropriately act on issues before it.

As an example of the increased workload which the Commission is currently enduring, we have recently completed evaluations of the various petitions for incorporation of the region north of Matanuska-Susitna and south of Fairbanks North Star Borough (Matanuska-Susitna Borough Annexation petition, Denali

House Standing Committee on Finance
May 4, 1990
Page Two

Borough Incorporation petition and the Valley's Borough Incorporation Petition). The Commission reviewed over 700 pages of documents. These documents included the petitions, Departmental reports and draft reports and hearing supplements. Additionally, the Commission held 7 sets of hearings in 7 communities over a period of 3 days. Finally, on a separate weekend, the Commission conducted a decisional meeting in Healy. Next Friday we will meet for the ninth time on these petitions, this time to approve a formal written document outlining the basis for our decisions. We are looking at similar levels of activity for petitions submitted by the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the City and Borough of Juneau, all of which require action this year.


The Local Boundary Commission is a quasi-judicial commission. The issues before it are often controversial, over the years many decisions of the Commission have been challenged in court. The Alaska Supreme Court has rendered a number of decisions regarding the actions of the Commission. It is incumbent upon the Commission to act with care and thoroughness.

The Local Boundary Commission is one of only two constitutionally-mandated State Commissions (the University of Alaska Board of Regents being the other). Our duties and responsibilities are commensurate with those of many of the other State boards and commission which are compensated. It seems only appropriate that the Local Boundary Commission be compensated.

Finally, the impact of the bill is minimal. The fiscal note projects the cost at \$18,750 annually.

We very strongly urge you to approve Senate Bill 11 and we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Charles Bettisworth
Chairman

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SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FURTHER

4/26/89

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE _____

Mr. President:

FINANCE

Committee considered SSSB 12

providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$17,550,000 for the purpose of paying the cost of school construction; efd

and recommended

- replace with _____ CS _____) same title
- or adopt _____ CS _____) new title
- attached amendment(s) and technical title change (HB only)
- _____ letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

*No Action Taken.
Bill Died in SFC*

FISCAL NOTE(S) zero fiscal impact appropriation no FN
 new updated previous
 same as previous fiscal note(s) published _____

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair: _____ signature and recommendation

Committee Backup attached

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

6-0104H

FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERRAL

Date of 5-DAY NOTICE 3/7/89
IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM RULE 23

FURTHER

FINANCE

**FISCAL NOTE(S) MUST BE ATTACHED
IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 24.08.035

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE 4/25/89

2/16/89

Mr. President:

HESS Committee considered SSSB 12

providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$17,550,000 for the purpose of paying the cost of school construction; efd

and recommended:

- replace with SSSB 12 (HESS) same title
- attached amendment(s) and *+ reports it back* new title
- As follows:
- _____ letter of intent adopted
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- further referral to _____

FN

Fiscal Note -
Revenue ordered
and forthcoming
DCM

FISCAL NOTE(S) attached zero fiscal impact
 appropriation no FN attached Gov. FN introduced w/ bill

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

[Signature]

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Jessie Duncan - No Rec

Paul Fish (Do Pass)
Chairman signature and recommendation

Committee backup attached