

2348 SHESS SB 303 - SB 334 (FILE 1)

2348



# ALASKA CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

1200 East 27th Avenue  
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(907) 276-4515

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Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on

Health, Education & Social Services

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

LETTER OF INTENT - CSSB 303  
(Social Workers)

February 10, 1984

Senator Jalmar Kerttula  
President of the Senate

Dear Mr. President:

The Committee on Health, Education and Social Services, to which was referred Senate Bill 303, concerning social workers, recommends that the bill be replaced by the attached Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 303 (HESS), and that the Committee Substitute do pass.

During hearings, representatives of the Division of Family and Youth Services of the Department of Health and Social Services protested that the original bill would have had overly restrictive effects upon the recruitment and retention of persons performing social work services within the government.

Your Committee has considered these objections and notes that Alaska law makes special provisions or exemptions for persons performing the function of psychologists in the government service who would not qualify to be known as "psychologists" were they in the private sector.

The Committee Substitute is thus patterned after similar language in the provisions of Title 8 pertaining to psychologists. The Committee Substitute thus meets all objections of the Division of Family and Youth Services.

In allowing state workers performing social work functions to be known as "social workers", without meeting the criteria applicable to most social workers in the private sector, your Committee expects that the Division of Personnel of the Department of Administration, as promised to your Committee, will modify the criteria to candidates

*favor*

Letter of Intent - CSSB 303  
February 10, 1984  
Page Two

who have received formal education at the bachelor's or graduate levels in social work. Your Committee notes that academic undergraduate education in social work is now available at two campuses of the University of Alaska.

It is intended that the Division of Family and Youth Services will be taking this step, and others, with a view to make incremental improvements in the academic qualifications of persons rendering social work services in the Department of Health and Social Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe P. Josephson  
Chairman  
Health, Education and  
Social Services  
Committee

Attachment



**ALASKA  
CHAPTER**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
SOCIAL WORKERS**

**P.O. BOX 10430  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99710  
907-456-5914**

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Marsha Schneider, MSW  
Fairbanks

The Q's & A's should go to legislators or aides outside of Anchorage. Anchorage legislators supposedly were given these when social workers contacted them. Please note Furnace and Pettyjohn were not contacted. I will be typing up the whole list this week and sending it to you.

On the amendment . . . .  
Version 2 should read as follows.

(same as proposed amendments #1 and #2 concerning Article 3.

Article 4, Section 6, page 10 as follows:

- (a) a person who holds a Bachelor's degree, Master's degree or Doctoral degree in a related field or from a non-accredited school of social work and who has been practicing under the title, social worker, for two consecutive years out of the last five years from the effective date of this Act may apply for and receive a license as a Bachelor social worker.
- (b) for original licensing as an LBSW or LMSW a person may be exempted from examination if the person otherwise meets the requirements of AS 08.87.100
- (c) an application for a license under this section must be filed before July 1, 1987.

This Act takes effect July 1, 1984.

Sorry for the typos. It would take too long and too much effort to correct them.

Good luck!

Marsha

P.S. Am sending you an article on continuing education. Think you're right, but I would like to do it -anyway for obvious reasons.

Alaska Chapter, National Association of Social Workers  
June 9, 1983

Senate Health, Education & Social Services Committee

Proposed Amendments for Senate Bill 303

Amendment #1

Article 3, Sec. 08.87.200

Amend (a) page 5, line 20

Insert after the word "work" the words "under the title social worker"

Amendment #2

Article 3, Sec. 08.87.200

Amend (c) page 6, line 7

Put a period after the word "worker"

Amendment #2

Article 4, Section 6, page 10

New language as follows:

- (a) a person who holds a Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree in a related field or from a non-accredited school of social work and, who has been practicing under the title, social worker, for at least two years from the effective date of this act may apply for and receive a license as a Bachelor Social Worker.
- (b) for original licensing as an LBSW or LMSW a person may be exempted from examination if the person otherwise meets the requirements of A.S.08.87.100
- (c) an application for a license under this section must be filed before July 1, 1983.

This Act takes effect July 1, 1983.



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, FAIRBANKS  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

December 7, 1983

Ms. Susan Johnson  
President  
Alaska Chapter, NASW  
P.O. Box 1037 DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Susan:

I'm writing to you in regards to the Social Work Licensure bill, particularly Amendment #2 which may affect students in our undergraduate social work program at UAF.

A full baccalaureate program in social work has been in existence at UAF since 1976. Last spring the program, revised with a new rural and cross-cultural emphasis, was submitted to the Council of Social Work Education for candidacy for accreditation. The first step of the application process, the acceptance of the self-study report, has been passed, and a site visit by CSWE, the second step, will take place this coming spring.

If the program is accepted for candidate status, those students who will graduate beginning a year from this spring (May, 1985) under our new revised rural-oriented program will be acknowledged as being graduated from an accredited program. These graduates thus will have no problem in applying for a license as a Bachelor Social Worker.

I am concerned, however, with students who will be finishing up under our present program. Our present program, although containing the curriculum requirements of CSWE, does not reflect the changes of the program submitted for accreditation. These changes, as mentioned above, have to do with a rural, cross-cultural orientation for social work practice, which fits the mission of the new College of Human and Rural Development of which we became a part last year. These students indeed may fall "between the cracks" of the bill since they will not have graduated from an accredited program nor will they have the time to engage in social work practice for two years in order to be grandfathered.

It seems that only a few changes in Amendment #2 (Article 4, Section 6, Page 10) would make it possible for our present students, those following the present program, to qualify for licensure. I would thus suggest the following two changes:

(1) In order to give students completing the present program a chance to be grandfathered in, I would propose if possible to extend the application filing date to July 1, 1987. The last of our students under the present

program will be completed by Spring, 1985. This will give them two years to practice social work and be included in on the grandfather stipulation. After that time (Spring, 1985), all students will be following the new, revised curriculum, that which has been submitted for candidacy for accreditation. I would also make the suggestion that the time be "two consecutive years out of the last five." This would accommodate those who were to take time off after graduation, for example, because of pregnancy, to care for an infant or child, or for some other reason.

(2) The second suggestion has to do with the practice requirement in the amendment: that it refer to the practice of social work under the scope of practice as delineated under Section 08.87.100, rather than to practice under the title, social worker. Many if not most of the social work jobs in the Fairbanks area are not called social work, but titles such as adoption or foster care worker, counselor, community service worker, and other titles. These people, fully-qualified social workers practicing social work, would therefore not be included under the grandfather amendment. In addition, it is possible that human service workers not performing tasks defined under the "scope of practice" might carry the title social worker and therefore be eligible.

Considering the above changes, I would propose that Amendment #2 read as follows:

(a) a person who holds a Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree in a related field or from a non-accredited school of social work and who has been practicing social work within the scope of practice specified in Section 08.87.110 for two consecutive years out of the last five years from the effective date of this act may apply for and receive a license as a Bachelor Social Worker.

(b) (this would remain the same)

(c) an application for a license under this section must be filed before July 1, 1987.

This act takes effect July 1, 1984.

(Changes underlined.)

I hope you understand our position. As coordinator of the social work program at UAF, I am concerned that our present students who are completing a full program of social work, but not yet accredited, will be able to apply for a license as Bachelor Social Worker through the grandfather clause. I think that the above changes in the amendment would go a long way in helping these students qualify.

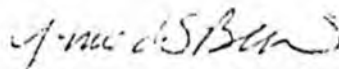
I would be most pleased to discuss this matter further with you or

page three

anyone on the licensing committee. Incidentally, I am most impressed with the bill and the efforts on the part of those who have had a part in its formulation. We will help in any way we can in promoting the bill and seeing it through its passage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gerald S. Berman, Ph.D., ACSW  
Coordinator of the Social Work Program  
Dept. of Behavioral Sciences and  
Human Services  
6th floor Gruening

GB:ndn

cc: Pudge Kleinkauf  
Marsha Schneider  
Gary Lichtenstein

# When shopping for a therapist,

## look for the license

Finding a qualified therapist in Anchorage is no easy matter. There is a confusing array of services offered by practitioners who have a wide range of training and approaches.

As a consumer of health services, you can't be expected to evaluate the credentials of health service practitioners. However, the state can legally act in the public interest by licensing professional health practice.

If your therapist is a psychologist or a clinical social worker, here are 10 reasons why he or she should be licensed:

- This assures that when you engage a therapist, that person has had high levels of education, training and supervised

experience. Licensed providers have been screened and evaluated carefully in terms of specific standards before they are allowed independently to provide services to you. The license also assures you that those standards are uniform from state to state, so if you are in therapy when you move, it is very likely the therapy can continue without major disruption.

- It provides a requirement that your therapist must continue his/her education and stay up to date on recent developments.

- It ensures privileged communications between you and your therapist (confidentiality).

- It discourages the use of fads and untested or experi-



**dr. ken  
mueiler**

mental forms of therapy.

- Insurance reimbursement is possible. If your therapist is licensed, your insurance company has a standard for recognition and payment of this important health benefit to its subscribers.

- It ensures an enforceable code of professional conduct. The license can be denied, suspended or revoked to counter a threat to the public welfare.

- It assures you that your therapist is a member of a profession that will police itself. For example, the ethical standards of psychologists are stricter than any other set of standards regarding independent practice.

- It demonstrates respectability and accountability. Your therapist voluntarily applies for licensure. By so doing, he/she is making an effort to upgrade the quality of professional services. Your therapist should also be active with a state association. Submitting to peer review is an act of good faith.

- It provides an opportunity

for you to press for redress of grievances without costly litigation:

- It helps consumers identify reputable therapists. Licensure makes qualified therapists more accessible by making it easier to find them. According to Will Bukland of the American Psychological Association, this results in increased competition in economic terms among professionals licensed in the same category, resulting in stability of fees and lower costs.

When licensing boards are under public review, grievances often emerge about their performance. Of course, the value of licensure to you, as a potential consumer of such services, clearly outweighs the problems that occasionally re-

sult from board performance. The bath water may need changing, but the baby is worth saving.

Clinical social workers are presently working toward a licensure bill so they can more effectively police themselves. This should directly benefit those who turn to them for help.

Licensure isn't a guarantee that you and your therapist will work effectively together, but it does increase the probability of a positive outcome by assuring that your therapist has met rigorous standards.

Dr. Mueller is an Anchorage psychologist.

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

J. KEITH KENNEDY, STAFF DIRECTOR  
FRANCIS J. SULLIVAN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

April 18, 1983

Gary Lichtenstein  
211 H Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Gary:

Thank you for calling my Anchorage office regarding the amendment to recognize clinical social workers for third party CHAMPUS payments.

Senator Inouye submitted an amendment, and I cosponsored it, which recognizes clinical social workers for direct CHAMPUS reimbursement. It was accepted by the Senate Appropriations Committee and enacted. I have enclosed the language report explaining the guidelines for this new reimbursement.

The December 8, 1982, Congressional Record Digest, which stated that the measure prohibited such reimbursement, was a misprint. The House has approved the measure which the Senate had adopted. Also enclosed is correct language from page H9141 of the Record.

Thanks again for sharing your interest with me about this important issue.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

  
TED STEVENS

Enclosures

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

efforts at major universities.

As you might well imagine, we asked him many questions, to which he gave straightforward, honest responses. For instance, we inquired about his perspective on the 1984 presidential election. He expressed concern about the Democratic Party not having at this time a consensus candidate to put forward. He expressed his views about the strengths and weaknesses of those in the running. Mr. O'Neill was confident that unless the economy is in a very, very bad state, Ronald Reagan will run again.

When asked about the plans of the Democratic Caucus for long-range economic planning, and, particularly, its response to the worsening unemployment situation, the Speaker mentioned the short-term goal of pushing through a major public works bill.

He thinks that one of the main ways of helping to restore the economy is to get the housing and automobile industries moving again, and he plans to seek more liberal housing subsidy programs.

While Sneaker O'Neill is a voluble man, we did have an opportunity to tell him about some NASW activities, particularly about our lobbying and political action efforts. He expressed a good deal of interest and gave us to believe that we would have access to his office in future battles on Capitol Hill.

The time went very swiftly. Several times Mr. O'Neill waved off aides trying to remind him that others were waiting to see him, and extended his lunch with us. All in all, the experience was a very momentous one. We will long remember this chance to meet with one of our most humane and effective politicians. □

## CHAMPUS Vendors

(From page 1)

NASW national office and the New York City Chapter, rejected the argument, saying, "CHAMPUS reports demonstrate that in the majority of states the comparative prevailing fee profiles for social workers' psychotherapy sessions are lower than those for psychiatrists. DOD reports that no quality of care problems have arisen."

### Past is Prologue

The language of the amendment is identical to that carried in previous appropriation acts. The 1981 DOD Appropriations Act directed CHAMPUS to conduct an experimental reimbursement program under which the services of independent clinical social workers are directly reimbursed (see separate story on this page). The purpose of the study is to determine the cost-effectiveness and compare the quality of services provided by the social workers. □

# Most Recent CHAMPUS Experiment Data Illustrate the Efficiency of Social Workers

**T**HE DEFENSE Department's CHAMPUS insurance program for dependents of military personnel estimates that it saved over \$253,000 between December 1980 and March 1982 through its experimental reimbursement of clinical social workers.

The estimate is based on a comparison of the fees charged by social workers and psychiatrists in 32 states where 8 CHAMPUS insurance carriers have been reimbursing clinical social workers independent of physician supervision or referral. A report on the fee comparisons appeared in the October 1982 NEWS.

CHAMPUS's savings estimate is contained in an interim report on claims activity from October 1981 through March 1982. The experiment, which began in December 1980, ended in September

1982. CHAMPUS will issue an April-September and final report when it has compiled data from its insurance intermediaries.

Nearly 92 percent of the claims processed through last March were for individual psychotherapy sessions of 45 to 60 minutes. The states of Hawaii and Texas accounted for more than 62 percent of the 3,420 claims processed between the experiment's inception and March 1982.

Of the total 3,420 claims, 1,777 were filed during the October 1981-March 1982 period, representing 425 providers and 947 beneficiaries. The number of October-March claims was 39 percent greater than the number filed by September 30, 1981, when the experiment originally was to have ended.

NASW and U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) worked to achieve ex-

tension of the study through September 1982 so that enough claims could be filed to ensure the validity of any findings regarding the cost-effectiveness of the reimbursement of independent clinical social workers.

Although a comparatively small program, CHAMPUS has been a leader in setting innovative trends for the private-sector insurance industry. The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved a 1983 budget proposal by Senator Inouye that clinical social workers be recognized as independent, reimbursable treatment providers under CHAMPUS. According to Jim Evans, NASW senior staff associate for mental health issues, the program will continue its recognition of clinical social workers, as in the experimental study, until final adoption of the 1983 budget. □

# EDITORIAL NOTE

THE FIRST ROUND of cuts ordered in the 1984 federal budget by the Office of Management and Budget serves as a

cutback proposals would bludgeon the Department of Health and Human Services. They include

that the defense budget is no longer sacrosanct. As U.S. Representative Carroll



# SOCIAL WORK CLINICIAN

7981 EASTERN AVE., SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

VOL. II NO. 2

NOVEMBER 1982

## CHAMPUS EXPERIMENTAL STUDY PAYS OFF

Direct reimbursement of clinical social workers saved the Department of Defense an estimated \$253,000 during the first sixteen months of the CHAMPUS Clinical Social Work Experimental Study. Prevailing social work fees for a 45-50 minute session ranged from \$40 in Maine, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Washington to \$75 in Alaska and Southern California and \$80 in Hawaii. Fifty dollars was the prevailing fee in fifteen states and forty-two to forty-five dollars prevailed in eleven. Hawaii with 1,107 and Texas with 1,031 accounted for 62.2 percent of 3,420 claims. Maryland was third with 252 claims.

Slightly over two-thirds of 1,777 claims submitted between October 1, 1981 and March 30, 1982 contained billed charges that exceeded allowances or disallowed services. Charges were allowed if they did not exceed the prevailing charge for the same service performed by a physician.

The experimental study ended September 30, 1982. We understand that CHAMPUS will continue to recognize clinical social workers as independent providers pending final action on the 1983 Federal budget. The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved language introduced by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, (D-HI) that would recognize clinical social workers as independent providers.

## NASW JOINS CUMI

NASW has become a member of the Council for Understanding Mental Illness. The Council is a partnership of ten national organizations working together to promote public understanding of mental illness and the individuals it affects.

## PEER REVIEW ADVISORY UNIT APPOINTED

Dr. Mary Ann Quaranta, NASW President, announced the appointment of a nine member NASW Peer Review Advisory Committee (PRAC), chaired by Ronaele Whittington, Kailua, Hawaii

Dr. Quaranta stated that the appointment of the PRAC marks the culmination of another phase in NASW's efforts to gain recognition of clinical social workers by CHAMPUS and other third party payors and the beginning of a great opportunity to document the capacity of clinical social workers to deliver quality treatment services. The primary task facing the PRAC will be the development of clinical social work quality assurance guidelines and review procedures that are compatible with the CHAMPUS regulations and reimbursement procedures.

Other members of the PRAC are:

Claudette Antuna, Miami  
Phyllis Caroff, New York  
Josephine A. Jackson, California  
Karil Klingbeil, Seattle  
Dorothy Miller, Northern Virginia  
Mary Moore, Austin, Texas  
Youlon Savage, Colorado  
Dorothy Schenthal, New Orleans  
Assigned staff person is Jim Evans.

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE  
EXCELLENCE FOR THE 80's

NOVEMBER 18-21, 1982

CAPITOL HILTON HOTEL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Joe, Pappy, Paul, Vic

Feb. 8, 1984

SB 303

Joe reads Changes in new Committee  
Substitute. (pg. 5 & 9-10)

Shana Horman - MSW - supports bill.  
has been providing social work services  
for 10 years. Currently in private practice,  
teaches at the University, and works  
through hospice & corrections & child  
abuse training.

not comfortable w/ those designated as  
social workers who have not had training  
in therapy and may not be trained to  
do all in their scope of practice.

Some concern over "grandfather" clause  
but supports measure.

Carol Swartz - knows - so worked for yrs.  
child protection, mental health.

have seen differences in service delivery  
between trained and untrained S.W.

currently training in child sexual  
abuse in some area.

Harry Traeger - Division of O.L.

opposed to creation of a Board  
to oversee training through Comm & E.D.

ve - concerned about putting fee structure  
in Statute.

Schedule of fees established by  
Board to cover all costs of the Board

Barthelstein - NABW - Chair, Licensing Committee  
Nape Cottage, Arch CMHC, now in private practice

was practicing psychotherapy and had  
legal problems because of Psychology  
Statute. J.W. cannot get 3rd party payment.

grandparent clause to include cost  
of J.W. - not admitted at this time.

no regulation by any Natl organization.  
Academy of Certified Social Workers give  
exam to Masters of 2 yrs experience and  
is voluntary.

Anna Kester - Mike Price - DYS

recognize the importance of financing  
for private practice but not for state  
employees.

place more constraints on ability to hire  
especially in rural areas. Recruitment in  
future a great concern.

Alaska natives (20% of population) different  
problems here. No HSD program.

voluntary licensing would allow 3rd  
party collection and expand resources  
for human services.

# STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

**BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR**

POUCH H 01  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

PHONE: 465-3030

DOCUMENT NO. # 84-59

February 29, 1984

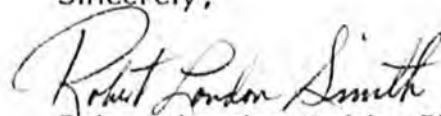
The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Senator  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

Dear Senator Josephson:

I appreciate the amendments you made to the social work licensing bill, CS for SB 303 (HESS). This is to assure you that this Department is already pursuing efforts to upgrade the Social Work series, and will continue to do so. Michael Price has met with Frank Raye, Director, Division of Personnel, and Mr. Raye has agreed to give extra weight to MSW's and BSW's in evaluating education on personnel applications. Other efforts are being pursued to make graduate education more accessible to current employees of the Division.

Professionalizing the employees of the Division of Family & Youth Services is a high priority for the Division Director and myself.

Sincerely,



Robert London Smith, Ph. D.  
Commissioner

Senator Joe P. Josephson

RECEIVED

Peru v

MARCH 6, 1984

Juneau, Alaska

Josephson

RE: Correction to my letter of March 3, 1984.

Dear Senator Josephson

The citation for (6) on page two concerning exemptions should read AS08.64.170 (a) (4).

Sincerely yours,



Robert M. Arvidson  
Box 258  
Cordova, Alaska 99574

P.S. I am enclosing my original letter of March 2, 1984 and my apologies for not including you on the initial list.

Sincerely,



Kenneth P. Fallon, Jr., M.S.W., A.C.S.W.  
Psychiatric Social Worker

*The Family and Children's Clinic*

Betty Morgan Burt, M.Ed.  
Child Therapist

Patricia Patrick, M.D.  
Psychiatrist

P.O. Box 3332  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Thomas M. Robinson, Ph.D.  
Psychologist

February 5, 1984

Senator Joe Josephson  
Health, Education and Social Services Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

On behalf of the Clinic, the professional staff and the people we serve, I would like to thank you for your sponsorship of Senate Bill 303. Licensing of social workers in Alaska will be an important step in protecting the quality of social work services in the state and will advance the profession as well.

I am hopeful that you will be able to persuade your colleagues on the committee of the importance of SB 303, and that it will be reported out of committee with an enthusiastic "do pass" recommendation. Your continued support for social work licensing is appreciated. If I or the Clinic can be of any help to you in the work you are doing for the passage of this legislation please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Kenneth P. Fallon, Jr., MSW, ACSW  
Director

1316 Pegee Rd  
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701  
Feb. 16, 1984

Senator Joe Josephson,  
Chairperson, Senate HESS Committee  
State Capital  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Ak. 99811

RECEIVED

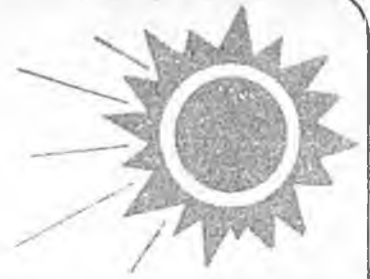
Dear Senator Josephson:

I wish to express my support of Senate Bill 303 which you introduced relative to licensing social workers. I'm grateful, as a member of the Board of Fairbanks Counseling and Adaption, for your support of SB 303 for the following reasons:

- (1) Licensing will further the delivery of quality social work services by setting minimal standards for social workers including private practitioners.
- (2) Licensing will enable the public to identify those social workers who have met minimal standards. At present this is not possible.
- (3) Licensing will enable clinical social workers to collect 3<sup>rd</sup> party payments from insurance companies thereby reducing costs to Alaskan residents (for mental health services).

Thanks for all you do for Alaska,

MAT-SU COMMUNITY  
COUNSELING  
CENTER



February 9, 1984

Senator Joe Josephson  
Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

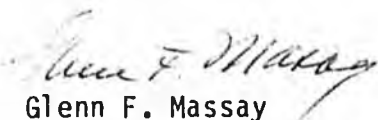
Last night at our monthly advisory board meeting for the Mat-Su Community Counseling Center, the board passed a resolution expressing our appreciation for your sponsorship and support of SB 303, legislation that provides for the licensing of social workers. This legislation is important to our center not only because it will protect the public against the fraudulent practice of social work but it will also bring about increased revenues into the center from third party vendors such as insurance companies for social work services.

Insurance companies are not willing to reimburse directly for clinical social work services because of the lack of licensing in our state. Passage of SB 303 would rectify this present situation and lay the groundwork for increased revenues to mental health centers through increased third party payments. With the ever increasing demand for services, as is the current situation in the Valley, adequate fiscal resources is becoming of increasing concern.

Please share the concern of our board with the other members of the Senate HES Committee. It is our hope that the committee will strongly endorse SB 303 when it comes up for vote.

Thank you for the work you have done on this important legislation. If there is anything we can do as a board to assist you or the committee in the passage of SB 303 please let us know.

Sincerely,

  
Glenn F. Massay  
Advisory Board

rd



# FOOD BANK OF ALASKA

P.O. Box 3324, Anchorage, Ak 99510  
1025 Urca Street, # N8, Anchorage  
907-276-4776

January 11, 1984

RECEIVED

Mr. Rober Bowers, President  
Human Services Network  
c/o Alaska Trust Administrators  
8536 Hartzell Road  
Anchorage, AK 99507

Josephson

Dear Bob,

At a recent board meeting the Network voted to support a bill sponsored by Senator Josephson (SB 303) that would create a Board of Examiners and allow for licensing of social workers. As I spoke at that board meeting, the Food Bank does not support such a bill, and does not like being listed as an agency that does support the bill, either directly or indirectly. We do not object to the Network supporting SB 303 as an individual agency but we do object of it being inferred that the Food Bank, as a member agency of the Network, also supports the bill.

We do not support this bill for two reasons. Most importantly, we object to the fact that the bill does not address the needs of the bush communities. The bush is a sparsely populated area that does not have the necessary social worker force to comply with the bill. We feel that the bill, as written, will force bush and indeed urban communities to resort to outside recruitment for the necessary MSW's that will be needed to supervise the BSW's. This will cause costs to rise and does not address the fact that there are a lot of very competent para-professionals currently engaged in social work in the rural communities that would no longer be qualified to do so. Secondly, the administrative structure needed to enforce and comply to this bill would be counter-productive to urban and rural communities. We see this bill as producing a bureaucracy that is detrimental to the well-being of the citizens of Alaska at large, without any substantial benefits.

I would like the Food Bank's objection to being represented by the Network, without a poll of member agencies, to go on record. In the future the Network should poll all agencies when supporting such a controversial issue.

Sincerely Yours,

Carl M. Larsen  
General Manager

cc: Legislative body

**"Cache and Share / Don't Waste Food"**

March 2, 1984

Senator Jan Faiks, Chairperson  
Senate Rules Committee  
Pouch V  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: Senate Bill #303 (CS#303) relating to the creation of a Board of Examiners for Clinical Social Workers and the licensing of Clinical Social Workers under Title 8.

Dear Senator Faiks,

It has come to my attention today that the above referenced bill (or similar wording) is in committee (finance) for consideration.

I am not familiar with the wording of the proposed act, but at this time I request that the act include an exception to the act for persons currently identified as "social workers" or "clinical social workers". I construe the identification of social workers to mean (1) those persons currently engaged in the practice of "social work or "clinical social work" as members or employees of private or public organizations; or (2) persons engaged in the independent private practice of "social work" or "clinical social work"; or (3) persons otherwise currently licensed to practice "social work" or "clinical social worker", or identified as "social workers" or "clinical social workers", under AS 43.70 or/and under local municipal licensing codes or provisions; or (4) persons recognized as "social workers" or "clinical social workers" by state or national organizations.

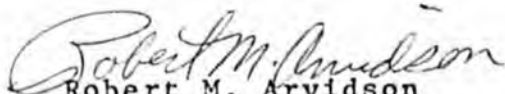
I construe an exception to the act to mean the licensing of those persons currently identified as "social workers" or "clinical social workers" without further requirements other than: (1) application for licensing based solely upon their current identification as "social worker" or "clinical social worker" as provided above, and the payment of appropriate fees within a specified time of any effective date for the act, or when the act becomes law.

It may also interest you to know that I am currently in the process of completing a paper entitled "A review and critique of the Alaska Psychologist and Psychological Associate statutes (AS08.86) and Administrative Code (12 AAC 60), with suggestions and recommendations for change." I am preparing the paper for submission to the Code Revision Committee and the Administrative Regulations Review Committee as provided by AS 24.20.075 and AS 24.20.460. The paper should be ready for mailing within two weeks. While the paper is specifically directed towards the psychology statutes, it deals with the delivery of mental health services in Alaska in a general sense.

Since the paper is not completed, and may not even be relevant to issues at hand. I will not presume upon your good office to forestall any legislation related to mental health considerations at this time. However, should you have any interest in the soon to be released paper, please request a copy and/or call it to the attention of others interested in public input in this area.

With thanks,

Sincerely yours,

  
Robert M. Arvidson  
Clinical Social Worker  
Box 258  
Cordova, Alaska 99574

cc: Senate Finance Committee  
Representative Peter Goll  
Senator Dick Eliason  
House Speaker Joe Hayes  
Senate President Jalmar Kertulla  
Governor Bill Sheffield

*Senator Joe Josephson ✓*

# ALPA Ψ ALASKA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

February 1, 1984 -

Gary Lichtenstein, A.C.S.W.  
Chairman Licensing Committee  
National Association of  
Social Workers  
Alaska Chapter  
211 H Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Gary,

This letter is in support of your efforts to obtain licensure for Social Workers.

Finding a qualified therapist in Anchorage is no easy matter. There is a confusing array of services offered by practitioners who have a wide range of training and approaches.

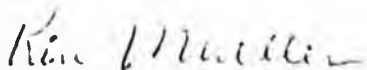
The psychologists in Alaska are concerned about the quality of care offered to consumers. Consumers can't be expected to evaluate the credentials of health service practitioners. It's clearly in the public interest to license professional health practice.

We want to encourage you to pursue a bill that holds high standards of education, training, and supervised experience, without compromise. Such a bill should also:

1. Require a therapist to continue his/her education and stay up to date on recent developments.
2. Ensure privileged communications.
3. Discourage the use of fads and untested or experimental forms of therapy.
4. Provide a standard for insurance reimbursement.
5. Ensure an enforceable code of professional conduct.
6. Provide an opportunity for redress of grievances without costly litigation.

Hopefully your bill will help consumers identify respectable therapists who have met uniform rigorous standards. It will demonstrate respectability and accountability and is an act of good faith on your part. Let us know how we can further support your efforts.

Sincerely,



Ken Mueller Ph.D  
President  
Psychology license 0133

ANCHORAGE  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

RESOLUTION NO. 84-01

- WHEREAS, Professional Social Workers are not currently licensed to practice in the State of Alaska,
- AND, WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers is nationally and locally, in Alaska, backing a concerted effort to achieve licensing laws in all 50 states,
- AND, WHEREAS, licensing of social workers helps to insure quality standards for social work and practice and, thereby, protects the consuming public,
- AND, WHEREAS, licensing insures uniformity of standards from state to state and within individual states regarding social work practice,
- AND, WHEREAS, licensing helps insure that social workers who practice their art will keep up in the theory and practice of social work,
- AND, WHEREAS, licensing helps the general public identify qualified practitioners of social work,
- AND, WHEREAS, State Senator Josephson supported the licensing of social workers in the last session of the Legislature by introducing Senate Bill 303,
- BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, that, we support the licensing of social workers in the State of Alaska and urge passage of its legislation.

DATE: Jan. 23, 1984

Carol L. Henderson

CORPORATE SECRETARY

## CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, slightly more than 6 years ago, in May 1976, during the 94th Congress, I introduced my original proposal on behalf of the National Association of Social Workers and the Federation of Clinical Social Workers. I am personally pleased by the extent to which the Congress is aware of the contribution that 85,000 social workers provide in the delivery of health care in our Nation.

Social workers are the dominant providers of care today in the mental health facilities around the Nation. They provide more than 42 percent of the mental health treatment in community mental health centers. They also make up nearly one-third of the executive directors of community mental health centers.

In the 96th Congress, significant progress was made. In the Department of Defense appropriations bill for fiscal year 1981, we included a provision for a pilot demonstration project for direct reimbursement to clinical social workers for their mental health services under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS). Since then, after 2 years of demonstration, we have decided to accord clinical social workers full independent status under CHAMPUS.

In the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1980, a provision was included to carry out demonstration projects to determine the administrative, financial, and other aspects of making the services of clinical social workers more generally available as part of the benefits included under title 18 of the Social Security Act. I understand that the Department has now begun to implement this important study.

Other legislation that I am introducing in this Congress provides for reimbursement of the services that social workers provide in mental health treatment, but in all candor, mental health is only one area of the vast amount of services that social workers of this Nation provide. The ability of people to live effectively in society is often hampered by the lack of resources, and problems that range from personal all the way to social unrest. The growing complexity of our society has greatly increased the need for social workers to assist individuals, families, groups, and communities to solve their problems.

There are three basic areas in which social workers are utilized and by which they approach their work—case work, group work, and community organization. During their training, social workers can now also specialize in social institutions, a field which encompasses health and education, or in social problems such as poverty.

Caseworkers deal with individuals and families in order to understand their personal problems and assist them in obtaining the appropriate resources, services, education, or job

training that they require. In group settings, social workers help people to better understand themselves and others in order to achieve some productive goal. Social workers organize and implement activities for children, teenagers, adults, older persons, and other groups in community centers, hospitals, nursing homes, and correctional facilities.

Finally, in community work, social workers coordinate the efforts of various political, civic, religious, business and union organizations in an effort to solve social problems such as crime, housing, poverty, and so forth, through community action. Social workers often coordinate existing services, organize fundraisers for community welfare activities, and aid in developing new community services.

While most social workers do deal directly with individuals, groups, or families, a substantial number are directors and administrators who hire and train personnel, make budget decisions, evaluate agency problems, supervise staff, and serve as spokespersons for the agencies' clients. Others are employed as university professors, research workers, or consultants. Others are employed by community agencies and planning bodies of government, voluntary agencies, and other private organizations. In essence, social workers apply their training and expertise in a variety of settings. Although many work for agencies or institutions, many are in private practice and provide valuable counseling.

I am especially pleased to report that a growing number of social workers now specialize in the field of aging. They plan and evaluate services for the elderly, and help them deal with financial and other changes brought on by retirement. In nursing homes, they help patients and their families adjust to illness and the need for institutionalization and health care services.

With our ever-changing society, we need today, even more than ever before, to make use of diverse qualifications of our Nation's social workers. The type of diverse services that the social workers provide is invaluable and I submit, should be made more available to the recipients of our social security program. The restrictions that exist today on the delivery of social worker services make it difficult, if not impossible, for our Nation's aged, poor, and disabled to receive not only quality mental health care, but also other services for which they are eligible. Finally, I am firmly convinced that with the rising cost of health care, it will be only by taking into account the psychosocial components involved that we can ever hope to remedy this situation.

Mr. President, in our Nation's social workers we have an invaluable resource that, in my judgment, we have just begun to tap. It is with this thought in mind today that I am genu-

S 671

By Mr. INOUE (for himself and Mr. MATSUNAGA):

S. 180. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide that clinical social worker services shall be covered under part B of Medicare and shall be a required service under Medicaid; to the Committee on Finance.

Cathy W. Biggerstaff  
6532 East 16th  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

February 1, 1984

Senator Joe Josephson  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson,

I am writing to express my strong support for a social work licensing bill for the state of Alaska. I understand that such legislation was considered last year and is to be considered again this year. My concerns relate to the issues of consumer protection and consumer recourse and come from personal experience with unlicensed social workers in private practice in Anchorage. One experience had to do with a "social worker" who had established himself in private practice with no degree. My ex-husband and I were referred to him for marriage counseling prior to our divorce. We were at a critical stage in our attempt to save our marriage. This clinician did not show up for three consecutive appointments with my ex-husband. In the meantime, we separated and soon divorced. My ex-husband felt strongly that those missed appointments might have made the difference for us. He had no recourse in this case except to call the clinician and complain, which he did. The clinician continued to practice "social work". We wondered how many more couples and/or individuals were treated so unprofessionally. I thought about clients who might be suicidal or self-abusive.

The second experience had to do with a clinician from California who had a liberal arts undergraduate degree, set himself up in private practice in his own home as a social worker, and charged his clients \$80.00 an hour. I met him in counseling classes and within three months he had moved back to California leaving his clients in the midst of care.

A social work licensing bill will provide Alaskan consumers with the assurance that practicing social workers have met minimum standards for licensing. It will also ensure an enforceable code of professional conduct and a means of recourse for consumers to report clinicians who do not meet such a code.

I urge you strongly to continue your support of the passage of a social work licensing bill this legislative session. In a field which deals with people during the most critical periods of their lives, consumer protection needs to become a reality.

Sincerely,

*Cathy W. Biggerstaff*  
Cathy W. Biggerstaff

Cathy W. Biggerstaff  
6532 East 16th  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

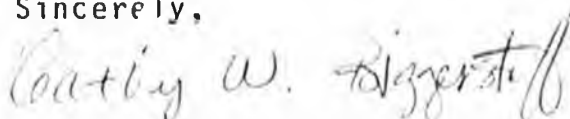
February 1, 1984

Gary Lichtenstein, MSW, ACSW  
Alaska Psychosocial Services  
211 "H" Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein,

I understand that the NASW is supporting the passage of a social work licensing bill in the Alaska State Legislature this year. I want to lend my strong support to that effort primarily for purposes of consumer protection. Please find attached copies of letters to legislators and the Governor in strong support of this legislation. If there is anything I can do to facilitate passage of this much needed bill, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Cathy W. Biggerstaff



Linda S. Larsen  
1720 Valley Court #11  
Juneau, AK 99801

February 6, 1984

The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Senator  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

I am writing this letter to you to ask for your personal support on a very serious problem that is hovering over the heads of approximately 180 families. It is the closing of two trailer courts - Valley Court and Mobile Two. Since I am a resident of Valley Court, I have information relating to it only. Regarding Mobile Two, I have heard that it is closing in about a year and 60 of the 180 families I mentioned live there.

Valley Court is scheduled to close (see enclosed notice) in June, 1985. The owner, Phil Godfry, is certainly within his legal rights to do whatever he chooses with his private property. He has not given his tenants any indication he will be lending any assistance with the move. I have written him asking what, if anything, he will be willing to do including purchasing any trailers to house employees. I am waiting for a response. He has only been kind enough to give us ample notice. Time is not the factor, really, for as the situation now stands, in 18 months, we will still be faced with the incredible dilemma of where to go once we reach the street.

Please allow me a few moments to explain my personal situation. I am a single parent with a five year old son, a cat and a large dog. I do have a good job as a secretary with the Dept. of Public Safety; but even so, I find myself living on a month-to-month basis. I'm considered low-income status simply because I have only one income coming in. My choices for providing my son a secure, comfortable homelife are limited because of this. I do not receive child support. I thought my choice in investing in a trailer was the best and most logical considering my resources and the high cost of renting. My mortgage payment is only \$225/mo. Space rent is \$150/mo. This compared to \$700/mo rent to pay off someone else's mortgage was in our best interests. I am a proud, self-reliant individual who has worked hard for what I have. Before buying this trailer, my son and I could only afford living in small, one-room efficiency apartments or sharing housing with roommates. It is important when you are raising a child to have the privacy of your own home and also important is the child's privacy in having his/her own room. Finally, at age five, my son has a room of his own. Not only will he be forced to go back to efficiency apartment living quarters by this eviction, but we are being faced with the strong possibility of having to live out of our pick-up truck for a while as I cannot afford to pay rent and also pay the mortgage payment each month on a home we cannot live in.

Where my trailer would be at that point, I do not know. I have written ANHC to get information on what action, if any, they will be taking. I shudder at

repossession of my trailer. After literally writing letters to AHFC to justify my even qualifying for the loan, repossession would not have a good effect on my credit status. It would most likely kill any chances I would have at obtaining a loan for something else in the future. The loss of my \$3,000 downpayment, plus having to pay an additional \$1,000 to credit card accounts in order to qualify for the loan is something I do not wish to happen. If it were not for the \$1,000 Alaska Permanent Dividend payments in 1982, we would not have been able to come up with that kind of money in the first place. The only other alternative I can see is to be forced to work two jobs in order to save enough money to get out of this financial hole and back in a secure position. But, I strongly feel that this would not be in the best interests of my son. He already has only his mother to depend on, it must surely be important that she is there with him at least part of the day. No matter how you look at it, the only ones sacrificing anything are the residents facing eviction.

The possibility of saving enough money to even move my trailer (it has been said the cost would range somewhere between \$2,000 and \$3,000) is something I cannot begin to try to budget for at this point. I purchased my trailer in Valley Court because: 1) I could not afford the incredibly high cost of renting anymore; 2) Valley Court is one of the very few trailer courts that allow a dog over 15 inches; and 3) there simply was not another choice in my price range (\$16,000).

You may wonder why I have a cat and large dog. My cat is 10 years old; she is my baby and I could not give her up anymore than I could give up my son. My dog is a collie and I have him to protect us. I am afraid of guns and my eyesight is bad enough that if I were to gather the courage to use one, I would probably miss. Considering the recent murders in trailer courts, I'm sure you can understand a single woman's desire for the protection of a large dog.

I decided to invest in buying a trailer as a stepping stone in order to build up enough money so that if I were to sell it in about three years, I might get enough back for a downpayment on a house. Do you realize that a person paying \$600 a month rent will have paid \$10,800 by June, 1985? That is a little less than one half my gross annual income. I think you would agree that \$600 a month is a very conservative estimate of rent these days in Juneau. Since so many of us have animals and children, even finding rentals will be extremely difficult. To me, renting is a waste of my financial resources and chain me to a dead end. How do I compensate for the added expense? Buy less food? Shop at the Salvation Army? I do not want to end up in a low-income housing project like Cedar Park. Although I sympathize with the problems that many people are faced in those kinds of places like alcoholism, child abuse and wife abuse, I certainly do not want my baby surrounded by them. If that sounds selfish, I can't help wanting the best life I can possibly give to my child. I could have sat around on welfare for the last five years if I wanted to. But I didn't, I wanted to work and strive for what little we now have. I'm overwhelmed by the injustice we are all being faced with.

I feel a bit awkward explaining my reasons for being in Valley Court in the first place, but I think it is important. Now that you know why I am there I will tell you what the impact of it closing will have on me.

The financial strain of getting the money together to move the trailer will set me back for the next two years as I will have to beg the bank for a personal loan and pay it back plus interest. Once I work out the financial end of it, I am not really any better off because there is nowhere to move to. I realize I am very fortunate that my trailer is moveable at all. Valley Court is not a nice, manicured trailer court like Switzer Village, for instance. Many of the trailers there are around 20 years old and to move them would be impossible. My trailer is a 1974 model. Right now I owe \$14,000 on it. My loan is for 11 years and I will be paying almost double that amount with the interest. Whether I move my trailer to a new location or am forced to abandon it, the bank expects me to keep paying for it. If I am living on a limited budget now, how can I possibly keep paying off this loan and pay rent? And I do not see why I should be in the position of paying for a home I cannot live in. I have no money to invest in something else at the same time so I could rent my trailer out.

You are probably thinking of several options I may have at this point. The most logical one is to find a buyer who will not have a problem with relocating the trailer in the future. I am trying, but not too many people are interested in trailers that have to be moved. My trailer would be valued at about \$17,000 if it weren't in Valley Court. I don't know what kind of an offer I could even get for it now. Since I owe a major portion of the value to the bank, I cannot afford to sell it for peanuts just to be rid of it.

The other option I have is to apply for a loan at the bank for a property purchase when the trailer court is just about closed. AHFC has started a brand new program dealing specifically with a situation like this. Simply stated, if you have an existing loan on your trailer with AHFC, they will finance 75% on a piece of property to move it to as long as the property is hooked up to water, sewer and electricity and assuming they approve you for the loan based on your specific financial situation. This sounds like the perfect solution, however, the 25% I would have to come up with is at least \$10,000. My savings account is balanced at \$3.00. I'm not kidding. If I am having a hard time figuring out where to come up with two or three thousand dollars, there is no way I can raise ten. So, although the intent of AHFC is good, as it now stands, it is not addressing anyone's needs. People with that kind of money do not live in trailers usually. They are into the real thing - houses on your own land that you do not have to worry about being evicted from.

One other thought. Even if the City and Borough of Juneau takes a stand in this matter and decides to somehow see that a new trailer court is built, there is no legal guarantee that the people being forced out will be the ones to move in. Anyone can find out about a new trailer court at the same time we do and move in ahead of us. If I feel fairly confident my trailer is moveable but being 10 years old, it is not certain it would be allowed in.

Mr. John Annon, Housing Director for the City and Borough of Juneau, stated in an interview with KTOO on the program "Our Town" last week that the city felt this was a private matter between a private citizen and a landlord. The only reason they were looking into it was the fact that many of the families were of low-income status. He also expressed the dilemma that if a solution were

arrived at, it would have to be designed to meet any future situations that may arise. It didn't sound like the City was willing to put itself in the position of having to lend financial aid to every trailer owner in Juneau now or in the future. I cannot help but wonder why a piece of land can be zoned for a trailer court and a gravel pit at the same time. It has also been said that one of the main buyers of the gravel would be the City and Borough of Juneau. At this time, Mr. Phil Godfry's permit to run his gravel operation is due for review and reissuance. It is scheduled on the agenda of a meeting of the City Planning Commission on February 14, 1984. Even if we, the residents of Valley Court, do not have any legal rights or power in this situation, it would seem the City does. I can only think of one solution that would possibly address the various problems we are faced with. Some kind of financial opportunity in the form of a loan not requiring any downpayment to be used for a property purchase to move your trailer on, or if you do not have a trailer that can be moved, a loan to get you into another home purchase. The HOF program and Farmer's Home Loan program are nice in print, but you are limited to finding housing under \$85,000 and even so, you still need the 5% downpayment and closing costs. Again, if we had that kind of money, we would be standing in line at the realtor's office with our applications in hand. Either this loan procedure could be developed, or else someone should appropriate the funds to reimburse us for our losses. If your trailer is valued under \$5,000, then set a minimum reimbursement amount that would give that family buying power. This may sound like the "wounded duck syndrome" (the psychologist in the movie Modern Problems used that phrase. It went like this: Help me, help me, I'm a wounded duck. Fix my broken wing.) Well, the City has directed us as individuals to come up with the answer as it is beyond their imagination to find it themselves, so this is one individual's attempt at addressing everyone's needs. The main thing to remember is whatever solution is arrived at must not include a family having to come up with thousands of dollars they don't have and to end up in the street homeless.

It is my intention with this letter to ask you for your personal consideration in helping us find an alternative solution to our problem. Somewhere there must be a State Statute or City law which can be utilized. Somewhere the moral obligation must rest at a governmental level that can provide an answer. If you have any advice or know of anyway you can be of some assistance, please contact me. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,



Linda S. Larsen

Attachment: (Eviction Notice)

VALLEY COURT  
1720-0 Valley Court  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

JANUARY 3, 1984

TO THE RESIDENTS OF VALLEY COURT:

THIS IS TO NOTIFY YOU THAT NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 1985, YOU MUST HAVE COMPLETED REMOVING YOUR TRAILER, WANNIGAN AND ANY OTHER ATTACHMENTS THERETO FROM VALLEY COURT. THIS IS KEEPING IN LINE WITH OUR NOTICE AND STATEMENT GIVEN IN JUNE OF 1982. THIS NOTICE DOES APPLY TO ALL TRAILERS ON SPACES IN VALLEY COURT. ALASKA LAW STATES THAT WE ARE OBLIGATED TO GIVE A 90-DAY NOTICE; WE ARE GIVING 1½ YEARS. WE FEEL THIS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TIME TO RELOCATE. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED.

  
MANAGER

from Frank Ruge:

No evidence in dig quality in  
recruitment

DHSS has not requested info  
on opening register.

SWI	306	in	Attorneys	eligible	list
SWII	124	"	"	"	"
SWIII	110	"	"	"	"
SWIV	74	"	"	"	"

minimum qualifications are low.

June 9, 1983

Joe, Pappy, Paul, Rick, Vic

SB 303 -

Joe outline info in folder

Mina Keller - DHS'S Fam & Youth Services

Effect on the Department:

- 1) deals with all social workers!
- 2) state and private agencies would have employees unable to meet requirements
  - 1) education - 1 bachelor program in state.
- 3) doesn't recognize bachelor's level with experience.
- 4) not enough people in the state who will meet requirements.
- 5) higher standards than those required by DHS'S.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

SEC 08, 87, 210 (5)

- Confidentiality of juvenile info released.  
Need to include references to reporting child abuse

Experience substituted for education would be acceptable.

John Fugh -

problems with defining social work have been gone over for years. intrudes on other professions - school counselors, psychologist, psychiatrist, nurse etc.  
No definitions can include other professions

Joe read statement from Dore Kell

Judge Klimkauf - representing NASW and Assoc.  
of Clinical Social workers.

1. protection of the title "social worker"

A number of professions do similar tasks,  
but the title should mean educational preparation  
for the profession.

profession is certified, reviewed and  
accredited by a nationally standard.

title protection aspect also help w/  
consumer protection.

accredited B.S.W. U of A Arch (Council  
on Social Work Education) Jobs applying  
for accreditation.

E. Wash. Univ. now a WICATE approved  
(agreement) program.

State employees

F. & S. - 105 - 42 Masters or bachelors.

qualified in state - 213 bach/Master/Phd.  
maybe about 100 active in the state!

amendment language would "grandparent"  
in people called "social worker" <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ 2 yrs  
of practice for a period of two years.

\* Lack of social work licensure make clinical  
social workers impossible to make a  
living. Social services agencies for bus  
3rd party payors for services

Harry Trauger - Occup. Licensing

Dir of Personnel 138 positions

SW I through SW IV



**ALASKA CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.**

1200 East 27th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3999  
(907) 276-4515

January 16, 1984

The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: SB 303 - An Act relating to the practice of social work and  
establishing the Board of Social Worker Examiners

Dear Senator Josephson:

At a recent Alaska Children's Services Board of Directors meeting,  
a resolution relating to SB 303 was passed. I am enclosing a copy for  
your information.

We want you to know how very much we appreciate your continued  
support and interest in Alaska Children's Services and the youngsters  
in our care. Thank you too, for all of your efforts on behalf of  
children and families in the past.

Sincerely,

John C. Garvin, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

RECEIVED

Enclosure  
JGG/tl

Serving Alaska's

- Children and Families through:
- Residential Treatment Center
  - Group Homes
  - Emergency Shelter Services

- American Baptist
- American Lutheran
- United Methodist Churches

Member:

- United Way of Anchorage
- Child Welfare League of America
- Alaska Association of Homes for Children
- Affiliate of the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Submitted to:	Date	Submitted to:	Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	12/1	Executive Director	
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Committee		Program Director	
<input type="checkbox"/> _____ Committee		Staff	

Submitted by: John C. Garvin

Resolution: Whereas, Professional workers are not currently licensed to practice in the State of Alaska

AND WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers is nationally and locally, in Alaska, backing a concerted effort to achieve licensing laws in all 50 states,

AND WHEREAS, licensing of social workers helps to ensure quality standards for social work practice and, thereby protects the consuming public,

AND WHEREAS, licensing ensures uniformity of standards from state to state and within individual states regarding social work practice

AND WHEREAS, licensing helps ensure that social workers who practice their art will keep up in the theory and practice of social work

AND WHEREAS, licensing helps the general public identify qualified practitioners of social work

AND WHEREAS, State Senator Josephson supported the licensing of social workers in the last session of the Legislature by introducing Senate Bill 303

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Children's Services, Inc. supports the licensing of social workers and will evidence its support by giving positive backing toward client focused legislation to accomplish that purpose.

Action taken:  Passed  Amended  Tabled  Withdrawn  Defeated  
 Referred to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

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



ALASKA  
CHAPTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
SOCIAL WORKERS

P.O. BOX 10430  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99710  
907-456-5914

January 19, 1984

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Governor Bill Sheffield  
Pouch A  
Juneau, Ak. 99811

President: 1983-85  
Susan Johnson, MSW  
Anchorage

Vice President: 1983-85  
Cheryl Mann, MSW  
Anchorage

Secretary: 1983-85  
Barbara Carraher, ACSW  
Anchorage

Treasurer: 1983-85  
Marge Dohrman, ACSW  
Anchorage

Southcentral Representatives:  
1983-85  
Mary Carroll, D.S.W.  
Anchorage

1983-84  
Gary Lichtenstein, ACSW  
Anchorage

Northern Representative:  
1982-84  
Nettie Dean Scott, MSW  
McGrath

Southeastern Representative:  
1982-84  
Diana Bachon, ACSW  
Sitka

At Large: 1982-84  
Cecilia Esparza, ACSW  
Bethel

Student Representative:  
1983-84  
Molly Collins  
Anchorage

Executive Director:  
Marsha Schneider, MSW  
Fairbanks

Dear Governor Sheffield:

The Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers urges your support of SB 303, sponsored by Senator Joe Josephson. SB 303 would license persons who hold baccalaureate, masters, or doctoral degrees in social work. Passage of this bill is needed so that consumers are able to identify qualified practitioners. Since many social workers practice independently, a board is needed to adopt a code of ethics and to establish a complaint mechanism.

Enclosed are letters of support that we have received from various human service professionals and agencies.

If you or your staff are in need of further information concerning this issue, please contact us at the above address. You can also contact Gary Lichtenstein, Chair; Licensing Committee; 211 H St., Anchorage, Ak. 99501 or Cecilia Kleinkauf, Chair; Social Policy and Action Committee; 4201 McInnes, Anchorage, Ak. 99504.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marsha Schneider  
Executive Director

MSW : MSW



# COOK INLET NATIVE ASSOCIATION

670 West Fireweed Lane  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 278-4641

January 30, 1984

Senator Joe Josephson  
Pouch V, State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Bill 303

Dear Senator Josephson:

It has come to CINA'S attention that SB 303 has been introduced via your office.

CINA has discussed the bill's issues in quite some length recently and has some concerns about the bill's outcome. Briefly these include:

- A.) There is need to have qualified professionals in this field but how will this affect the Native populace who traditionally have "peer counselor" (but without the formal education as the western culture sees it)?
- B.) Will the requirements of this bill affect any funding..... Federal, State or local?
- C.) What specific protection will the present counselor have for their continual work?
- D.) What data was read to determine the need for such a bill, and has there been Native/minority input?

CINA would like to hear from you on the above matters. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Bruce Tiedeman  
Executive Director

*Arbiss -  
I had this  
message; but  
sec of 87.200  
exempts rural  
arls. - no other  
concern expressed.  
Also see attachments*

RECEIVED

## LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

WHEREAS, Professional Social Workers are not currently licensed to practice in the State of Alaska

AND, WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers is nationally and locally, in Alaska, backing a concerted effort to achieve licensing laws in all 50 states,

AND, WHEREAS, licensing of social workers helps to insure quality standards for social work practice and, thereby, protects the consuming public,

AND, WHEREAS, licensing insures uniformity of standards from state to state and within individual states regarding social work practice

AND, WHEREAS, licensing helps insure that social workers who practice their art will keep up in the theory and practice of social work

AND, WHEREAS, licensing helps the general public identify qualified practitioners of social work,

AND, WHEREAS, State Senator Josephson supported the licensing of social workers in the last session of the Legislature by introducing Senate Bill 303,

BE IT THERE FORE RESOLVED BY THE ALASKA HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK, that, the Network supports the licensing of social workers and will evidence its support by,

- (1) Giving positive backing to legislation such as SB 303 to establish social worker licensing and the necessary mechanisms to establish such licensing
- (2) By urging the individual boards, of directors of the constituent organizations of the Network to similarly back social worker licensing by resolution and letter to legislators.







# NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 966  
NOME, ALASKA 99762  
(907) 443-5411

February 3, 1984

Mr. Joe Josephson  
State Legislator  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Legislator Joe Josephson:

We are in support of the Social Worker Licensing Bill presently being considered in the Alaska State Legislature.

Social Workers are instrumental in our hospital services to the public such as: assessing psychiatric patients for treatment or transfer to A.P.I. (Alaska Psychiatric Institute), counseling services to the emotionally distressed patient and family, and inservice training regarding help to emotionally distressed patients.

Social Workers are a major resource for Mental Health Care in this region. Licensing will help identify Social Workers who have met a standard of requirements and can offer satisfactory quality of service for Norton Sound Regional Hospital.

Sincerely,

*Alison Ahlberg MD  
Candace Gleason MD  
Jelena Dg  
Roger & Wafwan DDS  
Karen Orsini MD*

k1



Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on

Health, Education & Social Services

Fouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

January 23, 1984

Esther M. Combs  
Alaska Children's Services  
1200 East 27th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3999

Dear Ms. Combs:

Your letter relating concerns of the A.C.S. Native Advisory Committee over SB 303, has just reached me in my Juneau office. I am happy to respond to your questions about Social Worker licensure, a bill which I introduced in May of 1983 on behalf of the Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Generally, this bill would create a board much like other professional licensure boards already existing in this state. Social work licensure is neither new, as 26 other states have preceded Alaska through enactment of similar laws, nor is this the first bill of its kind to be introduced before the legislature.

The public purpose of any licensing procedure is to assure people that a practicing individual has met minimum standards. There are no requirements of any state or private agency to hire licensed social workers. The bill merely prohibits the use of the title by unlicensed individuals. The bill clearly states that it does not prohibit similar activities of another profession, and has no effects on other human service workers (counselors, mediators, outreach workers, etc.) The bill also contains a "grandfather" clause allowing those with two years of social work experience to be licensed as a bachelor social worker.

Funding of any program will not be affected by this bill, as job requirements and descriptions are created by employers in rural and urban Alaska.

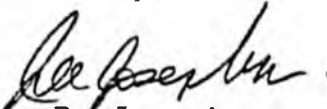
SB 303 had a hearing in the Health, Education and Social Services Committee in May of 1983 and will certainly have another in the

January 13, 1984  
Page Two

near future, of which you will be notified. Any comments A.C.S. would like to make concerning the bill are welcome and will be shared with the committee members.

Enclosed, you will find information concerning this bill. Please feel free to call my office if you have any further concerns.

Sincerely,



Joe P. Josephson

JPJ/ndc



# ALASKA CHILDREN'S SERVICES, INC.

1200 East 27th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3999  
(907) 276-4515

January 17, 1984

RECEIVED

The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: SB 303 - An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Worker Examiners

Dear Senator Joe:

I would like to go on record in support of SB 303 as reflected in the resolution passed by the Alaska Children's Services Board of Directors. I am enclosing a copy of the Resolution for your information.

My thanks to you for your continued interest, caring and efforts on behalf of Alaska's children and families.

Sincerely,

Thelma P. Langdon, Director  
Child and Family Advocacy Project

---

#### Serving Alaska's

Children and Families through:

- Residential Treatment Center
- Group Homes
- Emergency Shelter Services

- American Baptist
- American Lutheran
- United Methodist Churches

#### Member:

- United Way of Anchorage
- Child Welfare League of America
- Alaska Association of Homes for Children
- Affiliate of the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Submitted to:	Date	Submitted to:	Date
<u>Board of Directors</u>	<u>12/1</u>	<u>Executive Director</u>	
<u>Executive Committee</u>		<u>Program Director</u>	
<u>Committees</u>		<u>Staff</u>	

Submitted by: John C. Garvin

Resolution: Whereas, Professional Social Workers are not currently licensed to practice in the State of Alaska

AND WHEREAS, the National Association of Social Workers is nationally and locally, in Alaska, backing a concerted effort to achieve licensing laws in all 50 states,

AND WHEREAS, licensing of social workers helps to ensure quality standards for social work practice and, thereby protects the consuming public,

AND WHEREAS, licensing ensures uniformity of standards from state to state and within individual states regarding social work practice

AND WHEREAS, licensing helps ensure that social workers who practice their art will keep up in the theory and practice of social work

AND WHEREAS, licensing helps the general public identify qualified practitioners of social work

AND WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Josephson supported the licensing of social workers in the last session of the legislature by introducing Senate Bill 303

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Children's Services, Inc. supports the licensing of social workers and will evidence its support by giving positive backing toward client-focused legislation to accomplish that purpose.

Action Taken:  Assessed  Approved  Denied  Withdrawn  Rejected

Referred  Other

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

JOE P. JOSEPHSON  
DISTRICT G - ANCHORAGE  
1526 F STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
(907) 277-4419



WHILE IN JUNEAU  
POUCH V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-4907  
(907) 465-4525

COMMITTEES  
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES (CHAIR)  
JUDICIARY (VICE CHAIR)  
FINANCE  
MAJORITY CAUCUS (CHAIR)

June 10, 1983

Mrs. Carol Derfner  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Carol:

I appreciate your candid advice that the administration opposes my bill, Senate Bill 303, relating to the licensure of social workers, and your explanation of the reasons for the administration's position.

Moreover, I welcome the creative undertaking you are making to study and advise upon the issue of boards and commissions generally. That undertaking should be made. The administration should be commended for its fortitude in making it.

Your candor requires like candor from me. First, I am dubious about the results of the review of the boards and commission issue, inasmuch as I am doubtful that the boards and commissions will be replaceable either as a matter of sound public policy or as a matter of political realities.

Second, until there is a better way to handle the professions approved by the legislature, I believe that the social work profession, and consumers of the services of social work, are as entitled to professional licensure as are any other group.

Third, I believe a careful study of the facts would reveal that the licensure of social workers will allow some agencies which now depend upon the State for full reimbursement for the services of social worker-employees to begin to receive funds from other sources under contracts of insurance and other third-party payment mechanisms.

Fourth, social workers are uniquely involved as a group in human and community services; these men and women in the social work profession were people who supported; I am confident, the program of the governor as outlined in 1982. Frankly, I think it particularly regrettable that their goals, as embodied by SB 303, might be frustrated

Mrs. Carol Derfner

- 2 -

June 10, 1983

by the very administration of which they were so welcoming.

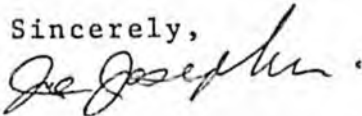
As I told you in yesterday's telephone conversation, I must continue to work for the passage of Senate Bill 303, as a simple question of conviction and of keeping faith with those who alerted me to the need for licensure.

Should the bill pass the Senate and go to the House, I am very doubtful that the House would complete action by adjournment. If, at the 1984 session, the administration has produced some comprehensive new system for licensure and discipline of professionals, including social workers, I would be open to supporting the administration's approach in lieu of the present system and the proposed SB 303.

Thank you for your call, and best personal regards.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Joe P. Josephson

William Mulvey - DOE

Sign language:  
adult pop (est.) 700  
children (sign only) 65

problem: distinction between bachelor  
and master. let each practice  
independently, unsupervised.

would need a license examiner

API, Harborview, CMHC would be affected

Je - John Pugh get info on effects on State  
programs.

John Pugh - need to improve services to people  
in the state. If people change title to  
another word we are not gaining in quality  
services. State & social ~~work~~ services agencies  
and non-profits would probably change  
name.

Grandparenting - some states gave total  
status while in practice  
SOC work ~~work~~ Assoc.

Sen Josephson  
Alaska is long overdue in its  
obligation to social workers and their  
clients in providing protection through  
a licensing law.

I recommend a do pass. Thank you.  
Dore M. Kull, Master Social Work  
Member Academy of Certified  
Social Workers  
a 24-yr. resident.

~~Handwritten signature~~  
Dore M. Kull

289 N. Frank

January, 44

Taylor Young

wording of present  
bill is going to allow  
people to call  
themselves a clinical  
social worker.

accrediting S.W.  
regulated by profs.  
well enough! All now  
their academy -  
anyone w/ ACSW  
license can call  
themselves S.W.  
and psychotherapist.



Taylor S. Young, Ph.D.

209 North Franklin, Suite 102

Juneau, Alaska 99801

Psychologist  
Consultant

586-4122

The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Senate  
Juneau, Ak.

June 3, 1983

I would like to thank you for the work that you have done regarding the reestablishing the licensing law for Psychologists and Psychological Associates. You have shown yourself to be able to understand both the need and implications of such legislation and to be fair in seeking information for this legislation. One provision of the current bill concerns me, hence I am writing to you.

Apparently in anticipation of legislation for licensing social workers, one provision of the Psychologists law allows clinical social workers to practice psychotherapy. I have no quarrel with such sharing of function, I know of many clinically trained social workers who are competent and effective psychotherapists. However, at this late an hour with as much confusion over adjournment, I am concerned that a licensing law for social workers hasn't yet passed.

Please do not call back the psychologist's law, even if the risk is that for 6-7 months anyone can designate him/herself as a clinical social worker and then practice psychotherapy. If the easiest thing is to pass the work draft, please do so. If not, I would like to see the state of Alaska save itself some money and time.

I have reviewed the work draft of the bill for licensing social workers. It is elaborate & thorough, however it may duplicate what social workers already do. There is an 'Academy of Clinical Social Workers' who have a 2 year sequence of peer review and supervisory contact which leads to the certification of Clinical Social workers. As a program director in both substance abuse & mental health services, I came to respect the ACSW certification of social workers. Why not pass a law allowing the Division of Occupational Licensing to license clinical social workers who have their ACSW certification in good standing? Others licensed by the draft bill have little need for licensing and LBSW or LMSW designation might confuse the public more than help it.

Thank you for considering my words. I'm off to Ft. Yukon for a week (June 3-11) and will be unable to testify during that time.

Sincerely,  
Taylor S. Young



# COOK INLET NATIVE ASSOCIATION

670 West Fireweed Lane  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 278-4641


March 14, 1984

Mr. Gary Lichtenstein, Chairman  
Licensing Committee  
National Association of Social Workers  
Alaska Chapter  
610 West 2nd Avenue, Suite 101  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

This is to inform you that the CINA Board of Directors in their monthly meeting on February 23, 1984 moved to approve and support the passage of SB 303. They found acceptable the response and information provided by Senator Josephson.

Sincerely,

  
Franklin D. Berry  
Executive Director

FLB:vkm

cc Senator Joe Josephson

S B

334

(FILED)

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PAGES WERE TREATED  
AS A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



**South Central  
Health Planning and Development, Inc.**

1135 West Eighth Avenue • Suite 1 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501

(907) 278-3631

February 29, 1984

Joe Josephson  
Senate Finance Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

Re: SB 334 Relating to Regional Health Resources Organizations

The full Board of South Central Health Planning and Development, Inc. met on February 25, 1984. The proposed bill to support the regional health resources organizations was discussed fully. A motion to fully support SB 334 with funding at \$600,000 passed unanimously.

I urge you to act expediently in passing this Bill on to the Senate floor for favorable action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steve Lesko', is written over a faint, circular stamp or watermark.

Steve Lesko  
President

Attachment

SL/ab

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

JOE P. JOSEPHSON  
DISTRICT G ANCHORAGE  
1526 F STREET  
ANCHORAGE ALASKA 99501  
(907) 277 4419



WHILE IN JUNEAU  
POUCH V  
JUNEAU ALASKA 99801  
(907) 465 4907  
(907) 465 4525

COMMITTEES  
HEALTH EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES (CHAIR)  
JUDICIARY (VICE CHAIR)  
FINANCE  
MAJORITY CAUCUS (CHAIR)

## MEMORANDUM

TO: *Members of the Senate Finance Committee*  
FROM: *Senator Joe P. Josephson, Chair, Health, Education and Social Services Committee*  
DATE: *February 23, 1984*  
RE: *Fiscal Note for SB 334*

*In considering SB 334, An Act relating to health resources development; and providing for an effective date, the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee heard testimony from thirty-seven people in support of the bill.*

*The committee felt that the testimony, relating to the duties of the health resources organization, justifies the request of the current health systems agencies for yearly funding of \$200.0 for each agency. Therefore, the Committee requests that the Senate Finance Committee increase the fiscal note from the Department of Health and Social Services from \$450.0 to \$600.0.*

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF SB 334 - AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH  
RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 1

18.07.112. Provides for the designation of three or more health services areas in the state

18.07.114. Provides that the commissioner of DH&SS shall designate a regional health resource organization for each area under 18.07.112. The organization must have an orderly plan to assume duties; must be able to provide duties listed; must have a board; and provides for a four year contract.

18.07.116. The Commissioner may designate either a non-profit organization or a unified borough government.

18.07.118. The Board of Directors must represent each regional nonprofit Native corporation and consumers and providers in an equitable fashion.

18.07.120. DUTIES.

assist communities in identifying health problems and developing plans to deal with them.

provide technical assistance to communities.

develop information and advocacy programs for health promotion and disease prevention.

collect and analyze data.

review and comment on certificate of need applications and health service grants.

submit an annual report.

perform other duties by contract with DH&SS.

18.07.122. Provides for yearly grants to the organizations which are to be contingent on conditions laid out by the commissioner and are available for time of contract. The R.H.R.O.'s may use the money directly or make contracts

Section 2

Effective date - July 1, 1984.

Introduced: 1/9/84  
Referred: Health, Education and  
Social Services and  
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY MOSS

2

SENATE BILL NO.334

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to health resources development; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 18.07 is amended by adding new sections to read:

10

ARTICLE 3. REGIONAL HEALTH RESOURCES ORGANIZATIONS.

11

12 Sec. 18.07.112. HEALTH SERVICE AREAS. The commissioner shall  
13 designate three or more health service areas in the state. The bound-  
14 aries of each health service area shall be coextensive with the bound-  
15 aries of one or more adjacent organized boroughs or regional educa-  
16 tional attendance areas. In designating health service areas, the  
17 commissioner shall assure that each area forms a contiguous and com-  
18 pact territory containing as nearly as practicable a relatively inte-  
19 grated socio-economic area.

19

20 Sec. 18.07.114. REGIONAL HEALTH RESOURCES ORGANIZATIONS. (a)

20

21 The commissioner shall designate by contract a regional health re-  
22 sources organization for each health service area.

22

23 (b) An applicant for designation as a regional health resources  
24 organization shall apply on a form prescribed by the commissioner. An  
25 application shall include

25

26 (1) a plan for the orderly assumption and implementation of  
27 the duties of a regional health resources organization;

27

28 (2) assurances satisfactory to the commissioner that the  
29 applicant meets the eligibility requirements of AS 18.07.116 and is  
qualified to perform or is performing the duties prescribed in

1 AS 18.07.120; and

2 (3) a plan specifying how the applicant will select board  
3 members.

4 (c) A contract under this section shall be for a period of four  
5 years and is renewable. A contract may be terminated before its  
6 expiration date

7 (1) by the regional health resources organization at a time  
8 and with notice to the commissioner as the commissioner may by regula-  
9 tion prescribe; or

10 (2) by the commissioner at a time and with notice to the  
11 regional health resources organization as the commissioner may by  
12 regulation prescribe, if the commissioner determines that the entity  
13 is not complying with or effectively carrying out the provisions of  
14 the contract.

15 Sec. 18.07.116. ELIGIBILITY FOR DESIGNATION. The commissioner  
16 may designate as a regional health resources organization

17 (1) a nonprofit corporation incorporated under AS 10.20 for  
18 the purpose of engaging in health planning and development functions;  
19 or

20 (2) a unified borough government with the capacity to  
21 perform health planning functions and whose planning area is identical  
22 to a health service area.

23 Sec. 18.07.118. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. (a) Each regional health  
24 resources organization shall be governed by a board of directors.

25 (b) A board shall include

26 (1) a representative from each regional nonprofit Native  
27 corporation established under 43 U.S.C. 1601 - 1628 (Alaska Native  
28 Claims Settlement Act) and located in the health service area; and

29 (2) members broadly and equitably representative of health

1 care consumers and providers in the organization's health service  
2 area.

3 Sec. 18.07.120. DUTIES. (a) A regional health resources orga-  
4 nization shall, within the boundaries of its health service area,

5 (1) assist communities in identifying and developing plans  
6 for dealing with health problems of residents;

7 (2) provide direct technical assistance to communities for  
8 implementing those plans;

9 (3) assist in the development and maintenance of public  
10 information and advocacy programs for the promotion of health and the  
11 prevention of disease and illness;

12 (4) assemble and analyze data relating to health matters  
13 and coordinate data collection activities with state and local agen-  
14 cies, regional Alaska Native corporations, and health organizations.

15 (b) A regional health resources organization shall

16 (1) in cooperation with the commissioner, review and pro-  
17 vide comments and recommendations on applications and proposals made  
18 to the department for

19 (A) grants of health service funds that could have a  
20 significant effect on a health service area; and

21 (B) grants for construction and expansion of health  
22 care facilities and nursing homes in the organization's health  
23 service area;

24 (2) submit an annual report on its activities to the legis-  
25 lature, the commissioner, and the residents of its health service  
26 area;

27 (3) perform other duties the commissioner may by contract  
28 require.

29 Sec. 18.07.122. GRANTS. (a) The commissioner shall make a

1 grant in each fiscal year to each regional health resources organiza-  
2 tion. A grant under this subsection shall

3 (1) be made on the conditions the commissioner determines  
4 are appropriate; and

5 (2) be available for obligation for a period not to exceed  
6 the period for which the grantee is designated as a regional health  
7 resources organization.

8 (b) A grant under this section may be used by a regional health  
9 resources organization only

10 (1) for compensation of its personnel and the performance  
11 of its duties;

12 (2) to make payments under contracts with other persons to  
13 assist the regional health resources organization in the performance  
14 of its functions; and

15 (3) to make grants to public and nonprofit private entities  
16 and enter into contracts with individuals and public and nonprofit  
17 private entities to assist them in planning and developing public  
18 information and advocacy projects and programs that the regional  
19 health resources organization determines are necessary for the pro-  
20 motion of health and prevention of disease and illness in its health  
21 service area.

22 \* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1984.

**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

POUCH H 01  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
PHONE: 465-3037

DOCUMENT NO. #84-99

March 29, 1984

The Honorable Jan Faiks  
Alaska State Legislature  
Alaska State Senate  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Health Systems Agency Funding

Dear Senator Faiks:

In response to your request for additional information regarding funding of the three Alaska Health Systems Agencies, the Department of Health and Social Services requests that the FY 85 budget for the Division of Planning, Policy and Program Evaluation, Planning, Development, and Vital Statistics component, be amended to provide funding for the Health Systems Agencies at \$150,000 each. The three Alaskan Health Systems Agencies (HSAs) can perform the following functions in the areas of health and social services planning and resource development. Other activities may also be possible as funding permits and the State wishes.

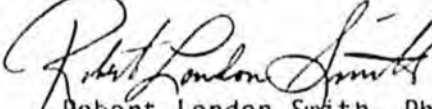
1. Development, with the State and appropriate provider and consumer organizations, of standards and criteria for reporting, review, and evaluation of the various types of human service programs. (For example, the HSAs can assist the State to revise evaluation measures for rural mental health programs.)
2. Clearinghouse functions:
  - A. Data collection, analysis, and dissemination.
  - B. Grant application review using an "umbrella," system-wide approach. All applications/applicants can be assessed from a regional perspective in their catchment context, with transagency review and analysis (i.e., all funding sources for particular agencies can be examined at once). Staff analyses can be done at the regional level, thereby cutting down on the number of analyses required at the State level. At the same time, technical assistance can be provided to all applicants in context.
3. Community-based needs assessments for the full range of health and social services; problem identification; solution definition; priority-setting; and, implementation planning; all done at the regional level in coordination with involved and concerned providers and consumers.
4. Liaison/interface and joint planning with the military, the Alaska Native Health Service, and the private sector, in addition to the State.

March 29, 1984

5. Assistance to the Department of Health and Social Services and other departments as appropriate in the development of position papers based upon direct assessments of potential impacts and implications in local areas.
6. Development of regional components of statewide plans and/or contractual development of statewide plans (that is, each of the HSAs could develop components of statewide plans, which could then be melded together at the state level, or each HSA could prepare drafts of statewide plans for mutual review and adoption at the State level).
7. Oversight of demonstration projects, including planning, coordination, technical assistance, data collection and analysis, and program evaluation.
8. Design and technical assistance in the implementation of program evaluation schemes.

The strength of the HSAs in the accomplishment of these activities lies in their non-aligned approach to the planning and program evaluation process. The HSAs are viewed as neutral parties, which enables them to bring together a variety of human service providers for purposes of systems analysis, program planning, and evaluation.

Respectfully,

  
Robert London Smith, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

cc: Jay Hogan, Associate Director  
Division of Budget Review  
Office of Management & Budget

POSITION PAPER

on

Senate Bill No. 334

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to health resources development; and providing for an effective date."

This bill recognizes an existing and continuing need for regional planning for health and provides a means for state financial support of regional health planning. The Department of Health and Social Services supports this bill as consistent with its goal to maximize public input into state-wide planning for health and social services. There currently exists a great legacy of regional health planning in Alaska. Much of the existing planning has been accomplished by the three Alaska health systems agencies (HSAs) working in conjunction with the State Health Planning and Development Agency. (SHPDA-The federally designated title for the Division of Planning, Policy and Program Evaluation, DHSS.)

A mechanism for assisting communities in identifying and developing plans for dealing with health problems of residents, to provide technical assistance to communities, to assist in the development and maintenance of programs for the promotion of health and the prevention of disease and illness and to assemble and analyze health related data is important in ensuring quality health care. The review and special study capability afforded to the Department by the establishment of regional health resource organizations would facilitate the department's activities in carrying out its responsibilities, in the physical and behavioral health and social service components.

As a result of the past assistance which the three health systems agencies have offered to the department and because these agencies are established, on-going regional planning agencies, the department believes the health systems agencies should be considered as the appropriate planning agencies to meet the duties outlined in section 18.07.120 of the bill. The three HSAs are responsible under Public Law 93-641 for most of the duties listed for the proposed Regional Health Resources Organizations (RHROs). The benefits to Alaskans and to departmental planning efforts from the federally supported HSAs have been significant.

Unfortunately, federal funding support for HSAs has been reduced to approximately one-third of the original amount. The reduction in funding has seriously limited the capabilities of the HSAs and the department to accomplish regional and statewide health planning. With increased funding supplied under section 18.07.122 of the bill, the three HSAs will be adequately staffed to provide the needed level of regional health planning.

Specific comments on SB 334 pertain to the following sections:

Section 18.07.112 HEALTH SERVICE AREAS:

Senate Bill 334 provides for the establishment of three or more regional health resource organizations, whose boundaries would be consistent with one or more adjacent organized boroughs or regional educational attendance areas. These regional health resource organizations would be responsible for assisting communities in a variety of health planning, development, technical assistance and implementation activities. The regional health resource organizations would also provide assistance to the Department in reviewing various health plans and applications and would perform other duties as specified in the contractual relationship between the Commissioner of Health and Social Services and the regional health resource organizations.

A continued capability for health planning, development and technical assistance at a regional level is a positive approach to improving health status and the health care delivery system in Alaska. Providing a contractual relationship between the Department and the regional health resource organizations permits the front-line development of predetermined products.

The Regional Corporation boundaries were previously used as the Health Service Area boundaries. The use of the boundaries of both the organized boroughs and the regional education attendance areas could allow for a multiplicity and overlap of planning organizations and increase the financing of the program to the state.

Section 18.07.114 REGIONAL HEALTH RESOURCES ORGANIZATIONS:

This section provides for a contract which has a duration of four years and is renewable to designate the regional health resources organization for each of the health service areas. Funding, however, occurs by grants awarded each fiscal year, according to Section 18.07.122. The department would need to establish specific procedures to ensure that the designation and funding processes were coordinated.

Section 18.07.120 DUTIES:

The review responsibilities under Section 18.07.120(b)(1)(A) and (B) would be more clearly specified if the words "grants of" were deleted under (A) and "grants" deleted under (B).

Recommended by: Daniel J. Meddleton  
Daniel J. Meddleton, Director  
Division of Planning, Policy  
& Program Evaluation

Date: 2-8-84

Approved by: Robert London Smith  
Robert London Smith, Ph.D.  
Commissioner  
Department of Health and  
Social Services

Date: 2/13/84

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 334  
 Title: Regional Health Resource  
Organizations  
 Sponsor: Moss  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Health & Social Services  
 Program Category Affected: Health  
Planning, Policy and Program Evaluation  
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING						
CAPITAL	-0-					
REVENUE	-0-					

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
GENERAL FUND	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: Daniel M. McWhorter Phone: 465-3037  
 Division: Planning, Policy & Program Evaluation Date: 2-15-84  
 Approved by Commissioner: Robert Gordon Smith Date: 2/17/84  
 Agency: Dept of Health & Social Services

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

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

12/1/83

Fiscal Note - SB 334

\$450,000 provides for \$150,000 to be awarded to each of the Health Systems Agencies to support the accomplishment of the duties referenced in this Bill in Section 18.07.12C DUTIES. Projection of future Fiscal Year cost has been maintained at \$450,000 to provide an opportunity for evaluation of performance prior to consideration of increased levels of funding, which are being and will continue to be requested.

northern alaska health resources association, inc.

February 28, 1984

The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Senate  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

On behalf of the Northern Alaska Health Resources Association, I wish to express my appreciation to you for your support for regional health planning and resource development. It was most gratifying to us at this level to see not only the unanimous support of the Senate HESS Committee for SB 334 but also the recommended increase in the fiscal note to \$600,000.

I would also like to thank you for facilitating the statewide teleconference hearing on SB 334 on February 13. Because of the distance and the expense involved in traveling to Juneau, teleconferences are one of the most effective ways for the citizenry to let their views be heard. It is the only chance that most of us have for two-way communication with legislators. The time and energy that you put into the recent teleconference made it very meaningful to all the participants.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,



Sherry E. McWhorter  
Executive Director

SEM:flr

Senate HESS

February 13, 1984  
3:00 p.m.

\* \* \* TELECONFERENCED \* \* \*

Attendance: Josephson (in Anchorage). Sens. Moss, Halford, P. Fischer, and V. Fischer, excused.

001 Josephson called meeting to order at 3:10 p.m., from Anchorage regarding SB 334.

032 John Garvin, Anchorage, Director, Alaska Children Services: Supports bill. The State of Alaska is in need of a planning mechanism, which this bill addresses. I feel the definition of "health" should be expanded to include a broader range of human services. On page 1, the commissioner should be the one to designate three or more health service areas in the state. On page 2, line 4, a contract under this section should be for 4 years and be renewable. On page 3, line 24, subparagraph 2, the annual report to the legislature should include specific recommendations and plans for their implementation.

146 Dr. Robert Roland, Haines: Supports bill. I feel that there should be four HSA agencies as opposed to three, designating Anchorage a separate agency from the total Anchorage area. The development in the final draft would support the four agencies as presently designated.

205 Josephson: Is the Haines area covered by the Southeast Alaska Health Systems Agency?

207 Roland: That's correct.

210 Caroline Wolf, Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted: Supports bill. The Council endorses SB 334 to expand the health planning concept, and favors continued funding for the regional health system agency.

246 Nina K. Dahl, Kotzebue: Supports bill. I'm a board member of the Northern Alaska Health Resources Association (NARA). NARA has no state funding this year. It is essential that the state supports health and resource development. If NARA were funded by the state directly, we wouldn't have to spend any of our program dollars. We need them.

329 D.J. Pielech, Ketchikan, Southeast Alaska Health System Agency: Supports bill. I've been with SEASHA for 3 years. We were engaged in providing regional data for the statewide data pender. There have been a number of programs that have been drastically cut back: community planning

and review functions. This legislation is intended to salvage a system that has worked in the past and has a 9 year history of operation in this state.

401 Becky Bear, Juneau, Member of SEASHA: Supports bill. I joined the HSA board because I was impressed with the kinds of work they were able to do. I We have a very large and diverse state. Our health care services are, by down south standards, inadequate. I heard concerns expressed at the Health and Social Services Regional meeting that the Governor's office conducted. The people there were asking for planning functions and review functions during the course of their grant. As we face declining dollars, it is imperative that comprehensive planning occur in order to serve the citizens of our state. The HSA's have a nine year track record, and it would be unwise to disassemble the system now, and then years later have to reassemble the system from scratch.

490 Riki Sipe, Fairbanks, Literacy Council of Alaska: Supports bill. I have been employed for 5 years by the Literacy Council. I have been impressed by the arctic alliance and the guidance and leadership provided for it by NARA. I urge reinstatement of funding for health agencies.

530 Anne Harrison, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I have been working as a public health nurse and for the last five years, I have served on the board of Northern Alaska Resource Associates (NARA). I trust that all legislators in Juneau will recognize the great job NARA is doing and pass SB 334.

546 Florence LeRoy, Petersburg, SEASHA: Supports bill. I am a member of SEASHA, and I believe in the continuance of the HSA because health planning is essential in Alaska. It increases the accessibility, acceptability and continuity of health services. There is a need for long-range planning.

570 Sandra Stringer, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I am a long time resident of the Fairbanks area, and I am in favor of continuation of the mechanism of health data and health program coordination which is provided by HSA. This legislation would extend the life of the HSA.

588 Margaret Bixby, Juneau, SEASHA: Supports bill. I am a 40 year resident of Alaska and have been involved in health planning since 1971. The money that would be saved in the elimination of the duplication services should help pay for the cost of the operation of this bill. This is the only place where consumers have a share in health planning for themselves.

607 Josephson: I noticed the fiscal note of \$450,000. The back-up material talks about an appropriation of \$200,000 for each of the three agencies. Would some one explain to me where the difference lies.

616 Dan Meddleton, Juneau, Director, Division of Planning, Department of Health and Social Services: Supports bill. The fiscal note that the commissioner endorsed, calls for a \$450,000 appropriation.

640 Josephson: Was the department cognizant that some of the proponents had asked for \$200,000 per agency.

649 Meddleton: The Department's position is that the \$200,000 was identified, but the support for it is not. We propose that there be a \$450,000 fiscal note, providing \$150,000 to be awarded to each health system agency to support the accomplishments of the duties referenced in the bill, Sec. 18.07.120.

711 Wesley Terwilliger, Ketchikan, Gateway Mental Health: Supports bill. Our mental health center serves Petersburg, Wrangell, City and Borough of Ketchikan, Prince of Wales Island, and Metlakatleet. We have needs for input because we cover such a large area, and SEASHA has been able to help us in this area. I think SEASHA is tremendously understaffed for the job that they have to do.

791 Barbara Maenhout, Wrangell: Supports bill. We have no current HSA member in Wrangell. I am a former consumer on the SEASHA board for six years. I support the concept of this bill, but I would like to see this incorporated in the current HSA in the state, because it would be a waste of time and money to start a new organization when the HSA have such a good track record.

809 Dorothy Brady, Wrangell: Supports bill. I am also a former member of SEASHA board. I support both SB 334 and HB 355, but with reservations stated by Ms. Maenhout.

820 Kathy , Yakutat: Supports bill. I've Been on HSA board as a consumer for several years. This bill is very important for the people in Southeast Alaska, especially in the rural areas.

832 Josephson: Several witnesses expressed concerns regarding who the planning agencies would be if the bill were enacted. There isn't any intent to destroy the existing agencies and create new ones where it is not needed. I hope this is reassuring to those who have that concerns.

846 End of Side A, Tape I. Turned to Side B.

001 Kurt Wells, Thornbay: Supports bill. We've been happy with the service given by SEASHA to Prince of Wales Island. They are undergoing a island-wide study of health systems and, to my knowledge, noone else is doing this, and it is much needed.

018 Leo Land, Haines: Supports bill. I have been very involved with welfare work with the state. One of my concerns with this bill is the grants for construction for expansion of health care facilities, nursing homes, etc.

030 Josephson: What page and line are you referring to?

037 Land: Page 3, line 19-23.

040 Josephson: In this section, the provision would require a regional health resources organization to review and provide comments on applications and proposals made to the Department of Health and Social Services for grants and constructions of health care facilities and nursing homes. We had testimony earlier that said that some organizations would be promoting cost effective and needed services, and the existence of a regional health resources organization could provide comments and recommendations where those groups might not otherwise be able to articulate their needs.

170 Wendy Swanson, Craig, Director, Craig Youth Center: Supports bill. The Prince of Wales Islands and communities surrounding it, need technical and community planning assistance. We need HSA to coordinate and provide this. Please reinstate funding.

222 Paula Young, Port Alexander, SEASHA Board Member: Supports bill. I feel the regional health plan is vital to the state and is cost effective.

261 Dr. Dallas Nelson, Glenallen: Supports bill. I am a chiropractic physician in Glenallen. I have a few comments on the Regional organization. The Copper Valley Base is a good social economic area. I feel the Copper River Native Association would be the best designate of the non-profit organization, because it already has a health program and would be the easiest to implement.

319 J.B. Carnahan, Fairbanks, President, NARA. Supports bill. One of the major factors that the HSA provides is that it has been able to bring together state government, federal government, military, native corporations, and other citizens at large into one common unit. I support this bill because it brings people in contact with their health systems in a meaningful way.

361 Carolyn Winters, Fairbanks, Director, Catholic Community Resources: Supports bill. I've had an opportunity to observe and work with NARA since 1979, and I'm very pleased with the help I've received from them. I agree that funding HSA saves the state money.

401 Paul Sherry, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I've worked for Tanana Chief Conference here in Fairbanks for 10 years. I would like to recommend

you to take actions to facilitate this legislation. We are concerned about the long-term federal situation and feel that, regardless of what happens, the state should bear the financial burden.

461 Judith Bush, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I'm speaking as a resident of Fairbanks who's familiar with the work of NARA. I've seen the planning that they have done in the health area and also the efforts that they have lent to the arctic alliance.

482 Charlie Laub, Ketchikan, Ketchikan Alcoholism Program. Supports bill. I coordinate the activities of the alcoholism program. The HSA have provided specific goals and objectives for many of the communities in Southeast Alaska. This bill, with additional funds, would enable them to maintain more of the resources and bring us back to a level that we had a few years previously.

524 Janet Wipfli, Ketchikan: Supports bill. I'm the Director of Women in Safe Homes on the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Ketchikan, and also a board member of SEASHA for the last four years. I've had very positive experiences with the HSA. In 1976, I was working on several projects, trying to get something going for domestic violence. There was no one we could go to to get technical assistance or any help. The HSA did come to Ketchikan and provided technical assistance as well as encouragement.

560 Bill Wortman, Fairbanks, Displaced Homemakers: Supports bill. I've been associated with NARA, through Displaced Homemakers for 3 years. The data and technical assistance they've provided has been useful and helped avoid a lot of duplication.

581 Lorraine Phillips, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I've been on the board of NARA for 2½ years going from health care provided to health care consumer. I've been a registered nurse since 1953. The ability of the consumer to provide input and obtain information into NARA is good for the community.

604 Dorothy Englund, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I've been a board member of NARA since the very beginning. NARA has provided a community forum for consumers to give them an opportunity to contribute their input regarding the programs in Northern Alaska.

642 Sherry McWhorter, Fairbanks: Supports bill. I am the Executive Director of NARA. I would like to refer to some things that have been going on between the HSA's and the Department of Health and Social Services regarding the bill. The three directors met in Juneau with the Commissioner two weeks ago. They discussed the things that we need to work on, such as development with the state, standards and criteria for reporting review and evaluation of various types of human services

programs, clearing house functions in the area of data collection, and grant application review.

730 Barbara Berger, Anchorage: ~~Supports bill.~~ I would just like to make myself available to you to answer questions regarding the current Alaska health planning situations or items in the bill. Regarding the number of designated agencies, currently Anchorage is a council of the existing health system agency, and is equivalent in status to some of the other councils that we have who provide input to the regional body, and at the same time, put most of the energies into focusing on the health and needs of their own community.

815 Berger: Another area of concern is on page 3, line 19-23, which refer to the regional health resources organization providing project review, where we are requested to provide a review to applicants for state funds for grants as well as grants for construction of health care facilities. We feel that item A and B should be reviewed separately.

859 Side B, Tape I ends. Put in Tape II, Side A.

001 Berger: Regarding the funding level. This is the first day we have heard the position paper or the amount that was recommended for funding. It is our agency's particular concern that some kind of additional resource may be required at the state level in order to coordinate the work of two or three agencies.

065 Berger: Sen. Josephson, I would like to ask what you feel is the current level of support for this bill.

074 Josephson: I can only speak for myself, but I feel that, because of the favorable testimony and the geographically wide interest in the bill, it has an excellent chance of passage.

104 Beth Taeschner, Soldotna: Supports bill. (Problems with transmission of teleconference) I've been in Alaska since 1958 and worked in native villages. I encourage more funding for HSA than is provided for in bill. HSA need to provide to assist the state on health planning, especially with the current emphasis on the need for human services, especially in rural Alaska.

194 Jo Ann Bernier, Fairbanks, Native Association: Supports bill. I think it is apparent that statewide resources available for health services development is diminishing while the demand for health care services is increasing. I hope that the legislature will support the maintenance for this legislation.

239 Ruth Lister, Fairbanks, Women in Crisis: Supports bill. It is difficult for us to do the need assessment work that I see NARA is doing.

269 Charlotte Barnes, Thornbay: Supports bill. We are an isolated community on Prince of Wales Island. I am a former member of SEASHA board. Through the encouragement and technical assistance from SEASHA, I was able to write the first two grants into Thornbay.

275 (Problems with transmission of teleconference)

345 Josephson: Is there anyone else to testify? If not, we will close the hearing and the bill will be taken up by the committee in Juneau. Thank you.

358 Hearing was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



P.O. BOX 7015 KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901 907-225-9681

Senator Joe Josephson  
State Capital  
Pouch V  
Juneau Ak. 99811

Dear Senator Joe Josephson:

During this session you will be looking at SB 334 "An act relating to health resources development; and providing for an effective date." This bill would move the state closer to co-ordinated health care planning. It would help to assure that health care services are planned for and provided for in an orderly manner that meets the needs of the specific region. Comprehensive regional planning should be of benefit to you as a legislator because provider organizations should be looking to meet the regionally defined health needs, rather than assaulting each individual legislator with a cacophony of give me, no give me.

This legislation is supported by the three Health Systems Agencies that currently serve the state. These Health Systems Agencies were established by federal mandate to provide planning and review services, and have established close working relationships with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. However, only a legislative mandate will guarantee a long term stable commitment to health care planning, and provide the necessary state funds to insure continued support from the federal health planning program. As the state faces declining oil revenues you as a legislator are going to be facing harder funding choices from competing needs. Regional Health Resource Agencies, with boards consisting of representatives of regional non-profit Native Corporations, health care providers, and consumers can provide valuable input to you as you make health funding choices for your area.

You will be contacted by the Health Systems Agency in your area to be kept abreast of their activities and planning process. I am enclosing a copy of the annual report of the Southeast Alaska Health Systems Agency, which serves the area from Yakutat to Metlakatla, so that you are familiar with how we serve the Southeast region.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Bear".

Becky Bear, Legislative Liason

# northern alaska health resources association, inc.

March 8, 1984

Nancy Dietrich, Aide  
c/o The Honorable Joe Josephson  
Alaska State Senate  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Nancy:

In follow up to our conversation this morning, I have pulled together some historical budget information for NAHRA. The first sheet, entitled "Funding Information," is a copy of some information that we provided to Senator Faiks in November. You will note that there was a large increase in funding in FY 1981 and FY 1982. At that time, agencies such as ours were on an increasing schedule of federal funding. In those two years, our funding jumped from the then-minimum of \$125,000 in federal funds to \$245,000. Following President Reagan's election, the federal government dropped its support by approximately 67%, to \$100,000 plus matching funds which vary yearly. In FY 1983, which was the time of the massive federal cut, the State also dropped its funding level from the usual \$100,000 to \$50,000. At that point, we began seeking local grants and contracts to make up the deficit. Our professional staff also dropped from five down to our current level of two.

It now appears quite likely that federal funds will continue with passage of a new federal health planning act sometime this year. In any event, NAHRA's federal base of \$100,000 is guaranteed through August 31, 1985. We are also eligible for matching funds, which I estimate to be in the neighborhood of 30¢ on the dollar next year. We have always received a considerable amount of matching funds because of our State grant. This year, however, with no State monies, our federal match will be considerably reduced. I have optimistically projected our federal matching funds to be \$14,297 for FY 1985 (for us, to begin September 1, 1984). So, the most we can expect in federal monies during the coming fiscal year is \$114,297. Also, federal law enables us to carry unexpended federal funds forward into the new year; this year we are over-extended and will not have any funds to carry forward.

The large document which I have enclosed is a copy of our federal grant application for those \$114,297. Under federal law, we have to report under what is called the "total budget concept," which means that all funding sources must be included in our federal application. You will note from the application that I have requested funding to enable replacement of two professional positions, to bring us back to four. This number of professionals is necessary for the amount of work that we anticipate next year, especially in light of Commissioner Smith's desire to expand our role beyond health services.

Nancy Dietrich  
March 8, 1984  
Page 2

The budget in the federal grant application (pages 8-18) builds upon a grant of \$200,000 from the State of Alaska. Even with this level of funding, we need to raise \$31,028 in local grants and contracts (see page 18).


As you are aware, without substantial funding from the State, NAHRA will have to close out operations this fall. We cannot maintain our Board and even one professional staff person and clerical support with our federal funds alone.

I realize the grant application is quite thick, even without the appendices. However, rather than delay sending it by taking the time to excerpt portions, I have included the entire body of the application.

Please call if you need any information beyond what is enclosed. I would be very happy to provide anything you might need. If I can be of assistance at a Finance Committee meeting, please request my presence and I will make arrangements to come to Juneau.

We really appreciate Senator Josephson's support for SB 334 and all the help that you and other aides have given.

Sincerely,



Sherry E. McWhorter  
Executive Director

enclosures

FUNDING INFORMATION

PLEASE LIST TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNTS RECEIVED FROM THE NOTED FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEARS. IF YOU RECEIVED FUNDING FOR MORE THAN ONE PROGRAM, PLEASE DUPLICATE THIS PAGE AND PROVIDE REQUESTED INFORMATION FOR EACH PROGRAM.

FUNDING SOURCE	FY80	FY81	FY82	FY83	FY84
MUNICIPAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
STATE(SPECIFY DEPARTMENT) DHSS	\$125,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	-0-
FEDERAL	\$175,000	\$271,463*	\$281,006*	\$227,080*	\$172,394* estimated
PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CLIENT FEES	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
OTHER(SPECIFY) Contracts with agencies and organizations for specific work	\$2,000	\$20,012	\$20,420	\$41,382	\$80,353 estimated
TOTAL BUDGET	\$302,000	\$391,475	\$401,426	\$318,462	\$252,747 estimated
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED	We serve the entire population of northern Alaska -- nearly 100,000 people				

\*Includes carry-over funds from previous year. The FY 1984 "new" funds equal \$100,000 base plus \$36,454 in matching funds.

ARE ANY OF YOUR FUNDS PASSED THROUGH ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION, AGENCY, OR PROGRAM? No IF YES, SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_

DOES THE ORGANIZATION TAKE A % OF THE GRANT TO COVER INDIRECT COSTS? No IF YES, WHAT %? \_\_\_\_\_

v

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