

**ALASKA LEGISLATURE**

**1440**

**HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1995-1996**

AMENDMENT # 1

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

TO: CSHB 493(JUD) am

1 Page 3, following line 12:

2 Insert a new bill section to read:

3 **\*\* Sec. 7.** AS 47.37.180 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

4 (g) The administrator of an approved public treatment facility may accept an  
5 application for commitment under this section from a health facility and may  
6 authorize the health facility to hold the person who is the subject of the commitment  
7 petition at the health facility as long as medically necessary, before transferring the  
8 person to the approved public treatment facility. An administrator who accepts an  
9 application for commitment from a health facility shall comply with the provisions of  
10 (c) - (f) of this section if the person being committed is held for longer than 48 hours  
11 from the time the administrator accepts the application for commitment under this  
12 subsection. A person committed under this subsection shall be transported from the  
13 health facility to the approved public treatment facility as soon as the person is  
14 discharged from the health facility. If the person being committed under this  
15 subsection is physically present at the health facility at the time an application for  
16 extension of detention is filed under (c) of this section or is physically present at the  
17 health facility when a petition for involuntary commitment is filed under (e) of this  
18 section, the administrator accepting the application for commitment under this  
19 subsection shall inform the court of where the person being committed is being held  
20 and when the person being committed is expected to be capable of being transferred  
21 to the approved public treatment facility."

22 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

H-29-96  
SR  
moved  
Adopted

AMENDMENT # 2

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR RIEGER

TO: CSHB 493 (JUD) am

- 1 Page 5, Line 9, following "facility":
- 2 Delete "shall provide"
- 3 Insert "must be capable of providing"
- 4 Page 7, Line 18, following "detaining":
- 5 Insert "or failing to detain"

SENATE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE  
Amendment Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Logged In By: \_\_\_\_\_

# A FAX

## Alaska State Legislature

Date: 29 April 1996

To: Legal Services

Fax#: 2029 Phone#: 2450

From: Senate Finance Committee, Jerry

Phone#: 4935

Re: Using CS HB 493(JUD) am. (9-LS1607\K) as a base please incorporate attached amends. #1 + #2. for a final SCS CS HB 493(FIN). many thanks!

Following this page, please find 2 pages(s). If this does not reach you in full, please inform us ASAP.



# THANK YOU.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

HB 493 INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT: ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE

PLEASE SIGN-IN BELOW

NAME: Dr. Ducevich  
Co./Dept/Title: Ex Director, Advisory Board on Alcohol Phone: 465-4667  
Address: Box 110608 Zip: 99811  
Do you wish to testify?  Yes  No  Respond to Questions

NAME: Loren Jones  
Co./Dept/Title: Director  
Division of Alcoholism + Drug Abuse Phone: 465-2071  
Address: Box 110607 Zip: 99811-0607  
Do you wish to testify?  Yes  No  Respond to Questions

NAME: Tom Wright  
Co./Dept/Title: Rep Travis office Phone: 4992  
Address: STATE CAPITAL, Rm 5.3 JUNEAU Zip: 99801  
Do you wish to testify?  Yes  No  Respond to Questions

NAME: Barbara Craver  
Co./Dept/Title: City + Borough of Juneau Attorney's Office Phone: 586-5242  
Address: 155 S. Seward St. Zip: 99801  
Do you wish to testify?  Yes  No  Respond to Questions

4/29/96

Betty -

Please review attached  
final for proper  
incorporation of Sen.  
Rieger's Amend #2  
and advise if it is  
acceptable.

Thanks.

OK

Kathy  
2618

4-29-96

Larry -

Attached is the final  
SCS CS HB 493 (Fix)  
incorporating Amend #1,  
by Sen. Zboroff, and  
Amend #2, by Sen. Rieger.

The offices of the makers  
of the motions have both  
approved the final. How  
does it look to you?

OK

Kathy  
2618

4/28/96

this amendment #1 moved by  
Sen. Zharoff is held pending.

Sen. Halford asked Sen. Rieger to  
come up with amendment on  
limitations of liability sec. 14 (page 7)  
also page 7, line 3 "shall" to "may"  
Sen. Rieger concern about page 7,  
line 29 - (c).

held in committee

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR RIEGER

TO: CSHB 493 (JUD) am

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SENATE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE

Amendment Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Logged In By: \_\_\_\_\_

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ATTORNEY

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April 26, 1996

The Honorable Jim Duncan  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol (MS 3100)  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: HB 493 - "An Act relating to treatment for alcoholism or drug abuse"

Dear Senator Duncan:

The City and Borough of Juneau has supported House Bill 493 since its introduction and has been involved in its passage through the House. The City Law Department advises and represents the Juneau Recovery Hospital (JRH), a division of the city's Department of Health and Social Services, in court when involuntary alcohol commitment petitions are filed. Juneau is the only municipality in Alaska who actively uses this law for the involuntary commitment of alcoholics, and we have worked with the existing law extensively. The changes in the law proposed in this bill will make these statutes easier to work with, clearer, and will make several changes to bring the alcohol commitment laws in line with the mental health commitment laws.

The City and Borough of Juneau would like to see one additional section added to HB 493 to address a situation which is not clear in the current statutes. It has to do with providing a continuum of services to incapacitated persons with short-term medical problems that prevent them from being committed to JRH directly.

JRH works closely with Bartlett Memorial Hospital (BMH), also owned by the city. It is quite common for a person incapacitated by alcohol to be brought to the emergency room at BMH for a medical examination, and to be found to have medical problems in addition to incapacitation by alcohol. In such a case BMH can initiate an alcohol hold of no more than 48 hours under the authority of AS 47.37.170 (d). BMH physicians frequently contact JRH and request that JRH take the person under another alcohol hold as soon as the person can be safely released from the hospital. The ideal scenario would be for JRH to be able to take custody of the person under an alcohol hold even while they are at BMH. As soon as the persons medical condition allowed they would be transferred to JRH for further observation and treatment. Authority for a continuous hold would restrain the person from leaving the health facility against medical advice.



Alaska State House of Representatives  
House District 39

APR 22 1996

Session  
Alaska State Capital  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Phone: (907) 465-4942



Interim  
P.O. Box 137  
Akiak, Alaska 99552  
Phone: (907) 765-7526

**Representative Ivan M. Ivan**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Senator Rick Halford, Co-Chair  
Senator Steve Frank, Co-Chair  
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Representative Ivan M. Ivan *IMI*

DATE: April 22, 1996

RE: Scheduling of CSHB 493 (JUD) am

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Please consider this request to hear Committee Substitute for House Bill 493 (JUD) am: An Act relating to involuntary commitment for alcoholism or drug abuse, before the Senate Finance Committee at your earliest possible convenience.

AS 47.37.190 provides for the involuntary commitment of alcoholics. The provisions of this statute allow for 30 day commitments with recommitment for 90 days. This current law has been found to be unwieldy, expensive and treatment options are not readily available. Communities use the commitment policy sparingly, if they use it at all. The current commitment process simply is not working.

This bill is drafted along the same lines as those statutes currently in use for involuntary mental health commitments.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff, Tom Wright, or me if either of us can provide further information or answer any questions.

Thank you.

IMI/tw







**Page Three**  
**Sectional Analysis**  
**CSHB 493 (JUD) am**

**Section 17.** Amends AS 47.37.270(13), Definitions. Adds drugs to the definition of intoxicated person.

**Section 18** Amends AS 47.37.270(14), Definitions. Adds drug abusers to the definition of treatment.

**Section 19.** Adds a new paragraph to AS 47.37.270, Definitions. Defines drugs as a controlled substance as set out in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190.

**Section 20.** Repeals AS 47.37.170(j), Treatment and Services for Intoxicated Persons and Persons Incapacitated by Alcohol. This subsection defined incapacitated by alcohol and did not conform with the definition found in Section 14 of this bill. Thus it was deleted and the definition in Section 14 is used throughout the entire act as the definition for incapacitated by alcohol or drugs.



1996 RURAL ALASKA PARTICIPATION CONFERENCE

Resolution # 96-34

**ENTITLED:**           **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE OF ALASKA HOUSE BILL NO. 493 RELATING TO INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT FOR ALCOHOLISM OR DRUG ABUSE**

**WHEREAS,**           the City of Fort Yukon wishes to have HB 493 passed for the health and welfare of persons needing help due to alcoholism and drug abuse.

Now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:**       That the City of Fort Yukon Council supports House Bill 493, relating to involuntary commitment for alcoholism or drug abuse, and

Be it further

**RESOLVED:**       By the 1996 Rural Alaska Participation Conference to support the City of Fort Yukon's Council support of HB 493.

**ADOPTED** this 22nd day of March 1996 at the Rural Alaska Participation Conference in Juneau, Alaska.



---

Dewey Skan, Chairman  
1996 Rural Alaska Participation Conference

**State of Alaska**  
**Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**

**Cost/Benefit Analysis**  
**of**  
**Involuntary Commitments for Public Inebriates**

1. Involuntary commitments to alcoholism treatment of persons who meet certain criteria is authorized under Alaska Statute 47.37.190. While this process has been in statute for some time, it is not widely used in Alaska for several reasons. First, many of those who have a need and/or opportunity to use it find the process cumbersome, time and labor intensive, and expensive (if they need to retain an attorney). Second, many individuals doubt that committing someone to treatment against their will accomplishes anything.

2. The purpose of this analysis is to quantify, to the extent possible, the benefits of committing a person as opposed to not committing them. This analysis will not deal with the issue of whether the person enters a program of recovery after treatment or even the issue of appropriate or compassionate treatment of alcoholics. It will deal specifically with the financial issues surrounding public inebriates and what impact commitment has on that problem.

- Assumptions:**
- (1) *The data gathered to support this analysis is from the Juneau Recovery Hospital which operates a detoxification unit. We assume that a certain "core" of individuals who access these services would be candidates for a Title 47 hold in communities without a detox facility.*
  - (2) *The average cost of providing medical screens and related care at Ketchikan General Hospital, Bartlett Memorial Hospital, Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, Kodiak Island Hospital and Petersburg Medical Center closely approximates the statewide cost of providing medical screens and related care per Title 47 hold. Likewise, the cost of police, ambulance and community services patrol service shown are representative of costs throughout the state.*
  - (3) *Individuals whose alcohol consumption pattern makes them a candidate for a commitment will likely continue in their consumption pattern unless intervened on in some manner.*





only estimates. We also looked for consistency and reasonableness of data. The most effective way to ensure the precision and accuracy of the data would be to conduct a multi-year study using a carefully selected group of communities and health care facilities.



**Analysis of Admission to Detox  
Juneau, Alaska  
8/93 - 8/94**

<b>Total Admissions to Detox:</b>	<b>897</b>
<b>Number of unduplicated clients</b>	<b>384</b>
<b>Admission to Detox for persons with only a single admission</b>	<b>238 (62% of unduplicated clients) (26.5% of total admissions)</b>
<b>Admission to Detox for persons with more than 10 admissions</b>	<b>231 (25.8% of total admissions)</b>
<b>Number of Persons with more than 10 admissions to detox</b>	<b>17 (4.4% of unduplicated clients)</b>
<b>Admissions to Detox for persons with more than 1 admission but less than 10 admissions</b>	<b>428 (47.7% of total admissions)</b>
<b>Number of Persons with more than 1 admission but less than 10</b>	<b>129 (33.6% of unduplicated clients)</b>

*Note: For those individuals who had 10 or more admissions to detox, 10 of the 17 were subsequently committed.*

FIND\_DUP

Clients with more than 10 Detox Admissions in 1 Year	
73006	18
77156	17
8500283	17
80235	16
9100270	16
81064	15
83125	15
76031	14
77200	14
8800211	14
73034	12
79173	12
78094	11
80374	10
82050	10
82079	10
9200070	10
Total	231

Multiple Commitment Clients						
				N = 4		
Client #	Commitment Date	# Admits Prior to Commitment	# Admits After Commitment	Time Between Commitments		
79019	1/12/95	4	0			
	9/6/95	3	0			9 Months
9100270	8/24/94	11	5			
	2/7/95	5	5			6 Months
	6/28/95	5	4			4.5 Months
	9/6/95	4	8			2.5 Months
	12/21/95	8	1			3.5 Months
	1/24/96	1	Still in Treatment			1 Month
80263	5/16/94	6	2			
	7/27/94	2	0			2.5 Months
75330	7/8/94	5	2			
	8/20/94	2	3			1.5 Month
<b>Total</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>30</b>			
<b>Average</b>		<b>4.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>			
<b>Totals: Single &amp; Multiple Admissions</b>		<b>156</b>	<b>50</b>			
<b>Cumulative Averages</b>		<b>7.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>			

ATTACHMENT 3

Single Commitments				
Persons with > 5 Admits 6 Months prior to Commitment				
N=10				
Client #	# Admits Prior to Commitment		# Admits After Commitment	
73034	10		1	
73006	5		4	
77200	14		3	
8500279	6		0	
80235	13		0	
82050	12		1	
76031	12		8	
74076	9		1	
9301080	10		0	
81064	9		2	
<b>Total</b>	100		20	
<b>Average</b>	10		2	

Attachment 4

**HB**

**500**

**HFIN**

**FILE**



\*Sec. 2:

Add a new subsection (e):

(e) The sum of \$25,000 is reappropriated to the Legislative Affairs Agency for the purchase of a 1967 portrait of Ernest Gruening by Fred Machentantz and a 1966 portrait of Bob Bartlett by K.S. Choi from the Monroe Foundation.



1 proportion to the amount of the shortfall.

2 \* **Sec. B.** The unexpended and unobligated balance of the appropriation made in sec. 21,  
3 ch. 79, SLA 1993, page 102, lines 24 - 25 (Matanuska-Susitna Borough campground upgrades  
4 - \$50,000) is reappropriated to the Department of Administration for payment as a grant under  
5 AS 37.05.315 to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough for parks and recreation upgrades and  
6 improvements.

7 \* **Sec. C.** The appropriations made by sec. A(a), (b), and (d) of this Act are for capital  
8 projects and lapse under AS 37.25.020.



# A M E N D M E N T

BY: Representative Brown & Senator Ellis

TO: Reappropriation Bill

Sec. \_\_\_ (a) The unexpended and unobligated balance of the appropriation made in Chapter 79, page 58, line 16, SLA93, be amended as follows:

	Appropriation
Anchorage - Catholic Social Services - [YMCA Pool] <u>Roof Renovation/Replacement</u>	<u>\$100,000.</u> [\$170,000]
Alaska Family Practice Residency Program renovations/equipment	\$70,000.





















**Governor's Proposed FY 97 Capital Budget  
by Election District**

The bill does not yet include the Department of Transportation federal highway and airport projects. This is because the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is in its final public comment phase. The list of approved projects will be released in early March.

Please note that statewide projects are listed at the end of the packet.







































































