

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FILES 1985-1986 86/2

3493

HLAB

HB 317

389

Section 08.87.110 Scope of Practice

"Enhance, protect, or restore people's capacity for social functioning."

Section 08.87.110(b) Practice of Psychotherapy

Limited to independent social workers with a clinical specialty or a master social worker (MSW) supervised in a clinical setting.

Section 08.87.110(c) Autonomous Practice

Limited to licensed independent social workers who have Board approval.

Section 08.87.120 License by Credentials

No exam would be required for social workers who hold an active license in another jurisdiction.

Section 08.87.130 License Renewal

Required every 24 months. No continuing education requirement, but Board may adopt regulations requiring proof of continued competency (08.87.060(a)(b)).

Section 08.87.140 Fees

Intended to cover the Board's operational and administrative costs.

Section 08.87.200 Use of Title

Use of "social worker" title limited to licensed social workers. However, students enrolled in accredited program may use "social worker student" title; unlicensed state employees may use "associate social worker" title when operating under the supervision of a licensed social worker.

Section 08.87.210 Confidentiality

Required except under certain conditions (including written consent, death, criminal acts, and court proceedings).

Section 08.87.220-.240 Sanctions and Penalties

Board may impose disciplinary sanctions as outlined in the bill. Class B misdemeanor (maximum 90 day sentence) for violation of the act.

Section 7

Grandfather Clause

For 24 months following enactment of the bill, licenses will be awarded without exam to applicants who meet the eligibility requirements of AS 08.87.100 or who have a related degree and have been practicing for 24 consecutive months prior to application. Licenses will also be awarded to non-degreed persons who pass the exam and have been practicing for two years under a person eligible to be licensed. Application must be made prior to July 1, 1987.

WHY LICENSE SOCIAL WORKERS?

1. Licensing will enable the public to identify those social workers who have met minimum standards required for licensing. Presently, anyone can use the title of "social worker", even if they have no training or experience whatsoever. With licensing, the public will have the assurance that anyone representing themselves as a social worker will have the required professional preparation, regardless of the setting in which they practice.
2. Licensing will ensure an enforceable code of professional conduct. Licensure would provide consumers with easy access to investigative and adjudicative procedures through a regulatory body, supported by effective penalties for offending practitioners. The National Association of Social Workers believes that one of the most important reasons for enacting State licensure is the accountability it provides to the public.
3. Since a majority of states do have licensing of social workers, an Alaskan license would assure that uniform standards of social work practice exist from state to state. This will better serve the consumer, and allow reciprocity to the licensed professional.
4. Licensing will ensure that social workers are screened and evaluated carefully in terms of specific standards before they are allowed to have an independent practice.
5. Insurance reimbursement is possible. If a social worker is licensed, insurance companies have a standard for recognition and payment of this important health benefit to their subscribers. This will assist the consumer who uses both public and private services of social workers. A large percentage of mental health services are provided by unlicensed social workers in this State. The cost of these services are not retrievable by the public agencies who employ them. Many "denied claims" are now being written off at State expense because of the lack of a State social work license.
6. Licensing of social workers will provide consumers lower cost mental health services. A recent Defense Department Champus insurance report indicated "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". The Champus insurance program for dependents of military personnel (a substantial population of Alaska) estimates that it saved over \$253,000 between December 1980 and March 1982 through its experimental reimbursement of clinical social workers.
7. Licensing social workers will ~~ensure privileged~~ communications between the professional social worker and their client. Confidentiality is at this time not regulated.
8. Licensing will assist consumers in locating qualified social work services. It will provide referral sources a clear understanding of specialization, education, and experience of a particular social worker. It is important to understand that the great majority of clients receiving social work services have no choice about who is to be their social worker. Where they have a choice, such as when seeking private therapy or family counseling, the consumer has no guidelines to judge the competence of the worker.

9. The provision of competent social work services requires professional education. Experience shows that the only way to ensure that persons giving services are capable, is to establish minimum standards for practice. Such regulation is essential for the public, as well as for the profession.
10. Legislation to license social workers needs to recognize clinically trained social workers as equally qualified to the other mental health professionals identified by law as competent in the evaluation of the mentally disturbed for purposes of commitment. The only non-licensed profession now included in Alaska's mental health commitment law is social work. Without regulating the practice of social work, there is concern in the profession that Alaskans could be subject to the improper use of State-given sanction.

Additional Notes

- Approximately 300-350 social workers in the State of Alaska would be licensed under legislation proposed by the Alaska Chapter, National Association of Social Workers
- Licensing fees collected from at least the above referenced numbers of individuals would more than off-set the costs of the Social Work Licensing Board needing to be established as part of the licensing law.

POSITION PAPER

SENATE BILL NO. 227

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Worker Examiners; and providing for an effective date."

This bill would establish a Board of Social Work Examiners which would set standards for specialty designations of Social Workers, provide for examination of eligible participants, adopt regulations for supervision of persons engaged in social work who are not Master Social Workers, and impose disciplinary sanctions. The bill would require that a person be licensed to use the title "Social Worker." The bill regulates confidentiality and the disclosure of information. The bill allows for a two year grandfathering of some persons currently employed as social workers.

The Department of Health and Social Services supports efforts to increase professional standards for social workers. The department is currently seeking to increase the number of M.S.W. and B.S.W. employees engaged in agency social work, by taking administrative actions which encourage the hiring of these degreed professionals. In addition, the department believes that professional standards for social workers in the private sector would increase public confidence. However, the bill presents a number of complicated issues that have not been resolved quickly in other states. These areas require special scrutiny and analysis. This position paper first addresses three major issues, followed by a sectional analysis.

I. MAJOR DEPARTMENTAL ISSUES

A. Effect on Current State Employees:

There are currently 147 state social workers affected by the bill: 135 line and supervisory workers with the Division of Family and Youth Services, six with the Department of Administration at Pioneer homes, five with the Department of Corrections, and one with the Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

A survey of staff qualifications for Division of Family and Youth Services' employees shows that of 113 state-employed social workers responding, 2 have Ph.D.s, 29 have M.S.W. degrees, 12 have related master's degrees, 10 have B.S.W. degrees, 37 have related bachelor's degrees, 14 have degrees in other areas, and 11 have no college degree (this group of 11 represents the agency's paraprofessionals). The department believes that experienced state workers without social work degrees should be allowed to continue with the state.

The bill does allow for a limited license for "social workers" who do not meet all of the licensing standards, but who have degrees in social work or related fields and 24 months experience prior to July 1, 1987. However, the bill only allows this "grandfather" group to obtain an

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*C.S. provides
for subsequent
licenses as
well*

"original license" valid for two years (Section 7(a), pages 10-11). The department urges an amendment to allow already established state social workers to continue practice with the right to renew their licenses, subject to the disciplinary oversight of the new Social Work Board (as well as supervision by the department and "oversight" by the courts and the ombudsman). The language of the department's proposed amendment is included in the sectional bill analysis later in this paper.

B. Effect on State Hiring Practices, Including Local Hire and Affirmative Action Goals:

*C.S. provides
for "associate
social
worker"*

After the enactment of the bill, the department would be required to hire licensed social workers. It may be difficult to fill all social work positions, whether public or private, with licensed social workers, especially in rural areas. Also, the bill's strict educational requirements for licensure may impede the state's long-term goals of employing paraprofessional employees and developing a career ladder for them. The department often hires Alaska Native "Social Services Associates" who may eventually become social workers. The bill would probably prevent these persons from advancing beyond the paraprofessional level unless they leave their communities for further education.

There is currently no M.S.W. program in the State of Alaska. However, the Department of Health and Social Services is negotiating with two out-of-state universities to provide for a supervised field placement program in Alaska. The need to go out of state for the master's degree creates a hardship for Alaskans and especially limits the participation of low income persons and Natives in the social work field. (The development of an M.S.W. program through the University of Alaska would be very costly for the number of potential students.) Perhaps with further study this bill could include a method for non-degreed persons to "work up" to a level where they can be licensed as social workers based on experience and examination. (For example, AS 08.08.207 allows persons to become attorneys by clerking and examination.)

C. Effect of Licensing Which Defines Allowable "Tasks"

*has been
done in C.S. →*

In Section 4 of the bill, Section 08.87.110, dealing with the scope of practice, the department urges the amendment of this section to delete any listing of services as part of a definition of the scope of practice of social work. The department and a representative from the Attorney General's office, in recent discussions with the National Association of Social Workers, have received advice that many other states find it more practical to define the practice of social work in "goals-related" language, rather than with a list of services or tasks which may be performed by social workers. Statutes with task lists may restrict the practice of some of these tasks by other, unlicensed persons, or create unnecessary battles between related professionals. The department suggests that the beginning language in 08.87.110(a), which describes

done in C.S.

the goals of social work, could probably stand alone. Therefore, the department urges the deletion of lines 10-23 of this section, (page 4) starting on line 10 with the words "the services provided may include ..."

The department expects to receive a new suggested uniform licensure act from the National Association of Social Workers some time late the week of April 8th. As soon as this language is received we will share it with the committees and the bill sponsors.

Section 08.87.110, the Scope of Practice section, ties in with the license for title section, Section 08.87.200 (page 6). The department feels that although that it is important to license the title "social worker," the interaction between Sections 110 and Sections 200 may hamper many other persons from performing valuable services for fear of violating this licensing statute. Again, when the department receives language from N.A.S.W. we will present specific amendment language to the committees and sponsors.

II. SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

A. Supervision

In addition to the concerns mentioned above, the department wishes to note other problem areas, section by section.

The bill, at 08.87.070(5), states that the licensing board must promulgate regulations determining how non-master social workers would be supervised. At this time the department cannot know how these supervision standards would relate to the department's supervisory structures. Although the department can attempt to deal with this issue when regulations are proposed in the future, clarification in the bill would be better.

B. Confidentiality

Section 08.87.210, which states when a social worker may disclose client information, needs another subsection, as follows:

done in C.S.

- (9) communication discloses information that the licensee is obligated by other state or federal statute or regulations to report.

The addition of such a subsection makes it clear that a social worker may make statutorily required reports, such as the reports of harm to a child or an adult required by Title 47.

C. Powers of the Board

At Section 08.87.230, which defines disciplinary sanctions, the department suggests that page 8, line 25 be amended by deleting the words "guilty of an offense under" and substituting the words "has committed a violation of." Terminology such as "guilty" and "offense" does not seem appropriate in a license disciplinary hearing, which is an administrative, civil proceeding. In Section 08.87.240, the penalty section of the bill, the department urges clarification of subsection (a) which creates a Class B misdemeanor. The present language states that "a person who violates this chapter" has committed a crime. This criminal provision should state what specific activity is made criminal, whether it is only practice without a license or, as an extreme example, whether it would be a crime for a social worker to breach confidentiality under 08.87.210.

discussed with
Legislative
Legal - OK as is ✓

The department also urges that Subsection (b) of 08.87.240 be set out as a separate section, as the Board's right to seek a civil injunction would be better placed separately from the criminal penalty provisions of the bill. Also, the department urges the amendment of 08.87.240 as follows, to clarify that the Board is not empowered to issue injunctive type orders:

discussed w/ Leg-
islative Legal -
OK as is ✓

(b) The Board may apply to the Superior Court for an order enjoining [MAY SEEK TO ENJOIN OR RESTRAIN] a person not licensed under this chapter or whose license is suspended, revoked or expired from violating this chapter.

D. "Grandfathering"

The details of the waiver or "grandfathering" for present social workers are contained in Section 7 of the bill. The department urges that Section 7(a), specifically page 10, lines 26 and 27, be amended to read

CS deletes
[original]

... this act, a person may apply for and receive an original license, and subsequent license renewals, as a bachelor social worker if the person ...

The department urges the same change in the master social work language at Section 7(b), page 11, line 7.

Defined in
C.S.

In Subsection 7(a)(1), page 11, line 1, the department urges a definition of what is "a field related to social work" so that present social workers affected by the bill can know with certainty whether or not their degrees are considered as "related." Examples of degree fields which could be considered to be "related" to social work are: psychology, counselling and early childhood development. Much employee anxiety about the bill and much pressure on the first Social Work Board would be relieved by legislative determination of what related degrees would qualify for the "grandfather" licensing.

III. FINANCIAL IMPACT

The bill would require the state to bear the cost of creating a new board. It may be more efficient to expand the responsibility of the existing board of Psychologists and Psychiatrists to include social workers, and other therapists and counselors. The Division of Occupational Licensing obviously needs to be consulted to evaluate additional costs attached to the bill. The fees for licensing are costly and may financially impact non-profit contractors who, through their staff social workers, provide services to the state.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

The department supports the licensure of social workers in both the public and private sector as an additional method to monitor quality and to protect the public, although the department believes accommodation should be made for persons currently employed as social workers. There are many questions remaining about how to implement a licensing system in the social services area, questions that would benefit from further research and discussion.

Senate Bill 227 "An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing a board of social worker examiners."

The Department of Commerce and Economic Development would oppose this legislation. This administration's position has consistently been opposed to additional boards without substantial evidence of public outcry or public need. This legislation does not exhibit either of these demands.

Although the bill's purpose is to assure the consumer that persons providing service under the title "social worker" have completed professional social work education, adhere to a code of professional ethics, and are subject to review by the Board of Social Worker Examiners, the legislation can only enforce the licensure requirements by a board. The bill does not protect the consumer. This is a practice act to allow social workers third party reimbursement, which can be done if they are registered without the expense of a board.

The legislation adds an additional title of "Independent" social worker, and adds "L" for licensed in front of each designation. Nationally, they are known as MSW or BSW for Master Social Worker or Bachelor of Social Worker, respectively.

The staff has identified 119 State positions of social workers. These individuals oppose licensing. The legislation does not provide for an exemption of State workers. If this legislation is approved, we would support the position for licensing State employees. This is based on the lower income population being the main users of State services, they should also be provided with an avenue of redress.

We are concerned with the confidentiality section in the bill. This section should also provide a protection statement for a social worker who treats a client who was abused by another licensee. This would enhance a public protection attitude.

This legislation directs the Governor to appoint five initial board members within 30 days. This is also unacceptable.

Harry D. Treager
Harry D. Treager, Director
Division of Occupational Licensing

April 1, 1985
Date

John H. Lounsbury
John H. Lounsbury, Commissioner
4/3/85
Date

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUESTBill/Resolution No.: SB 227Title: Practice of Social Work
& Estab. Board of Social WorkSponsor: Sen. Fahrenkamp

Requestor: _____

Date of Request: _____

FISCAL DETAILAgency Affected: Commerce & Econ. Dev.Program Category Affected: Consumer Protection
Examiners

BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____

Occupational Licensing

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		33.1	34.8	36.5	38.3	40.2
200 TRAVEL		8.8	9.2	9.7	10.2	10.7
300 CONTRACTUAL		19.3	20.3	21.3	22.4	23.5
400 SUPPLIES		1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
500 EQUIPMENT		3.7				
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		65.9	65.4	68.6	72.1	75.6

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE		78.8	2.3	67.3	2.3	71.3
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		65.9	65.4	68.6	72.1	75.6
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		65.9	65.4	68.6	72.1	75.6

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

The bill creates a Board of Social Work Examiners and implements licensing of all social work practitioners in the State. The bill establishes three licensing categories, and unlimited "specialties" left to the discretion of the board. (See attached for further analysis.)

Prepared By: Jennifer Strickler, Mgnt Analyst Phone: 465-1144Division: Occupational LicensingDate: 4-4-85Approved by Commissioner: Loren H. LounsburyAgency: Commerce & Economic DevelopmentDate: 4/8/85

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance

Legislative Sponsor

Requestor

Office of Management and Budget

Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

Analysis, continued

SB_227__FISCAL_IMPACT

(NOTE: 5% inflation factor projected for FY '87 through
FY '90 for operating costs)

100__PERSONAL_SERVICES:

1 Licensing Examiner, Range 12A,
GGU, 12 months, to be located in Juneau \$33,145.82

200__TRAVEL:

NOTE: Travel costs were based on five (5) members from different
geographic regions in the State as required in the bill. The areas
used in these calculations were: Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau,
Kenai, Nome. Also, the bill mandates a minimum of two meetings a
year and special meetings at the call of the Chairman or a majority
of the board members. Therefore, three (3) meetings are included in
this fiscal note.

Anchorage meeting

Anchorage, transportation	-0-
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
Fairbanks, transportation	212.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
Juneau, transportation at \$352 x 2 (board member & licensing examiner)	704.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days x 2	320.00
Kenai, transportation	64.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
Nome, transportation	408.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,346.00

Juneau meeting

Juneau, transportation	-0-
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
Anchorage, transportation	352.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 2 days	160.00
Fairbanks, transportation	564.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 3* days *(one extra day to travel)	240.00
Kenai, transportation	416.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 3* days *(one extra day to travel)	240.00
Nome, transportation	664.00
Per diem at \$80 per day x 3* days *(one extra day to travel)	240.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,036.00

SB 227 Fiscal Impact, continued

Fairbanks meeting

Fairbanks, transportation	-0-
Per diem at \$90 per day x 2 days	180.00
Anchorage, transportation	212.00
Per diem at \$90 per day x 2 days	180.00
Juneau, transportation at \$564 x 2 (board member & licensing examiner)	1,128.00
Per diem at \$90 per day x 3 days x 2 (one extra day to travel)	540.00
Kenai, transportation	276.00
Per diem at \$90 per day x 2 days	180.00
Nome, transportation	456.00
Per diem at \$90 per day x 3 days (one extra day to travel)	270.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,422.00

300 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:

Postage, telephone, printing, publications and other operating costs	3,000.00
Computer terminal use, at \$45 per month (Licensing Examiner use only)	540.00
Professional Examination Service fees for licensing examinations: Estimated 315 examinees in FY '86 for initial licensing at \$50 each	15,750.00
Note: 315 social workers were identified by this agency.	
	<hr/>
	\$ 19,290.00

400 COMMODITIES:

Stationery, typewriter ribbons, pens, pencils, and other miscellaneous desk top supplies	1,000.00
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500 EQUIPMENT: (one time costs only)

1 desk, double pedestal, 70" x 36"	747.02
1 chair, swivel with arms	257.69
1 typewriter, IBM Selectric II	1,340.19
1 chair, side without arms	120.33
1 desk calculator	382.89
1 file cabinet, 5 drawer legal with lock	426.63
1 table 72" x 36"	426.63
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,701.44

GRAND TOTAL: \$ 65,941.26

Projected Revenues

FY 86:

Based on the number of practitioners identified, it is anticipated that 315 practitioners will be seeking initial licensure by examination.

315 x \$250 (application & exam fee)

\$ 78.8

FY 87:

Based on the assumption that there will be a least 10 new applicants (5 by examination, and 5 by credentials)

This will make a total of 325 licensees.

2.3

FY 89:

Section 08.87.130 of the bill mandates that licenses will lapse after 24 months unless it is renewed. Licenses will be issued upon completion and approval of an application. If Section 08.87.130 remains as stated, each license will be required to renew 24 months from the date of issue, thus causing administrative complications in monitoring the duration period of each license issued. To avoid such administrative difficulties, we would prefer all licenses to expire in a specific year embedded in statutes, and on a date determined by the department.

Projections for this fiscal year is based on the assumption that all licenses will be valid for a two-year period and will be renewed during this year.

Based on 325 licensees x \$200 (renewal fee) =
In addition, another 10 new licensees to make
a total of 335 practitioners.

65.0

2.3

67.3

FY 89:

Based on an estimate of 10 new licensees, 5 by examination and 5 by credentials =

This would make a total of 345 licensees.

2.3

FY 90:

Assuming this will also be a renewal year, and based on 345 licensees x \$200 renewal fee =

69.0

In addition, another 10 new licensees, to make
a total of 355 licensees =

2.3

71.3

1.	POSITION TITLE LICENSING EXAMINER I (Juneau)			RANGE/STEP 12A	DEPT. UNIT GGU	PAGE/LINE	COY.	APPROV.	DISAP
2.	TYPE OF POSITION PFT	STAFF MONTHS	RP NUMBER	PCN NUMBER	BRU PRIORITY	LOCATION AWA	ELECTION DISTRICT	LEG.	
3.	CONTINUATION LEVEL			ADDITION	JUSTIFICATION				
4.	Type of Establishment			AMOUNT	<p>This position is necessary to assist in the implementation of the provisions of SB 227. The position would assist the Board in establishing necessary files, prepare application forms for printing, publish notices of meetings and exams, prepare travel authorizations for board members, arrange for meeting rooms and examinations, and perform other administrative duties as needed.</p>				
	1		2	3					
	PERSONAL SERVICES								
5.	Salary		24.9						
6.	Benefits		4.0						
7.	Supplemental Benefits		1.5						
8.	Fixed Benefits		2.7						
9.	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	01		33.1					
10.	Travel	02		1.3					
11.	Contractual	03		3.5					
12.	Commodities	04		1.0					
13.	Equipment	05		3.5					
14.	Other								
15.	TOTAL COST			42.4					
	RECEIPT CODE	FUNDING SOURCE							
16.		Federal Receipts 1002							
17.		C.F. Hitch 1003							
18.		General Funds 1004		42.4					
19.		I-A Receipts 1005							
20.		Program Receipts 1020							
21.		Other							
FOR BSM USE ONLY									
KEY NUMBER _____									

**REQUEST FOR
NEW POSITION**

AGENCY Commerce and Economic Development
PROGRAM Consumer Protection
BRU Occupational Licensing
COMPONENT Administration

Page 1 of 1
Revised Date _____

FY 86



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

April 8, 1985

Ms. Yvonne Chase, MSW
President, Alaska Chapter
National Association of
Social Workers
4020 Folker
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Ms. Chase:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and other members of the Executive Committee of the Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers recently in Anchorage.

As I said in our meeting, I am basically in favor of the State licensing social workers, but I am not sure how to accomplish this in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

I am appreciative of the time you spent with my Special Staff Assistant, Carol Derfner, to discuss this issue in more depth. It is my understanding that the discussion was constructive and that further discussion will take place that will explore the possibilities of consolidating a licensure program encompassing several behavioral science professionals, as well as social workers. I am informed that your organization has offered assistance in this matter during the interim period between legislative sessions.

I am sure that my Administration's cautious approach to increasing State licensure of professions and occupations is frustrating to you personally. However, while you certainly made a number of excellent points in your presentation, please understand that there are a number of proposals and bills currently being discussed that would increase the State's involvement in the licensing and regulation of occupations and professions. We are looking at these critically to ascertain actual public need, administrative considerations, and cost to the State. We are also looking at the hidden costs of the consumer of regulated occupations when the numbers, mobility, and activities of professionals are limited by State regulations or law.

April 8, 1985

Our State government is substantially involved in occupational licensing. One out of every five Alaskans is licensed by the State to practice professions or trades through the Division of Occupational Licensing in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development. Many other professions, such as teaching and law enforcement, are licensed through other State departments. It has become very costly to administer all these licensing programs with very little of the expense being borne by the licensees themselves. Another area we are concerned with is the proliferation of boards, commissions, and advisory committees over the past decade. We are encouraging consolidation of these bodies rather than increased specialization.

In the meantime, I am aware of your need to continue advocating House Bill 317 and Senate Bill 227. It is my hope, that by working together, we can have a licensing program encompassing social workers in place in the near future that meets your needs, as well as those of a State government that is experiencing severe budgetary constraints.

Sincerely,



Bill Sheffield
Governor

cc: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Senator Fred Zharoff
Representative Niilo Koponen
Representative Max Gruenberg
Representative Mike Navarre

Commissioner John R. Pugh
Department of Health and
Social Services

Commissioner Loren Lounsbury
Department of Commerce and
Economic Development

Missile Release

FEB 8 - 1985

SOCIAL WORK LICENSING REPORT

2-5-85

ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF SOCIAL WORKERS ELIGIBLE
FOR LICENSING

Total number of NASW members as of 10/31/85 226
Total number of NASW members not eligible
or exempted.

(1) Students (BSW and MSW) 20

Number of NASW members that potentially
might not choose to be licensed.

(1) Unemployed 11
(2) Retired 2
(3) Associates 5

Total number of NASW members impacted by
licensure.

High estimate 206
Low estimate 188

Over 50% of social workers that belong to NASW have MSW's and are
certified by ACSW (Academy of Certified Social Workers).

Total number of social workers employed by DFYS 138*

Number of DFYS social workers that are NASW members.
We estimate from a 1982 report that approximately 20-26%
of DFYS workers belong to NASW (projecting a 15% increase
from 1982).

DFYS NASW members 36
DFYS non-members 102

Number of social workers employed by private non-profit
agencies, in private practice, etc. that are non-NASW members.

Estimate 25-50

TOTAL SOCIAL WORKERS ELIGIBLE FOR LICENSURE - UNDUPLICATED COUNT

Low estimate 315
High estimate 358

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Vice Chairman
JOE JOSEPHSON
PAUL FISCHER
EDNA ARMSTRONG-DE VRIES



POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3834
(907) 465-3835

Senate Committee on Health, Education and Social Services

TO: SENATE H.E.S.S. COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FROM: COMMITTEE STAFF
DATE: APRIL 18, 1985
RE: SB 227, SOCIAL WORK LICENSURE

On Friday, April 19, 1985 at 3:30 p.m. in the Butrovich Room, the committee will meet briefly to take action on CSSB 227 (HESS), An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Work Examiners.

A draft committee substitute, based on the previous committee hearing on the bill, has been prepared. Specific changes are as follows:

- page 1, line 14 Clarifies that the purpose of the act is to provide for licensure of social workers.
- page 2, line 9 Allows the Board to meet twice annually, with any additional hearings to be conducted over the teleconference network.
- page 2, line 15 Unexcused absences from meetings would be cause for removal from the Board, with specifics to be determined by the Board.
- page 3, line 21 Requires submittal of three professional references.
- page 8, line 14 Removes reference to severe dependency on alcohol or drugs as grounds for disciplinary sanctions.
- page 8, line 18 Removes reference to immoral conduct as grounds for disciplinary sanctions.

These are changes
made in final
HESS C.S.

- page 9, line 28 Clarifies that unlicensed persons who use the title social worker, and licensed workers who breach the confidentiality provisions of AS 08.87.210 are guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- page 9, line 29 Clarifies that in order to restrain an unlicensed person from practicing, the Board must apply to the court for injunctive relief.
- page 10, line 8 Allows 60 days for initial Board appointments to be made.
- page 10, line 28 Clarifies that fields related to social work (which would qualify a person for "grandfathering") are social science fields as defined by the Board.
- page 11, line 15 Provides that persons practicing social work on the effective date of the act may continue to use the title until June 30, 1987, whether or not they are licensed.

HB 317 File Contents

April 9, 1985 Tuesday

- 1) Bill Summary -- Legislative Reporting Service
- 2) Overview -- Committee Staff
- 3) Fiscal Note, Analysis, and Position Statement -- Dept. of H & SS
- 4) Fiscal Note, Analysis, and Position Statement -- Dept. of Commerce
- 5) Sectional Analysis -- by Cecilia Kleinkauf, Alaska Chapter, NASW
- 6) Sectional Analysis -- by Carol Derfner, Boards & Commissions Office, for SB 227 (same as HB 317)
- 7) Letter from Governor to Marsha Schneider, NASW, March 9, 84
- 8) Letter from Governor to Yvonne Chase, Pres. NASW, April 8, 84
- 9) "Social Workers Voicing Opposition to Licensing," Anchorage Daily News, March 23, 1985, p. C6
- 10) Correspondence from various Agencies Supporting Concept of Licensing of Social Workers on SB 303, a similar bill in the 13th Legislature in 1983-84, by Josephson.
- 11) POMs in Support of HB 317.
- 12) "Answers to Questions State Legislators ask about Social Work Licensing," by the National Assoc. of Social Workers
- 13) State Comparison of Laws regulating Social Work
- 14) Regulating Health Professionals: A Review of the Empirical Lit.
- 15) Written testimony on HB 317 from Marsha Schneider, Ak Chpt. of the National Association of Social Workers.
- 16) Additional Materials from Gary Lichtenstein, Bd. Member, NASW
 - a. Map of States in the US with Acts regulating Social Work
 - b. Letter from Aetna Employees Benefit Section 7/3/84
 - c. Letter to Trustees of Johnson & Higgins Insurance 1/18/85
 - d. "Cuomo Signs New York Vendorship Law, NASW News, Feb. 85

April 10, 1985 Meeting

- 17) Sectional Analysis and proposed amendments -- Dept. of Labor

HB 317 File Contents

April 9, 1985 Tuesday

- 1) Bill Summary -- Legislative Reporting Service
- 2) Overview -- Committee Staff
- 3) Fiscal Note, Analysis, and Position Statement -- Dept. of H & SS
- 4) Fiscal Note, Analysis, and Position Statement -- Dept. of Commerce
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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (House)(cont'd)

HB 316 (cont'd)

of the public to use and have free access to the navigable or public water of the state."

Provides Act takes effect immediately.

Introduced March 25 and referred to Resources, Finance.

Professional
Licensing of
Social Workers

HOUSE BILL NO. 317, by Reps. Koponen, Larson, Hurley, Goll, Gruenberg, Davis & Pignalberi. Identical to Senate Bill 227, page 426.

Introduced March 25 and referred to Labor & Commerce, Health, Education & Social Services, Finance.

Injured State
Employees
(rights of)

HOUSE BILL NO. 318, by Rep. Szymanski. Amends the State Personnel Act (AS 39.25) by adding new sections that would require the Director of Personnel, in consultation with the appropriate departments or agencies, to prepare and maintain a position description for each position in the classified and partially exempt services that will describe the essential functions of the position and the actual skills and abilities required to perform the assigned task. A general requirement for physical abilities may not be imposed on a job classification unless each position within the class requires the use of physical ability.

Would require a state agency to offer an injured employee the employee's former position if the employee is able to perform the assigned tasks. If another employee has attained permanent status in that position, the agency is required, at the request of the injured employee, to offer the injured employee the position as soon as a vacancy occurs, or, immediately offer the injured employee a comparable position in the same agency.

If an employee can no longer perform all of the assigned tasks, the agency is required to rehire the employee after making a reasonable accommodation to the physical and mental limitations of the employee. Allows the agency to refuse to rehire if the accommodation imposes an undue hardship on the operation of the agency's program, or if, after reasonable efforts at accommodation, the employee cannot perform the essential functions in a manner that would not endanger the health and safety of the employee or to others to a greater extent than if a nonhandicapped person performed the job.

Outlines factors to be considered in determining undue hardship. If an agency is unable to rehire the employee, the employee may request preference for another position. The new section applies to all state employees who were injured on-the-job, and were laid off or terminated after the injury and have requested to return to work for the state. Does not provide effective date (takes effect 90 days after Governor signs bill).

Introduced March 25 and referred to Labor & Commerce, Finance.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (Senate)(cont'd)

SB 226 (cont'd)

a misdemeanor and upon conviction is punishable by a fine of between \$50 and \$200, plus the cost of prosecution, and may be imprisoned until the fine and costs are paid or until the convicted person has served one day for every \$2 of the fine and costs, at which time the fine and costs are automatically discharged.

Does not provide for an effective date (becomes law 90 days after signed).

Introduced March 12 and referred to HESS and Judiciary.

Professional
Licensing of
Social Workers

SENATE BILL NO. 227, by Sen. Josephson. Would require licensing of social workers and establish a Board of Social Examiners to oversee licensing procedures.

Establishes three categories of social workers: licensed bachelor social worker (LBSW); licensed master social worker (LMSW); and licensed independent social worker (LISW).

To be eligible for licensure as a bachelor social worker, a person must hold a bachelor's degree in social work from a school with a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, must be in good professional standing and be fit to practice, must pass a state exam, and must provide three references.

To be eligible for licensure as a master social worker, a person must meet all of the above qualifications; the person must have a master's instead of a bachelor's degree.

A person is eligible for licensure as an independent social worker if the person meets the qualifications for a master social worker and has completed at least 24 months of supervised post-graduate experience in the person's field of specialty.

Limits the practice of psychotherapy to licensed independent social workers who have a clinical specialty or master social workers who are employed in a clinical setting.

"Grandfathers" persons currently working as social workers if they hold a bachelor's or a master's degree in social work and have been practicing under the title "social worker" for at least 24 months before July 1, 1987. A person with a degree from a school with an accredited program could be licensed as a social worker without examination, if the person applies before July 1, 1987.

The Board of Social Worker Examiners, set to expire on June 30, 1989 unless continued by the Legislature, would consist of five members, including three master social workers, one of whom is an independent social worker, one bachelor social worker, and one public member who is not licensed as a social worker and does not work for one.

Includes provisions for board meetings, terms of meetings, removal

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (Senate)(cont'd)

SB 227 (cont'd)

of members, per diem and travel expenses, and powers and duties of the board.

Outlines the scope of practice for the three classifications of social worker.

Licenses would be valid for two years.

Sets fees as follows: Application fee--\$100; Initial license by application--\$150; License by credentials--\$100; License renewal--\$200; Reexamination--\$150.

Prohibits use of the title "social worker" or any of the titles listed in the bill (LBSW, LMSW, or LISW) unless a person is licensed.

Prohibits a licensed social worker from disclosing information provided by a client in the course of their professional contact. Does not apply in certain circumstances.

Lists disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed against a licensed social worker and the grounds for imposing them.

Violation of the new laws requiring social workers to be licensed would be a class B misdemeanor.

Effective July 1, 1985.

Introduced March 12 and referred to Labor & Commerce, HESS and Finance.

Appropriation SENATE BILL NO. 228, by Sen. Fahrenkamp. Would appropriate (special) \$6 million to the Dept. of Health & Social Services for (Fairbanks purchase or construction of adult and children's mental health mental Health facilities in Fairbanks. Does not lapse. Effective facilities) immediately.

Introduced March 13 and referred to HESS and Finance.

Longevity SENATE BILL NO. 229, by Senators Vic Fischer and Rodey. Bonus Payments Amends eligibility requirements for the Alaska Longevity (absence from Bonus to require recipients to notify the Commissioner of state) Administration when they expect to be absent from the state for a continuous period that exceeds 60 days. Presently they are required to notify the Commissioner if they are gone for 30 days. They are not eligible to receive the bonus during that time, and must reapply upon returning to Alaska. Does not provide for an effective date (become 90 days after signed).

Introduced March 13 and referred to State Affairs, Judiciary and Finance.

House Bill 317

"An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing a board of social worker examiners."

The Department of Commerce and Economic Development would oppose this legislation. This administration's position has consistently been opposed to additional boards without substantial evidence of public outcry or public need. This legislation does not exhibit either of these demands.

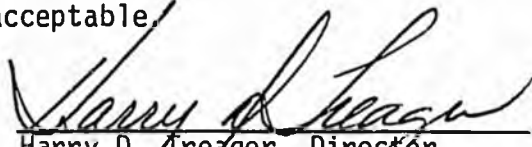
Although the bill's purpose is to assure the consumer that persons providing service under the title "social worker" have completed professional social work education, adhere to a code of professional ethics, and are subject to review by the Board of Social Worker Examiners, the legislation can only enforce the licensure requirements by a board. The bill does not protect the consumer. This is a practice act to allow social workers third party reimbursement, which can be done if they are registered without the expense of a board.

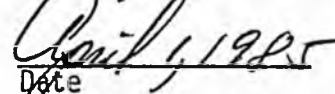
The legislation adds an additional title of "Independent" social worker, and adds "L" for licensed in front of each designation. Nationally, they are known as MSW or BSW for Master Social Worker or Bachelor of Social Worker, respectively.

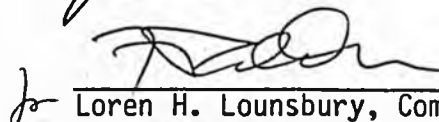
The staff has identified 119 State positions of social workers. These individuals oppose licensing. The legislation does not provide for an exemption of State workers. If this legislation is approved, we would support the position for licensing State employees. This is based on the lower income population being the main users of State services, they should also be provided with an avenue of redress.

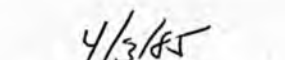
We are concerned with the confidentiality section in the bill. This section should also provide a protection statement for a social worker who treats a client who was abused by another licensee. This would enhance a public protection attitude.

This legislation directs the Governor to appoint five initial board members within 30 days. This is also unacceptable.


Harry D. Treager, Director
Division of Occupational Licensing


Date


Loren H. Lounsbury, Commissioner


Date

POSITION PAPER

HOUSE BILL NO. 317

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Worker Examiners; and providing for an effective date."

This bill would establish a Board of Social Work Examiners which would set standards for specialty designations of Social Workers, provide for examination of eligible participants, adopt regulations for supervision of persons engaged in social work who are not Master Social Workers, and impose disciplinary sanctions. The bill would require that a person be licensed to use the title "Social Worker." The bill regulates confidentiality and the disclosure of information. The bill allows for a two year grandfathering of some persons currently employed as social workers.

The Department of Health and Social Services supports efforts to increase professional standards for social workers. The department is currently seeking to increase the number of M.S.W. and B.S.W. employees engaged in agency social work, by taking administrative actions which encourage the hiring of these degreed professionals. In addition, the department believes that professional standards for social workers in the private sector would increase public confidence. However, the bill presents a number of complicated issues that have not been resolved quickly in other states. These areas require special scrutiny and analysis. This position paper first addresses three major issues, followed by a sectional analysis.

I. MAJOR DEPARTMENTAL ISSUES

A. Effect on Current State Employees:

There are currently 147 state social workers affected by the bill: 135 line and supervisory workers with the Division of Family and Youth Services, six with the Department of Administration at Pioneer homes, five with the Department of Corrections, and one with the Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

147
113
34

A survey of staff qualifications for Division of Family and Youth Services' employees shows that of 113 state-employed social workers responding, 2 have Ph.D.s, 29 have M.S.W. degrees, 12 have related master's degrees, 10 have B.S.W. degrees, 37 have related bachelor's degrees, 14 have degrees in other areas, and 11 have no college degree (this group of 11 represents the agency's paraprofessionals). The department believes that experienced state workers without social work degrees should be allowed to continue with the state.

The bill does allow for a limited license for "social workers" who do not meet all of the licensing standards, but who have degrees in social work or related fields and 24 months experience prior to July 1, 1987. However, the bill only allows this "grandfather" group to obtain an

"original license" valid for two years (Section 7(a), pages 10-11). The department urges an amendment to allow already established state social workers to continue practice with the right to renew their licenses, subject to the disciplinary oversight of the new Social Work Board (as well as supervision by the department and "oversight" by the courts and the ombudsman). The language of the department's proposed amendment is included in the sectional bill analysis later in this paper.

B. Effect on State Hiring Practices, Including Local Hire and Affirmative Action Goals:

After the enactment of the bill, the department would be required to hire licensed social workers. It may be difficult to fill all social work positions, whether public or private, with licensed social workers, especially in rural areas. Also, the bill's strict educational requirements for licensure may impede the state's long-term goals of employing paraprofessional employees and developing a career ladder for them. The department often hires Alaska Native "Social Services Associates" who may eventually become social workers. The bill would probably prevent these persons from advancing beyond the paraprofessional level unless they leave their communities for further education.

There is currently no M.S.W. program in the State of Alaska. However, the Department of Health and Social Services is negotiating with two out-of-state universities to provide for a supervised field placement program in Alaska. The need to go out of state for the master's degree creates a hardship for Alaskans and especially limits the participation of low income persons and Natives in the social work field. (The development of an M.S.W. program through the University of Alaska would be very costly for the number of potential students.) Perhaps with further study this bill could include a method for non-degreed persons to "work up" to a level where they can be licensed as social workers based on experience and examination. (For example, AS 08.08.207 allows persons to become attorneys by clerking and examination.)

C. Effect of Licensing Which Defines Allowable "Tasks"

In Section 4 of the bill, Section 08.87.110, dealing with the scope of practice, the department urges the amendment of this section to delete any listing of services as part of a definition of the scope of practice of social work. The department and a representative from the Attorney General's office, in recent discussions with the National Association of Social Workers, have received advice that many other states find it more practical to define the practice of social work in "goals-related" language, rather than with a list of services or tasks which may be performed by social workers. Statutes with task lists may restrict the practice of some of these tasks by other, unlicensed persons, or create unnecessary battles between related professionals. The department suggests that the beginning language in 08.87.110(a), which describes

the goals of social work, could probably stand alone. Therefore, the department urges the deletion of lines 10-23 of this section, (page 4) starting on line 10 with the words "the services provided may include ..."

The department expects to receive a new suggested uniform licensure act from the National Association of Social Workers some time late the week of April 8th. As soon as this language is received we will share it with the committees and the bill sponsors.

Section 08.87.110, the Scope of Practice section, ties in with the license for title section, Section 08.87.200 (page 6). The department feels that although that it is important to license the title "social worker," the interaction between Sections 110 and Sections 200 may hamper many other persons from performing valuable services for fear of violating this licensing statute. Again, when the department receives language from N.A.S.W. we will present specific amendment language to the committees and sponsors.

II. SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

A. Supervision

In addition to the concerns mentioned above, the department wishes to note other problem areas, section by section.

The bill, at 08.87.070(5), states that the licensing board must promulgate regulations determining how non-master social workers would be supervised. At this time the department cannot know how these supervision standards would relate to the department's supervisory structures. Although the department can attempt to deal with this issue when regulations are proposed in the future, clarification in the bill would be better.

B. Confidentiality

Section 08.87.210, which states when a social worker may disclose client information, needs another subsection, as follows:

- (9) communication discloses information that the licensee is obligated by other state or federal statute or regulations to report.

The addition of such a subsection makes it clear that a social worker may make statutorily required reports, such as the reports of harm to a child or an adult required by Title 47.

C. Powers of the Board

At Section 08.87.230, which defines disciplinary sanctions, the department suggests that page 8, line 25 be amended by deleting the words "guilty of an offense under" and substituting the words "has committed a violation of." Terminology such as "guilty" and "offense" does not seem appropriate in a license disciplinary hearing, which is an administrative, civil proceeding. In Section 08.87.240, the penalty section of the bill, the department urges clarification of subsection (a) which creates a Class B misdemeanor. The present language states that "a person who violates this chapter" has committed a crime. This criminal provision should state what specific activity is made criminal, whether it is only practice without a license or, as an extreme example, whether it would be a crime for a social worker to breach confidentiality under 08.87.210.

The department also urges that Subsection (b) of 08.87.240 be set out as a separate section, as the Board's right to seek a civil injunction would be better placed separately from the criminal penalty provisions of the bill. Also, the department urges the amendment of 08.87.240 as follows, to clarify that the Board is not empowered to issue injunctive type orders:

- (b) The Board may apply to the Superior Court for an order enjoining [MAY SEEK TO ENJOIN OR RESTRAIN] a person not licensed under this chapter or whose license is suspended, revoked or expired from violating this chapter.

D. "Grandfathering"

The details of the waiver or "grandfathering" for present social workers are contained in Section 7 of the bill. The department urges that Section 7(a), specifically page 10, lines 26 and 27, be amended to read

... this act, a person may apply for and receive an original license, and subsequent license renewals, as a bachelor social worker if the person ...

The department urges the same change in the master social work language at Section 7(b), page 11, line 7.

In Subsection 7(a)(1), page 11, line 1, the department urges a definition of what is "a field related to social work" so that present social workers affected by the bill can know with certainty whether or not their degrees are considered as "related." Examples of degree fields which could be considered to be "related" to social work are: psychology, counselling and early childhood development. Much employee anxiety about the bill and much pressure on the first Social Work Board would be relieved by legislative determination of what related degrees would qualify for the "grandfather" licensing.

III. FINANCIAL IMPACT

The bill would require the state to bear the cost of creating a new board. It may be more efficient to expand the responsibility of the existing board of Psychologists and Psychiatrists to include social workers, and other therapists and counselors. The Division of Occupational Licensing obviously needs to be consulted to evaluate additional costs attached to the bill. The fees for licensing are costly and may financially impact non-profit contractors who, through their staff social workers, provide services to the state.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

The department supports the licensure of social workers in both the public and private sector as an additional method to monitor quality and to protect the public, although the department believes accommodation should be made for persons currently employed as social workers. There are many questions remaining about how to implement a licensing system in the social services area, questions that would benefit from further research and discussion.

RECOMMENDED: Michael L. Price
Michael L. Price, Director
Division of Family
and Youth Services

DATE: April 9, 1985

APPROVED: John R. Pugh
John R. Pugh, Commissioner
Department of Health
and Social Services

DATE: 4/9/85

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HB No. 317
 Title: An Act relating to the
practice of social work
 Sponsor: _____
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: 4-9-85

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Health and Social Services
 Program Category Affected: _____
Social Services
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____
Social Services BRU

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL		-0-				
REVENUE		-0-				

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
FULL-TIME		-0-				
PART-TIME		-0-				
TEMPORARY		-0-				

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared By: Michael L. Pr... Phone: 465-3170
 Division: Family and Youth Services Date: 4/9/85

Approved by Commissioner: John A. Poy Date: 4/9/85 JCC
 Agency: Health & Social Services

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

new bills

The Associated Press

JUNEAU — Here is a list of bills and resolutions introduced today, the 68th day of the first session of the 14th Alaska Legislature.

SENATE

• SB222: Relating to federal funding for correction programs; introduced by Sen. Jack Coghill, R-Nenana.

• SB244: Relating to the use of funds from the Unalutahatchi and Kookchik of the Alaska Permanent Fund for certain municipal aid programs; introduced by Sen. Jack Coghill, R-Nenana.

• SB245: Relating to the theft of commercial fishing gear; introduced by Sen. Fred Zharoff, D-Kodiak.

• SB246: Relating to the suspension and revocation of interim-use permits and limited entry permits; introduced by Sen. Fred Zharoff, D-Kodiak.

• SB247: Would extend the termination date of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission to June 30, 1985; introduced by Sen. Frank Ferguson, D-Kotzebue.

• SB248: Would authorize the Department of Health and Social Services to establish a sliding fee schedule for payment to certain low-income individuals; introduced by Sen. Pat Roday, D-Fairbanks.

• SB249: Would make a supplemental appropriation of \$325,000 to the Department of Community and Regional Affairs to operate the senior citizens homeowners property tax exemption program; introduced by Sen. Pat Roday, D-Fairbanks.

• SB250: Relating to a tax exemption for real property taxes, imposed in a way that enhances its appearance; introduced by Sen. Paul Flaherty, R-Kodiak, by request.

• SB251: Relating to regulation of the practice of psychology; introduced by Sen. Jay Kottus, D-Palmer.

• SB252: Relating to voter registration and application forms; introduced by Sen. Bill Flagg, D-Juneau.

HOUSE

• HB221: Relating to standard architectural and engineering designs; introduced by Rep. Mike Davis, R-Fairbanks.

• HB208: Relating to state support for education; introduced by Rep. Ron

Social workers voicing opposition to licensing legislature

By ROBB FULCHER
United Press International

JUNEAU — Professional social workers covered by the major state employees' union are coming out against a move in the legislature to require licensing of all social workers in Alaska.

A bill by Sen. Betty Fabrenkamp, D-Fairbanks, would require the social workers to be licensed by the state, and would set up a board made up primarily of social workers to determine who gets the licenses.

The costs of the program would be paid by licensing fees.

It would cost a social worker \$100 to apply for a license, as much as \$150 to receive the license itself, and \$200 to renew the license once every two years.

The Board of Social Worker Examiners, to be made up of four social workers and one public member who is a lay person, would not receive salaries but would be reimbursed for expenses such as travel costs.

To get a license, social workers would have to pass a state test, have a bachelor's degree in social work from an accredited school, and provide "three references acceptable

to the board."

Fabrenkamp said she introduced the bill at the request of the Alaska chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, whose members were concerned about maintaining the quality of social work in Alaska.

"In this particular state, hairdressers are licensed. Not to make fun of hairdressers, but it is interesting that we require a license for people who cut hair, but not for people who make important decisions that affect our daily lives," said Marsha Schneider, executive director of the Alaska chapter.

Schneider pointed out that social workers make decisions involving such essential matters as child protection and custody, and psychological care of nursing home residents.

Opposition to the bill is coming from among the 147 professional social workers employed by the state and covered by collective bargaining under the Alaska Public Employees Union, said Cherie Shelley, executive director of the union.

HB 317 - Relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Work Examiners and providing for an effective date.

Section Analysis

Alaska Chapter, National Association of Social Workers
House Labor & Commerce Committee
April 9, 1985

- Section 1 -States the purpose of the Act as the protection of the consumer of social work services by assuring that the title social worker is utilized by persons who have completed professional education, who adhere to a professional code of ethics and who are subject to review by the Board of Social Work Examiners
- Section 2 -Adds the Board of Social Work Examiners to AS 08.01.010
- Section 3 -Adds the Board of Social Work Examiners to AS 08.03.010(c)
- Article 1 -Creates the five member Board of Social Work Examiners consisting of three masters social workers, one bachelor social worker and one public member.
-Provides for two meetings a year of the Board of Social Work Examiners.
-Provides for the election of a Chair and Secretary by the Board of Social Work Examiners
-Provides for the removal of members of the Board of Social Work Examiners.
-Provides for per-diem and travel for members of the Board of Social Work Examiners.
-Relates to the Powers and Duties of the Board, including
-examination of eligible applicants
--submission of an annual report to the Governor
-establishing standards for specialty designations for the independent practice of social work
-imposition of disciplinary sanctions for violations of the Chapter
-promulgation of regulations relating to supervision of non-masters social workers licensed under the Chapter and for proof of continued competence
- Article 2 -Provides for the licensing of social workers as licensed bachelor social workers, licensed masters social workers and licensed independent social workers.
-Describes the scope of practice for social workers including description of the services which may be provided.
-Provides that psychotherapy may be practiced only by a licensed independent social worker with a clinical specialty or a master social worker employed and supervised in a clinical setting.
-Provides for the autonomous practice of social work in a specialized area.
-Provides for license by credentials.
-Provides for license renewal every two years.
-Provides for fees for application, initial license by examination and by credential as well as for license renewal and reexamination.

- Article 3
- Prohibits the use of the title social worker and/or of the use of the initials LBSW, LMSW or LISW unless licensed under this chapter.
 - Provides for the use of the title social work student or social work intern.
 - Provides for confidentiality of communications and identifies situations in which such confidentiality does not apply.
 - Identifies grounds for the imposition of disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed by the Board of Social Work Examiners.
 - Provides for the reinstatement of a license.
 - Provides that the violation of this chapter constitutes a Class B Misdemeanor.
- Article 4
- Provides for definitions.
 - Provides for appointment of members of the Board of Social Work Examiners by the Governor.
 - Provides for the initial staggering of terms of the members of the Board of Social Work Examiners.
 - Provides for the "grandparenting" of persons who hold a bachelors or masters degree in social work from a school not accredited by the Council on Social Work Education -or- who hold a bachelors or masters degree in a field related to social work -and- who are practicing under the title social worker for at least 24 consecutive months prior to July, 1987.
 - Permits the issuance of a license as a Bachelor Social Worker to persons so "grandparented".
 - Provides for the waiver of the examination for the original license to persons who otherwise meet the qualifications for licensure set out in the chapter.
 - Provides for an effective date.

M E M O R A N D U M

To: All Members, House Labor and Commerce Committee

From: Roger Poppe, Committee Staff

Date: April 9, 1985

Subject: Overview, HB 317: An Act relating to Social Work and establishing a Board of Social Work Examiners.

On April 9, at 1:15, the House Labor and Commerce Committee met on HB 317 in Room 102 of the Capitol Building.

This issue has been up before the legislature for the past 6 years in one form or another. During the last session, it appeared as SB 303 "Regulating the Practice of Social Work," by Josephson. This session, there is a piece of companion legislation to HB 317 in the Senate, which is SB 227 by Farhenkamp, by request of the Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

The general position of the administration is that they support the licensing of social workers. However, the Boards and Commissions office feels that this bill is not the vehicle to do it (in keeping with their general position of trying to reduce the number of boards), and would like to have the Social Workers licensed along with other behavioral science or social service professionals in one large board to be established through a legislative proposal, to be submitted next year.

We have precedent in our own state for this: Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors are 3 distinct professions with about 6 or 7 different categories of practitioners that operate successfully under one combined board, and the Board of Medicine has a much larger number of specialized fields that they serve and monitor in the medical community. We could consider an even more drastic step: the State of California has one full-time Centralized Occupational Licensing Board that handles licensing of all professionals. This is tremendously cost-effective, and is staffed by non-professionals, so that the interest that is served is the interest of the public consumers, not the individual professions.

The Dept. of Health and Social Services is supportive of the concept, but has problems with such issues as whether all practitioners shouldn't be "grandparented" in, not just a select few; whether the bill will make it more difficult for rural hire and local hire needs; and whether it might not be simpler to license practitioners by title only, not by practice or activity (in other words, by goals, and not by specific tasks), so that a broader range of people could be included. The range of people could go anywhere from 200-500 people, depending on how broad the definition is. Some of these problems will be covered in proposed amendments from the Department.

There are also 119 professional social workers currently employed by the state and covered by collective bargaining who are opposed to this legislation, and APEA will be here to represent their position.

ANALYSIS

SB 227

"An Act related to the practice of social workers and establishing a Board of Social Worker Examiners and providing for an effective date.

Page 1

Section 1. PURPOSE: Although the paragraph appears to be fine, we would offer one suggestion on line 13 should read "and are subject to licensure by the Board of Social Worker Examiners."

The term licensure would indicate review, control and responsibility for disciplinary sanctions.

Section 2. No Comment.

Section 3. Basically, the Administration opposes an additional board, however, with this section there is no remarkable comments.

Section 4. I think the initial comment in regard to the creation and membership of the board should be that if the board is going to be a board for licensing social workers, then the level of social workers should be equal and just. The authors of this bill include three master social workers, one of whom is an independent social worker, later definition will show that an independent social worker meets just an

additional term of supervision for post graduate experience approved by the board, the term is 24 months and I question how a board can be made up of an independent social worker if the board must initially approve the post work experience prior to one being termed an independent social worker, one bachelor social worker and one public member.

On a more appropriate makeup of a board, if the purpose is to assure the consumer that persons providing services under the title social worker have completed professional social work education and adhere to a code of professional ethics. Is not the code of ethics for the bachelor social worker the same as for the master social worker? The purpose does not indicate a level, but just in the overall regulating of social workers. A more appropriate makeup of a board might be two master level social workers, two bachelor level social workers, and one public member or better yet, one master level, one independent level, one bachelor level social worker and two public members. Beginning on Line 27, relates to the interest of the public members in the social worker profession. To be consistent with the other boards, the language may be suggested that the public members would have no financial interest in the social worker profession.

Page 2

On line 9, we have problems as an administrative agency budgeting for statements such as "the board may hold special meetings at the call of the chair or of a majority of the board members." We would prefer to see

that the exact number of meetings per year are embedded in statutes so we would have the statutory authority for budgeting purposes. It also makes it a lot easier for Legislators to comprehend.

Line 15, we would request that the statement "or the board may by regulations provide that unexcused absences from meetings are a cause for removal," should be changed to "the board shall or must by regulations provide"

Line 26, established standards for specialty designations for the private practice of social workers and authorize specialty designations on licenses issued under this chapter. We question whether this is entirely necessary and, if so, a number of specialities or their designation should be embedded in statutes that the board will not someday inflict upon the State numerous different specialties such as marriage and family therapists and the various other types of social worker problems that one might consider themselves as a specialists. We might also relate that this should be according to national standards.

Page 3

Line 3, we would agree that there might be some professions that need supervision, however, we believe that if there is a need to license social workers then it should be the responsibility of the board to ensure that a person going from a bachelor level social worker to a master level should be reviewed by the board and not under the

supervision of a master level. The two problems we see with this is that the potential for master levels not endorsing bachelor levels because of an economic sanction or turf protection or as we have in the psychology field where supervision can be done by phone. Is this an appropriate method of supervision? We doubt that it is.

On line 8, item number 7, we oppose the wording "adopt regulations to carry out the purpose of this chapter." We are consistently advised by the Legislators that there is too many regulations being adopted that there is regulations superceding or circumventing legislative authority, however, when you have statements that say 'adopt regulations to carry out the purpose of this chapter,' gives the board the statutory authority and the mandated function to involve themselves in numerous regulation projects.

The following comments will deal with Article 2, licensing of social workers.

We would have problems with line 14 when it says "is fit to practice" Again the board term of fit to practice left up to regulations by the board could lead us into turf protection failing to license those that are competent and a lax definition of fit. We would request that the word "fit" be changed to "qualified" as specified on line 19. We would also have problems with one who is possibly in professional competition identifying what is a good professional standard. Not that the fact that they could not identify what a good professional standing

is, however, what are they referring to as "is in good professional standing."

Line 18, provide three references acceptable to the board. They would submit that at the start of the licensing the board is going to have enough work to do to identify what is acceptable. I believe the word "acceptable" should be removed and in place should be the statement "(3) provides three professional references to the board."

Line 25, we would need to ask the question, what is the Council on Social Work Education and what is the accrediting authority? At the current time of this writing, that is unknown.

Beginning on page 3, line 27, which is the start of the licensed independent social worker section, we would oppose this. We believe that, if we are going to license social workers and we are going to further break it down as master, independent, and baccalaureate levels, we should not break it down further because someone is a private practitioner. Thereby, is it necessary for the definition of an independent social worker, we think not. We think from a governmental standpoint, the important aspect is that we are licensed and qualified competent social workers. We have sent copies of this legislation to members of the Board of Psychology requesting an evaluation of what the social worker or the drafters deemed to be appropriate for the scope of practice.

Beginning on line 28 of page 4, we would oppose the position that a as

listed under (c) a person may practice social work autonomously only if (1) the person is licensed as an independent social worker. We question the motive and why could not a master level social worker, which is apparently endorsed in accredited schools as being a competent level to practice in the public, why must it be an "additional title" of independent social worker.

Page 4.

Beginning on line 1, we are concerned that the board would have too much authority over too many different areas and could ultimately lead to the verification of turf protection, economic sanctions and possibly even antitrust complaints.

Line 7, we would suggest that this be deleted.

Line 25, we do not believe that this is an appropriate subject _____ licensing by credentials. It is not that we are saying we don't believe competent practitioners should be required to produce that evidence, however, in licensing by credential is a means to immediately or expeditiously license practitioners that meet certain requirements. The factor of proof of continued competency is normally between initial license and renewals.

On line 29 in place of "lapses after 24 months," would require additional

staff to maintain a suspense file to see that each applicant is licensed 24 months after the date they are initially issued.

Page 6.

We would like to make known to the sponsors that we are presently supporting House Bill 78, which will have a new section AS 08.01.065 which will provide that the department will set the fees by regulations after concurrence by the board affected.

Line 25, Section 08.87.210, Confidentiality of Communications.

We have consistently had concerns where professions such as psychologists and social workers would enter a confidentiality of communications requirements on the books and does not provide when a practitioner violates a client. An example of this is one practitioner having some type of unauthorized physical contact with a patient, the patient ultimately goes to the second practitioner, she reports this type of conduct, the second practitioner advises this agency of the conduct, however, he refuses to identify the practitioner in the first instances, and he also refuses to identify his client. This then sets the division and the State at liability that we cannot take any action against the practitioner because we don't know or are not informed of the identity. I believe in this portion of the bill, some wording should be indicated that would provide a practitioner who brings unethical conduct to the attention of the division or the board should have the sanction of the

board and also the courts in his efforts prevent abusive clients. For lack of a better word, the practitioner reporting the unethical conduct should be immune from any civil liabilities. This, of course, is a danger if the alleged complaints are not substantiated to the degree that action could be taken against an offending practitioner and ultimately because of lack of proof the case goes unsatisfied.

On page 7 at line 12, there appears to be this implication which says the social worker reveals communication only during the course of an official examination, trial or other proceedings. I would require that the drafters of this legislation identify what is considered an official examination. Even though this agency does official enquiries in the performance of its function, they have sometime been classified as not meeting the standards of an official examination. I think this should be spelled out in advance so all would be aware.

The purpose alleged by the solicitors of the legislation is for the consumer protection and that I think consumer protection should be built into this portion of the bill, that the practitioner should submit themselves to the board's authority and wholeheartedly and without any hesitation. A recommendation might be to add a number (9) which says "the social worker shall reveal a communications to members of the board during an interview or their designated representatives during an official inquiry for the board or on behalf of the board.

Beginning on line 5, I would ask that there be a clearer definition as to what section 4 would indicate. They have too many vague and board statements and words in relation to this one particular paragraph that says "has been convicted of a crime that has a substantial relationship to the licensees' activities and services or that affects the licensees' ability to continue to practice competently and safely." Definition would need to be obtained in regard to substantial relationship, licensees' activities and services, and practice competently and safely.

Beginning on line 8, item 5, a definition must be obtained for minimum professional standards. Are these to be set by the board or are we following some national accreditation associations' definitions?

Page 10, Article 4, General Provision.

Line 11, section 6, within 30 days, we will recommend that this be changed to 90 or 120 days giving the Governor's Office sufficient time to look at and appoint qualified board members. We would also recommend that our comments as addressed in the previous chapter dealing with the makeup be inserted here. Our recommendation would be three social workers consisting of a master, an independent and a baccalaureate level and two public members. If that is not agreeable, then either two baccalaureate members and two master levels with one lay person.

Beginning with section 7, line 25, on page 10 and continuing on page 11,

we would oppose that entire section unless it was rewritten. Indications in the section itself says that the Board of Social Worker Examiners are going out in the field to anyone and I suggest as a basis for this statement is on line 28 of page 10 the statement is made "(1) holds a degree in social work from a school with a social work program that is not accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or a bachelor's or master's degree in a field related to social work and has been practicing under the title social worker for at least 24 consecutive months before July 1, 1987; or" this statement in effect appears to be an effort to increase the numbers in this licensed profession. If we are saying that it is necessary to license social workers for the protection of the consumer, then we should be prepared to limit our licensing function to those social workers that are in effect at the time this bill goes in to become law. We also take exception when they use a word "that hold a master or bachelor degree in a field related to social work and has been practicing under the title social worker." The problem there is that there is many counselors out there that identify themselves as social workers. They can at this point in time since there is no licensing requirement in this State and they would not be breaking any law. Does the Board of Social Worker Examiners then consider them the appropriate people to carry the title of social worker and be licensed by the State of Alaska? We would be disagree with this proposition.

Page 11, beginning on line 4, this is apparently an effort for the grandfathering clause. The legislation should identify criteria as established by the proposers of this legislation that meets acceptable

standards nationwide for the initial licensing. Those persons holding those qualifications on the date the bill becomes affective should be the ones that are grandfathered in not applications for licensing to be received before July 1 1987 which is in excess of two years down the road. The grandfathering clause should terminate on July 1, 1986.

This bill is in opposition to the Administration's position of proliferation or endorsing of more professional licensing boards. I submit that the major and most important question is, has the consumers come in requesting this profession become licensed or has any governmental agency been involved with complaints from consumers that have been abused by those holding themselves out to be social workers? The answer to both of those questions is in the negative.

Reviewing this bill, it is apparent that the profession who now numbers approximately 315 to this agencies' knowledge, of those 138 are State employees. All information that has been obtained by this agency is that social workers employed by the State of Alaska do not desire to be licensed. We also have received information that the employees' union for the State, APEA, has also been in contact with the sponsors' office expressing this concern. It would be our position that Alaskans receiving the benefits by a State agency in the form of social work or counseling are of a lower income class then what would be found for the clients utilizing social workers in the general public sphere. Based on this, we would endorse that State employees practicing and being paid a salary as social workers should also be required to meet the licensing

standards. It is not necessarily the agencies' position that State employees should be required to pay a licensing fee, but just that they meet adopted standards. We feel that service provided by the State should be equal to if not better than that provided by the private sector, or that would be a goal that we would look to.

We will also encourage State employees become licensed as social workers if a fee needs to be charged that can be written off by the State or an RSA funding by the State and that license could only be used for State business. Once the employee leaves the State, then that license must be surrendered. We would also take the approach that if employees are not licensed two complications arise; (1) do the clients have an avenue of redress, the answer to that is apparently yes, however, is the expertise in the Office of the Ombudsman or in the supervisor of the employee for fair relief for the clients. For the Ombudsman's office the answer would be no, for the supervisor it would be yes.

We also have some concerns that there are a number of counselor type occupations or professions out there and we are deeply concerned as to whether they should not all be brought under a scenario of the Board of Psychology and Psychological Associates, we are aware that the participants or movers of this legislation are adverse to that. However, we have to be concerned with the other numerous individual and separate fields that might also seek licensing and again would be confronted with the proliferation of boards of like substance. The Board of Social Worker Examiners could very easily fit under the Board of Psychology and

Psychological Associates, the board size could possibly be increased to seven and you would still have the expertise on the board available to judge licenses and applications.

HDT/wfs1915W31985a

March 9, 1934

Ms. Marsha Schneider
Executive Director
National Association of
Social Workers
Alaska Chapter
P.O. Box 10430
Fairbanks, AK 99710

Dear Ms. Schneider:

I would like to respond to your recent correspondence related to the licensing of social workers in Alaska. I have received several letters from mental health professionals urging my support of SB 303 sponsored by Senator Josephson that establishes a standard of training and conduct for social workers practicing in Alaska. It also creates a new State board for the purposes of licensing and disciplinary action.

From the aspect of consumer protection, the overall concept of licensing social workers in Alaska is something that certainly appears to have merit at this time. However, my concern about the rapid proliferation of State boards, commissions, authorities, councils, and other advisory bodies is something that I have addressed numerous times since I was elected.

We are conducting an extensive research project on all public advisory bodies that currently exist by statute. That review has not been completed. However, preliminary results lead me to believe that Alaska has a history of creating boards and commissions without a great deal of thought given to optional ways of providing the function intended other than for the creation and continued maintenance of a board. I have stated my concern about the growing number of boards and commissions in a policy statement which I have enclosed with this letter.

I have been informed by my staff that this policy has been articulated to your representatives who have discussed this matter with my office, and that an offer of assistance has been made by my staff to explore optional ways of achieving licensure without the creation of a new licensing board at this time.

CAROL

March 9, 1984

I hope that all options will be explored mutually before SB 303 comes to my desk for signature. In the meantime, I have noted that support has been expressed from persons I hold in high regard for SB 303.

Sincerely,

Bill Sheffield
Governor

Enclosure

cc: Senator Joe Josephson
Alaska State Legislature

Gary Lichtenstein, Chairman
Licensing Committee
National Association of
Social Workers

Cecilia Kleinkauf, Chairperson
Social Policy and Action
Committee

bcc: Senator Jalmar Kerttula
Senator Vic Fischer
Senator John Sackett
Commissioner Richard Lyon
Commissioner Robert L. Smith
Marsha Hubbard, Office of
the Governor
Harry Treager, DCED
Jana Varrotti

BS:CAD:kk/1



ALASKA
CHAPTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
SOCIAL WORKERS

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

January 19, 1984

RECEIVED
JAN 21 1984

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

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

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
Mergie Dohrman, ACSW
Anchorage

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

1983-84
Gary Lichtenstein, ACSW
Anchorage

Northern Representative:
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Nettie Dean Scott, MSW
McGrath

Southeastern Representative:
1982-84
Diane Bachan, ACSW
Sitka

At Large: 1982-84
CeCe 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

ms:ms

LANGDON PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC

PSYCHIATRY

ARTHUR S. WILF, M.D., F.A.P.A.
JAMES R. MCGUIRE, M.D.
JERRY L. SCHRADER, M.D.
ELINOR E. WEEKS, M.D.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

JAMES F. HARPER, Ph.D.
BRUCE N. SMITH, Ph.D.
MARILYN L. WILSON, Ph.D.

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK

NICKI J. NIELSEN, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
HELEN CRAIG, M.S.W., A.L.S.W.
DONALD SPARROW, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
RANDALL JONES, M.A.
ELIZABETH ROBINSON, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.

READING THERAPY

JANET SHERWOOD, M.Ed.

Anchorage Office
4001 Dale Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
(907) 561-1361

Valley Office
Wasilla Village Center
Suite 202
Wasilla, Alaska 99687
MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. Box 871767
(907) 376-2447

December 21, 1983

Gary W. Lichtenstein, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.,
Chairman
Licensure Committee
Alaska State Chapter
National Association of Social Workers
211 N Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

The Board of Directors of the Langdon Psychiatric Clinic wishes to express to you its strong support for the proposed SB 303, "An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Work Examiners; and providing for an effective date."

As mental health professionals, we are concerned first of all with protecting the public by specifying minimum standards of preparation for anyone practicing in Alaska, in whatever setting, under the title of "social worker." We believe it appropriate and necessary to provide consumers of social services, as is already done for nursing, medical and clinical psychological services, with access to investigative and adjudicative procedures, through a regulatory body, supported by effective penalties for offending practitioners, thus assuring accountability to the public.

We also see licensure as essential in order to protect privileged communication between professional social workers and their clients. Such confidentiality is not at this time protected by regulation.

Since a majority of states do have licensing of social workers, an Alaska license will help assure that uniform standards of social work practice exist from state to state. This will better serve the consumer, and allow reciprocity to the licensed professional. We believe it would assist Alaska agencies in recruiting qualified social workers from other states--important in that Alaska does not offer social work training at the Master's level.

LANGDON PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC

PSYCHIATRY

ARON S. WOLF, M.D., F.A.P.A.
JAMES R. McGUIRE, M.D.
JERRY L. SCHRADER, M.D.
ELINOR E. WEEKS, M.D.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

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MARILYN L. WILSON, Ph.D.

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK

NICKI J. NIELSEN, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
HELEN CRAIG, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
DONALD SPARROW, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.
RANDALL JONES, M.A.
ELIZABETH ROBINSON, M.S.W., A.C.S.W.

READING THERAPY

JANET SHERWOOD, M.Ed.

Anchorage Office
4001 Dale Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
(907) 561-1361

Valley Office
Wasilla Village Center
Suite 202
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January 3, 1984

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

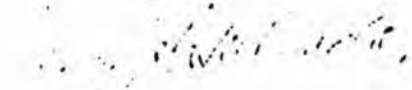
Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

Members of the Board of Directors of the Langdon Psychiatric Clinic have already expressed to you their strong support for the proposed SB 303, "An Act relating to the practice of social work and establishing the Board of Social Work Examiners; and providing for an effective date." We, the other members of the Langdon Clinic professional staff, wish to express to you our full agreement with this position.

As practitioners in the field of mental health, we are well aware of the need for protecting the users of social services by specifying training standards for persons working under the title "social worker." We also see constantly the need for protection of privileged communication between professional social workers and their clients. We are concerned about the need to make possible third party payment for social work services through licensure of professional social workers.

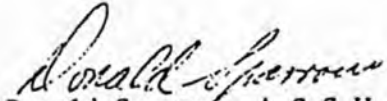
We hope Alaska will soon match the majority of other states in establishing such licensure.

Sincerely,


Jerry L. Schrader, M.D.


Elinor Weeks, M.D.


Bruce N. Smith, Ph.D.


Donald Sparrow, A.C.S.W.



AKEELA HOUSE INCORPORATED

December 13, 1983

Mr. Gary Lichtenstein
Chairman
Licensing Committee-NASW
211 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

REF: SENATE BILL #303

Dear Gary:

This letter is being written in support of licensing social workers in Alaska.

It is agreed that the only way to ensure that persons providing services are capable is to establish minimum standards for practice. In order to provide competent social work services, professional education should be required.

If we can be of further service in supporting you on licensing of social workers in Alaska please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C-Joe".

C-Joe DiMatteo
Executive Director

CJD:dl

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.

OHLSON PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES
4045 LAKE OTIS PARKWAY, SUITE 201
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504
—
TELEPHONE (907) 274-3668

RONALD W. OHLSON, PH.D.
DIPLOMATE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
AMERICAN BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

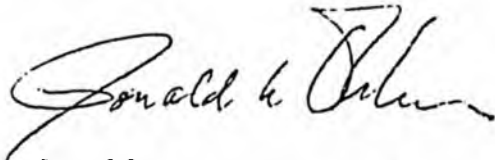
November 27, 1983

National Association of Social Workers
Alaska Chapter
c/o Marsha Schneider
Executive Director
PO Box 10430
Fairbanks, Ak. 99710

Dear Ms. Schneider:

I personally endorse the efforts of Alaskan social workers to establish licensure legislation. It is my contention that licensing of clinical professional social workers provides uniform standards of education, training and performance that best serve to protect the public.

Sincerely,



Ronald W. Ohlson, Ph.D.

RWO/jc



NORTH STAR COUNCIL ON AGING, INC.

P.O. BOX 73888 • FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707

AREA CODE 907-452-1735

November 28, 1983

Marsha Schneider, MSW
Executive Director
Alaska Chapter - N.A.S.W.
P.O. Box 10430
Fairbanks, Alaska 99710

Dear Marsha:

We have received your letter of November 15th with reference to the "bill to license social workers".

As a provider of services to the elderly exclusively, North Star Council on Aging, Inc., has long been concerned about the lack of license for this particular profession. Many of our clients are particularly vulnerable at this particular time in their lives and there have been occasions in the past when we have been aware of an incompetent service rendered by someone who classified himself as a social worker. We, as a service provider, as well as our clientele rely heavily on the assistance of a social worker whose competency has been examined and certified by a qualified Board of Examiners.

We are, therefore, pleased to endorse the concept of social work licensure particularly as outlined in SB 303 as well as the amendments approved at a HESS Committee meeting June 3, 1983. You have our permission to duplicate our endorsement to any individual legislators you deem helpful in securing the passage of this bill.

With our best wishes, we remain

Sincerely,

Genevieve Reininger
Executive Director

GR:s

Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center

209 Forty Mile Ave., Graehl • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Phone (907) 452-1575

November 22, 1983

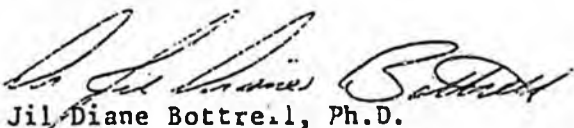
Marsha Schneider, MSW
National Association of Social Workers
P.O. Box 10430
Fairbanks, Alaska 99710

Dear Ms. Schneider:

I am writing this letter to support the efforts of the National Association of Social Workers to obtain licensure for social workers in the State of Alaska. As a licensed psychologist, and one involved in the establishment and maintenance of licensure practices in my field, I am in a position to recognize the necessity for licensure for mental health professionals in general, and for social workers in particular. My specific concern is to be able to maintain the quality of social work services provided, and to establish a process for consumer protection against unethical practices by mental health professionals. I have served on the Ethics Committee of State Psychological Associations and on the Board of Examiners for Psychologists in Maine, and I strongly support the development of a complaint process in cases of alleged misconduct by professionals. In my ten years of work as a professional psychologist, I have seen the efficacy of social work and the contribution of social workers in the mental health field in a variety of settings, and hope that the Alaska legislature will assist social workers in their important contribution by providing a mechanism for licensure in Alaska.

If I can be of any service in testifying in behalf of licensure, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jil Diane Bottrell, Ph.D.
Director
Fairbanks Community Mental Health Center

JDB:cj



National Association of Social Workers
Attention: Susan Johnson
P.O. Box 10430
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

December 9, 1983

Dear Ms. Johnson:

We at Women in Crisis feel that there should be set standards for Social Workers. Licensing will assure uniform standards of social work practice from state to state. An enforceable code of professional conduct will provide consumers protection.

The quality of human services will be further developed by setting standards for social work practitioners. We support the Senate Bill No. 303 which will establish a board of Social Worker examiners who will set social work standards.

Sincerely,

Trish Livingston
Trish Livingston
Program Manager
for Women in Crisis



Heritage House

3925 East 9th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 338-0542

A Charitable Operation of Alaska Semi-Supportive Homes, An Alaskan Non-Profit Corporation

Robert O. Christoffersen, Executive Director
Edith M. Christoffersen, Deputy Director

December 8, 1983

Gary Lichtinstine
ACSW, NASW
211 H St.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Sir,

The Board of Directors have instructed me to convey to you that we of Alaska Semi-Supportive Homes Inc., do support the legislation that has been put forth to license Social Workers with-in the State of Alaska.

Our feelings are that this is much needed legislation to insure that those people that are recipients of the service are receiving the best service that can be provided in their best interest.

Respectfully,

Robert O. Christoffersen
Robert O. Christoffersen

Director

cc file

THE COUNSELING CENTER
101 EAST NINTH AVENUE No. 7
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

279-5441

December 16, 1983

Millie Andreini, M.S.W.
Jon F. Burke, Ph.D.
Betty Morgan Burt, M.Ed.
William G. Campbell, M.D.
Alfred Collins, Ph.D.
Mary Dall, M.S.W.
Karen S. Dixon, M.S.
Catherine Dunn, M.D.
Patricia Mangiardi, ACSW
Patricia C. Patrick, M.D.
Thomas M. Robinson, Ph.D.

Gary Lichtenstein, ACSW, Chair,
Alaska Chapter, NASW, Licensing Committee
211 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

The Counseling Center endorses legislation which provides for the licensure of social workers and supports Senate Bill No. 303. As a group of professional mental health care providers we are well aware of the importance of licensure of social workers in Alaska.

Licensing social workers will not only help the general public to identify qualified practitioners of social work, but will help to insure quality standards for social work practice.

We understand that Senate Bill No. 303 was introduced during the 1983 Legislature. We urge passage of this legislation during the 1984 Legislature.

Sincerely,

Jon F. Burke
Jon F. Burke, Ph.D.
William G. Campbell
William G. Campbell, M.D.
Alfred Collins, Ph.D.
Alfred Collins, Ph.D.

Mary Dall
Mary Dall, M.S.W.

Karen Dixon, M.S.
Karen Dixon, M.S.

Catherine Dunn, M.D.
Catherine Dunn, M.D.

Patricia Mangiardi
Patricia Mangiardi, ACSW

Patricia C. Patrick
Patricia C. Patrick, M.D.

Thomas M. Robinson, Ph.D.
Thomas M. Robinson, Ph.D.

Millie Andreini
Millie Andreini, M.S.W.



THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

December 20, 1983

Mr. Gary Lichtenstein, A.C.S.W., Chair
Alaska Chapter, NASW Licensing Committee
211 'H' Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

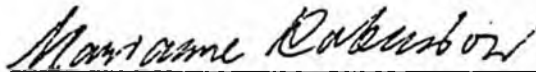
The Anchorage Child Abuse Board, Inc. is the Board of Directors for the Center for Children and Parents and Intermission, a crisis nursery for children who may be the victims of child abuse or neglect. We are very interested in quality services for children, parents, and families. Social workers provide many such services in Anchorage and throughout Alaska.

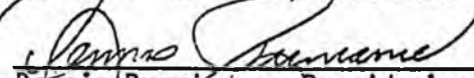
We are aware that legislation which will provide licensure for social workers was introduced during the 1983 Legislature. We endorse such legislation and support Senate Bill No. 303. Licensure of social workers will help to assure quality human services by setting standards for social work practitioners. Licensure also aids the consumer in indentifying qualified social work practitioners.

We trust that legislators will take steps to pass legislation which will provide licensure for social workers in the interest of quality human services as well as consumer protection.

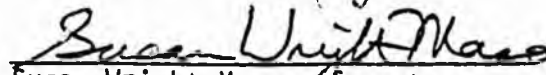
Sincerely,

Anchorage Child Abuse Board, Inc.


Marianne Robinson, President


Dennis Purviance, President-elect


Dick Angell, Treasurer


Susan Wright Mason, Secretary

△ Administrative Offices (907) 278-4558
1577 'C' Street 99501

△ Spenard Center (907) 243-5411
3944 Spenard 99503

△ Transitional Living Center (907) 338-7819
921 E. 10th Ave. 99501

△ Mat-Su Community (907) 376-2411
Counseling Center
Wasilla Business Park
Box 656
Wasilla, Alaska 99687



△ Parent Training Center (907) 272-1722
1844 W. Northern Lights 99503

△ Day Break Center (907) 272-3854
Adult Day Care
1100 W. 10th 99501

△ Annex Center (907) 276-5400
1020 E. 4th Ave. 99501

△ Central Mailing:
Pouch 3759 ECB
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Gary W. Vreeman, Ph.D.
Executive Director

December 28, 1983

Marsha Schneider, M.S.W.
Executive Director
Alaska Chapter
National Association of Social Workers
P.O. Box 10430
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Ms. Schneider:

The Board of Directors and clinical staff of the Anchorage Community Mental Health Center wish to express our support for the licensing of social workers at the State level. There are a number of reasons why we favor the proposed licensure bill but two stand out as being of particular importance to us.

First, our clinical staff is involved in making evaluations and recommendations involving commitments to mental hospitals (SB 100, Section 47-30915[11]). Clinical social workers are the only ones in a group of professions designated for this role who are not yet licensed by the State.

Second, if our clinical social workers were licensed, we would be able to collect many more third party payments than we now can, enhancing our ability to support ourselves as an agency and making us less dependent on State funding. With Federal and State support of agencies such as ours continually declining, the issue of third party payments has become critical.

You have our enthusiastic support for the amended version of Senate Bill 303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Hotchkiss".

James Hotchkiss, Ph.D.
President, Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glade Birch".

Glade Birch, Ph.D.
Executive Director

AS/JH/GB/kw

Anchorage, Alaska

12

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 * DELIVER TO: JFOM *
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 * *
 * ORIGINAL *
 * SENT: 03/29/85 TIME: 14:03 *
 * FROM: MICKI HENSON *
 * SUBJECT: POM *
 * PRINT DATE: 03/29/85 TIME: 14:04 *
 * *

TO: SENATE H.E.S.S COMMITTEE

SENATORS FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI, P. FISCHER, DEVRIES,
JOSEPHSON

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER, KOPONEN, PEARCE,
COLLINS, HANLEY

RE: HB 337 , SB 227- LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

I AM IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
LICENSING BILL TO FULLY INSURE STANDARDS AND QUALITY OF SERVICE
TO EACH INDIVIDUAL

PLEASE NOTE THIS WAS SENT PREVIOUSLY WITH NO SENDER LISTED.

TO: SENATE H.E.S.S COMMITTEE

SENATORS FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI, P. FISCHER, DEVRIES,
JOSEPHSON

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER, KOPONEN, PEARCE,
COLLINS, HANLEY

FROM: DONNA STONE
PO BOX 110795
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99511 PHONE: 562-4792

RE: HB 337 , SB 227- LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

I AM IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
LICENSING BILL TO FULLY INSURE STANDARDS AND QUALITY OF SERVICE
TO EACH INDIVIDUAL

* DELIVER TO. LIOJ
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 03/28/85 TIME 14:34
* FROM: VERNITA VESTAL
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 03/28/85 TIME: 14:35
*****8*****

TO: HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE:
REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER,
KOPONEN, FEARCE, COLLINS, AND HANLEY

FROM: EILEEN LALLY
200 W 34TH, #427
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503 (H) 274-1233

RE: HB 317-LICENSING SOCIAL WORKERS

I SUPPORT THAT BILL AS A SOCIAL WORKER AND I AM ASKING PLEASE GET
IT OUT OF HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE AND TO A FULL HOUSE
HEARING THIS SESSION.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
* *
* *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 04/05/85 TIME: 10:31 *
* FROM: HARRY MANDREGAN *
* SUBJECT: POM *
* PRINT DATE: 04/05/85 TIME: 10:31 13 *
* *

TO: SENATE HESS COMMITTEE, SENATORS FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI, PAUL FISCHER, DEVRIES AND JOSEPHSON
HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER, KOPONEN, PEARCE, COLLINS AND HANLEY

FROM: KEN TAYLOR
7330 CHRISTOPHER CIRCLE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99507
HOME NO.: 344-9271
WORK NO.: 561-1633

RE: SB 227 - LICENSING SOCIAL WORKERS AND HB 317 - LICENSING SOCIAL WORKERS

I WOULD LIKE TO STATE MY SUPPORT THE SOCIAL WORK LICENSE BILL. PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE DIRECT IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF OTHERS SHOULD BE GOVERNED AND SHOULD BE ACCOUNTABLE TO SOME LICENSED BOARD. LICENSING IS IMPERATIVE IN ANY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
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* *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 04/04/85 TIME: 14:50 *
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO *
* SUBJECT: POM *
* PRINT DATE: 04/04/85 TIME: 14:50 *
* *

TO: HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE

REP. NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER, KOPONEN, PEARCE, COLLINS,
HANLEY

FROM: ELEANOR PATELLA, 3401 TURNAGAIN, #6, ANCHORAGE, 99503,
248-7475(HM), 786-1766(WK)

RE: HB 317, SOCIAL WORK LICENSING

I URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL WORK LICENSING. LICENSING WILL
ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR MONITORING ETHICAL PRACTICE AND ENSURING
MINIMAL TRAINING FOR SOCIAL WORK JOBS.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
* * *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 04/05/85 TIME: 08:51 *
* FROM: VERNITA VESTAL *
* SUBJECT: PDM *
* PRINT DATE: 04/05/85 TIME: 08:51 *
* * *

TO: HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
REP. NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER,
KOPONEN, PEARCE, COLLINS, HANLEY

SENATE HESS COMMITTEE
SEN. FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI, P. FISCHER,
DEVRIES, JOSEPHSON,

FROM: BARBARA VARRAHER
7231 KISKA CIRCLE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99504 (H) 338-1167

RE: HB 317-SB 227 - SOCIAL WORK LICENSING

PLEASE HEAR AND SUPPORT HB 317 AND SB 227 TO INSTITUTE SOCIAL
WORK LICENSING. ASSURING QUALITY OF CARE TO SOCIAL WORK CLIENTS.

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM
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*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 04/04/85 TIME: 13:41
* FROM: JEAN MILLER
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 04/04/85 TIME: 13:41
*

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - SENATORS FAHRENKAMP,
STURGULEWSKI, DE VRIES, FISCHER, AND JOSEPHSON

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, ~~SENATOR~~ NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER,
COLLINS, HANLEY, KOPONEN, AND PEARCE

CAROL NISSEN
12900 GAIL ST,
ANCHORAGE 99515 H) 345-0150

SUBJECT: SB 227 AND HB 517, SOCIAL WORK LICENSING

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT LICENSING OF SOCIAL WORKERS OCCUR TO ASSURE
THE CONSUMER AS WELL AS THE PROFESSION THAT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF
TRAINING HAVE BEEN MET. MASTERS IN OTHER FIELDS DO NOT HAVE THE
SAME COURSE WORK AND ONLY REQUIRE 37 HOURS AS OPPOSED TO 64 HOURS
REQUIRED BY SOCIAL WORK.

PRIMARY DISTRIBUTION	DATE/TIME SENT
JPOM	04/04/85 13:41
LIOA	04/04/85 13:41

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
* *
* *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 04/04/85 TIME: 15:24 *
* FROM: LIOA *
* SUBJECT: POM *
* PRINT DATE: 04/04/85 TIME: 15:25 *
* *

TO: SENATE HESS COMMITTEE
SENATORS FAHRENKAMP, STURGULEWSKI, P. FISCHER, DEVRIES AND
JOSEPHSON

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVES NAVARRE, DAVIS, BOUCHER, KOPONEN, PEARCE,
COLLINS AND HANLEY

FROM: PATRICIA MANGIARDI
14800 LOCKLOMAN LANE
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99516 PHONE: 345-0158

RE: HB 317 AND SB 277-SOCIAL WORK LICENSING

I ENCOURAGE THE PASSAGE OF HB 317 AND SB 277 FOR LICENSURE OF
SOCIAL WORKERS.

May 9, 1985

Commissioner Loren H. Lounsbury
Department of Commerce and Economic Development
Pouch D
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Commissioner:

In the course of hearings that were held in the House Labor and Commerce Committee on HB 317 (Establishing a Board of Social Work Examiners, by Koponen), Harry Traeger and Jennifer Strickland provided testimony on behalf of the Division of Occupational Licensing.

They made a distinction between licensing, registration, credentialling, and certification of professional occupations which I found interesting. I would therefore like to obtain more information from your Department on the similarities and differences between these three approaches. In particular, I would like to know the following:

- 1) A list of occupational programs where you are currently doing or have planned to do registration or certification in place of licensing (along with the forms used and any statistical or other data you may have on these registration or certification programs);
- 2) A list of occupational programs, if any such exist, where you are doing licensing or credentialling along with registration or certification (with pertinent data);
- 3) A brief description of the differences between licensing, credentialling, registration, and certification; which compares and contrasts such things as: a) information on fees or other related costs (if any), b) academic course requirements, c) academic degrees needed, d) problems with insurance coverage for each category, e) whether covered by statutes or by regulations e) any other legal or practical differences that may be relevant.

I am interested in looking at these differences because of the light they may shed on possibly distinguishing para-professionals from

professionals on current and future occupational licensing bills in our
Committee.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Representative Mike Navarre, Chairman
House Labor and Commerce Committee

MN/rp

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

POUCH D
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: (907) 465-2534

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

May 23, 1985

The Honorable Mike Navarre, Chairman
House Labor and Commerce Committee
House of Representatives
P.O. Box E
Kenai, Alaska 99611

Dear Representative Navarre:

I was asked to respond to your letter directed to Commissioner Loren Lounsbury regarding licensure, registration, credentialing, and certification of professional occupations.

The information you requested would require an extensive research project through licensing statutes in Title 8 to provide a thorough background (i.e., academic course requirements, academic degrees, problems with insurance coverage).

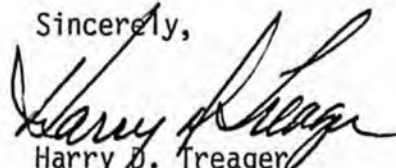
Mr. Roger Poppe was provided numerous information regarding occupational regulation by governmental agencies during the legislative session. Additional information should also be on file and available through the Legislative Research Agency.

Enclosed you will find:

1. a list of occupational functions and the method of regulation;
2. a list of occupational licensing functions which have provisions for credentialing, etc.;
3. definition of licensing certification, registration, and other licensing terms (i.e., credentials, reciprocity, comity, endorsement).

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed material, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



Harry D. Treager
Director

HDT/1t3065t
Enclosures
052285a

cc: Terry Elder, Deputy Commissioner

METHOD OF REGULATION
LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION
 (Permits and Authorizations)

<u>BOARD/TRADE:</u>	<u>AUTHORITY:</u>	<u>METHOD:</u>	<u>FUNCTION PRESENTLY TREATED AS</u>
<u>Athletic Commission:</u>	AS 05.10.060	Licensure	Registration
1. Boxers	"	"	"
2. Trainers	"	"	"
3. Referees	"	"	"
4. Seconds	"	"	"
5. Promoters	"	"	"
6. Managers	"	"	"
7. Physicians	"	"	"
<u>AELS:</u>	AS 08.48.171	Registration	Licensure
8. Architects	"	"	"
9. Electrical Engineers	"	"	"
10. Mechanical Engineers	"	"	"
11. Civil Engineers	"	"	"
12. Mining Engineers	"	"	"
13. Chemical Engineers	"	"	"
14. Petroleum Engineers	"	"	"
15. EIT Applicants	"	"	"
16. Land Surveyors	"	"	"
17. LSIT Applicants	"	"	"
18. Corporate Authorizations	AS 08.48.241	Authorization	Registration
<u>Barbers & Hairdressers:</u>	AS 08.13.100	Licensure	
19. Barbers	"	"	
20. Hairdressers	"	"	
21. Cosmetologists	"	"	
22. Hairdresser/Cosmetologists	"	"	
23. School Owners	AS 08.13.120	Licensure	
24. Shop Owners	"	"	
25. Schools	AS 08.13.110	Licensure	
26. Barber Instructors	AS 08.13.185(3)	(No criteria, however, they receive a license)	
27. Hairdresser Instructors	"	"	
28. <u>Chiropractors:</u>	AS 08.20.110	Licensure	
29. <u>Collection Agencies:</u>	AS 08.24.130	Licensure	
30. Operators	AS 08.24.120	Licensure	
<u>Contractors:</u>	AS 08.18.011	Registration	
31. Specialty	"	"	
32. General	"	"	

<u>BOARD/TRADE:</u>	<u>AUTHORITY:</u>	<u>METHOD:</u>	<u>FUNCTION PRESENTLY TREATED AS</u>
33. <u>Concert Promoters:</u>	AS 08.92.010	Registration	
<u>Dental:</u>			
34. Dentists	AS 08.36.100	Licensure	
35. Dental Specialists	AS 08.36.246	Licensure	
36. Dental Hygienists	AS 08.32.010	Licensure	
37. Local Anesthetic	12 AAC 28.320	Certification	
<u>Dispensing Opticians:</u>			
38. Spectacles	AS 08.71.080	Licensure	
39. Contacts	"	"	
40. Both	"	"	
<u>Electrical Administrators:</u>			
41. <u>Electrical Administrators:</u>	AS 08.40.090	Licensure	
42. <u>Outside Linework</u>	"	"	
43. <u>Outside Communication</u>	"	"	
44. <u>Inside Wiring</u>	"	"	
45. <u>Inside Communication</u>	"	"	
46. <u>Residential Wiring</u>	"	"	
47. <u>Geologists:</u>	AS 08.53.010	Certification	Registration
<u>Guides:</u>			
48. Master	AS 08.54.100	Licensure	
49. Registered	AS 08.54.110	"	
50. Class-A Assistant	AS 08.54.120	"	
51. Assistant	AS 08.54.140	"	
52. Transporters	AS 08.54.142	"	
<u>Medical:</u>			
53. Physician/Surgeon	AS 08.64.170	Licensure	
54. Osteopath	"	"	
55. Podiatrist	"	"	
56. Physician Assistant	12 AAC 40.400	Authorization	Certification
57. Paramedics	12 AAC 40.300	Licensure	Certification
58. Locum Tenens	AS 08.64.275	Permit	Licensure
<u>Marine Pilots:</u>			
59. Pilots	AS 08.62.080	Licensure	
60. Vessel Agents	AS 08.62.187	Registration	
61. Unlimited	12 AAC 56.030	Licensure	
62. Limited	12 AAC 56.040	Licensure	
63. Channel	12 AAC 56.050	Licensure	
<u>Mortuary Science:</u>			
64. Embalmers	AS 08.42.020	Licensure	
65. Funeral Directors	"	"	
66. Establishments	AS 08.42.100	Permits	Registration
67. Embalmer Trainees	AS 08.42.085	Licensure	
68. Funeral Director Trainees	AS 08.42.085	"	

<u>BOARD/TRADE:</u>	<u>AUTHORITY:</u>	<u>METHOD:</u>	<u>FUNCTION PRESENTLY TREATED AS</u>
<u>Nursing:</u>			
69. Registered	AS 08.68.160	Licensure	
70. Practical	"	"	
71. Advanced Nurse Practitioners	12 AAC 44.400	Authorization	Certification
72. Registered Nurse Anesthetists	12 AAC 44.500	Authorization	Certification
73. <u>Nursing Home Administrators:</u> AS 08.70.080			
<u>Optometry:</u>			
74. Optometrists	AS 08.72.110	Licensure	
75. Branch Offices	AS 08.72.125	Registration	
<u>Pharmacy:</u>			
76. Pharmacists	AS 08.80.110	Registration	Licensure
77. Hospital Drug Rooms	AS 08.80.157	Licensure	Registration
78. Hospital Pharmacy	"	"	
79. Nursing Home Drug Rooms	"	"	
80. Retail Pharmacy	"	"	
81. Wholesale Pharmacy	"	"	
82. Pharmacy Interns	AS 08.80.116	Licensure	
83. Patient Quali. Review Com.	AS 17.35.030	Certification	
84. Controlled Substances (DEA)	AS 17.30.020	Registration	
<u>Physical Therapy:</u>			
85. Physical Therapists	AS 08.84.030	Licensure	
86. Physical Therapy Assist.	"	"	
<u>Psychology:</u>			
87. Psychologists	AS 08.86.120	Licensure	
88. Psychological Associates	AS 08.86.160	Licensure	
<u>Public Accountancy:</u>			
89. Certified Public Accountants	AS 08.04.100	Certification	
90. Public Accountants	AS 08.04.390	Permits	
91. PA Chartered Accounts	AS 08.04.400	Permits	
92. CPA Nonresident Partnerships	AS 08.04.240	Registration	
93. CPA Nonresident Corporation	"	"	
94. CPA Resident Partnership	AS 08.04.350	"	
95. CPA Resident Corporation	"	"	
96. Nonresident CPA	AS 08.04.420	Permit	
<u>Veterinary Medicine:</u>			
97. Veterinarians	AS 08.98.120	Licensure	
98. Veterinary Technicians	12 AAC 68.300	(None)	
99. Temporary Permits Short-Term	AS 08.98.186	Permit	Licensure

STATUTORY PROVISIONS FOR
 CREDENTIALS, RECIPROCITY, COMITY
ENDORSEMENT, WAIVER OF EXAM

<u>BOARD/TRADE:</u>	<u>AUTHORITY:</u>	<u>METHOD:</u>
Athletic Commission	None	
AELS	AS 08.48.191	Comity or Endorsement
Barbers & Hairdressers	AS 08.13.100(d)	
Chiropractors	AS 08.20.140	Credentials
Collection Agency	None	
Contractors	None	
Concert Promoters	None	
Dental	AS 08.36.234	Credentials
Dental Hygienists	AS 08.32.030	"
Dispensing Opticians	AS 08.71.145	Credentials
	AS 08.71.150	Reciprocity
Electrical Administrators	None	
Geologists	None	
Guides	None	
Medical (Physicians)	AS 08.64.250	Credentials
Physician Assistants	None	
Paramedics	None	
Marine Pilots	None	
Mortuary Science	AS 08.42.070	Reciprocity
Nursing		
Registered	AS 08.68.200	Endorsement
Practical	"	"
Advanced Nurse Practitioner	None	
Registered Nurse Anesthetists	None	
Nursing Home Administrators	AS 08.70.110(b)	
Optometry	AS 08.72.170	Waiver of Exam
Pharmacy	AS 08.80.140	Credentials
Physical Therapy	AS 08.84.060	Credentials
Physical Therapy Assistant	"	"
Psychology	AS 08.86.150	Credentials
Psychological Associates	None	
Public Accountancy	None	
Veterinary	AS 08.98.134	Credentials

CATEGORIES

LICENSE:

A license is issued to a person who has met established minimum requirements and has attained a minimum degree of competency necessary to ensure that the public is protected. Licensure is the legally required "permission" to practice in a specific occupation with a well defined "scope of practice."

CERTIFICATION:

Certification is the authority given to a person by a governmental agency or a professional association to use a specific title. This title shows that they have completed extra exams or training above the minimal level of competency. A person not certified can often practice in the same manner as a person that is certified, he just cannot claim to have achieved this high standard of training.

REGISTRATION:

Registration requires that a person wishing to engage in an occupation simply file with an agency, pay a fee, and perhaps post a bond, but is not required to take a test or prove competency, or meet any predetermined standard. This is used where the threat to the public is minimal. Registration is not exclusionary, like a license, but is often used to require that a registrant meet certain minimum standards to retain that registration.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorization is a sanction by a board to allow a person skilled by education and training to practice limited functions of the profession.

METHODS

ENDORSEMENT:

Endorsement is the approach of honoring licensure from another state once it is established that standards of the other state are comparable to those of this State. Endorsement is enhanced with the use of national examinations among states.