

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

1741

HOUSE and SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FILES, 1997-1998

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM

April 28, 1997

SUBJECT: CSSB 25(JUD)

TO: Senator Robin Taylor, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
Attn: Laura

FROM: Pamela Finley *PF*
Revisor of Statutes

SENATE FINANCE

Amendment Number: 1
Bill Number: SB25
Sponsor: Denley Date: 5/2/97
By: gl

*moved Sen. Denley
w/o objection adopted*

Enclosed is CSSB 25(JUD), which passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee today. Because the committee changed "may" to "shall" in several places, several other conforming changes ought to be made to the bill:

Page 2, line 4.

Delete "authorized"
Insert "required"

Page 2, lines 8 - 9 :

Delete "if such a system has been established by the commissioner"
Insert "established"

Requests for changes on the bill should still be addressed to Jerry Luckhaupt; I am writing this only because Jerry is so busy today.

PF:glc
97-280.glc

COPY

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4431
Fax: (907) 343-4499

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 25, 1997

Senator Bert Sharp
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 25

Dear Senator Sharp:

I urge your support of Senate Bill 25 providing for a statewide automated victim notification system. The victims of violent crime and sex offenses deserve a criminal justice system responsive to their needs and concerns; passage of the VINE legislation will provide this.

When the legislature passed the Domestic Violence Act of 1996, it imposed a burden on prosecutors to "make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release [of the defendant] and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release." This task can only be reasonably accomplished through implementation of an automated victim notification system.

The VINE system has proven effective in 12 states. The State of Alaska should be on the cutting edge of increasing responsiveness to victim concerns. We should not lag behind in this area.

As co-chair of the Senate Finance Committee, your support would be instrumental in achieving the passage of this bill. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rick Mystrom". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Rick Mystrom
Mayor of Anchorage

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Office of the Prosecutor
420 L Street, Suite 100

March 19, 1997

Senator Bert Sharp
State Capitol, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Bert Sharp;

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Prosecutors Office, the Municipality of Anchorage and its people, and all the victims of domestic violence. I urge your support for the passage of Senate Bill 25 and the attendant appropriations bill.

Since the passage of the Domestic Violence Protection/Victim Protection act of 1996, particularly the amendments to AS 12.30.027, Prosecutor and District Attorney offices around the state have been charged with a responsibility we simply cannot meet this in any meaningful manner.

AS 12.30.027(d)(1) provides:

When a person is released from custody under (a) of this section (bail), from a correctional facility, the correctional facility shall notify the prosecuting authority and the prosecuting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release.

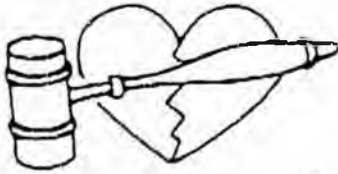
As things stand now, there simply are no reasonable efforts we can make to immediately notify the victim if a defendant makes bail at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning, which is when most of these arrests are made.

An automated and statewide victim notification system is the only meaningful method of complying with AS 12.30.027. If we are to protect the victim's of domestic violence and remain at the forefront of domestic violence prosecution, this system must be implemented.

Sincerely,

John Marston Richard
Chief Municipal Prosecutor

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

VICTIMS

for Justice 619 East Fifth Avenue • Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 278-0977 • Fax: (907) 258-0740

Courtesy of the
Office of Senator Johnny Ellis

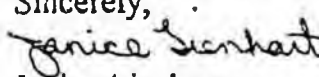
March 11, 1997

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26: *An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victims notification and prisoner information system.*

Alaskan families and victims of violent crime deserve to be recognized and assisted by Alaska's Department of Corrections. In fact, in 1994, the people of Alaska overwhelmingly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill of Rights. This Constitutional amendment makes *explicit* the *right* to be *informed, present* and *heard* at the same proceedings where the accused or convicted offenders have such rights. As you are aware, the Alaska Department of Corrections has statutory duties relating to crime victims, ranging from the notification of parole hearings; transfers to other facilities; an escape or release from custody to supervising restitution compliance. The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) computer system will enhance Alaska's Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes and will significantly increase compliance with the intent of these laws.

Sincerely,

Janice Lienhart
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-5355



January 17, 1997

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Anchorage

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Senator Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ellis,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing Senate Bills 25 and 26 relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system and appropriations for the same. At a recent meeting of the APOA State Board, we decided to unanimously support this legislation. We believe that the better the communications are between Corrections, departments, municipalities and victims, the better the prevention of prisoner-related problems.

We encourage you to call on us when there are hearings on these bills, so that we may testify about the need for this legislation. If you need assistance as you shepherd these bills through the legislative process, please call me at 451-5316, or our business manager, Joseph Young at 277-0515.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Corkill".

Michael Corkill
APOA State President



Bethel Police Department

P.O. Box 500 : Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3785

February 7, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
Senate Bill Nos: 25

Dear Senator Green,

The Bethel Police Department is very much in support of the VINE legislation.

We feel it is critical that the rights' of the victims of violent crime are defended. It is paramount to the well-being of every victim that they be notified of and have access to obtain information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis
Room 9
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182



City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

Business 747-8245
Fax 747-1075

TO: Senator Lyda GREEN, Chair
State Affairs Committee

FROM: Chief Lynn LAMM, Sitka Police Department
Director Christine MCLEOD, Sitkans Against Family Violence

DATE: 2-06-97

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bills 25 and 26
Support for House Bills 47 and 48
VINE

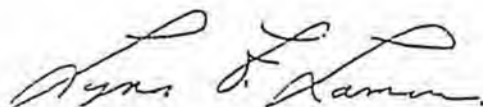
NH

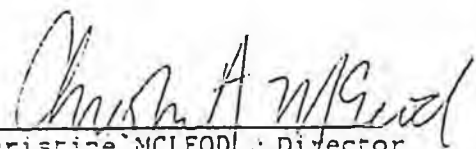
Senator GREEN-

The Sitka Police Department and Sitkans Against Family Violence would like to jointly express our support for this legislation.

Automatic notification would be beneficial to the domestic violence victim and the police. Immediate notification would be very beneficial to the victim allowing sufficient time to prepare themselves and family members for release of an inmate. For the police it would mean timely notification to the victim and another method of notification besides the current methods outlined in the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996.

We urge passage of this legislation on behalf of victim's rights in domestic violence cases and as a continuation of legislative efforts toward prevention of domestic abuse.


Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department


Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence

Senator Ellis-

This is a courtesy copy for your information

Sgt. Allen
SPD

March 5, 1997

Dear Senator Green,

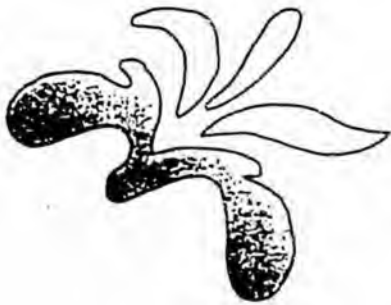
I strongly urge you to support SB 25 and 26. Alaskans who have been victimized should not also live in daily fear that the perpetrator will be released without their knowledge. An efficient and reliable method for victim notification that reduces the burden on corrections staff is in all of our best interests. The VINE system seems an excellent way to accomplish this essential public service.

Thank-you in advance for moving these bills

Sincerely,

Patty Kerklin

4920 Anderson Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709



WOMEN IN CRISIS

Counseling and Assistance

717 Ninth Avenue • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

(907) 452-2293 • Fax: 452-2613 • 1-800-478-7273

February 12, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of SB 25, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and SB 26, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for SB 25 will allow for greater safety for victims of violent crimes. It would save victims from physical harm and save lives. It stands to reason that the sooner this bill becomes law, the sooner can this protection be provided. Therefore, I urge you to facilitate both bills' passage this session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
PO Box 878464
Wasilla, AK 99687-8464

①

February 4, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
Chair, State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I recently read SB 25 and SB 26 regarding an automated system that notifies victims when their perpetrators have been released, transferred to another facility or have posted bail. Through the system, victims can also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime through an anonymous process that protects their safety. I fully endorse this legislation and encourage you to consider affirmative action on this bill.

The VINE system is highly cost-effective since it is entirely computerized. Aside from the initial set-up and data entry, the system is extremely low-maintenance. Creating this system of victim notification will increase greatly the safety of those victimized by violent offenders and reduce significantly the opportunity for re-offense to victimized families.

We have suffered some major tragedies in the past year. While the VINE system will not ameliorate all violent deaths, it has the potential to prevent many and make the Mat-Su Borough a safer place for all of us to live.

Sincerely,


Pamela L. Sandvik

CC: Senator Johnny Ellis



Tongass

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

February 5, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1188

Dear Senator Green:

On behalf of the staff at Tongass Community Counseling Center I am requesting that you support Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26 to fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections. Tongass Community Counseling Center works with the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our primary focus in this line of work is victim safety and perpetrator accountability. We endorse VINE because it empowers the victim. It gives victims access to information when they choose rather than relying on someone in the criminal justice to remember to notify them. I encourage you to pass this bill to provide a better service to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Thank you for your consideration in this issue.

Sincerely,

Bridget Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

February 25, 1997

Senator Lynda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and urge your support and the prompt passage of these bills. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

27th February 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99081 - 1182

Dear Senator Green,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These Bills address the need of victims of violent crime to have the right to have prompt accurate information about the status of the perpetrator. Information such as release, transfer, posting bail and escape affects victims deeply and may in the case of domestic or sexual violence mean the difference between life and death. These Bills would allow the Department of Corrections to provide automated victim notification and prisoner information system in Alaska (VINE). We need as a society, to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and victims are given the information needed to rebuild their lives safely.

Please consider co-sponsoring Bill 25 and Bill 26. We need your support to see these bills are given prompt passage. Thank you

Catherine Vaara,
Direct Services Coordinator

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980 • FAX (907) 835-2981

March 1, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. I urge you to consider co-sponsoring the bills, ensuring your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tamara McCurry
Evening Advocate

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Health, Education and
Social Services Committee

Senate Judiciary Committee

Department of Health and Social
Services Budget Subcommittee

Department of Law
Budget Subcommittee



While in Session:
State Capitol, Rm. 9
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3704
fax: (907) 465-2529

While in Anchorage:
716 West 4th Ave., Ste. 440
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 258-8182
fax: (907) 258-5571

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 25

An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system.

Proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers is a serious problem, both nationally and in Alaska. In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent. Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

In order to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed. V.I.N.E. provides two important services which enhance the vital link of communication between the justice system and victims of crime.

First, the system provides automatic notification calls to crime victims when an inmate's status changes. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, V.I.N.E. places automated telephone calls to all registered victims within 10 minutes of a change in the offender's status. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second, V.I.N.E. provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. V.I.N.E. allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.

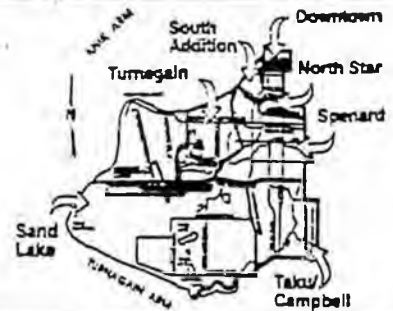
In February 1996, the State of Kentucky became the first state to implement V.I.N.E. statewide. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified by phone of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations per day. Currently, the V.I.N.E. Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

Implementing V.I.N.E. will increase state compliance with the Victims' Bill of Rights, overwhelmingly passed by the people of Alaska in 1994. The V.I.N.E. computer system will enhance the Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes.

I urge your support and prompt passage.

WESTSIDE PULSE

MARCH, 1997 VOLUME 10, No.



COMMUNITY & SHOPPING NEWS

Crime Victims Receive Warning Through V.I.N.E.

by Sen. Johnny Ellis (D)
Senate District H

Representing Spenard, Downtown and South Addition

In December 1993, Kentucky resident Mary Byron was murdered by her rapist just days after his release on bail. Neither Mary nor her family were aware that Mary's attacker had been released. Waiting for her outside the shopping mall, Donovan Harris shot and killed Mary. It was her 21st birthday.

In response to Mary's death, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity. As advocates for victims of violent crime, Representative Allen Kamplen and I have introduced companion bills in the House and Senate to

authorize and fund V.I.N.E. in Alaska.

V.I.N.E.'s computer system automatically places calls to victims to notify them that their attacker has been released, transferred to another facility or posted bail. V.I.N.E. will continue to call until the victims enter a code verifying that they received the message. Victims may also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime and anonymously.

Early in the preparation of the legislation, the Alaska Peace Officers Association and victims rights groups announced their support of V.I.N.E. technology. In Anchorage, Victims for Justice, Standing Together Against Rape (STAR), the Alaska Women's Resource Center (AWRC) and AWAIC endorsed the legislation.

If you would like to show your support for V.I.N.E., write or call your legislators and tell them to support Senate Bills 25 and 26 and House Bills 47 and 48. For victims of violent crime, the successful passage of this legislation may mean the difference between life and death.

If you would like to discuss this or other issues, you may reach me in Juneau by calling (907)463-3704. I am also available via e-mail at Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us or you may write to me at State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99801. You may also send a free public opinion message (POM) by calling (907)253-3111.

DEBARR
BUILDING SUPPLY & HARDWARE, INC.

333-6569

WATCH THIS
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NEXT MONTHS AD
DEBARR DOOZIES!
SPRING STOCK!
FENCING! DECKING!
LANDSCAPE TIMBERS
EARLY BUYS!



The Alaska BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER EARLY DETECTION PROGRAM

Offers Cancer Screening Services — AT NO COST!

Eligible Women:

Meet income and age guidelines.

Can receive clinical breast exam.

Community Council News

Sand Lake

A representative from Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council gave their top ten list of why a prison has no place in South Anchorage to the Sand Lake Community Council at the February meeting.

Eileen Jones from the Alaska Center for the Environment was asked to give a brief report on new clean air standards. Also Sara Barton from HDR Engineering was invited to make a brief presentation on the planned extension of city water service to the Sand Lake gravel pit area.

A legislative teleconference connected members with elected officials in Juneau and assembly and school board members spoke and answered questions.

Turnagain

A legislative teleconference, assembly update and West Side Community Patrol elections and financial reports were among items on the February Turnagain Community Council agenda.

Brian Looney with CRW Engineering was asked to give an update to the council on the 36th Avenue storm drain project.

A questionnaire has been formulated by the board so the public and the board can provide input to guide the council for the next year.

Representatives from People Mover (Anchorage bus system) addressed the council on plans to ex-

tend service to the Anchorage International Airport. This discussion will continue this month.

South Addition

A presentation by Dave Gurdnor of Anchorage Parks and Recreation on Valley of the Moon Park was among agenda items for the January South Addition Community Council.

Legislative reports and a report by Branch and Associates on the development of a lot at 9th and L streets were other items.

The 15th Avenue Project was also on the agenda for report and discussion.

North Star

Elections for North Star Community Council officers were scheduled for the late February North Star Community Council meeting. The officers are president, vice-president, treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary.

Also on that agenda was a Village Charter School presentation, discussion of school bonds, teleconference with legislators and a report of the summer solstice committee.

In a Valley of the Moon Park update at the late January council meeting, it was said that the rocket play equipment project is underway. Drawings were shown, a bid is to be awarded in late March and installation could begin in May.

Dave Gardner of Parks and Recreation explained the plans for Valley of the Moon Park, which have expanded from just adding a ball-field or two to an extensive master plan with pathways, picnic areas, soccer field, baseball field and potential skateboard park with off-street parking. Members commented on the design and desire for a basketball court was expressed.

The council unanimously approved the conceptual design and will hold a contest among area kids to name the rocket with a cash prize.

Assembly and school board reports were given. The current work is on the school district 97-98 budget which is expected to be

last year due to opening of middle schools, Instructional improvement, high school reorganizing, and charter review and approvals.

A Community Development Block Grant writing committee is being formed.

On air quality, Cheryl F described new particulate matter emissions for diesel soot, etc. She stated that the past research shows weather inversions cause bronchitis and asthma in

Jo Fenery described the Me Program at North Star encouraged involvement council members are all participating from 11:45 a.m. each day of the school. Baxter Gamble encouraged participation in a fund-raiser prevention and the Cnn program.

The Summer Solstice Celebration is being formed to deal with the June 21 party in Spenard. Volunteers needed and can call Gurn 3309.

Persons interested in the Creek Watershed Plan can notebook on it by contacting Glaser, council president.

Harriet Drummond led in session so North Star make its contribution to municipal comprehensive. Members volunteered a questions of what they thought about Anchorage, what they change and completed the "Wouldn't it be wonderful day Anchorage...?"

South Addition

Discussions on Valley of the Moon Park in February community council meeting included done by the Parks Department League and the North Star Community Council.

The Transportation Improvement Plan was discussed as was Avenue project.

Downtown

A Special Thanks

To Larry Baker, Ann Alexander and the staff at the Burger King on Dimond and Old Seward.

We really enjoyed "Taku Night at Burger King." Your generous donation to our PTA fund is greatly appreciated.

From the faculty, staff, children and parents of Taku Elementary School



General VINE™ Information

Interactive Systems was formed in 1992 to develop automated systems utilizing computer technology and telephone equipment.

In January of 1994 Interactive Systems cooperated with Jefferson County officials to study automated technology and victim notification.

In January of 1995 due to the success of the VINE™ program, Interactive Systems reformatted to focus exclusively on the VINE™ system and automated notification. A dba (doing business as), The VINE™ Company, was selected as the new name.

VINE™ program cost includes a low start-up fee and a monthly service component. Several funding options, including state and federal grants, are available.

Cost is based on inmate population, notification needs and optional parameters. Each program is unique and developed specifically for each community.

All inmate information accessed through VINE™ is public information. VINE™ differs from other notification programs by providing an automated, rather than manual, method of victim notification.

Currently, the VINE™ Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

The VINE™ system received national recognition as the only automated program for victim information and notification.



VINE™ System Facts

VINE™ is a fully automated service that alerts victims upon the release of an inmate and provides vital custody status information via the telephone.

How VINE™ works

A centralized computer system located in Louisville, Kentucky constantly monitors inmate activity at each jail or prison site.

When an inmate has a change in status, VINE™ reacts immediately to contact all registered victims. Telephone calls continue for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified.

How Victims Register

Victims register with VINE™ by calling a local access telephone number and following the prompts given by the computer. Some communities may opt to have victims automatically registered by the arresting agency involved with the case.

A personal identification number (PIN) for each victim is requested by VINE™.

The PIN number, entered by a victim after a notification, confirms a successful contact.

Benefits of Implementing VINE™ for a Victim

Registered persons are automatically called by VINE™ within ten minutes of an inmate transfer or release.

Vital inmate information is continuously available through the VINE™ information hotline.

VINE™ allows for confidential information exchange. Victims do not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Victims can register alternate telephone numbers with VINE™ and can easily enter a new telephone number if there is a change of address.

For Prosecutors and Jail Administrators

VINE™ has letter generating capabilities and is available in multiple languages.

The centralized call center is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Notification is efficient and reliable.

All telephone calls and letters are documented.

A complete audit trail of VINE™ activity is readily available.

A VINE™ program can be customized to meet the needs of each community.



VINE™ System Features

VINE™ is a ground breaking system for Victim Assistance and Notification Programs around the country. It's current design includes features such as:

- **Full integration** with the existing Jail or Prison Information System. This means no additional workload for data input personnel.
- **Automated Dial in Query of Inmate Status.** The system will support an incoming line which allows a victim to query the status of an inmate.
- **Automated Registration of Victims** via any telephone using a combination of advanced Voice Recognition technology. This method is far superior to those requiring alphanumeric data to be typed into the telephone handset.
- **Letter Generation** for notifying victims of upcoming parole board hearings and other emergency situations.
- **Advanced Voice Recognition Technology.** This feature increases the usability of the system by allowing access to *30% of the population which do not have a touch tone telephone.* All users will find this registration approach much simpler and quicker.
- **Automated Notification** to two different phone numbers per victim. This function will provide an automated voice message once contact is made.
- **Message Confirmation** ensures that the message was delivered to the proper person.
- **Complete Audit Reports** which display daily activity on a per day or per case basis. These audit reports will be quickly recalled to a printer or CRT to review the systems performance.
- **Foreign Language Capabilities** available upon request.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Health, Education and
Social Services Committee

Senate Judiciary Committee

Department of Health and Social
Services Budget Subcommittee

Department of Law
Budget Subcommittee



While in Session:
State Capitol, Rm. 9
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3704
fax: (907) 465-2529

While in Anchorage:
716 West 4th Ave., Ste 410
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 258-8182
fax: (907) 258-5571

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 25

An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system.

Proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers is a serious problem, both nationally and in Alaska. In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent. Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

In order to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed. V.I.N.E. provides two important services which enhance the vital link of communication between the justice system and victims of crime.

First, the system provides automatic notification calls to crime victims when an inmate's status changes. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, V.I.N.E. places automated telephone calls to all registered victims within 10 minutes of a change in the offender's status. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second, V.I.N.E. provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. V.I.N.E. allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.

In February 1996, the State of Kentucky became the first state to implement V.I.N.E. statewide. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified by phone of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations per day. Currently, the V.I.N.E. Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

Implementing V.I.N.E. will increase state compliance with the Victims' Bill of Rights, overwhelmingly passed by the people of Alaska in 1994. The V.I.N.E. computer system will enhance the Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes.

I urge your support and prompt passage.



VINE™ System Facts

VINE™ is a fully automated service that alerts victims upon the release of an inmate and provides vital custody status information via the telephone.

How VINE™ works

A centralized computer system located in Louisville, Kentucky constantly monitors inmate activity at each jail or prison site.

When an inmate has a change in status, VINE™ reacts immediately to contact all registered victims. Telephone calls continue for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified.

How Victims Register

Victims register with VINE™ by calling a local access telephone number and following the prompts given by the computer. Some communities may opt to have victims automatically registered by the arresting agency involved with the case.

A personal identification number (PIN) for each victim is requested by VINE™.

The PIN number, entered by a victim after a notification, confirms a successful contact.

Benefits of Implementing VINE™ for a Victim

Registered persons are automatically called by VINE™ within ten minutes of an inmate transfer or release.

Vital inmate information is continuously available through the VINE™ information hotline.

VINE™ allows for confidential information exchange. Victims do not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Victims can register alternate telephone numbers with VINE™ and can easily enter a new telephone number if there is a change of address.

For Prosecutors and Jail Administrators

VINE™ has letter generating capabilities and is available in multiple languages.

The centralized call center is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Notification is efficient and reliable.

All telephone calls and letters are documented.

A complete audit trail of VINE™ activity is readily available.

A VINE™ program can be customized to meet the needs of each community.



VINE™ System Features

VINE™ is a ground breaking system for Victim Assistance and Notification Programs around the country. It's current design includes features such as:

- **Full integration** with the existing Jail or Prison Information System. This means no additional workload for data input personnel.
- **Automated Dial in Query of Inmate Status.** The system will support an incoming line which allows a victim to query the status of an inmate.
- **Automated Registration of Victims** via any telephone using a combination of advanced Voice Recognition technology. This method is far superior to those requiring alphanumeric data to be typed into the telephone handset.
- **Letter Generation** for notifying victims of upcoming parole board hearings and other emergency situations.
- **Advanced Voice Recognition Technology.** This feature increases the usability of the system by allowing access to *30% of the population* which *do not have a touch tone telephone.* All users will find this registration approach much simpler and quicker.
- **Automated Notification** to two different phone numbers per victim. This function will provide an automated voice message once contact is made.
- **Message Confirmation** ensures that the message was delivered to the proper person.
- **Complete Audit Reports** which display daily activity on a per day or per case basis. These audit reports will be quickly recalled to a printer or CRT to review the systems performance.
- **Foreign Language Capabilities** available upon request.



General VINE™ Information

Interactive Systems was formed in 1992 to develop automated systems utilizing computer technology and telephone equipment.

In January of 1994 Interactive Systems cooperated with Jefferson County officials to study automated technology and victim notification.

In January of 1995 due to the success of the VINE™ program, Interactive Systems reformatted to focus exclusively on the VINE™ system and automated notification. A dba (doing business as), The VINE™ Company, was selected as the new name.

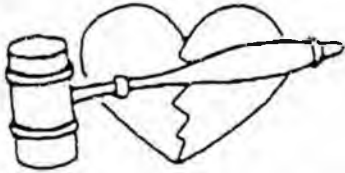
VINE™ program cost includes a low start-up fee and a monthly service component. Several funding options, including state and federal grants, are available.

Cost is based on inmate population, notification needs and optional parameters. Each program is unique and developed specifically for each community.

All inmate information accessed through VINE™ is public information. VINE™ differs from other notification programs by providing an automated, rather than manual, method of victim notification.

Currently, the VINE™ Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

The VINE™ system received national recognition as the only automated program for victim information and notification.

VICTIMS

for Justice 619 East Fifth Avenue • Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 278-0977 • Fax: (907) 258-0740

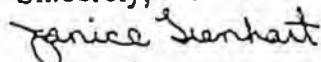
March 11, 1997

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26: *An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victims notification and prisoner information system.*

Alaskan families and victims of violent crime deserve to be recognized and assisted by Alaska's Department of Corrections. In fact, in 1994, the people of Alaska overwhelmingly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill of Rights. This Constitutional amendment makes *explicit* the *right* to be *informed, present and heard* at the same proceedings where the accused or convicted offenders have such rights. As you are aware, the Alaska Department of Corrections has statutory duties relating to crime victims, ranging from the notification of parole hearings; transfers to other facilities; an escape or release from custody to supervising restitution compliance. The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) computer system will enhance Alaska's Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes and will significantly increase compliance with the intent of these laws.

Sincerely,

Janice Lienhart
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-5355



January 17, 1997

Business Manager

Joseph E. Young
Anchorage

Board of Directors

Michael Corkill, President
Fairbanks

Robin Lown, Vice President
Juneau

Mike Grimes, Past President
Anchorage

Ron Belden, Member
Kenai
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Anchorage
Pres. Anchorage Chapter

Sam Edwards, Member
Palmer
Pres. Mat-Su Chapter

Steve Hackman, Member
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Pres. Fairbanks North Chapter

Steve Howard, Member
Juneau
Pres. Capital City Chapter

Scott Chalm, Member
Wrangell
Pres. Wrangell Chapter

Leroy Mastas, Member
Ketchikan
Pres. First City Chapter

James Sea, Member
Craig
Pres. Prince of Wales Chapter

Senator Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ellis,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing Senate Bills 25 and 26 relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system and appropriations for the same. At a recent meeting of the APOA State Board, we decided to unanimously support this legislation. We believe that the better the communications are between Corrections, departments, municipalities and victims, the better the prevention of prisoner-related problems.

We encourage you to call on us when there are hearings on these bills, so that we may testify about the need for this legislation. If you need assistance as you shepherd these bills through the legislative process, please call me at 451-5316, or our business manager, Joseph Young at 277-0515.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Corkill".

Michael Corkill
APOA State President

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Office of the Prosecutor
420 L Street, Suite 100

March 19, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Lyda Green;

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Prosecutors Office, the Municipality of Anchorage and its people, and all the victims of domestic violence. I urge your support for the passage of Senate Bill 25 and the attendant appropriations bill.

Since the passage of the Domestic Violence Protection/Victim Protection act of 1996, particularly the amendments to AS 12.30.027, Prosecutor and District Attorney offices around the state have been charged with a responsibility we simply cannot meet this in any meaningful manner.


AS 12.30.027(d)(1) provides:

When a person is released from custody under (a) of this section (bail), from a correctional facility, the correctional facility shall notify the prosecuting authority and the prosecuting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release.

As things stand now, there simply are no reasonable efforts we can make to immediately notify the victim if a defendant makes bail at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning, which is when most of these arrests are made.

An automated and statewide victim notification system is the only meaningful method of complying with AS 12.30.027. If we are to protect the victim's of domestic violence and remain at the forefront of domestic violence prosecution, this system must be implemented.

Sincerely,


John Marston Richard
Chief Municipal Prosecutor

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



Bethel Police Department

P.O. Box 500 : Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3785

February 7, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
Senate Bill Nos: 25

Dear Senator Green,

The Bethel Police Department is very much in support of the VINE legislation.

We feel it is critical that the rights' of the victims of violent crime are defended. It is paramount to the well-being of every victim that they be notified of and have access to obtain information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis
Room 9
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182



City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

Business 747-3245
Fax 747-1075

TO: Senator Lyda GREEN, Chair
State Affairs Committee

FROM: Chief Lynn LAMM, Sitka Police Department
Director Christine MCLEOD, Sitkans Against Family Violence

DATE: 1-06-97

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bills 25 and 26
Support for House Bills 47 and 48
VINE

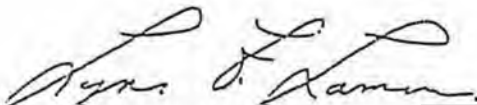
NH

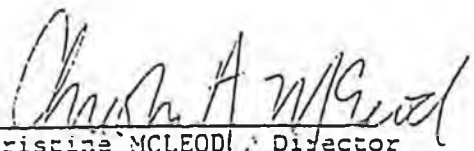
Senator GREEN-

The Sitka Police Department and Sitkans Against Family Violence would like to jointly express our support for this legislation.

Automatic notification would be beneficial to the domestic violence victim and the police. Immediate notification would be very beneficial to the victim allowing sufficient time to prepare themselves and family members for release of an inmate. For the police it would mean timely notification to the victim and another method of notification besides the current methods outlined in the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1995.

We urge passage of this legislation on behalf of victim's rights in domestic violence cases and as a continuation of legislative efforts toward prevention of domestic abuse.


Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department


Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence

Senator Ellis-

This is a courtesy copy for your information

Sgt. Allen
SPD

March 5, 1997.

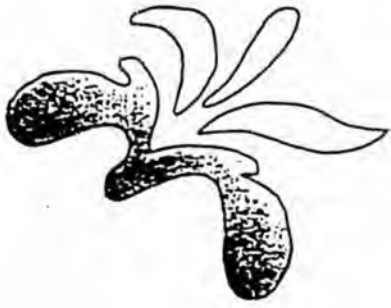
Dear Senator Green,

I strongly urge you to support SB 25 and 210. Alaskans who have been victimized should not also live in daily fear that the perpetrator will be released without their knowledge. An efficient and reliable method for victim notification that reduces the burden on corrections staff is in all of our best interests. The VINE system seems an excellent way to accomplish this essential public service. Thank-you in advance for moving these bills.

Sincerely,

Patty Karklin

4920 Anderson Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709



WOMEN IN CRISIS

Counseling and Assistance

717 Ninth Avenue • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 452-2293 • Fax: 452-2613 • 1-800-478-7273

February 12, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of SB 25, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and SB 26, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for SB 25 will allow for greater safety for victims of violent crimes. It would save victims from physical harm and save lives. It stands to reason that the sooner this bill becomes law, the sooner can this protection be provided. Therefore, I urge you to facilitate both bills' passage this session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
PO Box 878464
Wasilla, AK 99687-8464



February 4, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
Chair, State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I recently read SB 25 and SB 26 regarding an automated system that notifies victims when their perpetrators have been released, transferred to another facility or have posted bail. Through the system, victims can also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime through an anonymous process that protects their safety. I fully endorse this legislation and encourage you to consider affirmative action on this bill.

The VINE system is highly cost-effective since it is entirely computerized. Aside from the initial set-up and data entry, the system is extremely low-maintenance. Creating this system of victim notification will increase greatly the safety of those victimized by violent offenders and reduce significantly the opportunity for re-offense to victimized families.

We have suffered some major tragedies in the past year. While the VINE system will not ameliorate all violent deaths, it has the potential to prevent many and make the Mat-Su Borough a safer place for all of us to live.

Sincerely,


Pamela L. Sandvik

CC: Senator Johnny Ellis



February 5, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1188

Dear Senator Green:

On behalf of the staff at Tongass Community Counseling Center I am requesting that you support Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26 to fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections. Tongass Community Counseling Center works with the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our primary focus in this line of work is victim safety and perpetrator accountability. We endorse VINE because it empowers the victim. It gives victims access to information when they choose rather than relying on someone in the criminal justice to remember to notify them. I encourage you to pass this bill to provide a better service to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Thank you for your consideration in this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. Crawford".

Bridget Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

February 25, 1997

Senator Lynda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and urge your support and the prompt passage of these bills. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980 • FAX (907) 835-2981

March 1, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting, bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. I urge you to consider co-sponsoring the bills, ensuring your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tamara McCurry
Evening Advocate

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

27th February 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99081 - 1182

Dear Senator Green,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These Bills address the need of victims of violent crime to have the right to have prompt accurate information about the status of the perpetrator. Information such as release, transfer, posting bail and escape affects victims deeply and may in the case of domestic or sexual violence mean the difference between life and death. These Bills would allow the Department of Corrections to provide automated victim notification and prisoner information system in Alaska (VINE). We need as a society, to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and victims are given the information needed to rebuild their lives safely.

Please consider co-sponsoring Bill 25 and Bill 26. We need your support to see these bills are given prompt passage. Thank you

Catherine Vaara,
Direct Services Coordinator

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



Alaska Women's Lobby

P.O. Box 210685 Anchorage 99521
211 Fourth Street Suite 108 Juneau 99801

phone: 907-586-1107

fax: 907-586-1097

POSITION STATEMENT

SB25/SB26: Automated Victim Notification/Prisoner Identification System

These bills authorize and fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) This system automatically places calls to victims to notify them that their attacker has been released, transferred to another facility or posted bail. Victims may also anonymously call to check on the status of an inmate anytime.

We heartily support the goal of this legislation to provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims when the inmate has a change of status. Timely notification allows a victim to prepare for the perpetrator's release, which can sometimes involve taking lifesaving precautions. In addition, the burden placed on corrections and victim/witness staff, charged with responsibility for notifying the crime victim, is significantly reduced.

The Alaska Women's Lobby supports these bills and applauds this effort to make life a little safer for victims of crime. We urge prompt passage.

KODIAK WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND CRISIS CENTER



P.O. BOX 2122, KODIAK, ALASKA 99615

Business Phone: (907) 486-6171 Crisis Line Phone: 486-3625 Fax: 486-4264

TO: Senator Johnny Ellis

FROM: Letitia Raub, Executive Director ^{LR}
Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center
Po Box 2122, Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-6171

RE: SB25 VINE

DATE: 4/17/97

The Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center is a private non-profit corporation serving the Kodiak Island Borough. Our primary mission is to provide services to the victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. As advocates for victims of these violent crimes, we support the implementation of an automated victim notification system within the Department of Corrections. This system will provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims regarding inmate change of status. Timely notification will allow victims to prepare for inmate release and initiate safety planning. The system allows for a confidential exchange of information, thus victims will not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center urges the passage of this important legislation.

TESTIMONY SUBMITTED FOR SB25/VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Brenda Wieffering, Executive Director
Women's Resource & Crisis Center
325 S. Spruce St.
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 283-9479 Fax: 283-5844

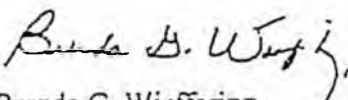
We fully support implementing a telephone victim notification system (VINE) through the Department of Corrections. Such a system will strengthen the state's compliance with the recently passed victims rights constitutional amendment.

A VINE system will offer *timely* crucial information for victims to use in safety planning when their perpetrators are about to be released from custody and carry out threats to harm them again.

Please enhance victim safety by supporting SB25. Lives may literally depend on it.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,


Brenda G. Wieffering

Senate Bill 25

Good afternoon

My name is Carmen Lowry and i am the Executive Director of the Tundra Women's Coalition. TWC provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of SB25. I am urging the Senate to authorize and fund an automated victims notification system called Victims Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections.

This system is sorely needed to provide proper and timely notification to victims about the release or transfer of their perpetrators. VINE provides automatic notification calls to victims when an inmate's status changes. VINE will continue to call victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim. That means if that guy who promised to kill you when he gets out is getting out, you will be notified and make all the necessary arrangements to keep yourself safe.

The bottom line for this legislation is two fold:

- It saves lives: timely notification allows a victims to prepare for an offender's release
- It saves valuable resources: the burden placed on corrections staff charged with the responsibility of notifying crime victims is significantly reduced.

I urge you to do the right thing, defend the rights of Alaska's victims of violent crimes, and support the passage of SB25. Thank you.

BEVERLY BOWERS
P.O. Box 907
Nome, Alaska
Phone and Fax: 907-443-2865

F A X

DATE: April 23, 1997
TO: Senator Johny Ellis
FROM: Beverly Bowers
SUBJECT: SB 25 - VINE

I support the passage of SB25 - VINE. For the protection of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence it is important that the whereabouts of the perpetrator is known.

Beverly Bowers

JAN-22-1996 08:37

DILLINGHAM LIO

942 5125 P.01

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)
6 Main Street • PO Box 828 Dillingham AK 99575 • Phone: 842-5319 Fax: 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

First Name Lorraine	Last Name L. Swinney	City, State, Zip PO. Box 104 Unalaska, AK 99685
Home Phone (Area) Number (907) 581-1500		Group Affiliation (if applicable) Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence

To: Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a V in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (check H or S)	House members	Senate members	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (ora) <input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin) <input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed., & Social Services (hea) <input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud) <input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (lab) <input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res) <input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rul) <input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta) <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aue) <input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar) <input type="checkbox"/> Brice (bri) <input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro) <input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun) <input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav) <input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (deb) <input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag) <input type="checkbox"/> Elton (elt) <input type="checkbox"/> Finkelstein (fik) <input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos) <input type="checkbox"/> Green (grn) <input type="checkbox"/> Gruesendorf (gra) <input type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han) <input type="checkbox"/> Iven (ive) <input type="checkbox"/> James (jam) <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kil) <input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kor) <input type="checkbox"/> Kott (kot) <input type="checkbox"/> Kubara (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng) <input type="checkbox"/> Mackie (mak) <input type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar) <input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas) <input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos) <input type="checkbox"/> Mulder (mul) <input type="checkbox"/> Navara (nav) <input type="checkbox"/> Nichols (nic) <input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga) <input type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par) <input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg) <input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por) <input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob) <input type="checkbox"/> Rotenberg (rot) <input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san) <input type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thr) <input type="checkbox"/> Toohy (toh) <input type="checkbox"/> Vezey (vez) <input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil) <input type="checkbox"/> Wills (wils)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada) <input type="checkbox"/> Donley (don) <input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell) <input type="checkbox"/> Frank (frk) <input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre) <input type="checkbox"/> Halford (haf) <input type="checkbox"/> Hoffmen (hof) <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel) <input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem) <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin) <input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil) <input type="checkbox"/> Monroe (mon) <input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (phr) <input type="checkbox"/> Rieger (rie) <input type="checkbox"/> Sato (sat) <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (shz) <input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay) <input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor) <input type="checkbox"/> Zharov (zha)

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB SB	Bill Number 25	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> Amend	OR	Subject: VINE
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Message: This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO. Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 60 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

1	Support	the	VINE	bill	1
100%	ne	vine.	bill	is	15
an	excellent	idea.	This	is	18
very	important	for	the	victims	20
safety.	Thank	you.			23
					30
					35
					40
					45
					60

TOTAL P.01

JAN-22-1996 08:37

DILLINGHAM LIO

342 5105 P.01

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)

6 Main Street • PO Box 820 Dillingham AK 99576 • Phone: 842-5310 Fax: 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

First name	Desiree	Last name	Ortega
Residence (street address)			
Zip code			
Mailing address	P.O. Box 1073 Unalakana, AK		Zip code
City	497591-1500		
Group affiliation (if applicable)	Unalakana Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence		

To: Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a ✓ in a Caucus or Members box.

Committees (enter H or S)		House members		Senate members	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aue)	<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)	<input type="checkbox"/> Donley (don)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meekle (mek)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank (frk)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Orlos (ori)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nerlin (ner)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallford (hal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hof)
<input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kasek (kas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallford (hal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lerman (ler)
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (lab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lerman (ler)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mulder (mul)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (per)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (phi)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rie)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (dab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Navarro (nav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (per)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rieger (rie)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sals (sals)
<input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas (nic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rieger (rie)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Etton (eti)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)	<input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Zharoff (zha)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finkelshten (fik)	<input type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)	<input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fox)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (grn)	<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grossbardt (gra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rokkeberg (rok)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ivan (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thi)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kpi)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toohay (toh)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vezay (vez)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Koz (koz)	<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kusina (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wilds (wils)			

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below. Or, enter a subject.

H.R. or S.B.	Bill number	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	OR	Subject:
SB	25	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose			VINE
		<input type="checkbox"/> Amend			

Message: * This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your P.O.M. to any LIO. * Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 50 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	SUPPORT	the	VINE	Bill	1
100	percent.	I	encourage	DOE	10
to	implement	VINE.	This	would	18
support	efforts	in	keeping	the	23
victims	safe.	the	VINE	bill	23
is	an	excellent	idea	and	29
long	overdue!	Thank	you.		31
					40
					43
					60

TOTAL P.01

Public Opinion Message

Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO)

• 716 W 4th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 • Phone: 258-8111 Fax 258-1261

This form **MUST** be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: Please PRINT the information below.

Mr. or Mrs.	First Name	LL	Last Name	Jr., Sr., etc.
ms	Angie		Rozales	
Mailing address				Zip code
111 W. 9th Ave. Anchorage				99503
Residential (street) address / different from mailing address				Zip code
Coyote telephone number		Coyote affiliation (if applicable)		Signature
907-276-0528		AK. Womens Resource		Angel Rozales
				Date
				4/17/97

To: Put a ✓ in the appropriate box(es).

	Committees	House members	Senate members	
House	<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra) <input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin) <input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes) <input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud) <input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (lbc) <input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res) <input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rts) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta) <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aus) <input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar) <input type="checkbox"/> Barkowitz (ber) <input type="checkbox"/> Brice (bri) <input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun) <input type="checkbox"/> Cowdery (cwo) <input type="checkbox"/> Craft (cro) <input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav) <input type="checkbox"/> Davis (dag) <input type="checkbox"/> Dyson (dys) <input type="checkbox"/> Eiken (eik) <input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos) <input type="checkbox"/> Green (grn) <input type="checkbox"/> Grussendorf (grs) <input type="checkbox"/> Henley (hen) <input type="checkbox"/> Hodgson (hod) <input type="checkbox"/> Hudson (hud) <input type="checkbox"/> Van (ive) <input type="checkbox"/> James (jam) <input type="checkbox"/> Joute (jot)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kdi) <input type="checkbox"/> Kempton (kem) <input type="checkbox"/> Konning (kon) <input type="checkbox"/> Kookash (koo) <input type="checkbox"/> Kott (kot) <input type="checkbox"/> Kuzins (kuz) <input type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar) <input type="checkbox"/> Masek (mas) <input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos) <input type="checkbox"/> Mulder (mul) <input type="checkbox"/> Nicola (nic) <input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga) <input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg) <input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por) <input type="checkbox"/> Rokeberg (rok) <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan (rya) <input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san) <input type="checkbox"/> Theriault (tht) <input type="checkbox"/> Vazey (vez) <input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada) <input type="checkbox"/> Donley (don) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green (gre) <input type="checkbox"/> Halford (hal) <input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hof) <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (ket) <input type="checkbox"/> Lennan (len) <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MacIver (mak) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil) <input type="checkbox"/> Pamell (par) <input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (paa) <input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (phr) <input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha) <input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay) <input type="checkbox"/> Tompason (top) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward (war) <input type="checkbox"/> Wiken (wik)
Caucuses	<input type="checkbox"/> Anchorage (aga) <input type="checkbox"/> Bush (bus) <input type="checkbox"/> Fairbanks/Interior (fai) <input type="checkbox"/> Vancu (van) <input type="checkbox"/> Matomy (mat) <input type="checkbox"/> Whonoy (whn)			

Subject: Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> Amend	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SB 25 <input type="checkbox"/> RB enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify)
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Message: Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.

I'm	writing	you	in	Support
of	vine	victims	of	Domestic
violence	are	in	a great	need
of	a	constant	form	of
notification	D.O.C.'s	implementing	such	a
program	would	give	victims	the
choice	to	take	precautions	and
get	protection	orders	this	could
only	strengthen	victims	rights	and
current	legislation	Thank	you.	

Public Opinion Message

Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO)

718 W 4th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 • Phone: 258-8111 Fax: 258-1281

This form **MUST** be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: Please PRINT the information below.

Mr., Mr., Mrs., MS.	First name	Diana	MI, L.	Last name	Burch	City, St., ZIP
Mailing address		100 West 13th Ave.	Anchorage,		AK	99501
Residential (street address) or office (city and state address)						Zip code
Daytime telephone number		279-9581	Name of bill or committee		Abused Women's Aid in Crisis	Signature
					Diana L. Burch	Date
						4/24/97

Senate State Affairs 465-3805

To: Put a ✓ in the appropriate boxes.

Committees		House members		Senate members	
<input type="checkbox"/>	H or S	<input type="checkbox"/>	Austerman (aus)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Doney (don)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Berkowitz (ber)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brice (bri)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edie (edi)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Labor & Commerce (l&c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caldwell (caw)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Helford (hel)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Craft (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hoffman (hof)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rules (rul)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Devine (dev)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kelly, T. (kel)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Devine, L. (ldv)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lerman (ler)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyson (dyo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lincoln (lin)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elton (elt)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Macdon (mak)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Miller (mil)
Caucuses		<input type="checkbox"/>	Green (grn)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phillips, G. (phg)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anchorage (age)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grossenbort (gro)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Porter (por)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bush (bus)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hartley (har)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rokkeberg (rok)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fairbanks/Interior (fai)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hoagins (hod)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rylin (ryl)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Matru (mat)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hudson (hud)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sanders (san)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Majority (maj)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ivan (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thermon (thr)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minority (min)	<input type="checkbox"/>	James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vezey (vez)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Joule (jou)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Williams (wil)

Subject: Fill out the boxes below **OR** enter a Subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Amend	<input type="checkbox"/> OR enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify):
SB	25					

Message: Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.

					1
					10
					19
					28
					37
					46
					55
					64
					73
					82
					91
					100

AWAIC's primary concern is victim safety. Victims need to be able to begin to lead normal lives. They can often only do this when they know the whereabouts of their perpetrator. Additionally, this bill will give a clear message to victims that the system is working for them and is on their side. Too often they are denied information about their perpetrator which increases their feelings of victimization.

would ultimately provide more jobs and income evenly across the board. By the way, I am a conservative Republican.

— Dennis Adamson
Anchorage

Cuts to Film Office costly

I own and operate one of Alaska's major stock photography agencies which represents 58 photographers. For the past seven years we have provided numerous award-winning photos for the state Film Office's advertising campaigns (five billboards, several location handbooks, direct mail pieces and many ads in movie trade magazines). The Film Office has been a great client over the years.

If the proposed budget cuts go through, it will have a lasting and negative effect on many small businesses and one of Alaska's largest industries — tourism. Last year it cost the state of Alaska \$261,000 to operate the Film Office and it generated an income of nearly \$3 million. Can we afford not to take advantage of this free advertising that promotes Alaska?

The Film Office has a proven record that it is a prime investment, generating income for Alaskans and also for the state of Alaska. With the proposed budget cuts, we lose and the state of Alaska loses.

— Ken Graham, owner
Ken Graham Agency
Anchorage

Drug testing violates privacy

The willingness of people to permit themselves to be degraded through arbitrary employment drug testing is appalling. Indiscriminate drug testing violates people's privacy and requires them to prove their "innocence" even though there is no reason to believe that their job performance is being impaired by drug use or anything else. Admirably, the Anchorage police and firefighters have the self-respect to oppose such testing.

Drug testing is ostensibly done to promote job safety and performance. But drug tests do not measure job performance; they generally only test for metabolites, which are what is left over in the body after it uses up a drug. Except with respect to alcohol, drug tests generally don't even determine whether a

person presently has a particular drug in the body. A person could be under the influence of an intoxicating drug at the time of a drug test and yet have the test result be negative.

The only rational way to promote job performance and safety is through performance testing. Such tests are even used for astronauts in the space program. With them, an employer can determine whether an employee is functioning safely or impaired by sickness, fatigue, injury, emotional distress or intoxication.

Drug testing is too limited and unreliable to be used to promote job performance and public safety. The invasion of privacy involved such testing should be considered to be unacceptable. We should support all efforts to eliminate workplace drug testing and, if some kind of testing is desirable and necessary, replace it with performance tests.

— Alex Vasauskas
Palmer

Victims need notification

For the tens of thousands of victims of domestic violence in Alaska, there is no system in place to let them know when their perpetrator is released from jail. Often the first time a victim knows that their assailant has been released is when he shows up at their door.

Perpetrators who were jailed for beating their spouse may use their children as pawns in order to "get back" at the victim. If the perpetrator is the biological father of a victim's child, he may take the child from school or day care without the other parent's knowledge, threatening to harm or kidnap the child.

If victims knew that their perpetrator was being released from jail, they could get a restraining order and notify their child's school or day care about the potentially dangerous situation.

Every week, our agency hears stories about how victims, who are supposed to be protected by the law, are betrayed by a system that lacks follow-through.

Sen. Johnny Ellis and Rep. Allen Kenipen have introduced a bill that could change all this. Senate Bill 25 and the companion bill, House Bill 47, would allow the Department of Corrections to set up a system to notify vic-

tims whenever a perpetrator's status changed. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, registered victims would be notified through an automated system within minutes.

The system, called Victim Information and Notification Everyday, gives victims time to take life-saving steps. VINE is being used in Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida — helping victims and their children stay out of harm's way. Please call your legislator or write a letter in support for SB 25 and HB 47. The successful passage of this bill may mean the difference between life and death for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

— Angelica Rosales
domestic violence supervising counselor
Alaska Women's Resource Center

HMOs ripping off Medicare

Medicare rip-off. I recently received a newspaper clipping from a Southern California newspaper concerning a merger of two HMOs. I am a little familiar with the FHP HMO since my foster mother was enrolled until a few weeks ago. The clipping is too long to quote entirely, but here are a few highlights that bother me:

Top bosses would qualify for huge payouts after HMO merger. A handful of senior executives at FHP International Corp. stands to get huge going-away paydays ... At the top of the list is FHP chief executive Wescott W. Price III who will receive a \$1.5 million golden handshake if he walks away, as expected. Price's contract calls for him to get three times his annual \$500,000 base salary if he loses his job because of a "change in control" ... Price also owns nearly 400,000 shares of FHP's common stock. He'll receive \$7 million in cash for those shares and an equal amount of PacificCare stock.

FHP Chairman Jack R. Anderson will get the biggest payday, turning in his common and preferred FHP stock for \$53.7 million in cash and an equal amount of PacificCare stock. And Richard M. Burdige, an FHP director, retired Cigna Corp. executive and former president of the American Stock Exchange, will get \$15.3 million in cash and an equal amount of PacificCare shares for his FHP stock.

ative, i.e., the state of Alaska vs. Venette.

We Natives don't read in the newspapers nor do we see on television anything about what is really happening to us, though I know, and the "nouveau riche PFD Alaskans" are in denial about their role in all of this, while we "breathlessly" await an Alaska vs. Venette decision for the next 20 years or so — at the rate we've been dying, please, Natives want to live! We are in constant peril from the state. We are not "merely" caretakers of the land. We Natives have kept our Alaska under our intrinsic watch for three ice ages or so — wasn't it always beautiful and clean here?

My advice to you, to whom this may apply — everyone — make sure those lands you left in disgust are cleaned up and go home. On your way out clean up Alaska.

— Evelyn Hash
Gakona

This alternative school works

With the March 28 lottery date for Anchorage School District's alternative school programs approaching, I would like to describe a program that is a success in every sense of the word — the Government Hill Spanish Immersion Program. Alternative schools are often criticized for being elitist, unfair or divisive. I think it's important to recognize that they can work and be inclusive — even in school-within-a-school settings such as our own.

The recent Government Hill World's Fair is an example. With the help and support of our sponsors — First National Bank of Anchorage, Tasteo Freez, Tesoro 7-Eleven and National Bank of Alaska, to name a few — we transformed the school into an international festival. Our many minority families participated. Korean women wore flowing han bok dresses, an Alaska Native puppet theater group entertained, and Latino parents cooked tostados and fried plantains. We shared and explored each other's cultures throughout the day.

By celebrating and understanding our differences, we discover that we are not so different after all.

Government Hill is proof that alternative programs work. Not only do they promote educational excellence, but when done right, they bring people together.

— Kathryn Gerlek
Anchorage

Victims for Justice

March 1997

Page 8

Victims for Justice

"Safe Neighborhood" Crime Initiatives

By Pearlene Hernandez-Villa
UAA Social Work Practicum Student
doing her internship with VFJ

BILL TRACKING STATUS

As of March 12, 1997

HB 5

"An Act relating to prosecution of minors for criminal violations; and amending Rule 3(a), Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KELLY, Ogan

Current Status: (House) Judiciary Status
Date: 1/13/97 then Finance.

As of January 13, 1997, House Bill 5 has not had its first committee hearing. HB 5 is not expected to move during this session. Sponsors are putting their focus on HB 6 AND HB 16 in the juvenile crime area. Both HB 6 and HB 16 opens up confidentiality of juvenile crime offenders, a key component for victims of crime.

HB 6

"An Act amending laws relating to the disclosure of information relating to certain minors."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KELLY, Theriault, Vezey, Ogan, Dyson,
Phillips, Ryan

Current Status: (House) Finance Status
Date: 2/21/97

As of February 21, 1997, House Finance has heard House Bill 6 three times. HB 6 will be heard by House for the fourth time on March 20, 1997. HB 6 has been in Health Education and Social Service (HES) and Judiciary committee and passed out of committee.

HB 7

CSHB 7 Judiciary

"An Act authorizing establishment of community dispute resolution centers to foster the resolution of disputes between juvenile offenders and their victims, and providing immunity from civil suits for youth courts and for members of the boards of directors, employees, volunteers, and members of youth courts."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
PORTER, Green, Croft, Rokeberg, James,
Kubina, Bunde, Kemplen, Berkowitz, Ogan
SENATOR(S) Wilken

Current Status: (Senate) Judiciary Status
Date: 2/17/97 then Finance

House Bill 7 is in Senate Judiciary, it has

passed out of the House and is in Senate Judiciary Committee at this time.

House votes:

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 6 ABSENT: 0

HB 9

CSHB 9 (Finance) AM

"Victims Right to be Present at Trial."

"An Act relating to the rights of crime victims and victims of juvenile offenses; relating to the collection by victims of restitution from prisoners; relating to the definition of incapacitated for sexual offenses; creating the crime of interfering with a report of a crime involving domestic violence; relating to mental examinations of victims in criminal prosecutions; relating to the safety of victims, other persons, and the community in setting bail or conditions of release; relating to access to certain records of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board; amending Rule 6, Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rules 404 and 615, Alaska Rules of Evidence, and Rule 3, Alaska Delinquency Rules; and providing for an effective date."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
PORTER, Green, Croft, Kubina, Kemplen

Current Status: (S) Judiciary Status
Date: 3/10/97 then Finance.

House Bill 9 has passed out of House and is in Senate Judiciary since March 10, 1997.

House votes

Passed on reconsideration YES 31 NAYS 6
EXCUSED 2 ABSENT 1

URGENT UPDATE - We have just received word Senator Robin Taylor is holding up HB 9. PLEASE CALL the legislative office at 258-8111 and send a public opinion message to Senator Taylor urging him to support HB 9. Crime victims' constitutional rights are in jeopardy!

HCR 4

Relating to records generated and maintained by the Department of Health and Social Services.

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) KELLY,
Phillips, Dyson, Ryan, Barnes

Current Status: (House) Finance Status Date:
2/21/97

House Concurrent Resolution 4 is in House Finance since February 21, 1997. House Finance is going to hear in committee on March

20, 1997.

SB 25 HB 47

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

VINE™, provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. VINE allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.

Senate Bill 25 is still waiting to be heard in Senate State Affairs Committee since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a hearing committee as of yet.

House Bill 47 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

SB 25 Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley
HB 47 Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE
KEMPLEN

SB 26 and HB 48

"An Act making a special appropriation for an automated victim notification system; and providing for an effective date."

The sum of \$250,000 shall be appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Corrections for an automated victim notification system for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

Senate Bill 26 has been in Senate State Affairs since January 13, 1997. It has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

House Bill 48 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley

Both SB 25 and HB 47 need victims who would be willing to testify or submit written testimony regarding their experience with not being notified when their attacker was released. If you are interested in testifying or providing written testimony please contact:

Senator Lyda Green, Senate State Affairs,
State Capitol, Rm 105, Juneau, AK 99801-
1182 (800)565-3743

Representative Jeannette James, House State
Affairs, Rm 102, Juneau, AK 99801-1182.

SB

28

SFIN

FILE

FISCAL NOTE

Nr 1
Bill Version: SB 28
(S) Publish Date: 2-19-98

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
Title: An act relating to the unincorporated com- BRU: Administration & Support
munity capital project matching grant program Component: Administrative Services
Sponsor: Senator Torgerson
Requestor: Senate C&RA **COMPONENT SERIAL NO.** 684

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	43.9	45.3	46.6	48.1	49.6	51.3
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	43.9	45.3	46.6	48.1	49.6	51.3
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

REVENUE FUND SOURCE: _____

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

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

Estimate of current (FY97) impact \$ _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
Based on the definition of communities eligible for program participation under this legislation, the department has determined that approximately 60 additional unincorporated communities could participate. Appropriations for this program are provided at the discretion of the Legislature.

This legislation will translate into increased burdens of grant tracking and community assistance for department staff. Existing staff would not be able to absorb the increased work load.

(continued on separate page)

Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708
Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 2/21/97
Approved by Commissioner: *Mike Irwin* Date: 2/21/97
Agency: Mike Irwin, Dept. of Community & Regional Affairs

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#1

Fiscal Note Analysis Continued

The department feels these additional duties could only be absorbed by a new grant administration position. Therefore, a Grants Administrator I (range 13) with full-time funding is included in the fiscal note. It is important that full funding be attached due to the imminent general fund reductions to the component.

STATE OF ALASKA
 1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
 Revision Date: 2/18/98

FISCAL NOTE

No. 2
 Bill Version: CS SSSB 28 (CRA)
 (S) Publish Date: 2-19-98

Title: An act relating to the unincorporated community capital project matching grant program
 Sponsor: Senator Torgerson
 Requestor: Senate C&RA

Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
 BRU: Administration & Support
 Component: Administrative Services

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 684

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	72.6	74.8	77.6	79.9	82.6	84.6
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	72.6	74.8	77.6	79.9	82.6	84.6

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	72.6	74.8	77.6	79.9	82.6	84.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF:MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	72.6	74.8	77.6	79.9	82.6	84.6

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	1	1	1	1	1	1
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current (FY98) impact \$ 0.0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 Based on the definition of communities eligible for program participation under this legislature, the department has determined that approximately 60 additional unincorporated communities could participate. Appropriations for this program are provided at the discretion of the Legislature.

 This legislation will translate into increased burdens of grant tracking, project ranking and community assistance for department staff. Existing staff would not be able to absorb the increased work load.

Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708
 Division: Administrative Services Date: 2/18/98
 Approved by Commissioner: Mike Irwin, Commissioner *[Signature]* Date: 2/18/98
 Agency: Department of Community & Regional Affairs

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Fiscal Note Analysis Continued

The department feels these additional duties could only be absorbed by a new grant administration position. Therefore, a Grants Administrator II (range 17) full-time and funding to increase a part-time clerical position to full-time is included in the fiscal note. It is important that full funding be attached due to the imminent general fund reductions to the component.

SB

29

HFIN

FILE

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred to Committee: February 27, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/30/97

The FINANCE Committee considered:

CSSB 29(FIN)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 29(FIN)

STATE AID TO MUNICIPALITIES & UNORG. BOR.

"An Act relating to certain programs of state aid to municipalities and recipients in the unorganized borough; and providing for an effective date."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute

HCS CS SB 29 (FIN)

the same title
 a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)

fiscal note(s) _____

fiscal note(s) SFC 2/6/97

zero fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS		DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Gene Theriault</i>	Theriault			X	
<i>Alan Mulder</i>	Mulder	✓			
<i>Terry Martin</i>	Martin	✓			
<i>John J. Davis</i>	J. DAVIS	X			
<i>James Gussendorf</i>	Gussendorf	X			
<i>John J. Davis</i>	J. DAVIS	X			
<i>Pete Kelly</i>	Kelly			✓	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

Gene Theriault
Theriault

FISCAL NOTE

No. 2

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. Bill Version: CSSB29(FIN)
 (S) Publish Date: 2/6/97

Revision Date: 2/5/97
 Title: An Act Relating to state aid to municipalities
 Sponsor: Sen. Torgerson

Dept. Affected Revenue
 BRU: Revenue Operations
 Components: Treasury
 Serial # 121

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE	-1005.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund						
Federal Fund						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

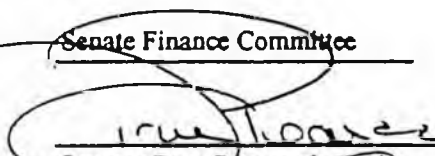
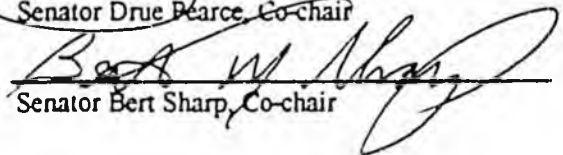
POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

see attached analysis

Prepared By: Senate Finance Committee


 Senator Drue Pearce, Co-chair

 Senator Bert Sharp, Co-chair

Date: 2/5/97
 Phone: 465-4993
 Date: 2/5/97
 Phone: 465-3004

E-T

**Analysis of Advance Payment of Municipal Assistance
Income Lost to CBRF**

If Payment Made On:	<u>2/1/98</u>	<u>12/31/97</u>	<u>11/30/97</u>	<u>10/31/97</u>	<u>9/30/97</u>	<u>8/31/97</u>	<u>7/31/97</u>
Income Lost to CBRF:	0	\$167,569	\$335,137	\$502,706	\$670,274	\$837,843	\$1,005,412

Assumptions:

\$28,726,047 = Municipal Assistance Payment

Payment borrowed from CBRF

CBRF Return = 7% (from FY97 draft investment policy for the CBRF)
and capital market assumptions FY97

0-LS0218\H

Cook

4/28/97

adopted NB/obj 4/30/97

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 29(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATORS TORGERSON, Mackie

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to certain programs of state aid to municipalities and recipients
2 in the unorganized borough; and providing for an effective date."

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

4 * Section 1. AS 29.10.200(50) is amended to read:

5 (50) AS 29.60.120(a) and (c) (priority revenue sharing [STATE AID]
6 for health facilities and hospitals);

7 * Sec. 2. AS 29.20.640(b) is amended to read:

8 (b) Compliance with the provisions of this section is a prerequisite to receipt
9 of municipal tax resource equalization assistance under AS 29.60.010 - 29.60.080 and
10 priority revenue sharing [STATE AID] for [MISCELLANEOUS] municipal services
11 under AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180. If a municipality does not comply with this section,
12 the department shall withhold the allocations until the required reports are filed.

13 * Sec. 3. AS 29.45.020 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 29.45.020. Taxpayer notice.** (a) If a municipality levies and collects

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property taxes, the governing body shall provide the following notice:

"NOTICE TO TAXPAYER

For the current fiscal year the (city)(borough) has been allocated the following amount of state aid for school and municipal purposes under the applicable financial assistance Acts:

PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION PROGRAM		
ASSISTANCE (AS 14.17)		\$
STATE AID FOR RETIREMENT OF SCHOOL		
CONSTRUCTION DEBT (AS 14.11.100)		\$
MUNICIPAL TAX RESOURCE EQUALIZATION		
[ASSISTANCE] (AS 29.60.010 - 29.60.080)		\$
<u>PRIORITY REVENUE SHARING</u> [STATE		
AID] FOR [MISCELLANEOUS] MUNICIPAL		
SERVICES (AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180)		\$
<u>REVENUE SHARING FOR COMMUNITIES</u>		
<u>(AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.375)</u>		\$
TOTAL AID		\$

The millage equivalent of this state aid, based on the dollar value of a mill in the municipality during the current assessment year and for the preceding assessment year, is:

	MILLAGE EQUIVALENT	
	PREVIOUS YEAR	THIS YEAR
PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION		
PROGRAM ASSISTANCE	... MILLS	... MILLS
STATE AID FOR RETIREMENT		
OF SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION		
DEBTMILLSMILLS
MUNICIPAL TAX RESOURCE		
EQUALIZATION [ASSISTANCE]MILLSMILLS
<u>PRIORITY REVENUE SHARING</u>		
[STATE AID] FOR [MISCELLANEOUS]		

1	MUNICIPAL SERVICES	...MILLS	...MILLS
2	<u>REVENUE SHARING FOR</u>		
3	<u>COMMUNITIES</u>	<u>...MILLS</u>	<u>...MILLS</u>
4	TOTAL MILLAGE		
5	EQUIVALENT	...MILLS	...MILLS"

6 Notice shall be provided

7 (1) by furnishing a copy of the notice with tax statements mailed for
8 the fiscal year for which aid is received; or

9 (2) by publishing in a newspaper of general circulation in the
10 municipality a copy of the notice once each week for a period of three successive
11 weeks, with publication to occur not later than 45 days after the final adoption of the
12 municipality's budget.

13 (b) Compliance with the provisions of this section is a prerequisite to receipt
14 of municipal tax resource equalization [ASSISTANCE] under AS 29.60.010 -
15 29.60.080 and priority revenue sharing [STATE AID] for [MISCELLANEOUS]
16 municipal services under AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180. The department shall withhold
17 annual allocations under those sections until municipal officials demonstrate that the
18 requirements of this section have been met.

19 * Sec. 4. AS 29.45.660(b) is amended to read:

20 (b) Compliance with the provisions of this section is a prerequisite to receipt
21 of municipal tax resource equalization [ASSISTANCE] under AS 29.60.010 -
22 29.60.080 and priority revenue sharing [STATE AID] for [MISCELLANEOUS]
23 municipal services under AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180. The department shall withhold
24 annual allocations under those sections until municipal officials demonstrate that the
25 requirements of this section have been met.

26 * Sec. 5. AS 29.60.100 is amended to read:

27 **Sec. 29.60.100. Priority revenue sharing for municipal services [REVENUE**
28 **SHARING PAYABLE].** In addition to the equalization entitlements paid under
29 AS 29.60.010 - 29.60.080, during each fiscal year the department shall pay priority
30 revenue sharing for municipal services to [AID]

31 (1) [TO] a municipality or other eligible recipient that has the power

1 to provide the services described in AS 29.60.110 - 29.60.130 and exercises the power
2 in the manner required by AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180;

3 (2) [TO] an unincorporated community under AS 29.60.140.

4 * Sec. 6. AS 29.60.170 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 29.60.170. Municipal [MISCELLANEOUS] services account.** The
6 **municipal [MISCELLANEOUS] services account** is established. Money to carry out
7 the provisions of AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180 shall be allocated by the department to the
8 account in accordance with AS 29.60.280. If amounts in the account are insufficient
9 to pay each municipality's or other recipient's share authorized under AS 29.60.100 -
10 29.60.180, the amounts that are available shall be distributed pro rata among eligible
11 municipalities and other recipients.

12 * Sec. 7. AS 29.60.280(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) Money in the **municipal [MISCELLANEOUS] services account** established
14 in AS 29.60.170 that exceeds the amount required to fully fund distributions authorized
15 by AS 29.60.100 - 29.60.180 shall be reallocated to the tax equalization account
16 established in AS 29.60.060 and distributed according to the provisions of
17 AS 29.60.010 - 29.60.080.

18 * Sec. 8. AS 29.60.350 is amended to read:

19 **Sec. 29.60.350. Communities [MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund.** (a) **To**
20 **implement the revenue sharing for communities program, there [THERE] is**
21 **established in the department the communities [MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund**
22 **consisting of the base amount account and the per capita account.** The legislature
23 may appropriate to the **communities [MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund** during each
24 fiscal year **a total [AN] amount equal to or greater than 30 percent of the income tax**
25 **revenue received by the state under AS 43.20.011(e) for the previous fiscal year.**
26 **Unless otherwise provided in the appropriation, the department shall allocate**
27 **money to the base amount account and the per capita account in the same**
28 **proportion as under AS 29.60.360 and 29.60.370 in state fiscal year 1997.**

29 (b) The department shall distribute money from the **communities**
30 **[MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund** to each municipality on an annual basis as
31 provided in AS 29.60.360 and 29.60.370 **and as adjusted under AS 29.60.373.** A

1 municipality may not receive payment until it submits to the department a resolution
2 approved by the governing body of the municipality that requests the money.
3 Distribution of money from the communities [MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund to
4 all municipalities must be made on July 31 [FEBRUARY 1] of the state fiscal year
5 for which the appropriation to the fund is made. A municipality that incorporates after
6 July 1 [DECEMBER 31] of a state fiscal year is not eligible for a distribution under
7 this section until the following state fiscal year.

8 * **Sec. 9.** AS 29.60.350 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

9 (c) Money from the revenue sharing for the communities program distributed
10 to a municipality shall be used by that municipality only for the following services in
11 the following ranking of priority:

- 12 (1) police protection and related public safety services;
- 13 (2) fire protection and emergency medical services;
- 14 (3) water and sewer services not offset by user fees;
- 15 (4) solid waste management;
- 16 (5) other services determined by the governing body to have the highest

17 priority.

18 (d) Subsection (c) of this section may not be construed to require a
19 municipality to fund all requests it receives for services in a category with a higher
20 ranking of priority before funding services in a category with a lower ranking of
21 priority.

22 * **Sec. 10.** AS 29.60.360 is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 29.60.360. Base amount account distributions [OF ASSISTANCE].**

24 (a) The base amount to be distributed from the base amount account [MUNICIPAL
25 ASSISTANCE FUND] to each municipality for the fiscal year shall be the amount
26 received by the municipality during fiscal year 1978 under AS 43.70.080 as that
27 section provided before the 1978 amendment. A city incorporated within a borough
28 after June 30, 1977, shall receive as a base amount a share of the amount distributed
29 to the borough in which it is located based on the ratio of population in the city to the
30 total population in the borough. A city incorporated outside a borough after June 30,
31 1977, shall receive as a base amount the amount received by the city in the state most

1 closely approximating it in population at the time of its incorporation. A borough
2 incorporated after June 30, 1977, shall receive as a base amount the amount received
3 by the borough in the state most closely approximating it in population at the time of
4 its incorporation, excluding each borough with a per capita full and true property
5 value exceeding \$500,000. The base amount to be distributed to each municipality
6 organized under federal law shall be the amount received as a base amount by the city
7 most closely approximating it in population on June 30, 1977.

8 (b) If the amount in the base amount account from allocation of
9 appropriations [APPROPRIATED] to the communities [MUNICIPAL
10 ASSISTANCE] fund [BY THE LEGISLATURE] during a fiscal year is insufficient
11 for distribution of the full base amount to each municipality, the department shall
12 prorate the amount available for distribution [ON THE BASIS OF AMOUNTS
13 RECEIVED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 1978 UNDER AS 43.70.080].

14 * Sec. 11. AS 29.60.365 is amended to read:

15 **Sec. 29.60.365. Municipalities organized under federal law.** To qualify to
16 receive money under AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.375 [AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.370], a
17 municipality organized under federal law as an Indian reserve that existed before
18 enactment of 43 U.S.C. 1618(a) and is continued in existence under that subsection
19 shall form a community development corporation with authority to determine how
20 money received under AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.375 [AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.370] will be
21 used. The charter must require that the governing board of the corporation shall be
22 elected at an annual election open to all residents of the municipality who are
23 registered and qualified to vote in state elections. The department may distribute
24 money for the municipality only to a corporation organized in accordance with this
25 section and only after the corporation has delivered a written waiver of sovereign
26 immunity from legal action by the state to recover all or a portion of the money
27 distributed under AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.375 [AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.370].

28 * Sec. 12. AS 29.60.370(a) is amended to read:

29 **Sec. 29.60.370. Per capita account distribution** [INCREASED
30 ASSISTANCE]. (a) The [IF THE] amount allocated to the per capita account in
31 the communities [MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE] fund [AT THE TIME OF

1 DISTRIBUTION EXCEEDS THE BASE AMOUNT TO BE DISTRIBUTED UNDER
2 AS 29.60.360, THE EXCESS AMOUNT] shall be distributed to each municipality on
3 the basis of population. Population for the purpose of this section shall be as certified
4 by the commissioner of community and regional affairs. In determining the population
5 of a borough, the population of all cities in the borough shall be deducted from the
6 total population of the borough.

7 * Sec. 13. AS 29.60 is amended by adding new sections to read:

8 **Sec. 29.60.372. Minimum entitlement.** (a) If a municipality qualifies for a
9 payment during a fiscal year under AS 29.60.350 and also under AS 29.60.010 -
10 29.60.080, 29.60.100 - 29.60.180, or 29.60.290, and if the total amount payable to the
11 municipality under those sections is less than a minimum entitlement of \$40,000, the
12 department shall pay to the municipality an amount equal to the difference between
13 the total amount payable under those sections and \$40,000 as adjusted under
14 AS 29.60.373.

15 (b) If the total amount appropriated to the communities fund for a fiscal year
16 is less than \$29,402,300, the minimum entitlement under (a) of this section shall be
17 reduced by a percent equal to the percent of reduction that the amount appropriated for
18 that fiscal year represents when compared to \$29,402,300.

19 **Sec. 29.60.373. Adjustment of payments.** Adjustment of payments shall be
20 determined by prorating amounts payable under AS 29.60.360, 29.60.370, and
21 29.60.372 by a factor that, when applied, reduces all payments in equal proportion so
22 that total payments equal the amount appropriated to the communities fund.

23 * Sec. 14. AS 29.60.375 is amended to read:

24 **Sec. 29.60.375. Definition.** In AS 29.60.350 - 29.60.375 [AS 29.60.350 -
25 29.60.370] "municipality" includes a municipality organized under federal law as an
26 Indian reserve that existed before enactment of 43 U.S.C. 1618(a) and is continued in
27 existence under that subsection.

28 * Sec. 15. AS 29.60.370(b) is repealed.

29 * Sec. 16. This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.

Alaska State Legislature



Committee Membership
Senate Finance
Senate Resources
Senate Rules
Legislative Budget & Audit

Senator John Torgerson

District Address:
145 Main St. Loop; Ste. 226
Kenai, AK 99611
(907) 283-2690
fax 283-9267

Session Address:
State Capitol; Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2828
fax 465-4779

CSSB 29 S(FIN) - Sectional Overview

Section 1: Changes name from state aid to priority revenue sharing.

Section 2: Changes name from state aid for miscellaneous municipal services to priority revenue sharing for municipal services.

Section 3: Changes name from state aid for miscellaneous municipal services to priority revenue sharing for municipal services. Requires communities that levy and collect property taxes to list the allocation received from revenue sharing for communities and its millage equivalent on the notice to taxpayer. Currently these funds do not have to be reported to the public.

Section 4: Changes name from state aid for miscellaneous municipal services to priority revenue sharing for municipal services.

Section 5: Changes name from revenue sharing to priority revenue sharing for municipal services.

Section 6: Changes name from miscellaneous services to municipal services.

Section 7: Changes name from miscellaneous services to municipal services.

Section 8: Renames Municipal Assistance Fund to Safe Communities Fund. Allocates moneys to the "base amount account" and the "per capita account" in the same proportion as that for the state fiscal year 1997. Changes the date the funds are distributed from February 1 to July 31.

Section 9: Adds a new section requiring payments received from both accounts in the Safe Communities Fund to be spent on the following services in the following order of priority:

- Police protection and related public safety services;
- Fire protection and emergency medical services;
- Water and sewer services not offset by user fees;
- Solid waste management;
- Other services determined by the governing body to have the highest priority

This section does not require a municipality to fund all requests it receives for services in a category before funding services in another category.

Section 10: This section is renamed to "Base amount account distributions." Excludes boroughs with a per capita full and true property value exceeding \$500,000 when calculating the base amount to be received by new boroughs. Allows the distributions from the base amount account to be prorated if the amount allocated to the account is insufficient to pay the full base amount to each eligible municipality.

Section 11: Extends definition sections to incorporate new sections in this bill.

Section 12: Renames increased assistance to per capita account distribution. Specifies that allocations to the per capita account will be distributed to municipalities on a per capita basis.

Section 13: Adds a new section stating that the minimum entitlement to those communities eligible for payments under equalization of tax resources for municipal services, priority revenue sharing for municipal services and revenue sharing for Safe communities, is \$40,000. Adds an additional section allowing the minimum entitlement to be adjusted (reduced) proportionately in the event future appropriations to the communities fund are reduced.

Section 14: Extends definition sections to incorporate new sections in this bill.

Section 15: Repeals section which specified intent of original legislation that a municipality that levies property taxes reduce those levies in proportion to the amount of state aid received.

Section 16: Establishes effect date of legislation.

SB 29

There are two pots of money discussed in SB 29:

1. State Revenue Sharing:	\$23,666,844 for FY 97
2. Municipal Assistance:	\$29,320,882 for FY 97
Combined Totals:	\$52,987,726 for FY 97

CURRENT PROGRAMS

1. State Revenue Sharing

- Distributed on July 31.
- Primary allocation based on formula (local revenue divided by community tax base multiplied by population). \$25,000 minimum entitlement with a COLA adjustment
- Separate entitlements for (1) roads; (2) hospitals/ health facilities; (3) unincorporated cities not in boroughs; and (4) volunteer fire departments not in boroughs.

2. Municipal Assistance

- Distributed on February 1.
- Base distribution, using 1978 business tax as a base, about \$10 million "hold harmless" is distributed off the top (1/3 of funds)
- Per capita distribution of balance (2/3) among all communities.

What SB 29 does:

1. State Revenue Sharing - changes title to Priority Revenue Sharing; references SRS by way of goal of \$40,000 minimum for combined programs (SRS & MA) No changes to formulas, including the minimum payment of \$25,000 plus cola.

2. Municipal Assistance - now called Safe Communities Fund

- new priority order of expenditures
- removes "hold harmless" the \$10 million which was previously distributed to specific municipalities. (old bus. tax)
- payment date moved to July 31, same as SRS



217 Second Street, Suite 200 • Juneau, Alaska 99801 • Tel (907) 586-1325. Fax (907) 463-5480

April 3, 1997

Representative Gene Therriault
Alaska House of Representatives
Room 511 State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 998011182

Dear Representative Therriault:

As you are aware, the Alaska Municipal League and Alaska Conference of Mayors held its annual legislative conference this week in the capitol city. Over 130 municipal officials spent two days discussing important issues to the state and reached consensus on three critical points.


The first is to urge passage of SB 29, Safe Communities Bill, sponsored by Senator John Torgerson. This is the number one priority legislation for local government officials.

The second issue is fixing Alaska's deteriorating public facilities. It is imperative to maintain our infrastructure before the cost of repair increases further. The membership supports SB 37/SB 111, SJR 21, and continued funding for the Municipal Capital Matching Grant Program.

Lastly, every community recognizes how budget cutting to municipal programs has passed the burden down to local taxpayers, which is reflected by increases in sales and property taxes or cuts to critical basic services.

We are enclosing copies of two resolutions which were passed unanimously by the Alaska Conference of Mayors and the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors. These resolutions outline the united positions of the membership and serve to let you know how strongly they feel on these issues.

Sincerely,



Kevin C. Ritchie
Executive Director

Enclosures

c:/jk/legcom/resoltr.doc

WHY SUPPORT SB 29, THE "SAFE COMMUNITIES" BILL?

- Last session, the "Safe Communities" bill (SB20) **passed the Senate unanimously and passed the House with 38 affirmative votes**, but failed because it was not brought up for a concurrence vote in the Senate in the final minutes of the legislative session.
- AML's Candidate Legislative Survey got the following responses:
 - “Will you support the “Safe Communities” bill when it is re-introduced in the next legislative session?
78% yes, 5% support concept, 15% unsure, 2% no
 - “Should the state be concerned about the impact its budget actions have on local taxes and services? Do you support stabilizing funding for municipal revenue sharing?
89% yes, 2% “if feasible”, 9% no
- The “Safe Communities” bill targets use of the funds for basic public safety and health services. This bill is an important part of the goal of **making neighborhoods safer**.
- Over the past ten years, municipal revenue sharing has been cut nearly 70%. In the past two years, it has been cut 15%. Local taxpayers have already given their fair share to balancing the state budget. **A further cut in municipal revenue sharing is simply an increase to local taxpayers**. The “Safe Communities” bill is an excellent vehicle to create a permanent and stable revenue sharing program.
- The “Safe Communities” bill has unanimous support from all municipalities, from Anchorage to Ouzinkie. The consensus building that created this bill is a good model for achieving consensus on other statewide issues, such as the education formula.

THE FOUR "LEGS" OF SB 29

1. Changes the name to "Safe Communities." Requires the funds received under this program (formerly Municipal Assistance Program) be used primarily for **basic public safety/health services**.
2. Creates a **\$40,000 minimum** payment for small incorporated municipalities. Larger communities contribute approximately \$238,000 of their allocation to raise minimums for small communities. (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Juneau, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Mat-Su Borough, and all other large municipalities support this provision to reduce dissolutions of small municipalities.)
3. **Removes the 'hold harmless'** clause of the current Municipal Assistance Program. The "hold harmless" provision creates wide variations among funding for communities and is no longer relevant.
4. **Advances the payment date** for Municipal Assistance from February 1 to July 31, which is the same date Revenue Sharing payments are made. This provision **creates the internal equity** in the bill that allows support from all municipalities.



Alaska Municipal League &
Alaska Conference of Mayors
1997 Legislative Platform

1. Approval of the "Safe Communities" bill and maintain current funding for municipal revenue sharing to avoid further state generated local property tax increases. The "four legs" of the Safe Communities bill are:
 - Directs the funds to be used primarily for public safety and health services
 - Establishes a minimum sharing of \$40,000 for small municipalities
 - Removes the "hold harmless" to allow equal treatment to all municipalities
 - Distributes municipal funds on July 31 each year
2. Provide for the long term construction, operation, and maintenance of state and municipal airports, roads, and harbors, including revenue sharing programs for maintenance. Bring state harbors up to an adequate maintenance level through a statewide bond issue, or other funds, to prepare them for possible negotiated transfer to municipalities.
3. Approval of a Long Range Financial Plan that prohibits unfunded mandates and unfunded service responsibilities, adequately funds schools and maintenance of public infrastructure, reasonably reduces state expenses, protects the Permanent Fund, and phases in new tax revenue sources.
4. Actively encourage the construction of a natural gas pipeline with an emphasis on jobs for Alaskans.
5. Restore funding for Municipal Capital Matching Grant Program to \$20 million because local communities can most efficiently determine and meet local capital needs.
6. Create a permanent State/Local Government Partnership Council to negotiate methods to most efficiently provide public services at the lowest possible cost to taxpayers.
7. Provide long term funding of public safety and health services through the equitable sharing of increased statewide alcohol and tobacco taxes, and removing the current prohibition against municipalities voting for local special taxes on the sale or use of alcohol.
8. Reduce the state unfunded mandate for the Senior Citizen Property Tax exemption.
9. Adequately fund a program to construct efficient sanitation systems throughout Alaska.
10. Give communities more tools to reduce youth crime by limiting confidentiality of youth crime information to protect the community, allow municipalities the option of assuming greater jurisdiction over juvenile justice, and limit liability for providing recreational opportunities for youth, such as skateboard parks.

Overview
State Revenue Sharing/Municipal Assistance vs.
Safe Communities Program

CURRENT PROGRAMS

<u>Municipal Assistance</u>		<u>State Revenue Sharing</u>	
<u>Base Distribution</u>	<u>Per Capita Distribution</u>	<u>Primary Allocation</u>	<u>Separate Entitlements</u>
1978 Business Tax as a base (about \$10 million "hold harmless" is distributed off the top)	Per capita distribution of the balance among all communities	$\frac{\text{Total local revenue}}{\text{Community tax base} \times \text{Population}}$ (\$25,000 minimum entitlement)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roads 2. Hospitals/health facilities 3. Unincorporated cities (not in boroughs) 4. Vol. fire departments (not in boroughs)

Distributed annually on February 1st

Distributed annually on July 31st

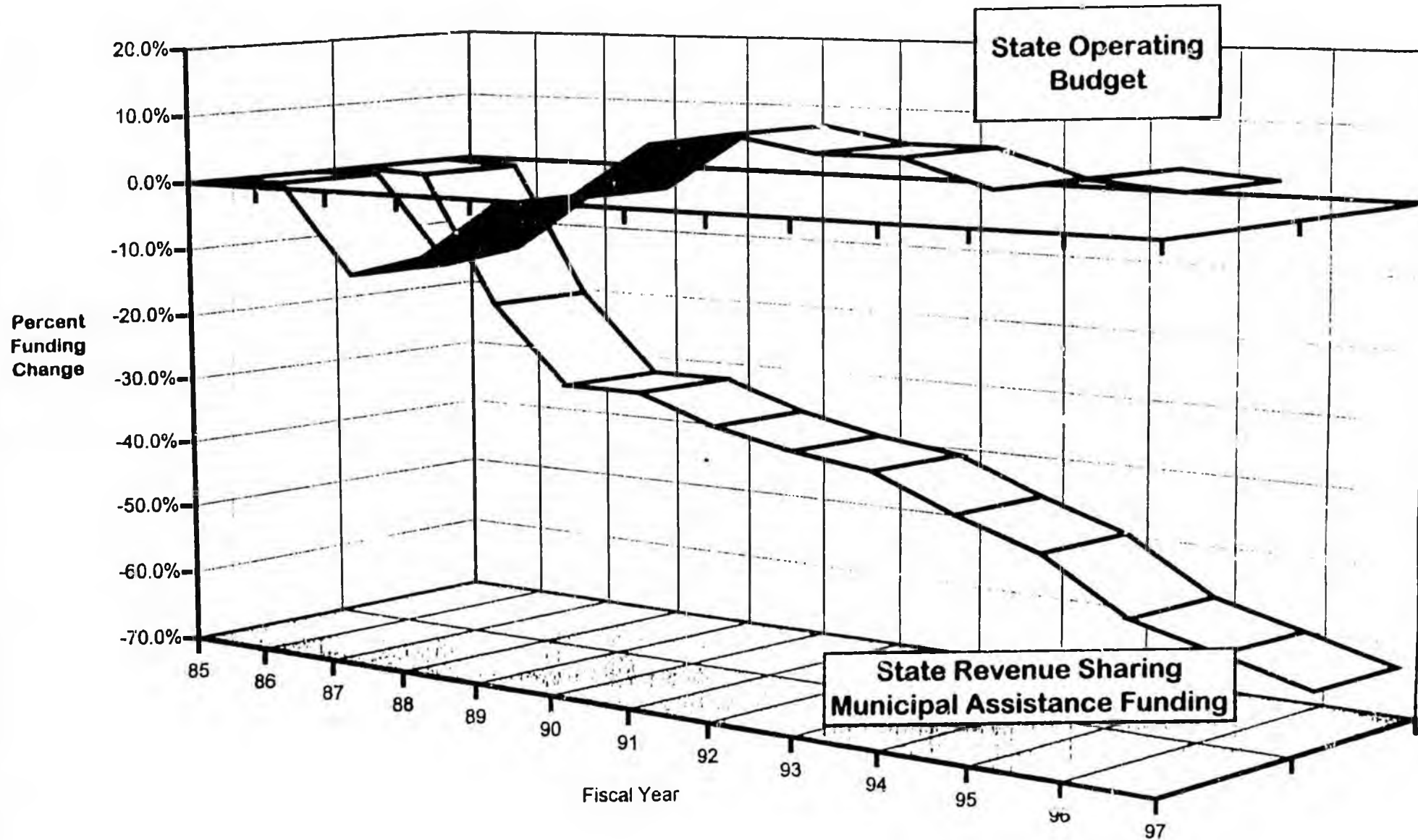
NEW PROPOSAL - SB 29 - SAFE COMMUNITIES

<u>Safe Communities Program</u>	<u>Priority Revenue Sharing Program</u>
All Safe Communities money must be used in the following order of priority: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Police protection 2. Fire protection & EMS 3. Water & Sewer 4. Solid Waste Mgmt 5. Other services 	Same provisions as State Revenue Sharing above

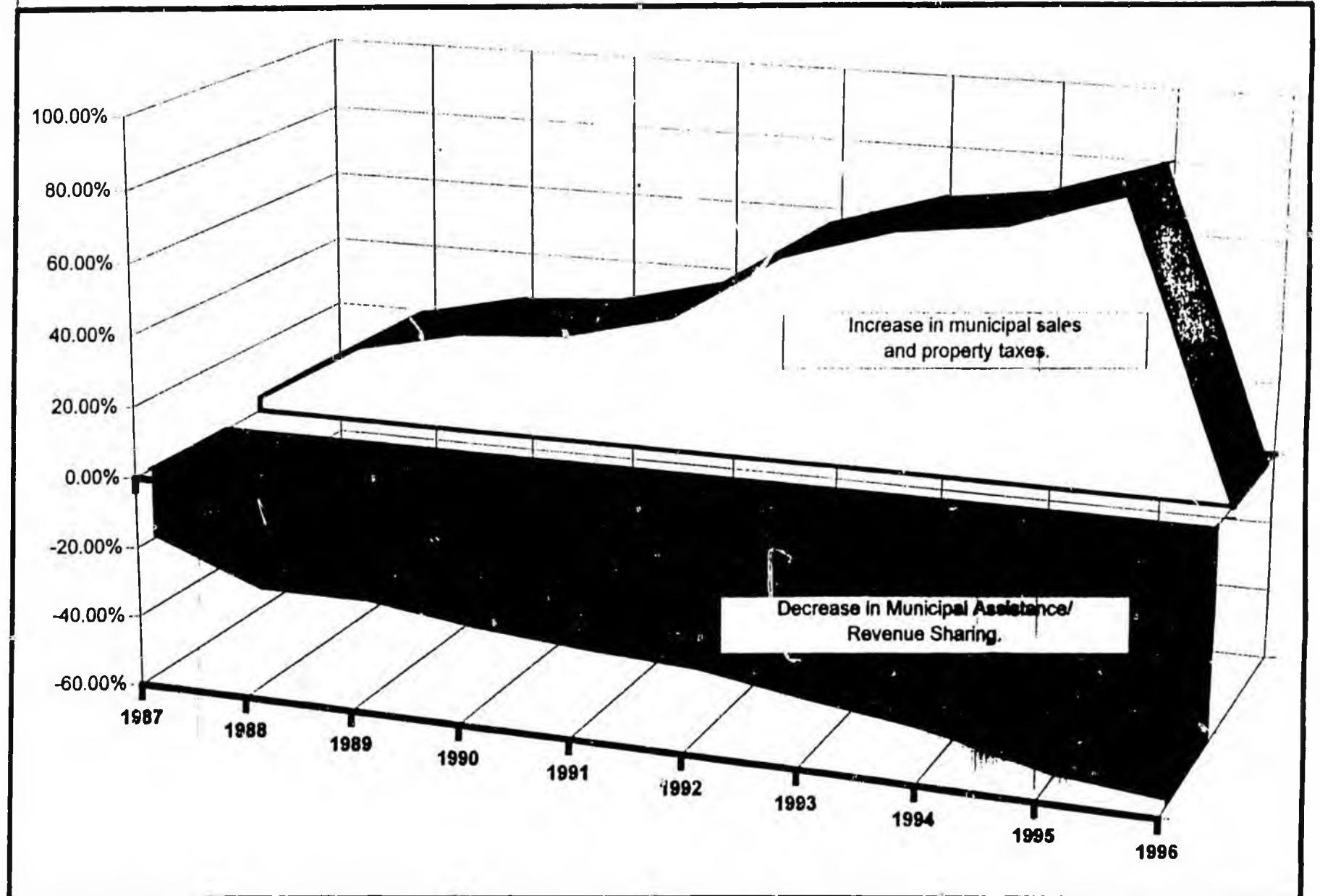
Consolidated Provisions

1. \$40,000 minimum entitlement for the total of both programs (may be prorated if funding is reduced after FY 98).
2. Date of distribution for both programs adjusted to July 31 (Municipal Assistance is currently distributed on February 1).
3. "Hold harmless" provision removed.

**Comparison of State Operating Budget vs.
State Revenue Sharing/Municipal Assistance Funding
FY 85 - FY 97**



Comparison of Decreases in Municipal Assistance/Revenue Sharing vs Increases in Municipal Sales & Property Taxes



Examples of Impacts of Cutbacks in State Revenue Sharing and Capital Project Matching Grants

Aleknagik

"...with the state Revenue Sharing cutbacks, the City had to cut back on staff work hours to part time, with no medical, dental, nor life insurance benefits. ...completely eliminated city's refuse pickup services."

Nondalton

"...due to these funding reductions...this community was left without funding for water/sewer, forced to reduce clinic hours, and could not afford to maintain roads leaving the community with seriously hazardous road conditions upon which children could not be safely transported from school."

Lake and Peninsula Borough

"...Pilot Point Airport. Due to runway deterioration, service was recently interrupted for eight days, disrupting freight...and critical medical evacuation capabilities."

Egegik

"lack of funds for freshwater treatment plant maintenance"

Aleutians East Borough

"decreasing state revenues has shifted more of the burden against local taxes. The AEB already contributes 8 mills (for schools) which does not include another four mills each year in payments on financed school improvements... This in turn has forced us to halt our (school) technology program."

Cordova

"Impacted by cuts in revenue sharing....In 1991, the mil rate was 7.094 and 1996 is projected to be 13.5 without an increase in services. In addition, a flat sales tax has increased from 4% to 6%."

Juneau

"School roof deterioration....on the Marie Drake School, the Mendenhall River School, and the Auke Bay Elementary School....If not repaired in the near future, the deterioration will continue thus increasing the final cost to repair and , if unchecked, could result in the loss of use of a portion of the school facilities."

Sand Point

"The original intent for revenue sharing was for each municipality to receive \$2,500 per mile for road maintenance...now it is only approximately \$917 per mile.... the City was forced to sell its rock crushing equipment to supplement General Fund shortfalls....the roads are washed away due to a lack of culverts and storm drainage placed in even the most critical points due to a lack of funds..."



Legislative Bulletin

Bulletin #20-1

January 24, 1997

First "State of Municipalities" Address

Highlights Tax and Deferred Maintenance Issues

The first annual "State of the Municipalities" address was presented on January 21, 1997, in the Capitol Building by the Alaska Municipal League and the Alaska Conference of Mayors.

The purpose of the address was to give a report to the Legislature and citizens on the status of municipalities in Alaska. An annual address on municipal issues is important because local governments provide half of the public services in Alaska and they most directly represent and impact families, communities, economies, and environments. The address was broadcast statewide on "Gavel to Gavel" and covered by other statewide media.

The address focused on two key issues:

1. **Local property taxes.** Over the years, in efforts to cut the state budget, the state has disproportionately cut money to municipalities intended to keep local taxes low. Additional state pressure to increase local sales and

(continued on page 3)

"Safe Communities" First Bill Out of Legislative Committee

AML Requests New Resolutions from Municipalities

Senate Bill 29, Safe Communities, had its first hearing on Monday, January 27, 1997, by the Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee and passed out the same day. SB 29, introduced by Senator John Torgerson, is the number one priority legislation for the Alaska Municipal League and Alaska Conference of Mayors. It was the first bill to pass out of a committee this session.

The hearing was held to coincide with the Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors and Alaska Conference of Mayors meeting held in Juneau on January 20-21, 1997.

The League is now seeking resolutions and support letters from municipal members to show our continuing support for the legislation. Please send them to Senator John Torgerson, State Capitol, Juneau, Alaska 99811. His fax number is 465-4779. Please forward a copy to AML. The bill is scheduled for its next hearing in Senate Finance on January 31.

The bill contains the four critical legs as adopted last year. They are:

1. Changes the name to "Safe Communities" (formerly Municipal Assistance) and requires the funds received under this program be used primarily for basic public safety/health services.
2. Creates a \$40,000 minimum payment for small incorporated municipalities. Larger communities contribute approximately \$238,000 of their allocation to raise minimums for small communities. (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Juneau, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Mat-Su Borough, and all other large municipalities support this provision to reduce dissolutions of small municipalities.)
3. Removes the "hold harmless" clause of the current Municipal Assistance Program. The "hold harmless" provision creates wide variations among

(continued on page 3)

AML Joint Insurance Association Distributes \$300,000 to Municipalities

At its January meeting, the Trustees for the AML/JIA approved \$300,000 be distributed back to its members for the FY 90 policy year. Unlike big insurance companies, the value of a member-owned insurance pool is that the members benefit if the program is successful. The AML/JIA presently has 115 members. For more information on the distribution, call Steve Wells at 1-800-337-3682.

"Safe Communities"

(continued from page 1)

funding for communities and is no longer relevant.

4. **Advances the payment date for Municipal Assistance from February 1 to July 31,** which is the same date Revenue Sharing payments are made. This provision creates the **inter-al equity** in the bill.

Last session, the "Safe Communities" bill (SB20) passed the Senate unanimously and passed the House with 38 affirmative votes, but failed to receive a concurrence vote in the Senate in the final minutes of the legislative session.

Over the past ten years, municipal revenue sharing has been cut nearly 70%. In the past two years, it has been cut 15%. A further cut in municipal revenue sharing is simply an **increased tax burden to local taxpayers**. The "Safe Communities" bill is an excellent vehicle to create a permanent and stable revenue sharing program.

If you have any questions on the bill, please call Kevin Ritchie or Julie Krafft at 586-1525.

National League of Cities Seeks Volunteers

The National League of Cities (NLC) is seeking volunteers to serve on a conference planning committee to help plan the 1997 NLC Congress of Cities conference.

The committee will meet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on April 18 and 19.

If you are interested in serving on the conference planning committee, please call Kevin Ritchie at 586-1525.

"State of Municipalities" Address

(continued from page 1)

property taxes must end if we are to continue building the economies of our communities. This is a greater challenge for the many communities that are facing the loss or partial loss of primary industries.

2. **Repair and improvement of state and local public infrastructure** such as roads, schools, harbors, airports, and jails. The Alaska Conference of Mayors and the Alaska Municipal League are deeply concerned that state budget cuts to maintenance and repair of critical public infrastructure is beginning to threaten the economic potential of our communities. More important, **failure to maintain and repair our public facilities is simply mortgaging Alaska's future.**

The Alaska Conference of Mayors and the Alaska Municipal League pledged to work hand in hand with the Legislature and the Governor to creatively solve these challenges.

The primary presenters were Alaska Conference of Mayors President Mayor Carolyn Floyd; AML President Rosemary Hagevig; and George Wuersch, Assembly Member from the Municipality of Anchorage.

They were supported by:

Karen Parr, Assembly, Fairbanks North Star Borough

Mayor Jerome Selby, Kodiak Island Borough

Mayor Dennis Egan, Juneau

Mayor Alaire Stanton, Ketchikan

Mayor Willie Thomas, Buckland

Mayor Sarah Palin, Wasilla

Roger Clark, Assembly, Northwest Arctic Borough

Mayor Henry Guinotte, Palmer

Mayor Ken Lancaster, Soldotna

Mayor Jack Shay, Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Mayor Sioux Plummer, Skagway

Vice Mayor Tom Quick, Ouzinkie

Michael O'Brien, Bethel

Mayor Edwin Anderson, Bristol Bay Borough

Mayor John Gonzales, Denali Borough

Mayor John Williams, Kenai

Mayor Robert Knight, Nenana

Mayor Tim Volstad, Seldovia

Rose Chandler, Scammon Bay

An eight-page report was made available to the press and attendees, which outlined in greater detail the municipal message. A copy of the report will be sent to AML members. Video tapes of the thirty-five minute presentation are available from the Alaska Municipal League at 586-1325.

Alaska State Legislature



Committee Memberships

Senate Finance
Senate Resources
Senate Rules
Legislative Budget & Audit

Senator John Torgerson

District Address:
145 Main St. Loop; Ste. 226
Kenai, AK 99611
(907) 283-2690
fax 283-9267

Session Address:
State Capitol; Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2828
fax 465-4779

SPONSOR STATEMENT - CSSB 29(FIN)

This legislation changes the name of the Revenue Sharing program to "Priority Revenue Sharing for Municipal Services", changes the Municipal Assistance Fund to the Safe Communities Fund and requires that payments from the Safe Communities Fund be used for specific prioritized purposes. The intent of these changes is to more accurately reflect the purposes for which payments received are used. These programs appear to have fostered the perception that it is a type of "slush fund" for communities. The change in name and the requirements for use of the monies help to dispel that notion.

Communities are required to spend funds received from the Safe Communities Fund on specific purposes in the following order of priority: (1) Police protection and related public safety services; (2) Fire protection and emergency medical services; (3) Water and sewer services not offset by user fees; (4) Solid waste management; and (5) Other services the governing body determines to have the highest priority. Communities are not, however, required to fund all requests for services in a category before funding services in another category.

Communities that levy and collect property taxes are required to list the allocation received from the Safe Communities Fund and its millage equivalent on the "Notice to Taxpayers."

This bill also revises how appropriations to the Safe Communities Fund are allocated. In the event appropriations continue to be reduced, allocations to, and the resulting payments from, the base amount account will be proportionately reduced. In the past, this account was "held harmless" and appropriation reductions were taken entirely from the per capita account. This resulted in an inequitable reduction of payments to communities.

The minimum entitlement to communities is increased to \$40,000; based on the FY 97 appropriation. If, however, appropriations continue to decline, this minimum entitlement may be proportionately reduced along with payments from the base amount and the per capita accounts.

Finally, the date of payment has been changed so that communities receive entitlements from both Priority Revenue Sharing and the Safe Communities Fund on July 31. Previously, payments from revenue sharing were made on July 31 and municipal assistance payments were made on February 1.

(4/28/97: CSSB 29 H(FIN): mj)



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MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
POST OFFICE BOX 1397, KODIAK, ALASKA 99615

TELEPHONE (907) 486-8635
FAX (907) 486-8600

February 14, 1997

Senator Jerry Mackie
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Mackie:

Jerry

The Kodiak City Council, at its February 13, 1997, regular meeting, passed Resolution Number 5-97 relating to municipal revenues and programs. A copy is enclosed. Please include this resolution with Senate Bill 29 in the committee folder when it comes up for hearing. Thank you

Sincerely,

CITY OF KODIAK

Carolyn L. Floyd
CAROLYN L. FLOYD
Mayor

CLF/wam

enclosure

CITY OF KODIAK RESOLUTION NUMBER 5-97

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KODIAK REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE CEASE MAKING DISPROPORTIONATE CUTS TO EXISTING MUNICIPAL REVENUES AND PROGRAMS THAT FORCE HIGHER LOCAL TAXES OR CUTS TO BASIC LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES

WHEREAS oil revenues are collected by the state government, but do not belong to the state government; oil revenues belong to all the people of the state to ensure a basic level of public services in all communities, whether provided by the state or municipal government; and

WHEREAS state revenue sharing with municipalities is not unique to Alaska and is not an oil boom program; every state in the United States provides some form of revenue and Alaska is now below the average among the western states for sharing state revenue with its municipalities; and

WHEREAS the percentage of the state budget appropriated for municipal revenue sharing has now been cut to the same level as in 1972, well before the oil boom; and

WHEREAS since 1986 the state has shifted an estimated \$200 million of costs to local taxpayers through cuts to municipal revenue sharing, transfers of state service responsibilities, and unfunded state mandates on municipalities, while all sales and property tax increases among municipal governments since 1986 total only \$188 million per year; essentially all sales and property tax increases paid by Alaska citizens since 1986 have gone to balance the state's budget; and

WHEREAS since 1986 the state has cut Municipal Assistance/Revenue Sharing by \$83 million, which is approximately twice the amount of any "new tax" proposed by the Long Range Financial Planning Commission for implementation during this century; and

WHEREAS the impact of the state's cuts in revenue sharing, cuts in other municipal programs, and new unfunded mandates on municipalities since 1986 are roughly equal to taking away the value of one Permanent Fund dividend check from every family that pays property taxes; and

WHEREAS approximately half (or \$10 million) of the actual reductions in the State's proposed budget for next year simply "pass the buck" to local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS the proposed state budget for next year would cut the state operations less than 1% while the proposed cut to direct municipal revenue sharing is 8%, or more than eight times greater; and

WHEREAS the state Legislature Research Agency found over six hundred state mandates on local government in statute; e.g., the state unfunded mandate for a senior citizen/disabled veteran \$150,000 property tax exemption alone is estimated to cost cities and boroughs over \$20 million in fiscal year 1997; and

WHEREAS cuts in municipal revenue sharing and the resulting fiscal pressures have been a major factor in municipal dissolutions; many smaller communities are considering unincorporating and giving the responsibility for providing local services back to the state government where the cost

to the state for providing those services will be much higher than the cost of municipal revenue sharing; and

WHEREAS all municipal governments balance their budgets and many municipal governments use long range fiscal planning tools; and

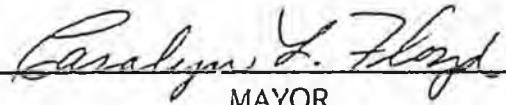
WHEREAS the Alaska Municipal League and the Alaska Conference of Mayors have adopted resolutions supporting the development of a Long Range Finance Plan for Alaska and have offered to work in partnership with the state to develop the plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Kodiak, Alaska, that the Governor and the Legislature are requested to:


- carefully study the impact of state budget actions and avoid passing a disproportionate share of cuts, transfers, and unfunded mandates on to local taxpayers;
- support the implementation of the "Revenue Sharing for Communities" program developed by the Alaska Municipal League (AML) and the Alaska Council of Mayors (ACoM) to improve and stabilize the current Municipal Assistance and Revenue Sharing Programs; and
- work in formal partnership with the municipalities as proposed by the AML and ACoM to develop a State/Municipal Long Range Financial and Services Plan for Alaska in recognition of the fact that the state and municipal governments jointly provide Alaska's public services and that both serve the same citizens/taxpayers.

PASSE AND APPROVED this 13th day of February, 1997.

CITY OF KODIAK


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK