

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

4638 HJUD HB 3 - HB 7

210

This bill sets out some of the property rights of artists, providing for the sale and consignment of works of art under Title 45. The bill, which adds a new Chapter to this Title, does not contain penalty provisions. Any disputes arising from the provisions of the bill would be civil matters between private parties and would not involve the Department of Law.

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version: HB3  
Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: An Act relating to the private sale and consignment of works of art.  
Sponsor: Repr. Gruenberg  
Requestor: House Labor and Commerce

Agency Affected: Department of Law  
BRU: Legal Services  
Components: Operations

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Please see attached analysis.

*Richard I. Pegues*

Prepared by: Richard I. Pegues, Director  
Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3672  
Date: 1/21/87

Approved by Commissioner: Acting Attorney General  
Agency: Department of Law

Date: 1/21/87

Distribution (by preparer):

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

# CONTINUATION of FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

For Bill/Resolution No. HB3

This bill sets out some of the property rights of artists, providing for the sale and consignment of works of art under Title 45. The bill, which adds a new Chapter to this Title, does not contain penalty provisions. Any disputes arising from the provisions of the bill would be civil matters between private parties and would not involve the Department of Law.

H B

7

**JOHN SUND, REPRESENTATIVE**

*2504 2nd Avenue  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
(907) 225-5552*

---

*While in Juneau  
P. O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-4919*

February 13, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative John Sund

RE: HB7 "An Act relating to volunteer guardian ad litem  
in, and grants to, the Office of Public Advocacy

.....

The purpose of this bill is to amend AS 44.21.410 allowing the Office of Public Advocacy to develop and coordinate a program to recruit, select, train, assign, and supervise volunteer guardians ad litem from local communities to aid in delivering services in cases in which the Office of Public Advocacy is appointed as guardian ad litem.

The court is given authority by statute to appoint an attorney or a guardian ad litem for the child in a proceeding which is concerned with the child's custody, support, visitation or in any other legal proceedings involving his welfare. A guardian ad litem appointed pursuant to the Alaska Statutes is an advocate for the best interests of the child with not only the power but the responsibility to represent the child zealously and to the best of his ability. While the child's attorney advocates the child's wishes, these are not always in the best interest.

In 1974, Congress enacted the "Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act". According to the Act, the guardian ad litem was to be more than a simple advocate for the child, but rather a guardian to protect the child's long range interests.

HB7 carries a fiscal note, but is expected to save money in the long-run, as the funds needed to train and supervise 60 new volunteers would only fund two additional OPA staff.

CSHB 7 (Judiciary) - An act relating to volunteer guardians ad litem in, and grants to, the Office of Public Advocacy  
Overview prepared by Rep. John Sund's office

#### SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1, subsection (a)(6) allows the Office of Public Advocacy set up a program to train and supervise volunteers to serve as guardians ad litem.

Subsection (b)(3) allows the Office of Public Advocacy to solicit funds from local governments and private individuals.

Section 2 restricts non-attorney guardians ad litem from giving legal advice or acting as an attorney for a minor and limits the civil liability of volunteer guardians, while participating within the program.

#### HISTORY

A guardian ad litem is appointed, at the discretion of a judge, to represent a child's best interests in court proceedings. An attorney guardian ad litem within the Office of Public Advocacy may be appointed as guardian when no appropriate family member or friend is available, as in the case of a neglected or abused child.

Section 1, subsection (a)(6): The Office of Public Advocacy began a volunteer guardian program in August 1985, as a pilot project, because of the overwhelming need for additional guardians ad litem and the lack of available staff time. (each attorney guardian ad litem carries a caseload of between 80 and 100 people) As of 2/25/87, 10 volunteers were under the supervision of an attorney guardian from the Office of Public Advocacy.

The volunteers have been able to provide more personal attention to the everyday requirements of their wards, such as coordinating meetings and conferring with social workers. This has allowed the staff additional time to perform the more specialized duties required of guardian ad litem.

Section 1, subsection (b)(3): Offers of monetary assistance for training and materials have been forthcoming from the Alaska Bar Association, the City of Anchorage and others. Because of this potential for funding from sources other than state government, the subsection was included in the bill.

Section 2: The National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA) suggested that the liability issue be addressed. It is in line with the statutes of Delaware, Florida, Indiana and North Carolina. Volunteer guardian programs in states without legislative protection are finding difficulty in obtaining affordable liability insurance.

Sec. 44.21.460.: Prohibits a nonattorney volunteer guardian ad litem from giving legal advice or acting in the capacity of an attorney. This section was added in Judiciary CS at the request of the OPA.

Sec. 44.21.490.: Defines volunteer guardian ad litem as a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) to relate Alaska's program to the national program. Added in Judiciary CS at request of the Court System.

POSITION PAPER

HOUSE BILL NO. 7

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to volunteer guardians ad litem in the Office of Public Advocacy."

This bill amends AS 44.21.410 to allow the Office of Public Advocacy to expand services of guardians ad litem by developing and maintaining a corps of volunteer guardians ad litem.

AS 47.17.030(e) states that "in all" actions taken by the Department or a Health and Social Services agency of a local government under this chapter that result in a judicial proceeding the child shall be represented by a guardian ad litem in that proceeding. Funds available for salaried guardians ad litem are not adequate to retain sufficient personnel to serve all children in Alaska who have a legal right to the services of a guardian ad litem under AS 47.17.030(e). This results in assignment of guardians only to those cases determined to be the most complicated and a lowering in quality of guardian services due to excessive caseloads. The average caseload in Anchorage is 150 cases per guardian ad litem. This is well above the level at which adequate services can be provided.

Volunteer guardian ad litem programs such as proposed in this bill have proven successful in many states. A stable corps of paid professional staff would be able to maintain a quality service at an expanded level by providing necessary recruitment, training, and supervision for a volunteer corps.

The Department strongly supports this bill.

RECOMMENDED:

*Yvonne M. Chase*  
Yvonne M. Chase, Director  
Division of Family  
and Youth Services

DATE:

2/23/87

APPROVED:

*Myra M. Munson*  
Myra M. Munson, Commissioner  
Department of Health  
and Social Services

DATE:

2/24/87

POSITION PAPER  
House Bill 7

An Act relating to Volunteer Guardian  
ad litem/Court Appointed Special Advocates  
(VGAL/CASA) in the Office of Public Advocacy

House Bill 7 mandates that the Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) develop a volunteer guardian ad litem program and allows the agency to receive funds from additional sources for this purpose.

The following review of the history of OPA and the volunteer concept will provide the background underlying the OPA's support of HB7.

HISTORY AND DUTIES OF OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY:

The Office of Public Advocacy was created and placed within the Department of Administration in the Spring of 1984. The Office of Public Advocacy is required by Statute (A.S. 44.21.410) to provide services in the following three areas.

(1) Guardian ad litem representation to abused children in Child In Need of Aid proceedings, guardian ad litem representation of children in custody disputes, legal representation of parents in Child In Need of Aid proceedings where there is a conflict with the Public Defender's Office, guardian ad litem activities in guardianships for minors, and a host of other civil functions, including legal representation of parents involved in custody disputes where the other party is represented by a public agency, i.e. Alaska Legal Services.

(2) Legal representation of indigent persons charged with crimes where the Alaska Public Defender Agency has a conflict of interest;

(3) Public Guardian services as well as payment to visitors, experts and attorneys for the respondent.

Prior to 1984, the Alaska Court System had provided these services primarily through a system of court appointed attorneys. The Public Guardian function was also within the Alaska Court System.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN AD LITEM/COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE:

A Court Appointed Special Advocate/Volunteer Guardian ad litem (hereinafter known as VGAL/CASA) is an individual who is an advocate for a child's best interests in court proceedings. A

VGAL/CASA does not have the legal authority to make decisions effecting the child's person or property, i.e. medical decisions or financial investments. A VGAL/CASA's obligation is to objectively insure that the court receives all pertinent information necessary to make a decision which is in the child's best interest. A major difference between an attorney appointed to represent a child and a VGAL/CASA for a child is that the VGAL/CASA may disagree with the position of the child. A guardian ad litem from the Office of Public Advocacy or its contractors are appointed for every child for which the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services petitions to be a Child In Need of Aid under A.S. 47.10.010 due to abuse or neglect. A child may also have a GAL in contested divorce custody proceedings, contested adoptions, and guardianships.

#### HISTORY OF CASA

In 1976, King County, Seattle, Washington, Superior Court Presiding Judge David W. Soukop began exploring ways to insure abused and neglected children's best interests were consistently presented to the court. Traditionally, the court appointed attorneys to serve as guardian ad litem for these children. However, due to the high number of cases involving children and the lack of adequate training by many attorneys, as well as cost considerations, Judge Soukop decided to recruit and train community volunteers who would be asked to make a long-term commitment to each child for whom they serve as GAL. The term Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) was coined by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in 1982. This organization of judicial experts also recommended that every juvenile court in the United States implement a CASA project.

In May of 1985, the Office of Public Advocacy became a member of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association and began exploring the feasibility of a VGAL/CASA program in Alaska. The Office of Public Advocacy had informal meetings in Anchorage with judges, family and children's court masters, the Division of Family and Youth Services, Alaska Youth Advocates, the District Attorney's Office, Attorney General's Office, Public Defender's Office, community mental health providers, and the Alaska Bar Association to request their input and recommendations as to whether or not a VGAL/CASA program would be acceptable in the Anchorage area. Due to the overwhelming support of the concept, the Office of Public Advocacy recruited and trained five volunteers in the summer of 1985. The five volunteers were screened by an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee continues to assist Office of Public Advocacy staff in the development and operation of the VGAL/CASA program.

#### THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY'S SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 7:

The Office of Public Advocacy strongly supports passage of HB7. The Office of Public Advocacy would request that the statute be amended to state Volunteer Guardian ad litem/Court

Appointed Special Advocate so as to be able to utilize the efforts of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association. The passage of HB7 would require that the Office of Public Advocacy recruit and develop a permanent VGAL/CASA program. Passage of HB7 would require creating the position of Program Director. It is believed that a non-attorney should be hired in order to implement the VGAL/CASA program first in Anchorage, then in Fairbanks and Ketchikan, and then study the feasibility of developing such a program in other areas of Alaska.

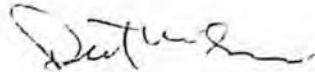
A national survey of all VGAL/CASA programs in the nation was undertaken by the National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association in July, 1985. This nationwide survey found that the average volunteer handled 2.56 cases. It is the belief of the Office of Public Advocacy that a VGAL/CASA program in Anchorage would result in the recruitment of at least 30 volunteers in its first year who could be assigned at least 60 cases. It is believed that a system could be developed in 3 years to have in excess of 100 volunteers in the Anchorage area providing advocacy services to children.

Passage of HB7 would substantially improve the ability of the Office of Public Advocacy to provide guardian ad litem representation to children. Since the Anchorage Office of Public Advocacy began accepting guardian ad litem cases, approximately 1200 cases in Anchorage alone have been opened from the period of January, 1985 through January, 1987. The Office of Public Advocacy currently has two attorney and two associate attorney positions who handle guardian ad litem responsibilities. Under Alaska law a guardian ad litem does not need to be an attorney. The Office of Public Advocacy is attempting to use non-attorneys with training in the needs of children to provide the effective delivery of guardian ad litem services.

A 1985 national study by Donald N. Duquette, J.D., of the Child Advocacy Law Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School and Sarah H. Ramsey, J.D. of the Syracuse College University of Law clearly indicates that a trained and supervised VGAL/CASA provides superior services than an attorney without specific training in child abuse, and services equal to that of trained social workers and attorneys. However, it is essential that non-attorney VGAL/CASA's have the backup support of an attorney to ensure that the best interests of the child are adequately litigated in contested court cases. Staff attorneys at the Office of Public Advocacy would provide this function.

It is anticipated that the trend of dramatic increases in child abuse and neglect cases will continue. Additionally, the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services' decision in October of 1985 to be in compliance with the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980, Public Law 96-272, will result in the involvement of the guardian ad litem past the

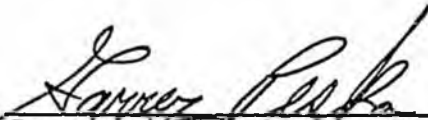
dispositional stage of a Child In Need of Aid proceeding. The effect of Public Law 92-272 will be higher caseloads for the Office of Public Advocacy due to the continued monitoring of cases by a guardian ad litem. With current average caseloads of 150 children per staff person at the Anchorage Office of Public Advocacy, there is grave concern that the quality of representation will decline with these projected increases. The implementation of the VGAL/CASA project is a viable solution to this impending crisis.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Brant McGee  
Public Advocate

February 6, 1987

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Garrey Peska  
Department of Administration

2/10/87  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

800 VI. 5TH AVENUE  
SUITE 525  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
PHONE: (907) 274-1684

March 3, 1987

The Honorable Representative John Sund  
Alaska State Legislature  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: HB 7

Dear Representative Sund:

Pursuant to my previous conversations with your office, the Advisory Committee of the Office of Public Advocacy's Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program request that HB 7 be amended as follows:

§44.21.410(a)(6) Develop and coordinate a program to recruit, select, train, assign and supervise volunteer guardians ad litem from local communities to aid in delivering services in cases in which the office of public advocacy is appointed as guardian ad litem. The Office of Public Advocacy is authorized to utilize the nationally recognized term ~~CASA~~ (Court Appointed Special Advocate), in addition to or in place of Volunteer Guardian ad litem to describe the program.

Thank you for your continued support of this program.

Sincerely,

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

*Philip J. McCarthy, Jr.*  
Philip J. McCarthy, Jr.  
Assistant Public Advocate

PJM/jdg

cc: Brant McGee, Public Advocate  
The Honorable William Hitchcock  
Children's Court Master

*Send  
AHW:  
HOWARD  
in Rep Sund's office*

# STATE OF ALASKA

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

900 W. 5TH AVENUE  
SUITE 525  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
PHONE: (907) 274-1684

FEB 10 1987

January 26, 1987

The Honorable John Sund  
Alaska State Representative  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Sund:

The Office of Public Advocacy is currently in the process of developing a Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program. A Guardian ad litem (GAL) is appointed by the Court for every child in the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services petitions to be a Child In Need of Aid due to abuse or neglect. The volunteers are individuals who advocate to the Court what he or she believes to be in the child's best interest.

The Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program is headed by an advisory committee consisting of volunteers who are judges, family and children's court masters, attorneys, community mental health providers, and current volunteer GALs. The advisory board strongly supports the passage of the volunteer GAL Bill, HB7, and establishment of Alaska Children's Trust Corp., SB19 and HB57.

The advisory committee would like to arrange a joint teleconference with Representative Sund, Representative Goll, Senator Kerttula, and Commissioner Peska. We would like to discuss with you these bills and the possibility of the VGAL Program being a beneficiary of the Children's Trust. Jay

(Continued)

Letter, Representative Sund  
January 26, 1987

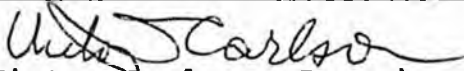
Page 2 of 2

McCarthy, Assistant Public Advocate, is coordinating this effort. He will be contacting you in the next week to make these arrangements.

We appreciate your concern for children in Alaska and look forward to working with you on these matters.

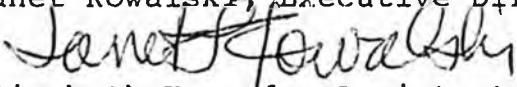
Sincerely,

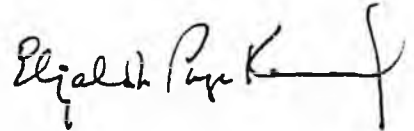
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Advisory Committee

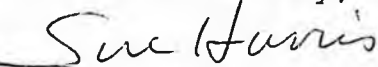
  
Victor Carlson, Superior Court Judge

  
William Hitchcock, Children's Court Master


Janet Kowalski, Executive Director, AWAIC

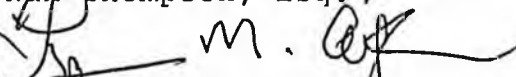
  
Elizabeth Kennedy, Assistant Attorney General

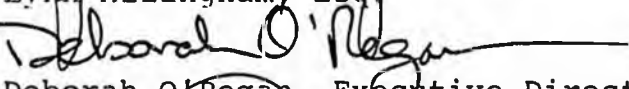


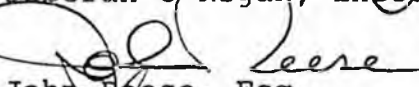
  
Sue Harris, Division of Family and Youth Services

  
Jay McCarthy, Assistant Public Advocate

  
Nan Thompson, Esq.

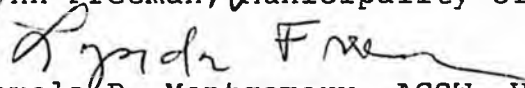
  
Lynn Allingham, Esq.

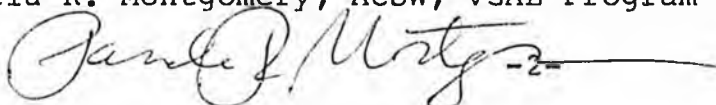
  
Deborah O'Regan, Executive Director, Alaska Bar Association

  
John Beese, Esq.

Colleen Ray, Esq.

  
Lynn Freeman, Municipality of Anchorage

  
Pamela R. Montgomery, ACSW, VGAL Program Director



STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907-465-3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

H. JUD.

3-9-87

1:30 p.m.

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 2/27/87

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

DATE: 3-9-87

The Judiciary Committee has considered HB 7

"An Act relating to volunteer guardians ad litem in the Office of Public Advocacy."

**RECOMMENDS:**

- replace with CS HB 7 (Judiciary)  the same title
- attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**ADOPTS:**  \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

**ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

- fiscal impact  same as previous fiscal note published 2/27/87
- zero fiscal note  same as previous zero fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero with analysis

**SIGNING, DO PASS:**

[Signature]

Sam Gish

Chris L. Taylor

Thomas B. Baker

Mike Havane

Mark Summers

[Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]

Chairman's signature

Original sponsors: Sund and Gruenberg

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 7 (Judiciary)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the office of public advocacy and  
7 volunteer guardians ad litem."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 44.21.410 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 44.21.410. POWERS AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY OFFICE.

11 (a) The office of public advocacy shall

12 (1) perform the duties of the public guardian under AS 13.-  
13 26.360 - 13.26.410;

14 (2) provide visitors and experts in guardianship proceed-  
15 ings under AS 13.26.131;

16 (3) provide guardian ad litem services to children in child  
17 protection actions under AS 47.17.030(e) and to wards and respondents  
18 in guardianship proceedings who will suffer financial hardship or  
19 become dependent upon a government agency or a private person or  
20 agency if the services are not provided at state expense under AS 13.-  
21 26.112;

22 (4) provide legal representation in guardianship proceed-  
23 ings to respondents who are financially unable to employ attorneys  
24 under AS 13.26.106(b), to indigent parties in cases involving child  
25 custody in which the opposing party is represented by counsel provided  
26 by a public agency, and to indigent parents or guardians of a minor  
27 respondent in a commitment proceeding concerning the minor under  
28 AS 47.30.775;

29 (5) provide legal representation and guardian ad litem

1 services under AS 25.24.310; in cases arising under the Uniform Inter-  
2 state Compact on Juveniles (AS 47.15); in cases involving petitions to  
3 adopt a minor under AS 25.23.125(b); in cases involving petitions to  
4 remove the disabilities of a minor under AS 09.55.590; in children's  
5 proceedings under AS 47.10.050(a); and in cases involving indigent  
6 persons who are entitled to representation under AS 13.85.100 and who  
7 cannot be represented by the public defender agency because of a  
8 conflict of interests;

9 (6) develop and coordinate a program to recruit, select,  
10 train, assign, and supervise volunteer guardians ad litem from local  
11 communities to aid in delivering services in cases in which the office  
12 of public advocacy is appointed as guardian ad litem.

13 (b) The commissioner of administration may

14 (1) adopt regulations that the commissioner considers  
15 necessary to implement AS 44.21.400 - 44.21.440;

16 (2) report on the operation of the office of public advo-  
17 cacy when requested by the governor or legislature or when required by  
18 law;

19 (3) solicit and accept grants of funds from governments  
20 [THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT] and from persons [PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS], and  
21 allocate or restrict the use of those funds as required by the  
22 grantor.

23 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.21 is amended by adding new sections to read:

24 Sec. 44.21.450. CIVIL LIABILITY OF VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS. (a) A  
25 volunteer guardian ad litem under the supervision of the office of  
26 public advocacy is not civilly liable for acts or omissions during the  
27 good faith performance of duties as a guardian unless the acts or  
28 omissions constitute gross negligence.

29 (b) This section does not affect the civil liability of the

1 office of public advocacy.

2       Sec. 44.21.460. NONATTORNEY VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS AD LITEM. A  
3 nonattorney volunteer guardian ad litem may not give legal advice or  
4 act in the capacity of attorney for a minor before a court or adminis-  
5 trative agency.

6       Sec. 44.21.499. DEFINITION. In AS 44.21.410 - 44.21.490,  
7 "volunteer guardian ad litem" means a court-appointed special advocate  
8 (CASA).  
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5-0146L  
Hein/  
Utermohle  
3/9/87

Original sponsors: Sund and Gruenberg

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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17 protection actions under AS 47.17.030(e) and to wards and respondents  
18 in guardianship proceedings who will suffer financial hardship or  
19 become dependent upon a government agency or a private person or  
20 agency if the services are not provided at state expense under AS 13.-  
21 26.112;

22 (4) provide legal representation in guardianship proceed-  
23 ings to respondents who are financially unable to employ attorneys  
24 under AS 13.26.106(b), to indigent parties in cases involving child  
25 custody in which the opposing party is represented by counsel provided  
26 by a public agency, and to indigent parents or guardians of a minor  
27 respondent in a commitment proceeding concerning the minor under  
28 AS 47.30.775;

29 (5) provide legal representation and guardian ad litem

1 services under AS 25.24.310; in cases arising under the Uniform Inter-  
 2 state Compact on Juveniles (AS 47.15); in cases involving petitions to  
 3 adopt a minor under AS 25.23.125(b); in cases involving petitions to  
 4 remove the disabilities of a minor under AS 09.55.590; in children's  
 5 proceedings under AS 47.10.050(a); and in cases involving indigent  
 6 persons who are entitled to representation under AS 18.85.100 and who  
 7 cannot be represented by the public defender agency because of a  
 8 conflict of interests;

9 (6) develop and coordinate a program to recruit, select,  
 10 train, assign, and supervise volunteer guardians ad litem from local  
 11 communities to aid in delivering services in cases in which the office  
 12 of public advocacy is appointed as guardian ad litem.

13 (b) The commissioner of administration may

14 (1) adopt regulations that the commissioner considers  
 15 necessary to implement AS 44.21.400 - 44.21.440;

16 (2) report on the operation of the office of public advo-  
 17 cacy when requested by the governor or legislature or when required by  
 18 law;

19 (3) solicit and accept grants of funds from the federal  
 20 government, local governments, and [FROM] [private] persons [FOUNDA-  
 21 TIONS], and allocate or restrict the use of those funds as required by  
 22 the grantor.

23 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.21 is amended by adding new sections to read:

24 Sec. 44.21.450. CIVIL LIABILITY OF VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS. (a) A  
 25 volunteer guardian ad litem under the supervision of the office of  
 26 public advocacy is not civilly liable for acts or omissions during the  
 27 good faith performance of duties as a guardian unless the acts or  
 28 omissions constitute gross negligence.

29 (b) This section does not affect the civil liability of the

1 office of public advocacy.

2           Sec. 44.21.460. NONATTORNEY VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS AD LITEM. A  
3 nonattorney volunteer guardian ad litem may not give legal advice or  
4 *now* act in the capacity of attorney for a minor before a court or adminis-  
5 trative agency.

6           Sec. 44.21.490. DEFINITION. In AS 44.21.410 - 44.21.490,  
7 *now* "volunteer guardian ad litem" means a court-appointed special advocate  
8 (CASA).

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**JOHN SUND, REPRESENTATIVE**

*2504 2nd Avenue  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
(907) 225-5552*

---

*While in Juneau  
P. O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-4919*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
MARCH 25, 1987

CONTACT:  
SHARI KOCHMAN  
465-4919

GUARDIAN BILL PASSES HOUSE

A bill sponsored by Rep. John Sund, D-Ketchikan, that would establish a volunteer guardian program for children involved in court proceedings passed the House unanimously on Monday.

House Bill 7 allows the state Office of Public Advocacy to develop a program to recruit, train and supervise volunteer guardians.

"This bill will provide better care for our children who are going through the trauma of custody battles and other court cases involving the child's welfare," Rep. Sund said. "Right now the Office of Public Advocacy is overwhelmed with its caseload. With volunteer guardians, who will be very carefully selected and thoroughly trained, the office will be able to devote more time to each child."

A court-appointed guardian, known as a guardian ad litem, is an advocate for the best interests of the child. A 1974 federal act mandates that a guardian ad litem must protect the child's long range interests.

more

The Office of Public Advocacy now has a small and successful pilot program for training volunteer guardians. HB 7 will allow that program to be expanded to train 60 volunteers in the next year.

The bill is now under consideration in the Senate.

###

Original sponsors: Sund, Gruenberg  
and Goll

Change from CS HB 7 (Jud);  
New sec. 2 - see p. 2,  
line 23

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 7 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the office of public advocacy and  
7 volunteer guardians ad litem."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 44.21.410 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 44.21.410. POWERS AND DUTIES [OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY OFFICE].

11 (a) The office of public advocacy shall

12 (1) perform the duties of the public guardian under AS 13.-  
13 26.360 - 13.26.410;

14 (2) provide visitors and experts in guardianship proceed-  
15 ings under AS 13.26.131;

16 (3) provide guardian ad litem services to children in child  
17 protection actions under AS 47.17.030(e) and to wards and respondents  
18 in guardianship proceedings who will suffer financial hardship or  
19 become dependent upon a government agency or a private person or  
20 agency if the services are not provided at state expense under AS 13.-  
21 26.112;

22 (4) provide legal representation in guardianship proceed-  
23 ings to respondents who are financially unable to employ attorneys  
24 under AS 13.26.106(b), to indigent parties in cases involving child  
25 custody in which the opposing party is represented by counsel provided  
26 by a public agency, and to indigent parents or guardians of a minor  
27 respondent in a commitment proceeding concerning the minor under  
28 AS 47.30.775;

29 (5) provide legal representation and guardian ad litem

1 services under AS 25.24.310; in cases arising under the Uniform Inter-  
2 state Compact on Juveniles (AS 47.15); in cases involving petitions to  
3 adopt a minor under AS 25.23.125(b); in cases involving petitions to  
4 remove the disabilities of a minor under AS 09.55.590; in children's  
5 proceedings under AS 47.10.050(a); and in cases involving indigent  
6 persons who are entitled to representation under AS 18.85.100 and who  
7 cannot be represented by the public defender agency because of a  
8 conflict of interests;

9 (6) develop and coordinate a program to recruit, select,  
10 train, assign, and supervise volunteer guardians ad litem from local  
11 communities to aid in delivering services in cases in which the office  
12 of public advocacy is appointed as guardian ad litem.

13 (b) The commissioner of administration may

14 (1) adopt regulations that the commissioner considers  
15 necessary to implement AS 44.21.400 - 44.21.440;

16 (2) report on the operation of the office of public advo-  
17 cacy when requested by the governor or legislature or when required by  
18 law;

19 (3) solicit and accept grants of funds from governments  
20 [THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT] and from persons [PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS], and  
21 allocate or restrict the use of those funds as required by the gran-  
22 tor.

23 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.21.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

24 (c) The commissioner of administration shall separately account  
25 for money received under (b)(3) of this section and deposited in the  
26 general fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be used  
27 by the legislature to make appropriations to the Department of Admin-  
28 istration to carry out the purposes of this section.

29 \* Sec. 3. AS 44.21 is amended by adding new sections to read:

1           Sec. 44.21.450. CIVIL LIABILITY OF VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS. (a) A  
2 volunteer guardian ad litem under the supervision of the office of  
3 public advocacy is not civilly liable for acts or omissions during the  
4 good faith performance of duties as a guardian unless the acts or  
5 omissions constitute gross negligence.

6           (b) This section does not affect the civil liability of the  
7 office of public advocacy.

8           Sec. 44.21.460. NONATTORNEY VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS AD LITEM. A  
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10 act in the capacity of attorney for a minor before a court or adminis-  
11 trative agency.

12           Sec. 44.21.490. DEFINITION. In AS 44.21.410 - 44.21.490, "vol-  
13 untee guardian ad litem" means a court-appointed special advocate  
14 (CASA).  
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CSHB 7 (Judiciary) - An act relating to volunteer guardians ad litem in, and grants to, the Office of Public Advocacy  
Overview prepared by Rep. John Sund's office

#### SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1, subsection (a)(6) allows the Office of Public Advocacy set up a program to train and supervise volunteers to serve as guardians ad litem. The Office of Public Advocacy began a volunteer guardian program in August 1985, as a pilot project, because of the overwhelming need for additional guardians ad litem and the lack of available staff time. (each attorney guardian ad litem carries a caseload of between 80 and 100 people) As of 2/25/87, 10 volunteers were under the supervision of an attorney guardian from the Office of Public Advocacy.

The volunteers have been able to provide more personal attention to the everyday requirements of their wards, such as coordinating meetings and conferring with social workers. This has allowed the staff additional time to perform the more specialized duties required of guardian ad litem.

Subsection (b)(3) allows the Office of Public Advocacy to solicit funds from governments and persons. Offers of monetary assistance for training and materials have been forthcoming from the Alaska Bar Association, the City of Anchorage and others, so this subsection was included in the bill to allow entities other than state government to support the program.

Section 2: restricts non-attorney guardians ad litem from giving legal advice or acting as an attorney for a minor and limits the civil liability of volunteer guardians, while participating within the program.

Sec. 44.21.450.: Limits the civil liability of volunteer guardians, while participating within the program. The National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA) suggested that the liability issue be addressed, as volunteer guardian programs in states without legislative protection are finding difficulty in obtaining affordable liability insurance.

Sec. 44.21.460.: Prohibits a nonattorney volunteer guardian ad litem from giving legal advice or acting in the capacity of an attorney. This section was added in Judiciary CS at the request of the OPA.

Sec. 44.21.490.: Defines volunteer guardian ad litem as a court-appointed special advocate (CASA) to relate Alaska's program to the national program. This section was added in the Judiciary CS at the request of the Court System.

# **CORRECTION**

**THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

CSHB 7 (Judiciary) - An act relating to volunteer guardians ad litem in, and grants to, the Office of Public Advocacy  
Overview prepared by Rep. John Sund's office

#### SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

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POINTS re: HB7

A guardian ad litem is appointed to protect a child's best interests during court proceedings, particularly for abused or neglected children or in custody cases. The Office of Public Advocacy has attorneys who perform this service and each carries a caseload of between 80 and 100.

The bill will begin a volunteer program to take over some of the responsibility for these cases, as Jay McCarthy can explain in detail.

Jay supervised 5 volunteers in a pilot project that was begun last year.

Volunteer guardian ad litem have been successfully utilized throughout the nation.

The program carries a fiscal note, but is expected to save money in the long-run, by freeing paid staff to perform other functions. Jay can explain this more fully.

① Actually, by ~~not~~ having to add more  
staff

② Beginning as a return to a volunteer  
society.

A M E N D M E N T

Offered in the HOUSE

By Sund

TO: HB 7

*new section*  
Page 2, line 24, add the following

Sec. 44.21.450. NON-ATTORNEY VOLUNTEER GUARDIANS AS LITEM.  
A non-attorney volunteer guardian ad litem may not give legal advice or act in the capacity of legal counsel or attorney for a minor before a court or administrative agency.

Page 2, line 28, after the word negligence. add

(b) This section does not affect the civil liability of the office of public advocacy.

Renumber remaining bill sections accordingly.

By: Gruenberg

## Amendment to HB7

p 2 ll 20-21 strike:

"private individuals, and from  
private foundations"

and insert:

"and persons"

Comment: "person" includes these  
and other entities. AS 01.10.060 (7).

For: Sund's Office  
From: Rep David  
For your review

It is the intent of the Legislature that the Office of Public Advocacy prepare and implement a management plan for the guardian ad litem program to train, supervise and manage contract and volunteer guardians ad litem. The office shall develop protocols, standards of conduct and policies to be observed by contract or volunteer guardians ad litem and incorporate them into all contracts and agreements between the office and guardians ad litem. The office will develop and promulgate policies that establish procedures for determining whether a guardian ad litem violated protocols or standards of conduct and what disciplinary action will be imposed for violations.

It is further the intent of the Legislature that the Office of Public Advocacy report to the Legislature no later than January 9, 1989, on the guardian ad litem program. The report will include: the management plan; the type of training developed and numbers of individuals trained; the methods of supervision developed and an evaluation of their effectiveness; the protocols, standards of conduct and policies developed to govern relationships with all other agencies and individuals the guardians work with; the procedures for determining when a violation of protocols or standards of conduct has occurred and what disciplinary action will be imposed; the numbers of complaints filed with the office and with the Office of the Ombudsman, their nature and resolution. The report shall also include a description of the appropriate process for individuals with complaints against guardians ad litem in criminal or civil matters to file and resolve their complaints, including how, where and when such complaints may be filed and any appeal rights.

Recommendations on Agency it should be housed in.

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Why do we need this? Is something not going to happen.

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

FINANCE DIVISION  
POUCH WF-STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
PHONE: (907) 465-3795

17 March 1987

To: LouAnn Cutler

From: Jim Slocum *JS*

Subj: Guardian ad Litem Program, Office of Public Advocacy

There have been two RPL's (attached) for this program in FY87:

RPL 02-7-0062 provides \$25,596 to start up and run the program. There will be a \$17,500 carryover to FY88.

RPL 02-7-0347 provides an additional \$11,000 for the program, \$4,936 of which will be spent in FY87. \$6064 will be carried over to FY88 for a total of \$23,564.

# MEMORANDUM


# State of Alaska

TO: Jay Hogan  
Associate Director  
Division of Budget Review  
Office of Management and Budget  
Office of the Governor

DATE: January 29, 1987

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 465-2200

FROM: Commissioner Garrey Peska   
Department of Administration

SUBJECT: Request for Revised  
Program Type 4 - RPL  
ADN 027-0347

The Department of Administration, Office of Public Advocacy (OPA), is requesting authority to receive and expend additional federal funds.

## (1) Funding Availability

- (a) Office of Public Advocacy has applied for a grant in the total amount of \$11,000.00 to expand the Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program (VGAL). This grant will be partially received in FY 87 in the amount of \$4,936.00.
- (b) Funding will be pass-through funds provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency, through the National Council and Family Court Judges, Permanent Families for Children Project.
- (c) It is anticipated that these funds will be awarded, however, official notification has not as yet been received. These funds would be awarded to carry out a one-time-only special project, i.e., to expand the VGAL. No future support is anticipated.

## (2) New or Expanded Services to be Provided

- (a) The funds are needed to expand operation of the Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program which has previously received funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Alaska Bar Association, and the National Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA). The Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program is aimed at providing higher quality representation to abused and neglected children through a cost effective means by using volunteers in addition to Office of Public Advocacy staff. The funds provide partial salary and travel expenses for a half-time Program Director of the program. Beneficiaries of these activities are the clients of the Office of Public Advocacy, specifically abused and neglected children before the Court on Child in Need of Aid petitions.
- (b) The funds in this program will be added to those grants previously mentioned to increase hours of the Program Director, provide supplies for program operation and volunteer recruitment, and allow for travel to Ketchikan and Fairbanks to establish the beginnings of Volunteer Guardian ad litem Programs in those

communities. The funds will be utilized to allow the Program Director to develop advisory committees and to train and recruit prospective volunteers for these activities in other parts of Alaska as well. Funds anticipated to be received and expended during FY 87 are as follows:

Personnel Services	\$3,353.00
Travel	1,034.00
Supplies	375.00
Other	174.00
	<u>\$4,936.00</u>

- (c) Direct services to abused and neglected children will be provided through the expansion of the Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program.
- (d) This RPL request will expand activities previously authorized by RPL No. ADN 02-7-0062.
- (e) The effect of a delay in approval of this RPL would be the inability of the Program Director to increase her hours and jeopardize the ability of the program to meet its goals and objectives.

(3) Impact on the General Fund

- (a) No general funds have been appropriated for this Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program.
- (b) Receipt of these funds will not obligate the state to replace the non-general funds in the future.
- (c) No matching state funds are required as a condition of receiving these funds.

(4) Position to be Funded

No new positions or existing vacant positions will be created or funded by this grant.

(5) Technical and Budget Aspects of the RPL

- (a) These funds were not included in OPA's FY 87 budget as OPA did not know at the time the budget was prepared if the grant would be awarded. Funds anticipated to be received and expended during FY 87 (January 1, 1987 to June 30, 1987) are as follows:

Personnel Services	\$3,353.00
Travel	1,034.00
Supplies	375.00
Other	174.00
	<u>\$4,936.00</u>

- (b) As the grant period of this project is January 1, 1987, through February 14, 1988, OPA has included the remaining funds from this grant for the final seven-and-one-half months of the project (July 1, 1987 through February 14, 1988), in its FY 88 budget.
- (c) OPA has not received official funding approval for this project, and the increased expenditure authorization will be restricted pending receipt of the official document.
- (d) The funds requested in this RPL will be spent during FY 87 from January 1, 1987, through June 30, 1987.

GP/GMB/ljo  
4/1D1/0122-03

REVISED PROGRAM NO. 02-7-0347

DATE 2/11/87

PAGE NO. 4

✓ Mike Maher 2/11/87  
Mike Maher  
Budget Analyst  
Division of Budget Review  
Office of Management and Budget

Approved this 12 day of Feb, 1987.

Jay Hogan  
Jay Hogan, Director  
Division of Budget Review  
Office of Management and Budget

# MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Jay Hogan  
Associate Director  
Division of Budget Review  
Office of the Governor

THRU: *Eleanor Andrews*  
Commissioner Eleanor Andrews  
Department of Administration

FROM: Gary Bader *YMB*  
Director  
Division of Administrative Services  
Department of Administration

DATE: August 14, 1986

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 465-2277

SUBJECT: Request for Revised  
Program Type 4 - RPL-FY 87  
ADN 02-7-0062

100 - 21194

200 4150

300 255

The Department of Administration, Office of Public Advocacy (OPA), requests authorization to receive and expend an additional \$25,596.00 in funds from grants awarded to support a one-time volunteer project.

## I. Funding Availability

- A. Office of Public Advocacy was awarded two grants: (1) in the amount of \$23,096.00 to carry out a demonstration grant, and (2) \$2,500.00 for a start-up grant.
- B. The Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Human Development Services (OHD), awarded the demonstration grant funds to OPA; the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA) awarded the \$2,500.00 start-up grant to OPA.
- C. These funds were awarded to carry out a one-time-only special project, Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program (VGAL) and no future support is anticipated.

## II. New or Expanded Services to be Provided

- A. Funds are necessary as a matching requirement to the OHD grant provided to the OPA. Without matching funds, the federal grant will not be awarded. The funds will specifically be utilized to implement a volunteer guardian ad litem program. As can be found in detail in the attached proposal that was submitted to the OHD, guardian ad litem services are utilized to represent the best interests of a minor in judicial proceedings. Most cases involve child abuse and neglect, juvenile delinquency, or contested custody in divorce. Due to very high caseloads, the current staff at the OPA is barely able to adequately represent clients. Each staff guardian ad litem is currently carrying a caseload of 100 to 120 cases. The volunteer guardian ad litem program will follow for

All personal services for staff attorney time, secretarial time, and contractual funds for office space will be in the form of an in-kind contribution from OPA and will not require general fund disbursements. Funds from OPA's general fund appropriation in the amount of \$1,954.00 for travel and \$500.00 for printing a VGAL manual will be used in carrying out this grant project and should be transferred to the federal grant collocation code assigned.

4. Position to be Funded

No new positions or existing vacant positions will be created or funded by these grants. ✓

5. Technical and Budget Aspects of the RPL

- A. These funds were not included in OPA's FY 87 budget as OPA did not know at the time the budget was prepared if the grants would be awarded.
- B. As the grant period of this project is September 1, 1986, through January 31, 1988, OPA will include the remaining funds from the OHD grant for the final seven months of the project (July 1, 1987, through January 31, 1988) in its FY 88 budget.
- C. OPA has received official grant approval for this project. A copy of the Notice of Financial Assistance Awarded is attached.
- D. The funds requested in this RPL will be sent during FY 87 from September 1, 1986, through June 30, 1987.
- E. The indirect costs involved in carrying out this project are included as part of the matching funds (in-kind contributions) provided by OPA as a condition of receipt of the OHD grant.

Your approval of this increased authorization is appreciated. If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

GB/JH/jr  
7/1D1/0813-02  
Attachments

HB 7 - Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program

Backup from HB474  
last year and prior

Letters of Support for the program are from:

Deborah O'Regan, Executive Director  
Alaskan Bar Association

Frank Dalley, Regional Social Services Manager  
Division of Family and Youth Services

Dana Fabe, Public Defender

Veronica Duke, Chief of Clinical Social Work Services  
Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

Elizabeth Sheley, Assistant District Attorney

Ann Stockman, Director of Crisis Services  
S.T.A.R.

Gordon Lantrip, Director  
Alaska Baptist Family Services

Milli Andreini, Executive Director  
The Center for Children and Parents

William D. Hitchcock  
Master, Childrens Court, Third Judicial District

Pamela Kirk and Phillip Kaufman  
Human Relations Center

Corrine Radergraham, Coordinator  
Close Encounters and Alaska Permanency Planning Task Force

Douglas J. Serdahely, Presiding Judge  
Third Judicial District

Rick Calcote  
Ohlson Psychological Services

Ardis J. Cry, Custody Invesigator  
Superior Court Third Judicial District

Yvonne Chase, Deputy Director  
Southcentral Counseling Center

Peter Scales, PhD  
Family Connection

Letters and petition signatures from 137 individuals.

Provides copies in my files.

ALASKA BAR  
ASSOCIATION

JAN 10 1986

December 16, 1985

John Reese, Co-Chair  
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program  
Alaska Bar Association  
P. O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, AK 99510

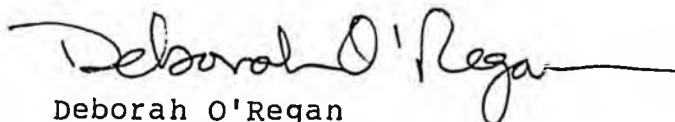
Dear Mr. Reese:

I am writing in support of the committee's efforts to develop a volunteer guardian ad litem program.

Such a program would provide much needed representation for children in our community. The utilization of trained volunteers will make it possible to adequately represent children without substantially increased state funding.

I endorse the enabling legislation which would establish a volunteer guardian ad litem program within the Office of Public Advocacy.

Sincerely,



Deborah O'Regan  
Executive Director

vu



# THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

December 13, 1985

John Reese, Co-Chair  
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program  
Alaska Bar Association  
P.O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510



Dear Mr. Reese:

I am pleased to submit a letter of support for your efforts to establish a volunteer guardian ad litem program. Such a service will provide a needed adjunct to existing guardian ad litem services.

The use of carefully selected and well trained volunteers in child welfare matters has proven to be very effective. The Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) is well respected in communities in the lower forty-eight. The continued increase of child abuse cases and the number of divorces in the Anchorage area are impacting the court system as well as investigation and rehabilitation resources. At a time when financial resources are declining we must find responsible, yet creative ways to serve families in need. The volunteer guardian ad litem is, indeed, a responsible solution to the problem of the increased number of children requiring representation.

I wish you well in the development of the volunteer guardian ad litem program. I am happy to support your efforts and the enabling legislation which will allow you to proceed.

Sincerely,

Milli Andreini, M.S.W.  
Executive Director

MA/wst



Southcentral Alaska Chapter -  
National Committee for  
Prevention of Child Abuse

808 E STREET, SUITE 200, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501 (907) 276-4994  
Programs of the Anchorage Child Abuse Board, Inc.





# Alaska Baptist Family Services

1600 O'Malley Rd. • Anchorage, Ak. 99516 • Phone (907) 349-2222

December 5, 1985

John Reese, Co-Chair  
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program  
AK BAR ASSOCIATION  
P O Box 100279  
City 99510



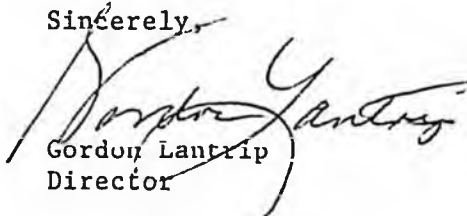
Dear Mr. Reese:

Thank you for your recent letter re the development of a Volunteer Guardian ad litem program here in Alaska.

It has been my experience over these past 25 years in child care work that better things happened to youth who had a guardian ad litem working in their behalf. I know the financial cost of such a program for every child would be staggering and so I think a volunteer program that utilized well chosen and trained citizens has great potential.

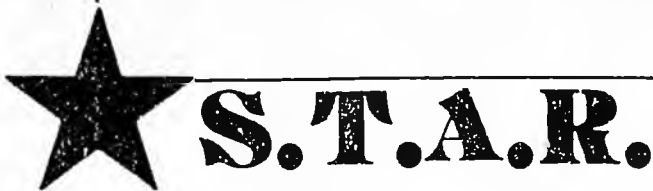
I heartily endorse the development of enabling legislation to begin such a program.

Sincerely,

  
Gordon Lantrip  
Director

DEC 30 1985

Bus. 276-7279  
24-hr.  
Crisis 276-RAPE



December 20, 1985



Mr. John Reese  
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program  
P.O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear John:

On behalf of STAR I am writing to express our support of the proposed Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program. We are well aware of the need for such a program. Some of our clients have recently worked closely with staff from the Office of Public Advocacy. Additionally, I have visited this agency and am aware of the high quality of work that the staff perform.

As with any small agency it is important to maximize the use of volunteers. It sounds like your program will provide services to clients who could otherwise have been left unserved, and these services will be provided at a low cost. Children who are victims of sexual assault are unfortunately often revictimized by the length of and complexities in the court process. Further, children may not have the kind of support they deserve to receive from their parents. In the interest of serving and protecting the interests of children a program such as yours should provide a kind of advocacy that is the right of any victim.

Please feel free to contact me at STAR if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Ann W. Stockman, MSW  
Director of Crisis Services

AWS/sjj

STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE  
PO BOX 103356 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

REPLY TO

1031 WEST 4th AVENUE, SUITE 520  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
PHONE: (907) 277-8622

DRAWER 1180  
KENAI, ALASKA 99611  
PHONE: (907) 283-3131

326 CENTER AVE, 2ND FLOOR  
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615  
PHONE: (907) 486-5744

P.O. BOX 1070  
PALMER, ALASKA 99645  
PHONE: (907) 745-5027

P.O. BOX 671  
VALDEZ, ALASKA 99686  
PHONE: (907) 835-2462

**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**

CRIMINAL DIVISION/THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

December 17, 1985

Mr. John Reese, Co-Chair  
Volunter Guardian ad litem Program  
Alaska Bar Association  
P.O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Reese:

I endorse the proposal to establish a volunteer guardian ad litem program. I am the prosecutor who handles most of the child sexual abuse cases in Anchorage and have done so for the last three years.

Sexually abused children need an effective advocate to prevent damage to them from their involmment with the criminal justice system. In the past our prosecutors were able to spend much more time with victims to help ease their way through the system. Due to budget cuts and the increasing number of these cases we can no longer provide these services.

I believe a volunteer guardian ad litem would be very useful in child sexual abuse cases to fill the gap caused by our lack of resources. Advocating for the child's best interest takes a lot of time. I see no need for that advocate to be an attorney. In fact, there is an advantage to the guardian being outside the system because the guardian can encourage the system better to act in the best interest of the child. Lucy Berliner of the Harborview Sexual Assault Center in Seattle, who is a nationally known expert on child sexual abuse, endorses this concept of each sexually abused child having a non attorney advocate like the ones proposed in the volunteer ad litem program.

Very truly yours,

HAROLD M. BROWN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

VICTOR C. KRUMM  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

*Elizabeth H. Sheley*  
Elizabeth H. Sheley  
Assistant District Attorney

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
ALASKA PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE

2900 PROVIDENCE AVENUE  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508-4677

(907) 561-1633

December 20, 1985

John Reese, Co-Chairman  
Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program  
Alaska Bar Association  
Family Law Section  
P.O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510



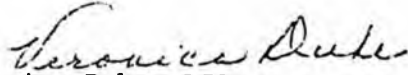
Dear Mr. Reese:

Dr. Bruce Livingstone, our Acting Medical Director, and I have reviewed your letter of December 3, 1985.

We would both endorse the creation of a Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program in the community. We would see them as being persons who would be most useful to our patients. Please feel free to contact us if we can in any way help train your volunteers.

We look forward to working with you when this new program is available.

Sincerely,

  
Veronica Duke, ACSW  
Chief, Clinical Social Work Services

VD/eb EB4 1781

d. 12/20/85  
t. 12/20/85

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

**PUBLIC DEFENDER AGENCY**

900 W. 5TH AVENUE  
SUITE 200  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501  
PHONE: (907) 279-7541

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: December 20, 1985

TO: John Reese, Co-Chair  
Volunteer Guardian ad litem Program .

Jay McCarthy  
Office of Public Advocacy

FROM: *Dana Fabe*  
Dana Fabe  
Public Defender



I am writing to add my support for proposed legislation establishing a volunteer guardian ad litem program within the Office of Public Advocacy. This program would save money for the State of Alaska by avoiding the necessity of adding guardian ad litem positions to meet rising caseloads. Careful recruitment and training of qualified community volunteers should increase the level of service to children needing guardians ad litem to represent their best interests.

I fully support establishment of a volunteer guardian ad litem program within the Office of Public Advocacy. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to aid passage of enabling legislation for such a program.

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES

REGIONAL OFFICE  
3601 C STREET #520  
POUCH 6333  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502-0333  
PHONE: (907) 551-4240

November 20, 1985

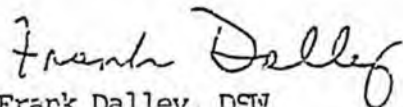
Dorcas Hardy  
Assistant Secretary  
Department of Health & Human Services  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Ms. Hardy:

The State of Alaska has, over the past several years, experienced a dramatic increase in the incidence of reported child abuse and neglect. There are indicators which point to a continuation of this trend as the economy of Alaska begins a downward spiral. One consequence of this phenomenon is that sufficient resources are not available to properly advocate for this rapidly increasing target population.

As a member of the Interagency Task Force charged with responsibility for developing and implementing a volunteer guardian ad litem program in the Anchorage area, I have become acutely aware of the pressing need to expand this program. I strongly urge favorable consideration of Alaska's proposal. These funds will be used to recruit and train volunteers to serve as court appointed special advocates for children and youth throughout the state.

Sincerely,



Frank Dalley, DSW  
Regional Social Services Manager

FD/tm

# Close Encounters

SOCIAL SERVICES CONSULTANTS  
P. O. BOX 6242 215 MAIN STREET 125 HECKMAN BUILDING KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901  
(907) 225-5460

ALINE COLE BARTON, O.T.R.

CORRINE RADERGRAHAM, M.S.W

15 November 1985

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 525  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Ms. Mead:

I am writing this letter in support of the Office of Public Advocacy's grant request from the Coordinated Discretionary Funds Program/Human Development Services.

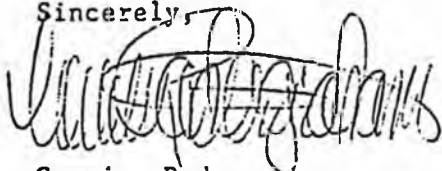
The Alaska Permanency Planning Task Force which was organized by the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges in response to F.L. 96-272 has been actively involved with a consortium of agencies in Alaska to further permanency planning for children in foster care. Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem programs are one part of our goal to provide permanent homes for all Alaska children.

The Alaska Permanency Planning Task Force consists of key members in the State Legislature, Court System, Social Services and private enterprise. As Coordinator, I sincerely hope that funds will be supplied to provide a training coordinator and training materials for the next three years, as training will be instrumental in assuring the success of the Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem legislation which is in the hands of our Legislators at this time.

I know that I may speak for all members of the Alaska Permanency Planning Task Force in supporting your proposal request. I wish you success.

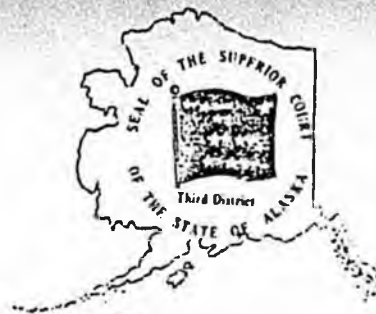
If I can be of any further assistance now or in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Corrine Radergraham  
Coordinator  
Alaska Permanency Planning Task Force

cc: Judge Thomas E. Schulz, Task Force Chairman  
Task Force Members:  
Kathy Tibbles, DFYS SE Regional Manager  
Grace Kinney, SE Vice-President, Alaska Foster Parents Association  
State Supreme Court Justice Alan Compton  
State Senator Joe Josephson  
State Representative John Sund  
State Representative Robin Taylor  
Cecilia Kleinkauf, Associate Professor, Dept. of Social Work, U of A, Anchorage  
Lisa Weissler, A.A. to State Representative Sam Cotten



Superior Court  
State of Alaska

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
303 K Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2083

CHAMBERS OF  
DOUGLAS J. SERDAHELY  
Presiding Judge

November 20, 1985

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 525  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

To Whom It May Concern:

Over the past six months a group of interested persons and agencies in the child welfare system have established the Anchorage Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Project. The purpose of this endeavor is to provide dedicated community volunteers who, under the auspices of the Alaska Office of Public Advocacy, will provide representation for abused and neglected children in court proceedings.

The Alaska Court System strongly supports your program. We believe that augmenting state resources for guardian ad litem representation through volunteers will materially improve the quality of representation given abused and neglected children. However, emphasis must be placed on quality. Integral to the success of any volunteer program is the ability to recruit, train and monitor the work of these volunteers. Approval of the O.P.A. grant request from the Coordinated Discretionary Funds Program/-Human Development Services would be a tremendous boost for this fledgling program and could be instrumental in spelling the difference between success and failure.

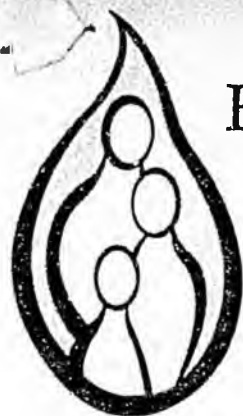
Office of Public Advocacy  
November 20, 1985  
Page 2

We urge your favorable consideration of this application.

Very truly yours,

  
Donald J. Sardanelly

DJS:lge



# Human Relations Center

421 E. 45th, Suite 1  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-7348  
(907) 562-6677

Phillip Kaufman, M.S.  
Pamela Kirk, M.S.  
Dr. Patricia C. Patrick, M.D.  
Child Psychiatric Consultant  
Dr. Jim Harper, Ph.D.  
Psychological Consultant  
Dr. Janet Lindeman, Ph.D.  
Psychological Consultant

December 23, 1985

John Reese  
Co-chair of the Volunteer  
G.A.L. Program  
Family Alaska Bar Association  
Family Law Section  
P.O. Box 100279  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Re: Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Reese:

In response to your letter of December 3, 1985, asking for letters of support for the Office of Public Advocacy and the G.A.L. Program, the Human Relations Center is very much in support of the Office of Public Advocacy. Since most of the cases we work with have to do with child sexual abuse, it is extremely important that our child clients have a strong G.A.L. to protect their interests in these difficult situations. We would be supportive of any legislation that would guarantee more funding for the Office of Public Advocacy so that more G.A.L.'s could be hired. It is obvious that the guardians are so overworked at the present time that they are having difficulty providing high quality services to the children.

We also work with a number of cases where children have reported that they have been sexually abused by a parent during visitation. These cases often result in custody and visitation battles which are complicated by the child sexual abuse allegations. In such cases it is important for the safety of the children that supervised visitation be provided. D.F.Y.S. is not able, due to the time and case load constraints, to provide such supervision for these children. If the volunteer G.A.L. Program could be expanded and supported, then these volunteers could provide some of the supervision that was necessary in our custody cases. Such supervised visitation is also often necessary in our child sexual abuse cases so that the children may maintain a relationship with the perpetrator yet remain safe.

In some child sexual abuse cases, we have mothers who are not supportive of their children and therefore, the children can not be left alone in visitation with a non-offending, non-supportive parent. These are another set of cases where the G.A.L.'s could provide much needed supervision so that the children maintain their mother/child bond with these non-supportive mothers.



We would give our support to any legislation that would: 1) increase the number of G.A.L.'s at the Office of Public Advocacy, 2) provide for funding to increase the volunteer G.A.L. Program, and 3) provide funding so that the volunteer G.A.L.'s could be trained to provide complete and safe supervision to children.

We highly support the Office of Public Advocacy and the volunteer G.A.L. Program. If we can be of further service providing support, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela Kirk, M.S.



Phil Kaufman, M.S.

PK:ln

cc: Jay McCarthy



DEC 20 1985

## Trial Courts

State of Alaska

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

303 K STREET

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

WILLIAM D. HITCHCOCK  
Master, Trial Courts

December 19, 1985

John Reese, Co-Chairman  
Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program  
211 H Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

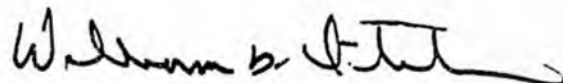
Dear Mr. Reese,

I am writing this letter in support of the efforts being made to establish a full-time volunteer guardian ad litem program within the Office of Public Advocacy. As Children's Court Master here in Anchorage for the past seven years, I have seen firsthand the important role which the guardian ad litem plays in children's proceedings. Case investigation and assessment are the most important and often the most time consuming aspects of this job. Unfortunately, the resources of the state within any agency are often strained to the maximum just dealing with the voluminous caseloads. This is where volunteers can play a vital role in being able to devote the time needed to complete impartial investigations and more adequately represent the best interests of the children.

As a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, I have attended various national conferences at which presentations have been made by volunteer programs in other states. It is my impression that these programs have been extremely successful and have overwhelmingly won the support of the bench and the bar. I think it is particularly unfortunate that we here in Alaska have not done more to tap the resources of our communities and achieve more citizen involvement in areas such as child welfare. A program such as this one would do just that, and from a cost efficient standpoint would materially save the expense of adding more paid staff and attorneys to public agencies.

It is also my distinct impression that no program outside that has been successful has been able to do so without competent administration. Recruitment, training and quality control monitoring of volunteers is an absolute prerequisite to success. Therefore, I urge the legislature to pass enabling legislation which would provide funds to secure an administrator for this program so that it may benefit not only Anchorage but eventually become a statewide program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William D. Hitchcock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William D. Hitchcock  
Master, Children's Court

WDH/ss

P.O. Box 82679  
Fairbanks, AK.  
February 6, 1986

Office Of Public Advocacy  
Jay Mc Carthy Attorney  
900 West 5th Ave. Suite 525  
Anchorage, AKaska 99501

Dear Mr. Mc Carthy:

I attended, spoke and supported House Bill 474 at the teleconference in Fairbanks, Wednesday February 5, 1986. You also spoke as the representative of your office on this bill.

You repeated a statement that a Judicial Judge in Washington stated to you. That statement was "You don't want the Middle Class Medlers involved."

I had certainly hoped we would be able to draw from the middle class a large portion of volunteers required for your agency.

The term "medlers" could be applied to any one person, or persons who would be sincerely trying to help minors or others if they were,

1. Not using methods deemed conventional by someone.
2. Not part of the educated elite.
3. A person or persons interested in public affairs.
4. A person genuinely concern for the traditional family.

One problem as seen by the traditional family (which could be construed as ("middle class medlers") is that many normal adolescent problems are agravited or exasperated by the "Educated Elite" who knows best for the family.

I had hoped that abroad cross section of our community would be allowed to partake in this program, there by gathering support from all and utilizing the diversity of their knowledge and experience to help our youth.

Your philosophe on the traditional family wou'd be appreciated also Mr. Mc Carthy what is your definition of a "middle class medler" and would they be elimated from your program? I have never heard that term before and I'm wondering if I might be one.

Sincerely,

*Theresa Favero*  
U.O.C.A.L. President

cc: Judiciary Committee

M. Mike Miller  
John Sund  
Don Clocksin  
Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.  
Fritz Pettyjohn  
Randy Phillips  
Robin L. Taylor

OHLSON PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES  
4045 LAKE OTIS PARKWAY, SUITE 201  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508  
TELEPHONE (907) 563-3162

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

ROGER CLYNE, PH.D.  
ELIZABETH McNEILL, M.S.  
DAVE SANDBERG, M.S.  
MARY ANN ANDREWS, M.A.  
RICK CALCOTE, M.S.

February 11, 1986

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 West 5th Ave., Suite 525  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Attn: Jay McCarthy

Dear Jay,

I've just recieved news that the Alaska State Legislature has introduced a new bill, H.S.474, which makes provision for the inclusion of a Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem program with the Office of Public Advocacy. I want to offer my full support for this new program. I believe it will prove to be cost effective and beneficial for the State. The use of volunteer non-legal professionals as GALs can provide a creative adjunctive service to the courts and to the children and families of Alaska. To quote an old phrase, 'it's an idea whose time has come'.

I wish you and your colleagues the best. Please feel free to use this letter in any way that will best serve your goals for the program.

Respectfully,

*Rick M. Calcote*

Rick M. Calcote, M.S.

FEB 13 1986



FEB 18 1986

Custody Investigator's Office  
Room #214  
(907) 264-0428

Superior Court  
State of Alaska

CUSTODY INVESTIGATORS  
Ardis J. Cry, Director  
Elizabeth A. Southworth  
John Hanscom

February 11, 1986

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

303 K Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

This letter is written in support of the proposal to establish a volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program within the Office of Public Advocacy.

The Custody Investigator's Office is responsible for evaluating all contested custody and/or visitation issues for the Third Judicial District. Often the need arises for a guardian ad litem to protect the interests of the minor children in custody litigation. In many such cases the family's resources preclude the appointment of a private attorney to act as guardian. It then falls to the Office of Public Advocacy to act in behalf of the children in question.

The Office of Public Advocacy provides an unquestionably valuable service with limited staff resources. Custody cases require a great amount of time, attention and energy. There is no doubt that the proposed volunteer program could relieve the burden on the Office of Public Advocacy and would, in turn, improve their ability to aid children in the determination of custody and visitation rights.

The proposed legislation has the full support of the Custody Investigator's Office. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Respectfully,

Ardis J. Cry  
Director

AJC:ss

Feb. 12, 1986

Jay McCarthy, Public Advocacy Office

Dear Mr. McCarthy,

I am a former police officer (Certified in both Alaska and Texas). As an officer I worked with abused children; most of the time I was powerless to help unless I really stuck my neck out because I had no back system to help me out upon contact with the child.

Therefore; I very much support your house bill 474.

Johnnie M. Jones  
903 West 30<sup>th</sup> A4  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

H-561-5218

W-264-4057

DATE: February 11, 1986  
TO: Jay McCarthy  
FROM: Lynda Freeman  
RE: House Bill 474

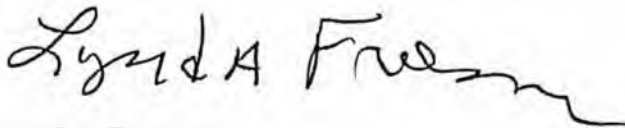
Jay, I would appreciate your forwarding this letter of support for House Bill 474 to whomever you feel is most appropriate.

As you know, Jay, I worked as a counselor at McLaughlin Youth Center for five years, have been Director of a Suicide Prevention Center, which dealt with a large caseload of abused children or parents who were becoming abusive under stress, was Director for a home for the Chronically Mentally Ill, and have myself become mother to two children who were abused before living with me as part of my extended family. Therefore, I speak from a wide range of experience in dealing with abused, neglected, or damaged children and the environments that led to their problems.

I have learned the hard way the "maze" that children in need can become lost in within this system, in spite of the best intentions of all concerned.

Now that I am also serving as a Volunteer Guardian Ad Lidum, I can see even more clearly the positive difference a program like this can mean for children.

Please express my strong support of this bill to Juneau.



Lynda Freeman  
151 Pettis Drive  
Anchorage Ak 99515

DATE: February 13, 1986

TO Jay McCarthy, Public Advocacy Office

FROM: Nuria Hanson  
7621-A Rancho Road  
Anchorage, Ak 99507  
344-9892

RE: House Bill 474

I want to express my strong support for House Bill 474 for the following reasons:  
Having worked with court assigned, emotionally damaged children at Booth Memorial Home for 5 years, and having sat on several Boards searching for alternative ways to help abused children and their families, I observed a strong need for a supportive person with court authority to intervene in these children's lives in cases where parents were non-existent, or abusive. In my work at Booth, I saw firsthand the results of what happens to children to become "lost in the system", and the devastating effects this has on the rest of their lives.

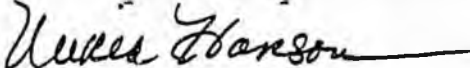
I feel very strongly that the concept of Guardian Ad Lidum, and the difference that these persons could make in children's lives is something which should have been implemented long ago.

I also personally noticed the tremendous difference in what occurred with the one or two children who had Guardian Ad Lidums appointed to look out for their best interest, and those who did not.

Since the State obviously cannot afford to pay for Guardian Ad Lidums for each child in need, the only possible solution to caring for the needs of our children is a force of well trained, qualified volunteers willing to assume this important task.

Please forward my support of this bill to the persons who can most effectively help to bring about its passage.

Thank you for your time.

  
Nuria Hanson



## SOUTHCENTRAL COUNSELING CENTER

4020 Folker Street • Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
563-1000

Glade Birch, Ph.D. Executive Director

- Adult and Family Counseling
- Emergency Services 24 Hours
- Psychiatric Services
- Aftercare Services
- Transitional Living Care
- Sheltered Workshop
- Foster Care Training
- Geriatric Services
- Day Break Adult Day Care
- Community Services

February 20, 1986

Jay McCarthy  
Office of Public Advocacy  
900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 525  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

FEB 26 1986

Dear Jay:

I am writing to endorse the efforts of your office to initiate a program which would utilize lay individuals as guardians ad litem. The use of lay individuals as GAL's has been utilized extensively in other states, resulting in a cost effective program providing quality services. The Southcentral Counseling Center would strongly endorse a program which would provide these services.

Sincerely,

Yvonne M. Chase, ACSW  
Deputy Director

YMC/lw



A United Way Agency



## A counseling agency for youth and their families

1836 W. Northern Lights, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

(907) 279-0551

February 19, 1986

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 W. 5th Ave  
Suite 525  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Attn: Philip J. McCarthy, Jr.

FEB 25 1986

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

Family Connection would like to support HB 474 which would statutorially allow the office of Public Advocacy to establish a volunteer guardian ad litem program. This agency greatly supports the need for advocacy of children in our courts. We work closely with the Guardian Ad Litem and realize they have a much increased caseload and could benefit from this volunteer program. It would be an effective means of advocating for our children and also be cost effective for the state.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Scales, PhD  
Executive Director

PCS/hmb

Feb 18, 1986

FEB 20 1986

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 W. 5th Ave. Suite 525  
Anchorage, AK 99501

To Whom It May Concern:

Please support House Bill 474 for the establishment  
of a volunteer guardian ad litem program  
through the Office of Public Advocacy.  
My own knowledge of people already working  
in this capacity encourages me to ask that  
further development of the program be allowed.

Sincerely,

Wendy Chase, MSW, ACSW  
16215 Chasswood Ln.  
Anchorage, AK 99516



RECEIVED

February 17, 1986

FEB 19 1986

Office of Public Advocacy  
900 W. 5th Ave. #525  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program:

I would like to support the House Bill 474 which would statutorially allow the Office of Public Advocacy to establish a Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Program. I believe this would be an effective means of providing advocacy for children in our courts.

Sincerely,

*Elayne A. Allen*

Elayne A. Allen

WE, AS ANCHORAGE RESIDENTS, AND REGISTERED VOTERS, WISH TO EXPRESS OUR SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 474-AND ASK THE SUPPORT OF OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS IN SUPPORTING THE VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM:

Esma E. Hansen apt 117 Chugiak senior center  
Gerrit Russell Star RT Box 399 Eagle River  
Lucy Keener SR-1 Box 2890 Chugiak ak  
Etta Pearce P.O. Box 25 - Eagle River ak 99577  
Deedy Taylor SR-1 Box 2890 Chugiak ak  
Daisy Pilon SR-1 Box 2890 Chugiak ak  
Russ M Foreman SR-1 - Box 2890 Chugiak ak  
Jessie M Gardner - SR-1 - Box 2890 Chugiak ak  
Lilly Wilson P.O. Box 70041 Eagle River AK  
Rose Stevenson P.O. Box 70016 Chugiak Ak  
Karin S. Stevens PO Box 670341 - Chugiak Ak 99567  
Betty Taylor SR1 - Box 2890 Chugiak AK 99567  
James E. Baker SR1 - Box 2890 Chugiak Ak 99567  
Wanda E. Stokum Box 670412 Chugiak Ak 99567  
Margaret Campbell SR1 Box 2890 Chugiak AK  
Joshua Robinson A.P.#1 - Box 2890 (99567)  
Chugiak Alaska, 99567  
Margaret Wilson Star Rt Box 14317 Eagle River Ak 99577  
Norothy E. Pedersen SR-1 Box 2890 Apt 114 Chugiak, AK 99567  
Ann C. Slack SR 1 Box 2890, Apt 213, Chugiak  
Clarine Baselay SR1 Box 2890 Apt 1 Chugiak AK  
Floy Short St. Rt. 1 Box 2890 - Chugiak 99567  
Peggy Rusnak, P.O. Box 770243, Eagle River AK 99577  
Norothy Waters Chugiak Apt 108  
Loni Elton

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Dennis L. Boy 4132 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Anchorage, AK 99504

Keith L. Moller 7731 Everden Dr. Anch. Ak. 99518

Judith P. Forshee 221 East 7<sup>th</sup> Ave Anch. AK 99501

Patricia G. Murphy 529 W. 71<sup>th</sup> Anchorage, 99518

Jenna Nansen 2076 James Circle Anchorage 99515

Fabian E. Eriksen 3428 Purdue St. Anch. AK. 99508.

GC "Satch" Carlsson 10600 SIDOROF LANE 99516

Benjamin Pontreac 110 Jelinek Pl. Anch. AK. 99504

Peggy Lumming 1911 Rebel Ridge Anchorage AK 99504

Paula Josephson 6509 Cameron Ln Anchorage 99504

Caselyn Graham 1913 Diamond Anchorage 99504

Shelia H. Owen 1203 Ariel Pl Anchorage 99501

Marilyn Conway 2457 Corcoran Anchorage 99508

Wayne Mergler 3642 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. Anchorage 99508

Daniel Bromley 4849 Sondi Dr Anchorage 99502

Vince Monaco 258 FIREWED DR. ANCH., AK 99508

Michelle V. Davis 4618 McPhee, Anchorage AK. 99514

Leile Owens 3720 Laron Lane Anchorage 99504

John Page 4200 Southgate Blvd Dr. Anchorage 99516

Tommy Kinnaman 5756 Sunlight Dr Anchorage 99504

Christine 7018 31<sup>st</sup> Anchorage 99501

Smith Letters P.O. Box 1248 Anchorage AK

Beverly Ross 3207 Cottonwood Anch AK

Gregory Gere P.O.B 112051 Anch. 99511

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Andrew Kapalko ANDREW KAPALKO

David C Mayer DAVID C MAYER

Sammy R Stadler SAMMY R STADLER

Noel H. Gast NOEL H. GAST

Kathrine M. Shankel KATHRINE M. SHANKEL

Jeffrey L. Bentzel JEFFREY L. BENTZEL

Arthur Joe Smith ARTHUR JOE SMITH

Gordon C. May Jr GORDON C. MAY JR

Lars C. Larsen LARS C. LARSEN

Jim Hartner JIM HARTNER

Mark Ellingson MARK ELLINGSON

[Empty lined area for additional signatures]

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- Valone Lee Talbot SR 2 Box 4233 Chugach, AK 99571  
James E. Bruce 7408 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Ave., Anch. AK. 99504  
Julie J. Gendron 7011 Tanager Ave Anch. AK 99508  
Mary C. Keim 462 Canal St Anch. AK 99508  
Hugh Fisher 648 E 74<sup>th</sup> Anch. AK 99578  
Kevin J. Reese 1519 Wintergreen St. Anch. AK 99508  
Claudia Behr PO Box 101465 Anch. AK 99510  
Alice Olsen 5909 Lynberry Cir Anch. AK 99504  
Barkara Wingard 3007 Turmagain # 2 Anch. AK  
Elaine Klumbe-Crowd 8014 Esrd Anch 99504  
Kirk M. Broadson % 2000 Providence Anch 99508  
Georgann Joy, 1600 Manchester St, Anch, AK 99507  
Barbara Annam 5220 E 24<sup>th</sup> #C Anchorage AK 99508  
Doris Wark 748 E 74 Anchorage 99518  
Ann Kay 3554 Lawrence Anch AK 99508  
Pauline E. Kott 801 Apt Hts #403 Anchorage, AK 99508  
Jane O'Kelle, 88 Citation Rd Eagle River, AK 99577  
Nancy Matrone 815 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Anchorage, AK 99503  
Rhea Beaumaster 5335 E. 41<sup>st</sup> Anch, AK 99508  
Carlton Hamilton P.O. Box 11801 Anch. AK 99511  
Edward Giacardi 2440 E Tudor/Suite 452 Anch. AK 99507  
Verena Randolph 6600 Cimarron Circle Anch AK 99504  
Nancy M. COOPER 200 W 34<sup>th</sup> Suite 802 Anch AK 99503  
Carolyn Carlson 9710 Hillside Drive Anch ak 99516

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- John Jones Reg. # 41045284 (R)
- Janell Swenson 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # A2 # 4048297
- M. O. K. Reg. # 4028332 (R)
- Howard Johnson 5020 BUCKINGHAM WAY ANCH. Reg. # ~~0012222~~ <sup>368, 225</sup>
- Ann C. Johnson 5020 BUCKINGHAM WAY ANCH. # 255321
- Winston P. Gessert 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # C-1 Anc 139-48-2437
- Donna K. Jones 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # A4 574-18-9928
- Fred M. Stuchlikoff 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # 4-C 574-46-4220
- Peter J. Krapidlowski 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # A-6 574-62-2043
- W.D. Henderson 903 W 30<sup>th</sup> # 5A SSN 541-76-5612
- Jean Ann Kurf 11 SSN - 574-60-1702
- A. Holman 703 W 30<sup>th</sup> - 565-4905

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Cot # 4

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Barry Brown

David M. Morshead

Raymond Harris

Debra

Brian Brandt

Silda She

Robert

5000 Southampton Anchorage

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*Gleneth Barker P.O. Box 770398 L.R. 99577*

*Shirley Roberts*

*Lark Winters*

*M. Janette Lowe 5R3, Box 7180 Rambler, Chugiak 99567*

*Peter H. & Tracy P.O. Box 772037 L.R. 99577*

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Ellen Diller SR1-Box 2890 Chugiak AK- 99567

Sheward O'Hara Box 670505 CHUGIAK, AK.

Christelle Henderson: Pox 671232 " "

Frank Seidel PO BOX 1174 EAGLE RIVER AK

Re Robert Po Box 129 Chugiak AK 99567

Therese Sidor Box 670067 Chugiak ak 99567

Ann Catlin

Marie L. Fitzmaurice - 621111 Hill Circle River AK 99577

Neil Severson SR1 Box 1020 Chugiak

Mabel Ulrich SR3 - 5396 Laurwood Dr Chugiak

Bill & Wm SR3 - Box 1524 Chugiak AK 99567

Audrey Hill Box 670456 Chugiak ak. 99567

Loretta French ST. RT. I-TR-7193 Chugiak AK 99567

Habana 100 FairHaven Rd 99577

Lies Graham 98 Lee Road Eagle R. 9957

Carl Johnson SR-11 Box 2890 Chugiak AK 99567

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Charles [unclear] 4512 E 2nd Anchorage AK 99504  
 Kent. P. [unclear] 1551 State St #3 99504 338-0904  
 Carolyn E. Bloom P.O. Box 110343 Anchorage 99511  
 Stephen W. Jugate 11240 Steegard Anchorage AK 99516  
 Elaine L. Jew 6321 Habicht Ct. Anch. Ak. 99504  
 [unclear] 7623 Old [unclear] Rd. Anch ak 99504  
 Dorothy Jewell Box 770426 Eagle River 99577 688-3683  
 A. [unclear] 512 [unclear] St anch 99515 349-7705  
 Cynthia M. Robb P.O. Box 142133 Anchorage 99514-2133 333-4030  
 Bruce J. Stinnett 328 Benigno 2038 Anch AK 99504 344-2943  
 Arlene K. Yeager 7021 Viburnum Dr. Anch ak 99507 344-6997  
 Jani Mayo 3157 Bettlers Bay anch ak 99515 349-2448  
 Beatrice Slichter 5061 Southampton Dr. Anch AK 99503 563-0218  
 Emory Kelling 3141 West 71st Ave Anch, AK 99502 248-7626  
 Amy L. Young 13311 Venus Wy 99515 345-3554  
 Debel Cheyenne 13000 Saunders Rd 99516 345-2209  
 Jackie Frenzel 6810 Idaview Dr 99516 345-1472  
 David M. Cheyenne 13000 Saunders Rd 99516 345-2209  
 Anne Ogden P.O. Box 670 Chug- 99567 688-4434  
 Corra Beece 13731 Venus Way A/A 99515 345-3186  
 Cindy Leggett 8339 Spruce St 99507 344-2063  
 Brenda Schimm 403 Rawshp Chugiak 99567 688-2671  
 Ray Rose 6821 Viburnum Dr. Anch 99507 344-3857  
 John [unclear] 6939 Stella Pl Anch 99507 349-6257  
 Charles P. Brown P.O. Box 774254, Eagle River, 99577 694-6727  
 Linda K. Kussig 12420 Thaurer Dr. Anchorage 99515 345-1389  
 James P. [unclear] Box 670062 Chugiak AK 99567 688-9651  
 Maureen A. Smith 3561 Heartwood, Anch 99504 338-3088  
 William J. Theisen P.O. Box 671116 Chugiak, AK. 99567 688-2918  
 Dan [unclear] 7271 F 27th Anch, Ak. 99504 337-5238

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	Name	Mailing Address	Phone #
1	Truman B. Newsome	4360 Spruce Rd, Anchorage, AK 99503	243-3493
2	Laurie D. Fields	6511 E. 8th #2 Anch 99501	337-2617 274-5525 WK
3	Jack Miller	3902 Sunnyside #1	274-5525
4	Shelley Clausen	12005 Wilderness	345-7006
5	Dalton S. Schmiedt	2710 Sanding Dr. #11-23	344-0793
6	Henrytho M <sup>c</sup> Clady	2605 E. 17th Ave. 99504	333-6897
7	Calvin Hamwood	827 E 17th Ave 99501	279-2384
8	Angela Vera	1026 East 9th Ave #3 99501	274-6899
9	Gineth Stallworth	3443 Crissom 99503	240-7255
10	Michael J. Speer	346 Linkport Ct 508	338-1005
11	Debra A. M. Costa	1036 E. 9th 501	274-6879
12	Ann Kenna	230 W 14th Anch AK 99501	277-0011
13	Mich Atherton	5701 E. 6th sp 15 1	333-2225
14	Betty Johnson	705 Madeline #11	333-4851
15	Cheryl Robinson	1545 S. Hoyt Sp 63	333-9158
16	George W. Brown Jr.	1834 June #1	276-5141
17	Harold A. Ault	3829 Apollo, 99504	333-1483
18	A. Thompson	8101 Peck Ave E-35	338-5010
19	M. Prince	P.O. Box 770846 Eagle River	694-2087
20	Brenda Kichep	1015 E. 20th	276-6718
21	Joe Fleming	3110 Will St	562-8680
22	Heather Thompson	521 Patay	337-8276
23	Dorothy Hare	3531 E. 42nd #222	255-7890x2066
24	Joseph Hare	" " " "	563-2545
25	Steve Moss	1327 Nelchiro	276-6513

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August C. Rink 3410 Purdue St Anch. 99508  
James Abraham 4012493021 Anch. 99509-3021  
Lamorne Reynolds Box 4-2544 Anch. 99509  
James John 1011 W 12th #1 ANCH 99501  
Muriel Lowell POB, 87496411 Mill, Ak 99687  
Daniel Blumoff ↓ ↓ ↓  
Felix Borchers Box 3641 Anch AK 99570  
Karla F Huntington 125 Juanita loop Eagle River  
Fred R. Fulgencio 937 ORCA Anchorage AK 99501  
Jill Shelton 2541 Arlene Anch 99515  
Don Bayard 3250 Wily Bay Loop Anch AK 99512  
Conrada Antonio 323051745 Wasilla AK 99687  
George & Hope 8401 Western Anch, AK 99502  
Maria Hanson 7621-A Ranch Rd. Anch AK 99587  
Patricia Pistro Kodiak, Ak.  
Diana Cole Kodiak Alaska  
Van Lundberg Homer Alaska  
Alan Hanson Box 6030 Wasilla, Ak.

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Name	mailing Address	Phone #
Charles H Benson	1530 Orca	277-9778
Edleen Jordan	7110 Travis	344-5628
Dorothy Conkle	934 Young St NE	276-6264-
Kathy L. Aiel	2101 W 36 <sup>th</sup> Apt A	243-5648
Dollie Wilson	1275 E 9 <sup>th</sup>	274-6424
Kathy <del>Th</del> Mead	927 W 25 <sup>th</sup> Ave	272-5329
Shirley Johnson	617 N Kelvin #1	274-3346
Gelina Mae Tandy	P.O. Box 111506 Anchorage AK	344-0406
DARRYL JORDAN	1101 W 82 <sup>ND</sup> AVE	349-8135
SHARON JAEGER (Sharon Jaeger)	6821 Foothill Drive 99504	333-8624
William J Davis	PO Box 103877 99514	276-2777
Katherine Crum	4600 DeBarre Ave.	269-2268
James Patten	601 N. Klovon Apt 3	271-4736 msg.
Jill Gates	3637 West 100 <sup>th</sup> Ave	349-8307
Eva D. Merrifield	3313 Leonard Circle	561-0851
Shawn O. Richards	2440 McKenzie Dr. 99517	272-5570 w
Marie Majumbe	4002 Kingston Circle	333-0717
Elizabeth Lanta	3405 E 18 <sup>th</sup>	274-6850



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David D Denlin P.O. Box 771264 Eagle River, AK <sup>99577</sup> 688-3840  
Randy Hoffbeck 2437 Eagle River Rd Eagle River, AK 99577 694-2001  
Clint R. Olson 760 N. Gulkana Ct. Palmer, AK 99645 745-1287  
John Kennedy 2260 Minerva #7B, Anch. AK. 99515  
Randy Carter 1313 Annapolis Anch. 277-2761  
Debbie Kloier P.O. Box 141381 Anch AK 349-8511  
Manda Dine 9220 Shorecrest ANCH AK 343-4222  
Susan Mayer 3900 E 80th Ave Anch AK 344-9179  
Jan Marden 14621 Park Hills Anch AK 345-6406  
Suzanne Phelps 3930 E. 81st Anch 344-7294



Lynn Freeman 264-4057

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David E. Bybee 6831 Roundtree Circle, Anch.

Neil J. Hansen 4171 E. 20th Ave, Anch, 99508

P. Connor Rodriguez 3500 E. 11th 99508

J.A. Steinhilber 4231 Bayview Anch 99506

Curt SHARAZZ 10401 Hampton Hill Anch 99516

Deb Peplau 7121 Arlene Anchorage AK 99502

T. Kline 7440 Chislet Ct. Anchorage, AK. 99516

Beverly Astevens 4071 Warwick Pl. Anch AK 99508

Linn Kassabe 9988 Main Tree Anch AK 99516

Elizabeth M Carter 5341 Country Club Anch. AK <sup>99516</sup> ~~99507~~

Belinda D. Hoyt 2901 Westward Point Anch. AK. 99516

Lyne Brown 8611 Jupiter Dr. Anch. AK. 99507

Yvonne Brown 9201 Blackberry #31 Anch. AK

Donna Morris 9825 Carlson Rd. Anchorage <sup>99507</sup> ~~99507~~

Nick Thompson 6410 Ridgeway Circle Anch, AK 99507

Bra Yancey 1940 Patterson Anch AK 99504

Bernice Chavira 3530 Peromys Bay Anch AK 99515

Ally McKeown 1100 W. Parson Blvd. Anch. AK. 99507

John Halasz 5011 E. 66th Anchorage, AK. 99507

Jacqueline Johnson 3601 W. 41st Ave Anchorage, AK. 99517

Hugh P. Drogan 5756 Fiji St., Anch, AK. 99507

Natlie Prochnick P.O. Box 111336, Anch, AK 99511

Gerden Lee 5500 E. 98th Hitteringo, AK 99516



