

1164

HSA

HB

3/3

-

HB

534

1164

HB

373

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

FURTHER:

March 10, 1979

Date: 3-10-79

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 373

"An Act relating to withdrawal from the federal Social Security System; eff. date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 373 same title
 new title
- and recommends CS HB 373
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

W. Will
D. H. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

W. Will
CHAIRMAN



Alaska State Legislature House of Representatives

POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

MEMORANDUM

To: All Members of the
House of Representatives

From: Representative Terry Gardiner *T.G.*

Date: March 19, 1979

Re: HB 373, social security opt-out

Attached is a research memo from Ken Humphreys of our legislative research staff. I asked Ken to compare social security payments made by the average Alaskan versus the average citizen of the United States. The study reveals that the Alaskan citizen pays considerably more than the average American in social security payments to the federal government. Obviously, this would apply to both the employer and the employee. Since the taxable wage base is rising, Alaskans will continue to pay an increasingly higher dollar and percentage amount than the average American worker.

Also contained in the memo is information revealing that since the monthly benefits are not directly proportional to the average monthly wage base on which the benefits are paid during the workers lifetime, Alaskans again suffer a disadvantage. In effect, Alaskans would get a much smaller percentage of their earnings returned in future benefits.

This information is forwarded because I thought it might be useful in your consideration of HB 373, which would allow the state employees to opt-out of the federal social security program and to use the funding that is presently deducted for beneficial programs that they wish to set up.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

POUCH - STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
607 455 3800

Release requested

MEMORANDUM

March 13, 1979

SUBJECT: Social Security Contributions - HB 373 (W.O. #6839)

TO: The Honorable Tarry Gardiner

FROM: Ken Humphreys
Senior Policy Analyst *J.K.H.*

You have requested information on social security contributions for Alaska versus the United States as a whole.

We have estimated that the average full-year state employee earned \$22,265 in 1978. Since employee contributions to social security in 1978 were set at 6.05 percent of wages and the taxable wage base was \$17,700, the average full-year state employee would contribute the maximum of \$1,070.85. For the U.S. as a whole, the average covered salary in 1977 was \$9,779.44. If we adjust this figure upward by 10 percent to get an estimate of the 1978 average covered wage and multiply by 6.05 percent, we arrive at an average social security contribution of \$648.39.

These are rough figures, but it is clear that, as you suspected, the average state employee in Alaska pays considerably more in dollar terms in social security contributions than an average wage earner in the U. S. as a whole. This is true despite the fact that, as a percentage of total payroll, full-year state employees in Alaska in 1978 paid a little over 4 percent while wage earners in the U. S. as a whole paid on the order of 5.5 percent of their total earnings.

The discrepancy between contributions made by the average full-year state employee in Alaska and the average worker in the Lower 48 can be expected to increase in future years. An average covered worker in the U. S. in 1979 is projected to earn \$11,655 and would contribute 6.13 percent or \$714.45. Assuming that the average full-year state employee earns \$22,000 (the 1979 taxable wage base) or more in 1979, his contribution would be \$1,403.77.

The fact that the social security benefit structure is highly skewed in favor of low income workers may be of greater significance than the difference in contributions. The following table shows benefits that would be paid to a hypothetical 65 year-old male worker retiring in

JKH 3/13/79

January of 1979 with three levels of covered earnings for 1956-1978. Benefits as a percentage of covered earnings are much higher under the lower wage assumptions.

<u>Average Monthly Wage</u>	<u>Monthly Benefit</u>	<u>Benefit as a Percentage of Average Monthly Wage</u>
\$632.61 (Maximum \$174,600 total covered earnings)	\$503.40	80%
\$474.46 (\$130,950 total covered earnings)	\$412.80	87%
\$316.30 (\$87,300 total covered earnings)	\$314.90	100%

I hope this information is useful in your consideration of HB 373. Please let us know if you have further questions.

KH:jm

STATE OF ALASKA
Inter-Department Route Slip

TO:
MAIL STATION NUMBER 3100
DEPARTMENT Ab Statistics
ATTENTION Home State Office

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approval | <input type="checkbox"/> Note & Return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signature | <input type="checkbox"/> Initial & Return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comment | <input type="checkbox"/> Return As Requested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Me | <input type="checkbox"/> Return For Approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Your File | <input type="checkbox"/> Your Information |

Remarks:

FROM:
MAIL STATION NUMBER 0208
DEPARTMENT Adm / adm Serv
BY K. D. Smith DATE 4-5 *at floor 123 A Cap*
03-002 (REV. 10/77)

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. CS for House Bill 373
 Title Withdrawal From the Federal Social Security System
 Requested by House Rules Date _____

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Administration - Division of Retirement and Benefits
 Program Category Affected Retirement and Benefits (OTHER BENEFITS)
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected 02-96-8-01-02-00
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		80.9	85.8	90.9	96.4	102.2
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL		186.6	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8
400 COMMODITIES		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
500 EQUIPMENT		1.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 TRS STATE MATCH						
100 BENEFITS		-0-	(1290.9)	(1560.6)	(1713.7)	(1874.5)
TOTAL		272.0	(1171.2)	(1435.8)	(1583.4)	(1738.4)

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND			(1057.3)	(1278.0)	(1403.5)	(1535.3)
FEDERAL FUNDS			(59.4)	(71.8)	(78.8)	(86.2)
VETERAN'S FUND			(2.6)	(3.1)	(3.4)	(3.7)
FISH & GAME FUND			(7.7)	(9.4)	(10.3)	(11.2)
HIGHWAY FUND			(16.8)	(20.3)	(22.3)	(24.4)
AIRPORT FUND			(37.4)	(45.3)	(49.7)	(54.4)
CAPITAL FUND			(109.7)	(132.7)	(145.7)	(159.3)
PROGRAM RECEIPTS		272.0	119.7	124.8	130.3	136.1

POSITIONS

FULL TIME		3	3	3	3	3
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

- Bracketed numbers represent savings to State as a result of freezing contribution rate at 6.13% of covered wage base. (Similar savings will accrue to State employees).
- If employees vote to opt out of Social Security:
 - All administrative costs will be funded from State contributions before the balance of the contributions made by the State are deposited into special individual employee benefit accounts. The first six (6) months operating costs will be paid from the State's general fund. The general fund will then be reimbursed via program receipts starting 1/1/80.

If employees vote not to opt out of Social Security:

- Administrative costs incurred between the passage of this bill and the special election will have to be funded via a supplemental appropriation. Estimate \$30 to \$40 thousand will be incurred.
- Administrative costs per attachments.

IV. DATE 4/2/79 PREPARED BY Paul B. Arnoldt, Director
 AGENCY Division of Retirement & Benefits
 PHONE 465-4460

Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) House State Affairs Committee
 Office of the Governor (Keith Specking)

PERSONAL SERVICES:

One (1) Benefits Specialist (Range 18) Salary and Merit Increases @ 6% yearly			
FY 80 Monthly Salary	\$2,186 X 12 =	\$ 26,232	
Benefits @ 30.23%	=	<u>7,924</u>	\$ 34,161
One (1) Accountant III (Range 16) Salary and Merit Increases @ 6% yearly			
FY 80 Monthly Salary	\$1,886 X 12 =	\$ 22,632	
Benefits @ 30.23%	=	<u>6,841</u>	\$ 29,473
One (1) Clerk Typist III (Range 8) Salary and Merit Increases @ 6% yearly			
FY 80 Monthly Salary	\$1,103 X 12 =	\$ 13,296	
Benefits @ 30.23%	=	<u>4,019</u>	\$ 17,315
			<u>\$ 80,949</u>
TOTAL - PERSONAL SERVICES			<u>\$ 80,949</u>

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:

Fee to retain a consulting firm to:

- (1) Design/specify the supplemental benefits
- (2) Prepare Bid Specifications
- (3) Evaluate Bid Results
- (4) Interface between carriers and State

FY 80	\$ 80,000
Subsequent FY's	15,000

Data Processing Support (See Memo page 4):

FY 80	\$106,560
Subsequent FY's	15,800

COMMODITIES:

Supplies for employees:

Forms (enrollment, statements, etc.)
Paper (Computer Reports, etc.)

FY 80	\$ 3,000
Subsequent FY's	\$ 3,000

EQUIPMENT:

(3) Desks
(3) Chairs
(1) Typewriter
(1) Calculator
Miscellaneous Equipment

FY 80	\$ 1,500
Subsequent FY's	\$ 100

CS for House Bill 373

TO: Paul Arnoldt, Director
Division of Retirement & Benefits
Department of Administration

DATE: March 20, 1979

THRU: Gary W. Motley, Manager *GWM*
Division of Data Processing

FILE NO:

FROM: Sally Hooton, EDP Programmer III
Division of Data Processing
Department of Administration

TELEPHONE NO:

SUBJECT: Data Processing Cost Estimates

SMT

The following are rough cost estimates based on our meeting this morning. Costs for forms and paper are not estimated.

- A. Modifications to the existing payroll system will be minimal for reporting of all contributions to the special benefits account to a new system. Estimates are based on in house maintenance cost of \$30 per hour.

Analyst & Programming	200 hrs @ \$30/hr	\$ 6,000
Computer testing	6 hrs @ \$110/hr	<u>650</u>
Total cost of payroll impact		\$ 6,660

- B. A new system will be required to administer and control the allocation of contributions. Listed below are estimated costs of this new system based on current contractual costs of \$55 per hour which includes contractual expenses.

Initial analysis and design including forms design	200 hrs @ \$55	\$11,000
--	----------------	----------

Analysis and programming costs by program task

1. Semi-monthly computer run

File load	30 hrs @ \$55	1,650
On/line & batch input	150 hrs @ \$55	8,250
Editing & reporting	120 hrs @ \$55	6,600
Update & reporting	120 hrs @ \$55	6,600
File backup	30 hrs @ \$55	<u>1,650</u>
		\$24,750

Paul Arnoldt

March 20, 1979

2.	Monthly computer run		
	Comparison with Payroll	90 hrs @ \$55	4,950
	Update contributions & report	90 hrs @ \$55	4,950
	Split contributions by type	90 hrs @ \$55	4,950
	Report to 5 carriers 5 x 60 = 300 hrs @ \$55		16,500
	Social security number changes	40 hrs @ \$55	2,200
	Print turnaround document	50 hrs @ \$55	<u>2,750</u>
			\$36,300
3.	Semi annual computer run		
	File purge	60 hrs @ \$55	3,300
	Reconciliation of accounts	100 hrs @ \$55	5,500
	Employee statement	60 hrs @ \$55	<u>3,300</u>
			\$12,100
4.	Special request computer runs		
	Label print	50 hrs @ \$55	2,750
	Two special lists	100 hrs @ \$55	<u>5,500</u>
	Total Development Cost		\$ 8,250
C.	Initial Additional Costs		
	Data entry		2,000
	Computer time for program and systems testing	50 hrs @ \$110	<u>5,500</u>
			\$ 7,500
D.	Initial Cost Totals		
	Modifications to existing payroll System (A)		6,660
	Developmental costs (B)		92,400
	Additional data entry & computer cost (C)		<u>7,500</u>
			\$106,560

E. Projected annual costs

Program maintenance	200 hrs @ \$30	\$ 6,000
Computer test time	10 hrs @ \$110	1,100
Computer time for production:		
Semi monthly	30 hrs @ \$110	3,300
Monthly	30 hrs @ \$110	3,300
Semi annual	5 hrs @ \$110	550
Specials	5 hrs @ \$110	550
Annual data entry cost		<u>1,000</u>
		\$15,800

cc: George Crowder

HB

396

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

FURTHER: FINANCE

March 15, 1979

Date: 4-4-79

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 396

"An Act making special appropriations for a two-year transportation capital improvement program; eff. date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 396 same title
 new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back with no recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

[Signature]

[Signature]

CHAIRMAN

NOME-BELTZ ROAD

I.

The Teller Road services the Nome-Beltz Junior-Senior High School. It runs from Nome to Beltz School a distance of miles.

This stretch of road has been a constant source of problems and concern to the Nome School District for some years. The width of the road has never seemed adequate for the heavy trucks and school buses that travel it. It is the most traveled road in this part of Alaska.

In the Fall of 1977, a committee of some 15 members from the community did a study of school district facilities and needs for the future. Out of that work came a recommendation that the Nome-Beltz facility be increasingly utilized with more faculty and students assigned to that location. This brought under consideration the condition of the road from town to the Nome-Beltz facility. It was recommended by that group that efforts be commenced to bring state attention to the road and to accomplish the necessary rebuilding and repair.

Subsequent to the citizen committee's recommendations, the Nome School Board, on January 10, 1978, passed the following motion, "That the Board formally request the Dept. of Transportation to widen the Teller Road from Nome to Nome Beltz High School to accomodate potential growth in that area." A few weeks later, the Northwest Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors passed a resolution requesting that attention be given to the road. Other efforts have been made by various groups and individuals from time to time. Enough attention has been given to this problem by the community that it would be recognized by the Dept. of Transportation and others at the State level that the local community has placed a high priority on this project.

The most recent development which has affected School District programs and the transportation of students to the facility is the reduction of the legal speed limit. The reduced speed limit of 30 miles per hour has caused severe complications throughout the District in regards to the student transportation program. A great many problems have developed with the scheduling and extensive efforts have been made to reduce the conflicts in the transportation program. At this point, students are having to leave their homes earlier to catch the bus; and still it seems buses continue to arrive at the school late.

The greatest concern of all the people in the District is the safety of their children. Traveling on this hazardous road places the most precious resource in danger, the lives of our children.



Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Official Business

MEMO: April 7, 1979

TO: Rep. Mike Miller, chairman
House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. Terry Gardiner. JG

RE: appropriation for route survey
secondary road route in Ketchikan Gateway Borough

Rep. Freeman and I have requested that \$500,000 be added to the Legislative Budget for FY 80 for survey of a bypass highway route in Ketchikan Gateway Borough. The survey would be performed for a right-of-way corridor approximately 18.5 miles long, running through the forested bench lands east of the existing Tongass Highway route.

The "center-line" study will designate a right-of-way corridor, enabling borough planners and developers to plan and build subdivisions now and in the future, in such a way that when a long-proposed secondary highway route is funded and built, those developments already in place will meet with design and engineering requirements of the road right-of-way and not conflict with road routing. The centerline study will consist of route survey and engineering to determine the most appropriate right-of-way, based on geology, engineering, cost and environmental safeguards, under established state and federal requirements.

Included in list of nitrate as attachment A, 1937

Local Revenue Through Comprehensive Transportation Finance
\$ 155,000

The corporation would be matched with \$125,000
Federal Highway funds and would provide
the comprehensive transportation plan
and funds.

The plan shall be a joint effort between the
DOT and the RTIS and shall involve participation
in a representative of all local communities
and the RTIS and the existing transportation system and
will be a plan that shall cover the area of the project

The plan shall be for a comprehensive
system, including all transportation modes
but not limited to highways, air, rail, water
and transit.

The plan and identity transportation and
established by the local communities. It will
involve each governmental unit (state, county,
cities) have the specific responsibilities in
planning, construction and maintenance of each
capital project.

from Malone

Include in letter of intent as attachment A, HB 396

Local Technical Research Comprehensive Transportation Plan...
\$ 155,000

This appropriation would be matched with \$125,000 in federal planning funds and would provide for a 12-month comprehensive transportation plan for the Lincoln Borough.

The plan shall be a joint effort between the DOT and the KRES and shall include participation by representatives of all local communities within the borough. The existing planning commissions and village councils shall form the base of the project.

The plan shall be for an integrated transportation system, including all transportation modes (including but not limited to highway, bus, rail, airport, harbor and water).

The plan will identify transportation projects established by the local communities. It will also identify which governmental units (state, county, borough) have the specific responsibility for each project, and will identify the source of funds for each project.

Jim Haines



Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Committee on State Affairs

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Official Business

MEMORANDUM

TO: Russ Meekins, Chairman, House Finance Committee

FROM: Mike Miller, Chairman, House State Affairs *ll*

DATE: April 9, 1979

Russ -- the State Affairs Committee passed out HB 396 with several changes. First of all we made the appropriation not for a two year period but for a single year, in recognition of the fact that most of these projects will not be under construction in a single year anyway. There are however compelling reasons why several of the items in the former second year category should be handled immediately -- most specifically the riprap construction at English Bay airport where the ocean is eroding away the current landing strip. Additionally you will notice that three new items appear in the legislation: the Nome Beltz road; an appropriation for survey of a secondary road route in Ketchikan Gateway Borough; and funds for a comprehensive transportation plan for the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Backup material from representatives Fuller, Gardiner, and Malone, respectively, is attached. In regards to the Kenai Peninsula transportation plan it should be especially noted that federal monies are anticipated in the amount of \$125,000 in addition to the \$155,000 authorized from the state general fund. If you have any further questions let me know or contact any of these three affected legislators.

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

Funding Information	
General Fund	\$18,269,580
Other Funds	-0-
	<u>\$18,269,580</u>

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 396

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations for a two-year
7 transportation ^{planning and} capital improvement program; and pro-
8 viding for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. The sum of \$10,165,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to be allocated
12 as follows:

Tok Highway paving: Mile 18 - 75	\$4,695,000
Glenn Highway paving: Long Lake - Mile 118	3,070,000
Miscellaneous local roads/Gilmore Trail	1,525,000
Sitka Harbor bridge	300,000
Manokotak runway repair	75,000
Schoenbar bypass	500,000
English Bay Airport riprap	86,250

19 * Sec. 2. The sum of \$8,104,580 is appropriated from the general fund to
20 the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to be allocated as
21 follows:

Atnautluak and Akiak - gravel	\$ 443,900
Alaknagik Road - gravel	287,500
Nome-Beltz Highway	2,018,250
Tagiina District - crushed aggregate stockpile	402,500
Juneau Area - paving	690,000
Kodiak shop - insulate	57,500
Heal, Spur, Anderson Road, Sheep Creek Road - seal coat	219,075

	Kenai Peninsula Transportation Plan	155,000
1	St Mary's - equipment and storage	485,300
2	Norcale Road - resurfacing	627,555
3	Kalsin Bay - replace wood culvert	57,500
4	Juneau - chemical storage	172,500
5	St Mary's Airport - pavement rehabilitation	1,150,000
6	English Bay Airport - riprap	86,250
7	Various bush airports - brush control	51,750
8	Northway Airport - resurfacing	575,000
9	Bells Flats road	780,000

* Sec. 3. Section 1 of this Act takes effect July 1, 1979. Section 2 of this Act takes effect July 1, 1980.

immediate effective date on English Bay airport
 or move effective
 date up to July 1, 1979

integrated transportation plan
 Kenai Peninsula area

155,000

letter of intent to finance

**THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE**

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST
 Bill/Resolution No. H. B. 396
 Title Two Year Transportation Capital Improvement Program
 Requested by Rules Committee Date 3/15/79

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Agency Affected DOT/PF
 Program Category Affected Design & Construction
 Budget Request Unit(s) Affected Highway, Aviation & General Design & Construction

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82
100 PERSONAL SERVICES				950		
200 TRAVEL				49.58		
300 CONTRACTUAL				16,000		
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANT, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL				16,989.58		

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND				16,989.58		
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

Funding appears adequate for the projects involved.

IV. DATE 4/3/79 **PREPARED BY** Harry Keller
AGENCY DOT/PF
PHONE 364-2121
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

HB

421

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

FURTHER: JUDICIARY

March 22, 1979

Date: 4-3-79

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 421

"An Act relating to conflict on interest; eff. date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 421 same title
 new title
- and recommends _____
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION

610 C STREET, SUITE 209
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PHONE: 276-4176 AND 274-0321

SECTION ANALYSIS OF HB 421

"An Act relating to Conflict of Interest;..."

Prepared for: State Affairs Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives

Prepared by: Randall P. Burns *RPB*
Executive Director
Alaska Public Offices Commission

Date: April 3, 1979

AMENDMENT

EFFECT

Section 1

This amendment would require individuals who formally file for State elective office during an off-election year to file a "current" Conflict of Interest Statement before June 1 of the actual election year, thus guaranteeing that all candidates will have Statements on file covering the same preceding year.

Section 2

The proposed language would require that public officials subject to the Conflict of Interest law who resign from their hired, appointed or elected positions file a Statement covering the period from the final date of their last Conflict of Interest Statement through the date of their termination.

Current law does not require the public official leaving government to disclose his business and financial interests for any part of the period that he was in office since his previous Statement was filed. Thus, an official who resigns prior to April 15th can now have worked, at maximum, fifteen months for which there is no Statement from the official for his last year and one-quarter in office.

(Detailed rationale for these two proposed Amendments can be found on pages 10-13 of the Commission's 1977 Annual Report.)

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION

610 C STREET, SUITE 209
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PHONE: 276-4176 AND 274-0321

SECTION ANALYSIS OF HB 422

"An Act relating to the regulation of election campaigns;..."

Prepared for: State Affairs Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives

Prepared by: Randall P. Burns *RPB*
Executive Director
Alaska Public Offices Commission

Date: April 3, 1979

<u>AMENDMENT</u>	<u>EFFECT</u>
Section 1	<p>The proposed language makes clear that citizens of a municipality, when voting on exemption from AS 15.13, are voting to exempt <u>all</u> parties potentially subject to the Campaign Disclosure Law.</p> <p>In addition, the Legislature, in 1977, amended AS 15.13 to require groups sponsoring initiative, referendum or recall petitions to file Campaign Disclosure reports (see AS 15.13.110(e)). This language simply amends the "Applicability Section" to state that this law does apply to attempts to influence an initiative, referendum or recall effort.</p>
Section 2	<p>This section adds a single word ("purpose") to clarify that candidates should briefly identify the purpose of campaign expenditures. (Candidates are already providing this information to the public. However, in light of the Commission's recommended change in Section 6 of this bill -- which eliminates the need for suppliers of campaign services to <u>file</u> reports -- it is particularly important that the statute <u>clearly</u> require candidates to briefly state the purpose of expenditures.)</p>
Section 3	<p>This section requires the same reporting requirement of groups, as described above in Section 2 for candidates (i.e., that a group briefly state the <u>purpose</u> of its expenditures).</p>
Section 4	<p>This amendment, in conjunction with the repeal of AS 15.13.080 listed in Section 24 of this bill, proposes to eliminate the requirement that individuals, person or groups contributing over \$250 must file a Contributor's Statement (APOC Form 15-5) with the Commission.</p>

Further proposed changes, on page 3, lines 1 & 2, clarifies, in accordance with the intent of the Legislature's 1977 amendment, that persons making expenditures for advertising must report when attempting to influence initiative, referendum or recall petition efforts, as well as clarifying that expenditures both for or against candidates and issues must be reported.

Section 5 The changes in this section are coupled with the proposed elimination of the requirement that "major" contributors file reports in Section 4 of this bill. Removes the language requiring the Form 15-5 be filed in 10 days.

Section 6 This proposed change would eliminate the need for the supplier of Campaign Services (newspapers, radio and television stations, printers, pollsters, etc.) to file reports with the Commission.

Section 7 This section proposes new language which would allow the candidate who does not intend to spend money or raise money (i.e., no financial campaign activity) to be able to state that fact at the outset of his or her campaign and not have to file any reports, unless the candidate does later begin spending or raising funds during the campaign.

Section 8 Actually, there are no proposed language changes in this section. What this section does is remove most of the language which is currently found in AS 15.13.130(3), which defines a "group," and places it here in AS 15.13.050, which specifically deals with the registering and reporting requirements of groups. This "move" is suggested so that people may read about groups in one section. People often do not read the definition section, where a substantial portion of the important information about campaign groups is currently found. This would solve that confusion.

Section 9 This section proposes new language requiring groups organized in support or opposition to ballot issues or petition drives to register before beginning campaign activity. The law currently requires groups supporting or opposing candidates to register prior to commencement, but is silent on when other groups should register.

An additional new section is proposed, which would require "on-going" groups, like political parties and political action committees, to annually renew their registration. This is necessary, as treasurers and officers change often, and there is no required procedure for updating the original registrations.

- Section 10 The proposed language in this section clarifies that a candidate is responsible for the performance of not only his treasurer, but also any deputy treasurers the candidate or treasurer may appoint to assist in the campaign.
- Section 11 This section removes the confusion over the intent of the phrase "competing candidates," and also clarifies that the subdivisions of a political party are exempt from the \$1,000 limitation so long as they are not, in actuality, acting as a candidates's campaign committee.
- In addition, and in accordance with the 1977 amendment to AS 15.13.110(e), this clearly states that more than \$1,000 may be contributed to groups attempting to influence a petition drive.
- Section 12 The intent of the proposed changes in this section is to allow candidates to raise and spend money for their campaign prior to formally declaring for office, so long as that activity is reported when required. The current language basically prohibits campaign activity prior to filing for office.
- Section 13 The proposed additional language in this section would eliminate the need for municipal candidates and groups to file the 30 day pre-election report, and would also eliminate the need for legislative candidates to file the 30 day report, so long as they had not experienced over \$1,000 in contribution or expenditure activity.
- Section 14 The amendment would eliminate the need to report expenditures on a 24 Hour Report Form during the week prior to an election.
- Section 15 This section proposes new language which names the 10 day post-election report as the final campaign disclosure report, if the campaign has ceased and all debts are paid, and stipulates the reporting requirements upon groups who must remain in active status after the 10 day report is filed.
- Section 16 This section, and the following section, attempts to clarify the criminal penalty section of the Campaign Disclosure Law. This section limits the scope of the penalty section, and views as misdemeanors only those items specifically enumerated. The current law makes any violation of AS 15.13 a criminal offense.

- Section 17 The changes proposed here eliminate the (probably) unconstitutional provision that voided a candidate's election if he or she were found guilty of a violation of the Campaign Disclosure Law, and replaces that provision with language requiring the Lieutenant Governor to withhold certification of a candidate's election pending resolution of a suit against a candidate for a certain alleged violation of the Campaign Disclosure Law.
- Section 18 This section is basically housekeeping, eliminating language in conjunction with the proposed changes discussed in Section 4, and clarifying that the Commission should report to the Attorney General the names of both candidates and groups when they have failed to file a report.
- Section 19 This section is not actually proposed new language. This language already exists in the statute as AS 15.13.120(d). However, in order to make it easy for people to find the complaint procedures, the language in (d) has been placed in a new section by itself and entitled "complaints."
- Section 20 This section substantially amends and expands the civil penalty section of the law. In conjunction with the limitations to the scope of the criminal penalty section proposed in Section 16 of this bill, an expansion of the civil penalty section is proposed here. The Commission's ability to more quickly and fairly administer the Campaign Disclosure Law rests with its ability to assess civil penalties for violations previously considered criminal violations. In addition to current civil penalties for the filing of late reports, this section proposes penalties for failing to register when required or failing to properly identify political campaign communications.
- Section 21 The proposed language in this section would allow the Commission to also request the Attorney General to appoint a special prosecutor, and limit that choice to the private bar.
- Section 22 This section would considerably expand the definition of the word candidate, and encompasses the numerous alternative ways of becoming a "candidate "
- Section 23 This section clarifies what is meant by the word "group" and, in addition, removes most of the information about groups, which was transferred to AS 15.13.080 in Section 8 of this bill (see Section 8 analysis).

Section 24

This is the "repealer" section and repeals the following:

AS 15.13.070(f), (g) and (h) - these are the subsections of the law which set out the limitation on expenditures later declared unconstitutional by the U. S. Supreme Court.

AS 15.13.080 - this is the section which required major contributors to file a report of their contributions within 10 days (see Section 4 analysis).

AS 15.13.110(d) - this section required the supplier of campaign services to file reports of their business transactions within 30 days of an election (see Section 6 analysis).

AS 15.13.120(d) - this is the subsection dealing with complaints, which was placed into a separate section (see Section 19 analysis).

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION

610 C STREET, SUITE 209
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PHONE: 276-4176 AND 274-0321

SECTION ANALYSIS OF HB 423

"An Act relating to the regulation of lobbying;..."

Prepared for: State Affairs Committee
Alaska State House of Representatives

Prepared by: Randall P. Burns *RPB*
Executive Director
Alaska Public Offices Commission

Date: April 3, 1979

AMENDMENT

EFFECT

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Section 1 | This amendment proposes new language in recognition of the two reasons for registering as a lobbyist: 1) because a person is specifically employed, contracted with, or retained to lobby, or 2) because a person expends more than \$100 on public officials while attempting to influence the decisions of public officials. |
| Section 2 | The language in this section proposes to reduce the number of unnecessary copies of the lobbyists' registration statements that are currently required to be distributed by the Commission. |
| Section 3 | This is a new section of the law, and creates what has been labeled a "representational lobbyist" category. Section 16 of this bill defines a "representational lobbyist." This new section requires a representational lobbyist to register before lobbying, but the representational lobbyist does not have to file reports. Only the "employer" (the person or group reimbursing the representational lobbyist) must report. |
| Section 4 | This section proposes new language that sets out what a lobbyist is required to report. The current section is poorly written and confusing. This new language clearly states what is required, although it does not expand what is now required of lobbyists. Subsection (5) has been amended to increase the dollar threshold from \$100 to \$1000. |
| Section 5 | This section amends the law to clarify the reporting requirements of employers of lobbyists. Generally, the proposed new wording makes it clear that <u>groups</u> employing lobbyists must file reports |

as employers. The current language is unclear. In addition, the amendments will require the employer to report on the accrual basis rather than on the cash basis, and also will clarify the reporting of gifts to public officials or members of their immediate family.

Section 6 This amendment creates a new subsection which stipulates that the Commission may not accept an employer of a lobbyist's registration until all delinquent reports from the previous year have been filed. This new language parallels already existing language regarding the annual renewal of a lobbyist's registration.

Section 7 This section of the bill proposes a new section of the law, and would require the "employer" of a representational lobbyist to register as the source of the reimbursement within 15 days (also see Section 3 of this bill).

Section 8 This proposed new language considerably simplifies the current section setting out the reporting periods, and amends the section so that both lobbyists and employers of lobbyists need only report quarterly. This amendment eliminates the lobbyist's monthly reporting requirement. This amendment does, however, require that the reports be filed within 15 days of the end of each calendar quarter, instead of the present one-month time frame allowed for the filing of reports.

Section 9 This proposed amendment parallels the changes in Section 2 of this bill by eliminating the unnecessary duplication and distribution of reports filed.

Section 10 This amendment would create a new section which gives the Commission discretionary powers to revoke or suspend the registration of a lobbyist or an employer of a lobbyist when they have refused or failed to file a required report. This language requires that an opportunity for a hearing must be afforded before the Commission can take such action.

Section 11 This proposed language amends the exemption section of the law by making it clear that an individual who lobbies without compensation and does not spend over \$100 on behalf of public officials or their immediate families should not register and report as a lobbyist. Current language requires that an individual, in order to remain exempt for registering as a lobbyist, must confine his or her comments to public hearings and appearances before legislative committees. This restriction upon uncompensated individuals seems overburdensome; therefore, its removal has been proposed.

- Section 12 The definition of what is considered "administrative" lobbying has been a major source of trouble for the Commission. The proposed language in this section attempts to place limits on the overbroad scope of what is currently considered reportable administrative lobbying by excluding from consideration those activities that are routine and necessary when dealing with the bureacracy, and those appearances at proceedings which are public and for which a record is generally kept.
- Section 13 This amendment narrows the scope of the law to the immediate family of public officials, not any individual in government.
- Section 14 The proposed changes in this section further emphasize the Commission's attempts to exclude from consideration as reportable lobbying activities those activities which are mandated by existing laws and regulations.
- Section 15 This proposed new language more clearly and simply defines a lobbyist. The current definition is vague and difficult to administer and enforce.
- Section 16 The proposed changes in this section only correct references to language in another statute (AS 39.50 - the Conflict of Interest Law) that do not exist as referenced.
- Section 17 This section proposes additions to the definition section of the law. It sets out definitions for "representational lobbyist" (i.e., one who lobbies without compensation but who receives reimbursement for expenses), and for the term "source of income" (i.e., either the person or group directly paying the lobbyist, or other entities making payments through the direct employer).

MEMORANDUM

Dwyght

TO: Jack Chenoweth
Legislative Affairs Agency

DATE : March 27, 1979

FROM: Randall P. Burns
Alaska Public Offices Commission

SUBJECT: Revisions to HB 422 & HB 423

Per our discussion today, outlined below is a brief synopsis of the revisions that should be made to HB 422 and HB 423.

HB 422

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line(s)</u>	<u>Should Read</u>
2	5-6	<u>, or the circulation of an initiative, referendum or recall petition.</u>
4	4-9	(b) A candidate who receives contributions or makes expenditures after certifying to no campaign activity under (a) of this section is no longer exempt from the reporting requirements of this chapter. The candidate who loses his exemption shall amend his registration and shall file reports of his activity when required by AS 15.13.110.
10	20	"... file a complete and properly certified ..."
10	25	"... file a complete and properly certified report ..."
11	2-6	"(4) not more than \$250 a day for each day the failure continues, if the person prints, publishes, or distributes ..."
12	18	"(3) 'group' means every [STATE AND REGIONAL EXECUTIVE] committee ..."

HB 423

4	13	"or with whom ..."
7	6	"public official or a state agency ..."

HB

510

(7)

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

1/15/80

FURTHER: FINANCE

Date: 4-11-80

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 510

"Making a special appropriation to the Department of Community and Regional Affairs for a grant to the Iliamna - Newhalen electrical cooperative; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for CS 510 same title
 new title
- and recommends CS 510 - DO PASS
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN

June 15, 1979

9673

The Honorable Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
P.O. Box 234
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

SUBJECT: Power Generating Facilities Cost Estimates

Dear Mr. Anderson:

We intend to supply power to the FAA and Alascom facilities as well as residential and commercial consumers in Iliamna only at the first stage. In order to make a grant application possible, we have estimated our needs.

The necessary equipment is as follows:

Generator building prefabricated 30' x 30' @ \$60/ft ²	\$ 54,000.00
2 x 200 kW diesel generators (used equipment) @ \$100/kW	\$ 40,000.00
Switchgear & controls (used equipment)	\$ 10,000.00
Fuel storage tanks 70,000 gal @ \$1/gal	\$ 70,000.00
Substation 350 kVA @ \$100/kVA	\$ 35,000.00
Freight	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>
	\$ 219,000.00
Engineering 10%	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 239,000.00</u>
Contingencies	<u>\$ 11,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 250,000.00</u>

We plan on utilizing the existing FAA distribution system and at a later point in time extend service to Newhalen and eventually Nondalton.

Used equipment has been located and could be in service with 3 - 4 months from the time of purchase.

Mr. Nels A. Anderson, Jr.
Page 2

June 15, 1979
9673

We trust this information is sufficient for consideration in a grant program.

If further information is required, do not hesitate to contact me. We do appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

ILIAMNA-NEWHALEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Oora Fropp

for William Lucas
Manager

WL:wp

June 23, 1979

Governor Jay Hammond
Pouch A
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear Governor Hammond:

Mr. William Lucas, manager for the Iliamna-Newhalen Electric Cooperative, Inc. has requested a \$250,000.00 grant to get their electric coop off the ground. I urge you to consider making this request an item for consideration at the August 6, 1979, special session in Juneau.

I am sure you are aware of the high cost of electricity in the Iliamna/Lake Clark area. The development of a cooperative in the area would be extremely helpful in reducing the cost of electricity to the villages.

Your support is respectfully requested for adding the Iliamna-Newhalen Electric Cooperative, Inc. grant request as a part of the special session in Juneau on August 6, 1979.

Sincerely,

Nels A. Anderson, Jr.

cc: Senator George Hohman
Mr. William Lucas

Bristol
Bay
Native
Corporation

445 E. 5TH AVENUE / P.O. BOX 220 / ANCHORAGE ALASKA 99510 / PH (907) 278-2302

May 3, 1977

Mr. J. Lowell Jensen
Executive Director
Alaska Public Utilities Commission
MacKay Building
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Subject: ILIAMNA/NEWHALEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

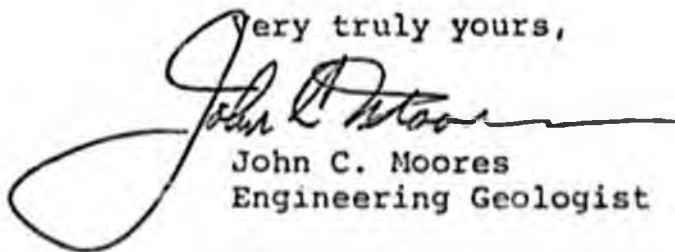
Dear Mr. Jensen:

The villages of Newhalen, Iliamna and Nondalton are in need of a source of power. The Iliamna/Newhalen Electric Cooperative will initially provide power to Iliamna and Newhalen with Nondalton added at a later date.

The BBNC does not wish to comment on the economic viability of the project or the proposed rates because of lack of expertise in this area. We are currently assisting Iliamna and Newhalen in acquiring a land interest upon which the generating facility is to be constructed.

The BBNC concurs with the purpose for which the land is to be provided and supports the concept. It is time all the villages of Alaska enjoyed the conveniences of electrical power.

Very truly yours,



John C. Moores
Engineering Geologist

cc: Senator Mike Gravel
Senator Ted Stevens
Governor Jay Hammond
Representative Nels Anderson ✓

Congressman Don Young
Senator George Hohman

ILIAMNA-NEWHALEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Loan Applications - Index of Documents

ALASKA 29A4 ILIAMNA

Board Resolutions:

1. Requesting loan from REA and 2% interest rate.
2. Accepting Financial Forecast.
3. Accepting System Planning Study.
4. Accepting Power Requirements Study.
5. Certification of Area Coverage and Line Extension Policy.
6. Naming Attorney, CPA and Manager.
7. Specifying Board Officers.
8. Certificate of Authority, REA Form 675.
9. Policy for accounts receivable, directors and employees.

Engineering Items:

1. REA Form 740c
2. REA Form 740g.
3. System Planning Study and Environmental Report.
4. Newspaper ad for generation.

Operation Items:

1. Financial Forecast with footnotes and list of assumptions.
2. Retail Rate Schedules.
3. A.P.U.C. Certificate.
4. Articles of Incorporation.
5. Bylaws.
6. Property Schedule, page 4 of Mortgage.
7. Opinion of Counsel concerning legality of corporation.
8. Contracts: REA Form 320.
9. REA Forms 266, 268, and 291.
10. Statements: Name of Bank and Account Number
Area Served
Debt Limit
Corporate Name

10/6/78

HB

514

(7)

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

1/15/80

FURTHER: FINANCE

Date: 4-14-80

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 514

"An Act

Relating to increasing the minimum benefits of retired legislators and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 514 same title
 new title
- and recommends CS HB 514 DO PASS
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

**MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS**

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
Tom Gardner
[Signature]

**MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN

TEACHER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Percentage of total retirees

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit, PRPA and COLA combined)

40%

35%

30%

25%

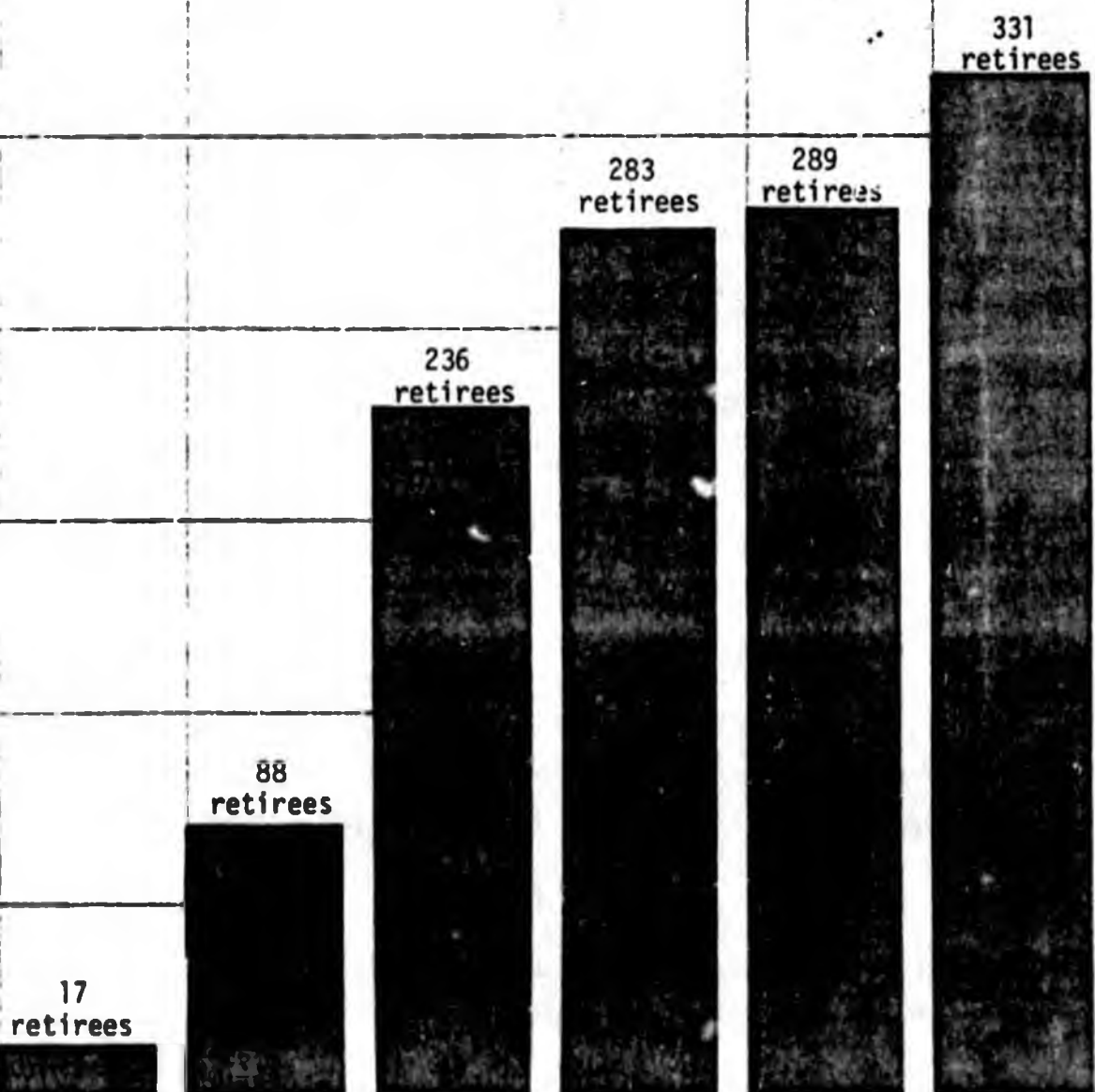
20%

15%

10%

5%

0%



Amount of monthly benefit

less than \$250

\$250 to \$500

\$500 to \$750

\$750 to \$1000

\$1000 to \$1250

more than \$1250

TEACHER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Percentage
of total
retirees

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit only)

40%

35%

30%

25%

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

359
retirees

273
retirees

214
retirees

191
retirees

180
retirees

127
retirees

Amount of monthly
benefit

less than
\$250

\$250 to
\$500

\$500 to
\$750

\$750 to
\$1000

\$1000 to
\$1250

more than
\$1250



TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit and PRPA combined)

Percentage of total retirees

40%

35%

30%

25%

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

Amount of monthly benefit

less than \$250

\$250 to \$500

\$500 to \$750

\$750 to \$1000

\$1000 to \$1250

more than \$1250

18 retirees

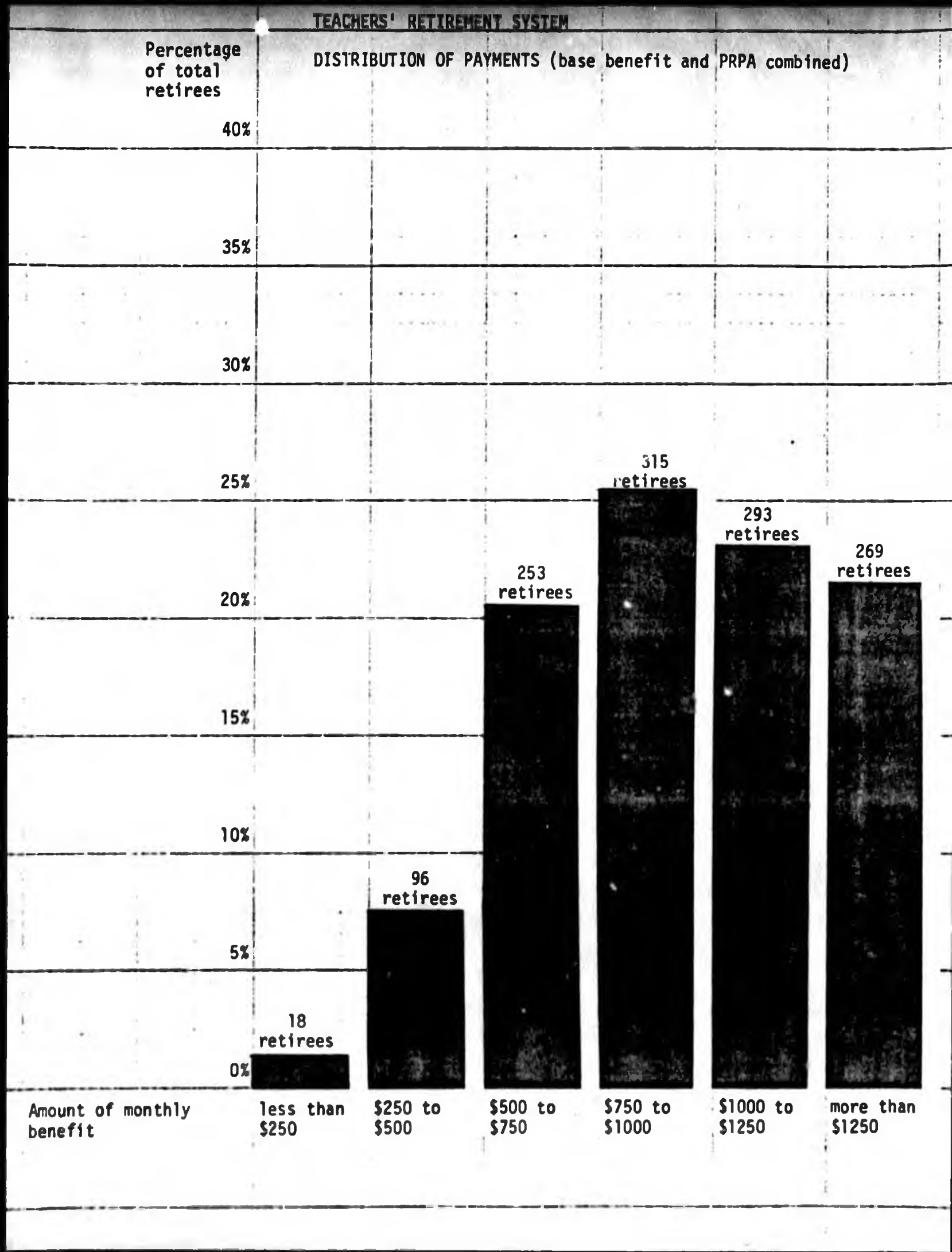
96 retirees

253 retirees

315 retirees

293 retirees

269 retirees



Percentage of total retirees

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit only)

40%

35%

30%

25%

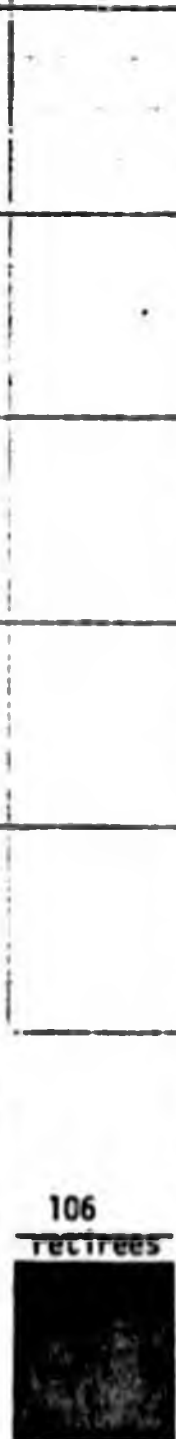
20%

15%

10%

5%

0%



Amount of monthly benefit

less than \$250

\$250 to \$500

\$500 to \$750

\$750 to \$1000

\$1000 to \$1250

more than \$1250

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Percentage
of total
retirees

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit and PRPA combined)

40%

35%

30%

25%

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

Amount of monthly
benefit

less than
\$250

\$250 to
\$500

\$500 to
\$750

\$750 to
\$1000

\$1000 to
\$1250

more than
\$1250

680
retirees

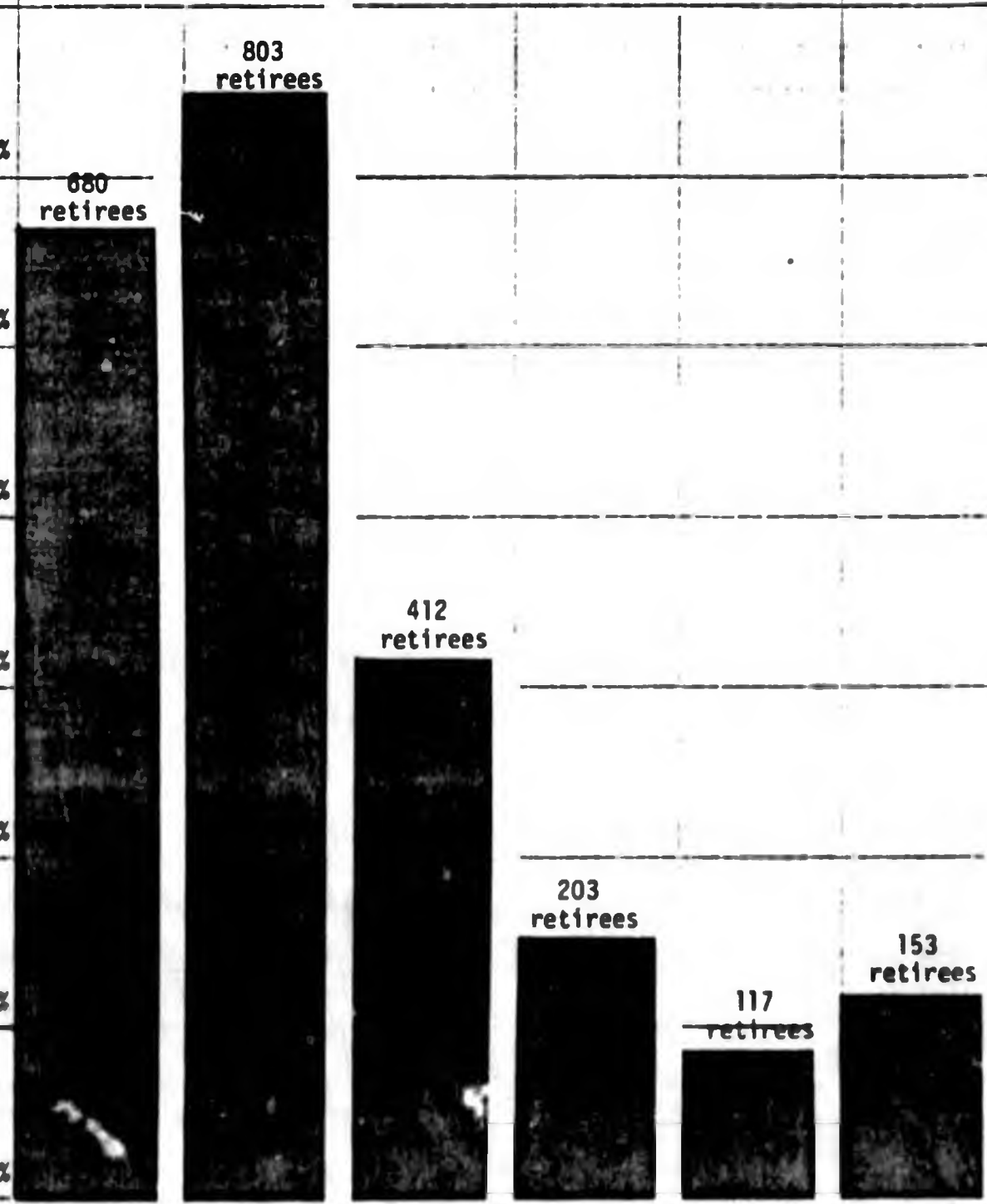
803
retirees

412
retirees

203
retirees

117
retirees

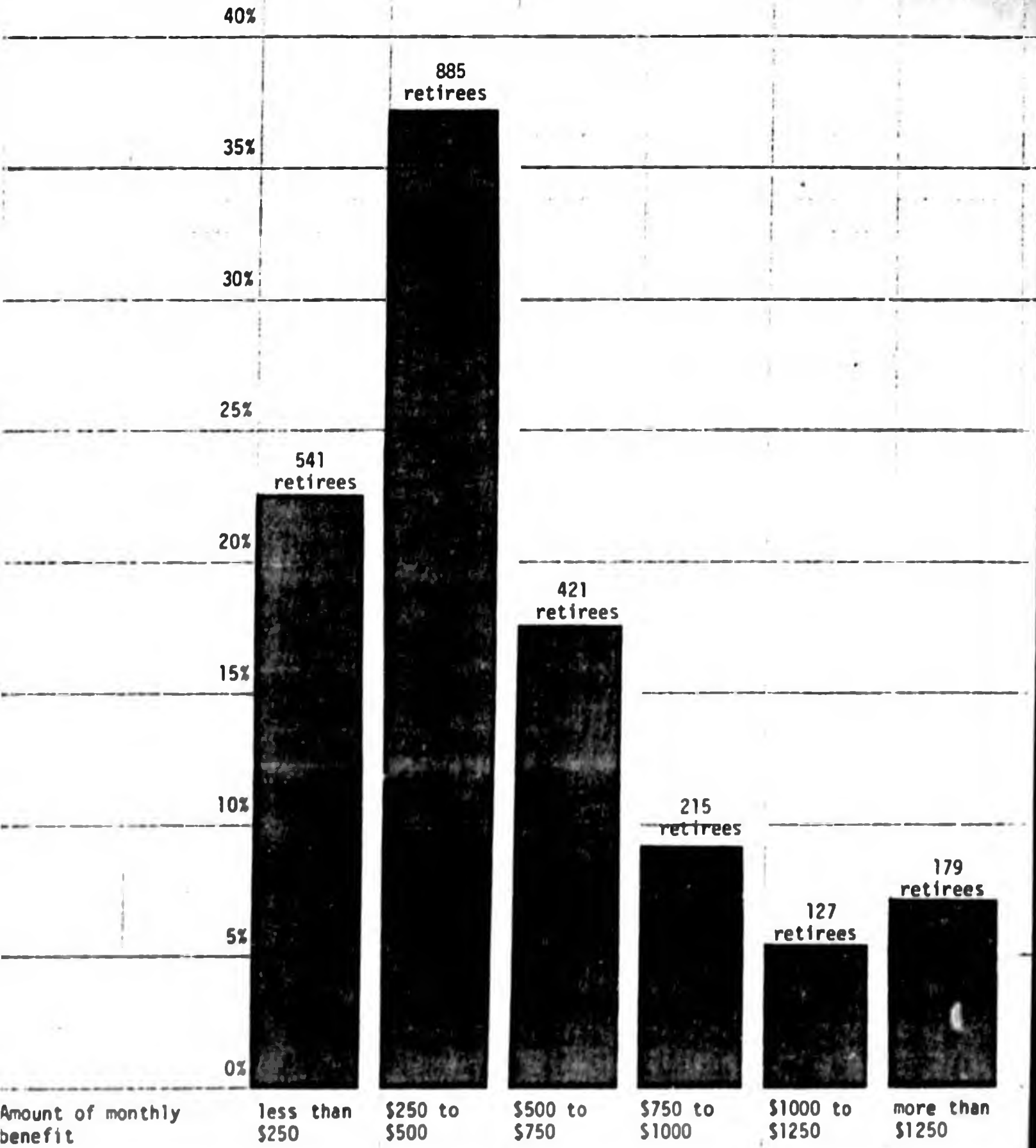
153
retirees



PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS (base benefit, PRPA and COLA combined)

Percentage of total retirees



Amount of monthly benefit

less than \$250

\$250 to \$500

\$500 to \$750

\$750 to \$1000

\$1000 to \$1250

more than \$1250

ESTIMATED FUTURE ANNUAL COST OF INCREASED MINIMUM BENEFIT FOR CURRENT RETIREES

*PERS

Increase monthly benefit from \$17.50 to \$20.00 per year of service: \$227,600
Number of retirees affected: 539
Average monthly increase: \$35

**PERS

Increase monthly benefit from \$17.50 to \$25.00 per year of service: \$693,900
Number of retirees affected: 799
Average monthly increase: \$72

***TRS

Increase monthly benefit from \$20.00 to \$25.00 per year of service: \$172,000
Number of retirees affected: 154
Average monthly increase: \$93

*would involve approximately 270 man hours to implement

**would involve approximately 400 man hours to implement

***would involve approximately 77 man hours to implement

MINIMUM BENEFITS

PERS

Estimated* number of retirees receiving minimum benefit:	245
Number of retirees receiving benefits (all types):	2368
Percentage of retirees receiving minimum benefit:	10.35

TRS

Estimated* number of retirees receiving minimum benefit:	49
Number of retirees receiving benefits (all types):	1244
Percentage of retirees receiving minimum benefit:	3.94

*these figures could be slightly off the mark. As we currently have no means to specifically identify those receiving minimum benefits, it was necessary to have the computer compare the years of credited service against the base benefit and arrive at an approximation. Variance could be as much as 10%.

JUDICIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

<u>Average Monthly Benefit:</u>	\$2,160.14
<u>Lowests Monthly Benefit:</u>	\$ 862.44
<u>Highest Monthly Benefit:</u>	\$3,312.00
<u>Average Years Service:</u>	11.970
<u>Lowest Years Service:</u>	5.041
<u>Highest Years Service:</u>	15.000*

*Maximum

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST
 Bill/Resolution No. House Bill 514
 Title An Act Relating to Increasing the Minimum Benefits of Retired Legislators
 Requested by _____ Date _____

II. FISCAL DETAIL
 Agency Affected Administration - Division of Retirement and Benefits
 Program Category Affected Labor Services
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected 02-96-8-01-01-01 (PERS)
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 STATE TRS MATCHING						
100 BENEFITS	17.7	53.0	53.0	53.0	53.0	53.0
TOTAL	17.7	53.0	53.0	53.0	53.0	53.0

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	14.6	43.5				
FEDERAL FUNDS	0.8	2.4				
VETERAN'S FUND		0.1				
FISH & GAME FUND	0.1	0.3				
HIGHWAY FUND	0.2	0.7	SAME	SAME	SAME	SAME
AIRPORT FUND	0.5	1.5				
CAPITAL FUND	1.5	4.5				
PEKS						
TRS						

POSITIONS NONE

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

- Twenty-nine retired legislators are affected by this bill.
- Average annual increase in benefits per legislator will be \$1,829.
- Assumed an effective date of March 1, 1980.

IV. DATE 1/22/80 PREPARED BY Paul B. Arnoldt, Director
 AGENCY Division of Retirement & Benefits
 PHONE 465-4460
 Original: Legislative Finance
 cc: Budget and Management
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) Representative Gardiner
 Office of the Governor (Keith Specking)

February 11, 1980

Legislative Board of Retirement Benefits analysis and recommendations on:

House Bill No. 514:

The board endorses the attached fiscal note as its fiscal analysis of HB 514.

A majority of the members of the board recommend that HB 514 Do Not Pass; one member recommends that the bill do pass.

Two members who recommend that HB 514 Do Not Pass did so because they felt the minimum base benefit on all retirement benefits should be reviewed for all PERS & TRS members, rather than a limited few persons in one system as HB 514 provides.

Three members felt that there was no showing of any special circumstances in this very small group of people that differentiates them from the PERS or TRS program.

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IOWA
ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE (REVISED)

HB 514

I. REQUEST
Bill/Resolution No. HB 514
Title An Act Relating to Increasing the Minimum Benefits of Retired Legislators
Requested by _____ Date _____

II. FISCAL DETAIL
Agency Affected Administration - Division of Retirement and Benefits
Program Category Affected Labor Services
BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected 02-96-8-01-01 (PERS)
(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)
EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 STATE TRS MATCHING						
100 BENEFITS	11.9	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8
TOTAL	11.9	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	9.8	29.3	29.3	29.3	29.3	29.3
FEDERAL FUNDS	0.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
VETERAN'S FUND	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
FISH & GAME FUND	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
HIGHWAY FUND	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
AIRPORT FUND	0.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CAPITAL FUND	1.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
PERS						
TRS						

POSITIONS NONE

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

- Twenty-seven retired legislators are affected by this bill.
- Average annual increase in benefits per legislator will be \$1,326.
- Assumed an effective date of March 1, 1980.
- This fiscal note supercedes the one dated 1/22/80.

IV. DATE 2/07/80 PREPARED BY Paul A. Arnoldt, Director
AGENCY Division of Retirement & Benefits
PHONE 465-3360
Original: Legislative Finance
cc: Budget and Management
Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) Representative Gardiner
Office of the Governor (Keith Specking)

HB

534

(7)

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

1/15/80

FURTHER: FINANCE

Date: 1-22-80

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HB 534

"An Act authorizing the state, through the Department of Public Safety, to participate in the Alaska avalanche warning system; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 534 same title
 new title

and recommends _____

AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note

reports it back without recommendation

referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

H. K. Oll
J. J. [unclear]
J. J. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

H. K. Oll
 CHAIRMAN

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH 2
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(TELEX 45-328)

January 31, 1980
000H

Re: 000H-
Avalanche Control Programs

Honorable Mike Miller
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Miller:

During your teleconference hearing on January 21, 1980 concerning avalanche control programs and the Avalanche Warning Center, Mr. Marco A. Pignalberi, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Maintenance and Operations testified on behalf of DOT/PF.

The consultant report he referred to in his testimony came off the press on January 22, 1980. Enclosed are eight copies for your committee. Please bear in mind that this consultant's report has not yet been reviewed by our Department. The recommendations contained in it may be, in some cases, already implemented or planned or discounted. We will review the report and incorporate appropriate parts in our avalanche control plan.

We appreciate your interest in this important effort to protect our highway users.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Ward
Commissioner

CC: Patrick P. Ryan, Deputy Commissioner M&O

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

P.O. Box 1628, Juneau, Alaska 99802

3200
January 2, 1980



The Honorable Mike Miller
Alaska State House of Representatives
Pouch "V" State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Mike:

As we discussed a few days ago, I am enclosing revised budgetary data to explain the two proposed appropriation bills for funding the Statewide Alaska Avalanche Warning System.

This financial plan essentially follows the original project proposal of 8/1/79 that you have, however, it is updated to reflect greater capital investments needed during the first-year of implementation. From then on for State participation, I would expect a financial need in the neighborhood of \$150,000 per year. This would enable continued operation and maintenance of the system.

If any problem develops with the line-item appropriation approach, we would then have to consider existing capabilities of individual benefitting Departments to help carry the load. This would be unfortunate, as progress would probably be a lot slower in that case.

Thanks for your interest and help in this project, Mike. There seems to be good momentum for support right now, and I'm optimistic that significant progress can be made in the year ahead. Should you want to go over the financial plan in more detail, please give me a call.

Sincerely,


ROBERT C. JANES

Deputy Director of State and Private Forestry

Enclosures

FIRST-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN (PROPOSED)

Agency	Table is in Thousands of Dollars					
	Direct Funding-Coop Acct#				Indirect Support	Total
	1/1-6/30/80	7/1-9/30/80	10/1-12/31/80	Total		
<u>USDA</u>						
FS-R10	30	14	15	59	21	80
FS-RM	-	-	-	-	5	5
SCS	-	-	-	-	9	9
<u>USDC</u>						
NWS	-	-	-	-	20	20
<u>USDI</u>						
BL'	10	20	-	30	10	40
<u>USDOT</u>						
AR	-	-	-	-	5	5
<u>State of AK</u>						
DOT & PF	40	20	25	85	16	101
DNR	40	20	20	80	30	110
DPS	15	5	5	25	10	35
<u>Boroughs</u>						
Juneau	-	2	1	3	2	5
Anchorage	-	2	1	3	2	5
<u>Private</u>						
Alyeska Ski Resort	1	-	-	1	2	3
Totals	136	83	67	286	132	418

**ALASKA AVALANCHE WARNING SYSTEM
and
FIRE WEATHER FORECASTING SERVICE**

Implementation Plan

I. Objective: Commence first-year operations in January, 1980, with core-group staffing of the Warning Center in Anchorage installation of field observation stations, and capital investment items.

II. Direct Financing Needed: For the period January 1, 1980 through December 31, 1980, there is a total need of \$286,000. Details are provided below. This amounts to 67% State, 31% Federal, and 2% other.

III. Indirect Financial Support: For the same period noted above, \$132,000 of contributed support is furnished by various cooperators. This amounts to 53% Federal, 42% State, and 5% Other.

IV. Direct Financing Details:

A. Anchorage Warning Center (AWC) Personnel

- 1. Lead Forecaster (GS-12 @ \$36,972/yr)
for period 2/1-12/31/80.....\$30,810
- 2. Assistant Forecaster (GS-11 @ \$30,862/yr)
for period 4/1-12/31/80.....\$25,720
- 3. Two Fire Meteorologist Technicians
(GS-7 @ \$20,826/yr) for period 5/1-9/30/80.....\$17,355
- 4. Moving costs for two permanent forecasters..\$30,000
- 5. Travel and per diem for training, etc.....\$ 8,000
- 6. Office communications, rent, etc.....\$ 6,115

\$118,000

B. Field Stations. Installation and contractual agreements.

\$ 20,000

C. Capital Investments

- 1. Data Collection Recall Program.....\$ 6,000
- 2. Instrumentation.....\$10,000
- 3. Orographic Precipitation Models. Contract
for two: Southcentral @ \$76M; Southeast
@ \$40M.....\$116,000

\$132,000

Sub Total

\$270,000

D. Overhead Assessment (@ 6%)

16,000

Total

\$286,000

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL SKI PATROL SYSTEM INC. - ALASKA DIVISION
Annual Meeting - Anchorage, May 25-26, 1979

WHEREAS, The National Ski Patrol System, Inc. is a non profit volunteer organization of 23,000 individuals, with more than 300 patrollers in Alaska dedicated to protecting the health and safety of thousands of winter recreationists including, but not limited to alpine and nordic skiers using both developed and undeveloped mountainous terrain, and

WHEREAS, The State of Alaska had the highest number of fatalities, (29) in the Nation due to snow avalanches since 1970, followed by the States of Colorado and Washington with 24 and 21 deaths respectively, and

WHEREAS, Snow avalanche hazards exist throughout the State of Alaska, with: (a) 180 known avalanche paths that cross public highways and railroads; (b) over 500 human occupancy structures lying directly in avalanche paths; (c) thousands of avalanche paths within heavily used developed and undeveloped public recreation areas; (d) the Juneau area posing the greatest potential threat than anywhere in North America for a catastrophic avalanche, with resulting loss of many lives and immeasurable property damage, and

WHEREAS, central snow avalanche warning systems have proven effective in the States of Colorado, Washington, and Oregon, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a Statewide Avalanche Warning System in Alaska, to alert its citizens to changing snow conditions conducive to severe snow avalanche danger, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Forest Service through its Division of State and Private Forestry in the Alaska Region, has proposed a cooperative project to implement an Alaskan Avalanche Warning System (AAWS) with joint financing by various Federal and State agencies, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Alaska Division of the National Ski Patrol System, Inc. strongly supports the proposed Alaska Avalanche Warning System and urges first-phase implementation to start for the winter of 1979-1980, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the State of Alaska Legislature is urged to adopt legislation to authorize the establishment and continuation of a line item annual appropriation to the Department of Public Safety, for the purpose of representing the State's interests in the participating Departments of Public Safety, Transportation, and Natural Resources; the annual appropriation should be consistent with the enclosed suggested financial plan, based upon benefitting State agencies.

Adopted May 26, 1979

NSPS - Alaska Division



J. Scott Grundy, Division Director

ALASKA AVALANCHE WARNING SYSTEM

SUMMARY

5-10-79

1. **Situation:** Alaska Avalanche potential exists year around which has resulted in Alaska being the highest in avalanche fatalities in the Nation since 1970. Approx. 500+ structures are directly exposed to avalanches with the Juneau area posing the greatest potential for catastrophic avalanching in North America. There are approximately 180 avalanche paths crossing public highways and railroads. There are thousands of avalanche areas within noted developed and undeveloped recreational areas with significant potential for avalanche fatalities.
2. **Need:**
 - a) **Main Objective -** Establish an interagency Alaska Avalanche Warning System (AAWS) on a statewide basis to inform outdoor users of changing snow conditions and related hazard potential. Institute public awareness programs through lectures and formal schooling in snow management.
 - b) **Secondary objective:** Provide fire weather forecasting and mountain meteorology for mountain climbers during the summer months; provide flooding forecasting in areas covered by the Orographic Precipitation Model.
3. **Organization:** The USDA-Forest Service, Division of State and Private Forestry will be the lead agency with AAWS located in Anchorage at the National Weather Service Office comprising of a project leader and two meteorologists. There will be six primary field stations manned by a Temporary Snow Mgt. Tech. and 25 supplemental field stations either manned by contractual arrangements or remote instrumentation. Field Stations will be scattered throughout Kenai-Anchorage-Mt. McKinley and Juneau Areas. USDA-FS will provide personnel ceilings for permanent employees and administrative support.

4. Project cost (Estimated)

a. AAWS Operating Cost *

1) Staffing	170,000
2) Supplemental Station Contracts	24,000
3) Travel for training and Supervision by Staff	15,000
4) Project Travel for field personnel	10,000
5) Commercial Communications	10,000
6) Station Mtc. & Supplies	5,000
7) Equipment Replacement	15,000
8) Staff office space, clerical, data transmission & meteorological support	18,000
9) Cooperative agreements on remote site mtc.	3,000
10) Overhead Cost	<u>42,000</u>

Total 312,000

b. Capital Investments (Initial)

1) Weather instruments & radio equipment	30,000
2) 5 remote weather instrumentation stations & installation cost	75,000
3) Orographic Precipitation models for South-central, Mt. McKinley, Southeastern	100,000
4) Overhead cost	<u>28,000</u>

Total \$233,000

* Portion of this estimated cost can be absorbed through present agencies operating program.

FINANCIAL PLAN:

Suggested financial plan by Agencies based upon beneficial Cooperators.

AGENCY	By Fiscal Year in "M" Dollars				
	79	80	81	82	83
USDA - FS	50	90	115	115	100
RMF	25	-	10	-	-
SCS	9	1	2	2	2
USDC - WS	3	10	25	35	30
USDI - BLM**	-	25 **	25 **	25 **	25 **
NPS	-	-	20	25	20
USDOT -AR	-	5	6	11	10
State of Ak.	-	53	82	112	112
DNR SP (25%)	-	-	-	-	-
GS (10%)	-	-	-	-	-
FL&W (10%)	-	-	-	-	-
DOT (50%)	-	-	-	-	-
DPS (5%)	-	-	-	-	-
BOROUGHES - Juneau	-	2	6	6	6
Anchorage	-	-	-	10	7
Private - Alyeska Ski Resort	2	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	89	187	297	342	312

** For Fire Weather forecasting only. cost estimated at \$25,000 per year which is based upon the meteorologist salaries for 4 months.

5. ACTION PLAN

PHASE I- (FY 79 & 80)

- FY 79 -
- a. Install remote weather instrumentation on Max's Mt.
 - b. Activate Primary Stations at Girdwood, Juneau and Chugach State Park
 - c. Activate Supplemental Stations at Thompson Pass, Isabelle Pass, Bird Cr., Turnagain Pass, 6 Mile, Grandview, Tazlina Lodge, Summit Lake, Hatcher Pass, Eaglecrest Ski Area, Salmon Cr. Reservoir, Chugach State Park and Alyeska Ski Resort.
 - d. Project Leader duties will be carried out by present S&PF Staffing.

PHASE II (FY 81)

- a. Hire Project Leader GS-12
- b. Hire one GS-11 Meteorologist *
- c. Activate Primary Station at McKinley National Park
- d. Activate Supplemental Stations at Arctic Valley Ski Area, Kluckwan, White Pass, Kahiltna Glacier, McKinley National Park Hdq.
- e. Contract Orographic Precipitation Model for Mt. McKinley
- f. Install remote weather instrumentation on Mt. Juneau

PHASE III (FY 82)

- a. Activate Primary Station at Moose Pass and Valdez
- b. Activate supplemental Stations at Sitka and Hyder
- c. Install remote weather instrumentation sites at Mt. McKinley, Mt. Troy, and Eagle River Area

PHASE IV (FY 83 and on) - AAWS in full operation.

- a. Activate supplemental stations as needed.

* Will be hired during third quarter of FY 80 if BLM enters into a cooperative agreement with AAWS to perform Fires Weather forecasting.



**SEWARD HIGHWAY
AVALANCHE SAFETY PLAN**
Prepared by: Alcan Avalanche Services

SEWARD HIGHWAY
AVALANCHE SAFETY PLAN

Prepared by: Alcan Avalanche Services

in collaboration with: Alaska Department of Transportation
and Public Facilities; Central Region,
Maintenance & Operations and Graphics
Section

December, 1979

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U.S. Forest Service

Department of Transportation and Public
Facilities

U.S. Weather Service

Alaska State Troopers

Chugach State Park

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following personal thanks are written by David Hamre, the principal author of this report.

The need for a comprehensive report on avalanche forecasting and control for the Seward Highway developed from the unusually large and frequent avalanches of March 1979. Recognizing the long-term nature of avalanche problems, Marco Pignalberi (DOT/PF) concluded it was necessary to upgrade the avalanche control program. These conclusions brought to the surface the necessity of preparing this report. Marco has provided invaluable direction and assistance, without which this report would not have been produced as comprehensively.

Field observations were essential to provide an information base. A wealth of information was provided by Jack Morrow (DOT/PF) who is probably more knowledgeable of the Seward Highway avalanche problems than any person interviewed. Without his assistance there would be an absence of substantive data on which to base the control program.

Forecasting avalanches is a difficult task. Describing the techniques one uses in forecasting is even harder. For this reason I asked Bengt Sandahl to write Chapter IV, AVALANCHE FORECASTING FOR THE SEWARD HIGHWAY, as he is one of the foremost forecasters in the country. Currently he is the forecaster for Little Cottonwood Canyon, Utah, but his experience with avalanches in Alaska from 1954 to 1964 has proven itself invaluable.

Assistance was provided by Geoff Freer (B.C. Ministry of Transportation, Communications, and Highways), and Peter Schaerer (Canada National Research Council), in the review of signing systems and avalanche defenses in use in British Columbia. Fred

Schliess, the Head Forecaster for Rogers Pass, B.C., gave a concise and revealing interview on avalanche forecasting and control at that location.

Interviews on the history of avalanche control on the highway were provided by Bob Bursiell, Bengt Sandahl, and Jack Morrow, offering a clear perspective on previous work.

To all these people and more go my thanks for assistance given in preparation of this document. Without this help the information contained in this document would have been inadequate for the purpose intended.

PREFACE

The primary purpose of this plan is to make the need for active avalanche control on the Seward Highway obvious to all parties providing monetary and material support. In addition, this plan is hoped to provide a basis of information for the implementation of a full-time control program.

This plan gives an historical perspective on problems, documents the current situation, and provides recommendations for the direction of a control program. Numerous problems will surface as this program becomes operational and revisions will be necessary to achieve the goal of avalanche safety.

This plan cannot encompass any of these operational problems, as each is unique and will have to be dealt with individually, therefore, flexibility is emphasized.

No government or private agency may use any of the material contained herein for the purpose of establishing avalanche zoning. Only those avalanche paths pertinent to highway operations have been documented.

The authors and consulting agency take no responsibility for any legal actions arising from the operation of a control program on the Seward Highway. Clearly this document is only intended as an aid to the program and in no way is connected with the operational aspects of an avalanche control program on the Seward Highway.

The problems in documenting this information under tight time constraints have been significant. Other similar plans have taken years to design and draft. Because of the great magnitude of the avalanche problems under discussion some minor discrepancies may arise. As a result of this and the evolution of the program itself, it will be necessary to revise this document on a yearly basis.

The program's integrity will rest upon the willingness of government and private agencies to cooperate and provide the resources necessary to run a sophisticated program.

Chapter I

AN INTRODUCTION

The Seward Highway is located in Southcentral Alaska and runs 128 miles from Seward to Anchorage. Leaving Anchorage, the road soon enters the Chugach Mountains in a parallel course with the Turnagain Arm of Cook Inlet. Steep mountains rise directly from the water, therefore the road bed is restricted to the hillside above tidal flats. As the highway runs across Bird Hill, 40 miles from Anchorage, it must travel across a five-mile section of almost uninterrupted avalanche terrain. This section constitutes the most severe avalanche exposure on the highway. After Bird Hill, the highway continues through the Chugach, intersecting 42 different avalanche paths, and joins the Sterling Highway at Mile 37, terminating at Mile 0 in Seward.

There are 68 identified avalanche paths intersecting the highway between Mile 18 and Mile 105 near Indian. Several other areas show evidence of avalanche activity by damage to vegetation. There is a concentration of paths clustered from Mile 18 to 24 around Kenai Lake (7 paths); from Moose Pass to the Sterling/Seward "Y" (10 paths), around Summit Lake (4 paths), and on most of the section from Girdwood to Bird (20 paths). The remaining 17 paths are scattered between these clusters (Figure 1-1). Many paths will not reach the road regularly, primarily because of highway location.

History of Avalanche Control on the Seward Highway

Avalanche control and the systematic evaluation of weather conditions that lead to avalanche formation began on the Seward Highway in 1955, just three years after the Highway was completed. During Territorial days, the Highway was under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Public Roads. After statehood, the Highway came under the Department of Highways and in 1977 this changed to the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

SEWARD HIGHWAY
AVALANCHE AREAS

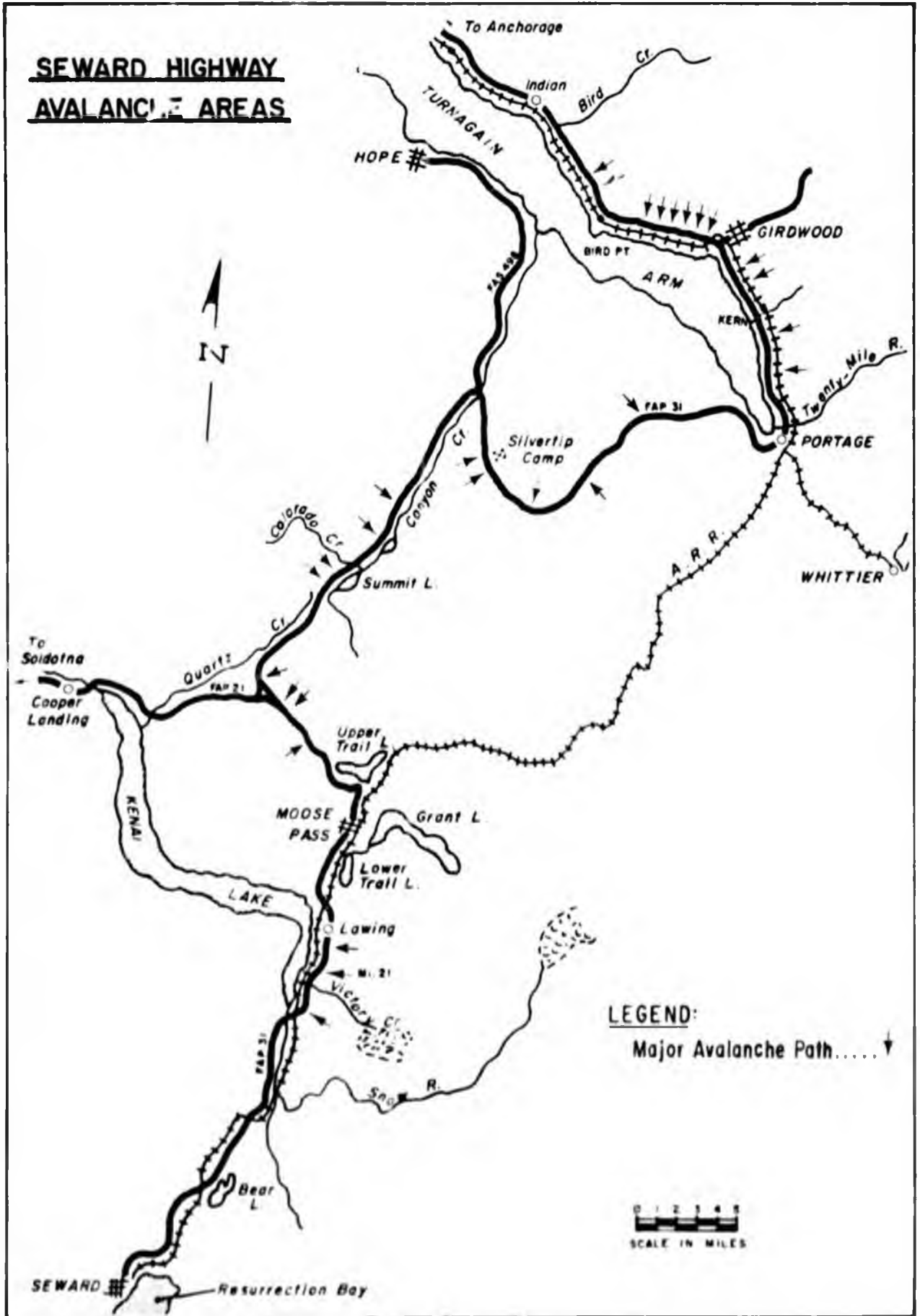


FIGURE I-1

From 1955 to 1957 Bob Goodwin and Bengt Sandahl established weather data as a basis for avalanche forecasts. They were able to call on the National Guard during periods of critical instability in an effort to control avalanche activity with artillery. During the winter of 1957-58, Bob Bursiel replaced Sandahl and efforts continued along the same lines.

In 1958 a formal research study of avalanche problems was initiated by the Bureau of Public Roads with major work being done on the Seward Highway and some work on the Glenn Highway. The project continued after statehood under the Planning and Research Section, Special Projects Division of the Department of Highways until the winter of 1961-62 when the Special Projects Division was disbanded.

This Division was able to work out an agreement with the U.S. Army for artillery control in weather that allowed for visual firing. This most often occurred just shortly after a storm, so the control work released avalanches approximately 50% of the time. The percentage of releases was greater in mid-winter, but there were reasonably good results even during the heavy snows of spring. Experience of U.S. Army crews in 1960 resulted in a smooth control program, which was difficult to attain in previous years due to rotation of gun crews. The end result was an increase in the percentage of avalanche release to rounds fired. This insight should speak for itself in terms of establishing the same continuity and team approach in projected control programs.

In 1959 weather instrumentation was situated on Bird Hill. From sea level to 3,500 feet, a 10-strand 1-inch cable was run from the research station located near the Whiskey Gulch mount to the top of Bird Hill. Thermistors were located at various levels to gain air and snowpack temperatures; and, an anemometer was placed at the top of the ridge to measure wind speed and direction. The thermistors worked quite well, but the wind system rimed¹

¹Rime - An accumulation of granular ice tufts on the windward sides of exposed objects that is formed from supercooled fog or cloud and built out directly against the wind.

heavily and eventually blew apart in a 120 m.p.h. wind. In addition, there were snow stakes located up the ridge that could be read with binoculars during clear weather. Observations showed an appreciable difference in both temperature and precipitation between sea level and ridge top stations. Using instruments and Weather Service information, the forecasters were usually able to keep a day ahead of avalanche activity which effectively aided the control aspects of the program. Using the thermistors in particular, observers could determine when milder temperatures began influencing the snowpack. When the snowpack temperatures rose, control activities were usually called for.

The winter of 1959-60 generated unusually severe avalanche activity. This was largely due to an intense storm just before Christmas leaving 11 feet of snow in the Girdwood Valley. After the first three to four feet, it was obvious to the forecasters that avalanches were going to run; therefore, a request was made to close the highway. There had never been a clear procedure established for closing the highway on the basis of an avalanche forecast. Avalanches had already closed the road by the time permission was received. There were 42 avalanches that ran between Girdwood and Bird, one of which narrowly missed the research station in the middle of the night. Three new paths were opened through conifers during this storm cycle, but generally speaking, vegetation damage was not thought to be as severe as the cycle of March, 1979.

This was the only period that full-time personnel were involved in the study and control of avalanches on the Seward Highway. The Planning and Research Section of the Department of Highways did work on the Taku Glacier to determine the rate of advance in terms of highway location, permafrost studies near Glennallen, and winter recon on several highway routes to analyze avalanche and drifting snow problems. (Interview with Bob Bursiel Sept. 1979)

In 1963 the Planning and Research Section dropped the Special Projects Division and there was little or nothing done on the

Seward Highway avalanche problem until 1967. These intervening years were periods of relatively light avalanche activity.

During the period of 1963-73 one of the most significant problems that hampered efforts to deal with avalanches was a lack of adequate equipment. It should be kept in mind that an equipment operator is one of those most susceptible to injury by avalanches in that his work necessitates exposure to potential run-out zones for long periods of time. Large machinery was not available for various reasons.

In 1967 Jack Morrow was named Anchorage District Superintendent and avalanche problems fell under his jurisdiction.

During the early spring of 1968 there was a period of avalanche activity which caused a great deal of concern. Faced with an absence of artillery, permission to helicopter bomb was requested from the FAA. They immediately decided to squash the idea. It has only been since 1975 in Alaska that this method has proven itself a relatively safe and cost-effective means of avalanche control. During the spring and summer of 1968, Morrow worked with Charles Matlock, the District Engineer, to obtain a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service providing for the use of a 75mm recoilless rifle to be fired by the Snow Ranger, Chuck O'Leary. Once the rifle was obtained, there existed a shortage of ammunition. This was soon resolved by Ret. Col. Henry M. Turner of the Alaska Disaster Office. Finally in January of 1969, all of the equipment had arrived and artillery control was accomplished on Bird Hill.

From 1969 to 1975 the 75 mm recoilless rifle was used as a means of control during and after storms that could potentially result in avalanches. There were certain limitations to the control program mainly due to the lack of full-time personnel and the necessity to shoot only under visual fire conditions.

During 1972 Department of Highways sent the Anchorage District Superintendent to the National Avalanche School. This specialized training was necessary for the activity level which was expected.