

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

5063 HSTA HB 95 - HB 99

635

cause for dismissal. Casino personnel should be sufficiently well paid to ensure that quality people are recruited and retained. Since increased employment in the area does not seem to a significant goal of the Skagway proposal, it seems unnecessary to implement any procedures which would give preference to local residents in casino employment. This would be advantageous in recruiting experienced people from other jurisdictions.

4. What types of games would have been common at the turn of the century, and which of these would be the best in terms of economic gain to the City of Skagway, ease of control and audit, and provide the greatest visitor appeal?

The question of the type of games to be offered in any authorized casino is, to be sure, an important one, and one on which we offer thoughts below. However, at the outset, it should be noted that specific designation of particular games is not necessarily essential at this stage of a casino proposal. What is a necessary component in this context in any beginning casino proposal is the recognition that only those games authorized by the regulatory authority empowered to control the casino operation will be allowed to be played in that casino operation. Once this power is established, the public can be assured that the games offered will be fair and in keeping with the general atmosphere intended by the enabling legislation. There is some significant value in leaving open the possibility to introduce new games or remove existing games from play as experience and time dictate success and failure.

For example, New Jersey found it necessary to amend its casino law to broaden the discretion vested in the regulatory authority to authorize new types of games as market demands demonstrated the necessity for modifications and as new games were developed and created. In recent legislation, authorizing casino gambling in Queensland, Australia, the nature and types

of games to be played was left to the discretion of the casino operator to propose and to the governmental apparatus to approve.

With respect to any particular games that might be contemplated and the advantages and disadvantages of them, the game which would probably prove the most popular and be in keeping with the historical ambiance intended is the game of Blackjack.

You appear to have contemplated the introduction of this game by virtue of your reference to it in your fac. sheet.

Blackjack is a game regularly played in casinos throughout the world, it is familiar to virtually all casino patrons and has proven successful and profitable as a general rule. Supervision and control of Blackjack has been explained, in part, in other sections of this report. There are other specific dealing rules and procedures which may be implemented which can further insure the integrity of the game. For example, Blackjack should be dealt from a dealing shoe and not out of the dealers' hand. Patrons should not be permitted to touch the cards which they are dealt. Specific shuffling and discard procedures should be followed and specific gaming rules can be implemented which can counteract card counters who might otherwise gain the edge in the probabilities of the game.

Another game that might be considered is the game of poker.

Although poker provides an increased possibility for patron cheating, by virtue of the players' handling of their own cards and their playing against one another, poker also presents a virtual certain profit for the house since the casinos' win comes as a price for dealing the game. The house does not gamble at all in casino poker.

A third game for consideration is the game of craps. This is a very American game which would probably be well known to those who would patronize the Skagway facilities. Craps fits well into the barroom sort of atmosphere which Skagway would be creating. It generates a great deal of player interest and excitement in the course of its play. The house advantage in craps depends on the type of wager placed, but, overall it can be expected that the casino would win between 15% and 20% of all chips purchased at the table.

To reiterate, the listed games above are provided only as suggestions. As also noted above, the initial proposal can include discretionary authority to identify, modify, and eliminate authorized games.

5. What would be an initial cost for equipment and operation to get the program started?

Costs of development are, obviously, a function of the nature of the development itself. The Skagway Proposal eliminates what, in other jurisdictions, has been the most expensive element of casino industry development - construction. The Skagway Proposal, as we understand it, intends to place casino games within existing facilities. As a result, capital costs would be limited to whatever minor alterations to the facility might be necessary for aesthetic, logistic reasons. It is premature to speculate at this point on what types of internal rearrangement might be necessary within any existing facility and, accordingly, the cost of that rearrangement must wait for another day.

However, what can be surmised within some general range is the cost of equipment. We have included in our report for this purpose a brochure prepared by the Paul-Son Dice and Card Company. This brochure is intended for your review as an example of the types of expense that could be anticipated in the purchase of casino equipment.

As one can see from a perusal of the brochure, these costs are not small. In addition, there must be included costs of the equipment which might not typically be realized. For example,

for the game of Blackjack, one must not only purchase the table itself, but the felt layout which covers the table, the locking tray and cover which secures the chip inventory, the drop boxes into which cash received for the purchase of chips is placed, and other similar ancillary apparatus.

One should also carefully consider the significance of items like chips and cards and their associated costs. One takes for granted that chips and cards are an essential element of any casino operation. However, it must be understood that the security over and the integrity of each of those items is critical to the overall honesty of the casino game. Therefore, chips which, in effect, serve as money in a casino, must be specially manufactured to prevent, as far as possible, counterfeiting. In addition, cards must be carefully designed to avoid patterns which lend themselves to easy marking. Cards, and to a lesser degree, dice as well, are regularly destroyed and replaced when they have developed any sign of use or wear that might compromise the integrity of that piece of equipment.

6. What kind of revenue could the city expect to receive?

Speculation on projected revenue is just as difficult in the casino field as it is in any other area, and probably more so. A wide variety of factors must be considered before any specific figure could be deduced. Typically, an analysis of general economic conditions is undertaken as is an analysis of site, location, and supply and demand. Without that kind of information available at the present time, the best projections we might be able to offer can be based in the general experience of existing jurisdictions.

In this connection, we offer you the following experience from Atlantic City, New Jersey. The industry there has estimated that the game of Blackjack typically generates income as follows:

1. A table with a \$2 minimum bet will win (gross profit) between \$68 and \$80 per seat per day.
2. A table with a \$5 minimum bet will win (gross profit) between \$170 to \$200 per seat per day.
3. A table with a \$25 minimum bet will win (gross profit) between \$850 and \$1,000 per seat per day.
4. A table with a \$100 minimum bet will win between \$3,400 and \$4,000 per seat per day.

As another means of comparison, during February of 1983 in Atlantic City, a casino of average performance won approximately \$2,500 per day per craps table, \$1,700 per day per roulette table, \$2,500 per day per big six wheel, and \$6,000 per day per baccarat table.

As has been said previously during the course of this report, the experience of any one jurisdiction will not necessarily coincide with the experience of another. The casino performance figures of Atlantic City provided herein are not those on which Skagway should rely or expect in its situation. There were 21,000,000 visitors to Atlantic City last year. Skagway will experience no such influx. The above figures are provided only so that you have some point of comparison into which you should calculate the variable factors of geography, size, scope, market and the like. As those factors are studied, a clearer picture of expected profitability in Skagway will take shape.

7. Under this proposal, what kind of social problems should we expect?

One lesson we have learned in the course of our having viewed various existing and proposed casino jurisdictions is that each casino environment is distinct. It is impossible to transpose any casino situation from one geographical area to another and assume that precisely the same set of circumstances will apply to each. The economic, sociological and demographic features of a particular region dictate the affect of the introduction of casinos into that region just as surely as they dictate the social effect of any other phenomenon that that region may experience. There are, however, two general categories of lessons which can be learned from the experience of other jurisdictions. On the one hand, certain social impacts can be expected as a general rule, and anticipation of these impacts can greatly enhance the value of the introduction of the casino experience. Secondly, there is a host of misinformation and mythology which surrounds the casino industry and which can be dispelled by a review of what has happened in other parts of the world.

First of all, the most frequent social effect mentioned in connection with the introduction of casinos is the growth of crime in the area. As a general proposition, it can be said that the introduction of casinos on any large scale has, in the past, increased crime rates. However, what must be

clearly understood about this observation is that the associated increase in the crime rate is, in very large measure, not the result of the introduction of casinos per se, but, rather, the result of the resultant enormous increase in the numbers of visitors to the area. For example, the increase in the crime rate in Atlantic City, New Jersey, after the introduction of casinos to that area was no greater and, to some extent, less than the increase in the crime rate in Orlando, Florida which resulted from the introduction of Disney World to that city.

To be sure, there are certain crimes which have typically been linked to casinos themselves. Prostitution and loan sharking are frequently mentioned in this category. However, what must be understood in evaluating the Skagway proposal in this context is the scale of casino operation therein proposed. The kinds of prostitution and loan sharking activity which may tend to arise in 30,000 to 100,000 square foot, million dollar a day casino operations in Las Vegas or Atlantic City will simply not be spawned in the infinitely more subdued and limited casino atmosphere contained in your proposal. For example, one casino activity which has caused some of the most severe law enforcement and social problems in large scale casino operations has been the area of credit. Questions of untaxed casino proceeds, patron fraud, and compulsive

gambling have arisen from the issuance of credit to gamblers. However, in casino enterprises of the size you propose, it would be both unnecessary and inappropriate for credit to be available. This factor alone eliminates many of the social effects which have been criticized in other jurisdictions.

Another issue often linked with casinos, as mentioned briefly above, is compulsive gambling. The specter of the food money being gambled away at the tables haunts those who propose and support casino legalization. Again, there is an element of validity to this fear. Certainly, the availability of casino gambling, or any form of gambling for that matter, increases the possibility that persons will succumb to whatever psychological factors create the compulsive personality where they might not otherwise succumb if the opportunity to gamble had not been made readily accessible. However, here, too, this problem must be viewed in terms of scope and scale. The more limited the opportunity, the more limited the problem.

Other jurisdictions have dealt with this social effect in different ways. For example, in Great Britain, all casino gambling is conducted in facilities in the nature of private clubs. Patron access is limited to members. One may not become a member, or gamble in the facility, for a forty-eight hour period following application. This

Finally, there is the axiom that where casinos go, organized crime will follow. Clearly, this impression arises from a combination of both historical fact and media reinforcement. The origins of casino gambling in the United States did have connections with organized criminal activity. The State of Nevada would be the first to admit that the first major casino in Las Vegas, the Flamingo, was owned and operated by Bugsy Siegel, a gangster of significant notoriety.

But history, after all, is history. There is nothing inherent in the conduct of a casino game that makes any association between it and organized crime inevitable. Careful review and oversight in the gaming area can, for all intents and purposes virtually eliminate organized crime infiltration in the ownership and the operation of casino enterprises. This is especially so under the circumstances you propose. Again, one must look first to the size and scope of the casinos envisioned. Skagway is not intended to be Las Vegas; it is not intended to be Atlantic City. Rather, Skagway as we understand it, intends to offer a small, quaint casino atmosphere with limited play and limited patronage. These are not circumstances ripe for any substantial criminal incursion.

practice is in keeping with the overall British policy that gaming not exist to meet any but unstimulated demand. Another practice in keeping with this policy is the prohibition of advertising by any English casino.

In the Bahamas, they have taken the policy a few steps further. In that country, no member of the local population is permitted to gamble. This clearly limits patron categories to visitors and tourists and severely limits any economic effects which may accrue to Bahamians as a result of the existence of casinos in their country.

Finally, in Malaysia, Malaysian citizens are required to deposit \$200 Malaysian (approximately \$85 American dollars) with a cashier on entering the casino. They are given a receipt for the money. When they leave the casino, on showing their receipt, their money is returned to them. This practice insures that, first of all, persons of some means are those who are gambling and, second of all, no one can gamble away their last dollar.

We do not mention these practices to suggest your adoption of all or any of them. We only note them for your consideration in evaluating the methods which can be utilized to limit what might be perceived as negative social impacts which result from casino gambling.

OF THE UPMOST CONCERN TO THE CITY OF SKAGWAY IS THAT ANY GAMBLING IN SKAGWAY BE CONTROLLED BY THE CITY GOVERNMENT. THE CITY COUNCIL WOULD ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF GAMING TABLES, THE TYPES OF GAMES ALLOWED, THE LIMITS PLACED UPON BETS, AND THE HISTORIC CRITERIA. PROCEEDS FROM GAMBLING WOULD GO TO THE CITY, WITH 50% OF THOSE PROCEEDS TO BE USED FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

ANOTHER MAJOR CONCERN IS THAT ANY GAMBLING OPERATION MAINTAIN AN HISTORIC CHARACTER. THE INTENT IS TO RECREATE THE ADVENTURESOME ATMOSPHERE OF 1898, NOT TO CREATE THE GLITTER AND STYLE OF A MODERN DAY LAS VEGAS. MAINTAINING THE HISTORIC FLAVOR OF SKAGWAY, AND THE APPEAL OF HAVING FUN, IS IMPERATIVE FOR THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE TOURISM INDUSTRY.

A FINAL CONCERN IS THAT GAMBLING IN SKAGWAY NOT BECOME THE MAJOR ATTRACTION FOR THE COMMUNITY, BUT SIMPLY ANOTHER ASPECT OF OUR HISTORIC ATMOSPHERE. WE DO NOT WANT TO BE VIEWED AS THE TOWN IN ALASKA WITH GAMBLING BUT AS THE GOLD RUSH ATTRACTION OF ALASKA THAT INCLUDES GAMBLING. THIS IS THE DIRECTION OF OUR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND BETTER MEETS THE CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY OF SKAGWAY.

WITH THESE CONCERNS IN MIND, THE CITY OF SKAGWAY WOULD OPERATE A SINGLE CASINO IN THE ARCTIC BROTHERHOOD HALL. THERE WOULD BE A LIMITED FLOOR SHOW TO ENHANCE THE HISTORIC FLAVOR, BUT NO LIQUOR LICENSE WOULD BE SOUGHT. THE AMOUNT OF BETS WOULD INITIALLY BE LIMITED TO \$5.00 TO MAINTAIN THE SOCIAL, ENTERTAINMENT GAMBLING ATMOSPHERE.

THE AB HALL WOULD ACCOMMODATE ABOUT 84 PEOPLE AT ANY GIVEN TIME. THIS IS A VERY SMALL PORTION OF THE VISITOR POPULATION ON MOST DAYS DURING THE SUMMER SEASON. THE REMAINING VISITORS WOULD BE ENJOYING THE OTHER HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE INDICATES THAT SUCH AN OPERATION WOULD EMPLOY 34 PERSONS PER 3 HOUR SHIFT WITH POTENTIAL GROSS REVENUES OF \$5,880 PER SHIFT. POTENTIAL NET REVENUE TO THE CITY COULD BE IN THE AREA OF \$200,000 FOR THE SEASON.

THIS LIMITED FORM OF GAMBLING WOULD ENHANCE OUR HISTORIC IMAGE WHILE MAINTAINING A STABLE SUPPORT INDUSTRY. IT WOULD PROVIDE VISITORS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY A FUN AND EXCITING GLIMPSE OF LIFE IN THE "DAYS OF '98". WITH THESE LIMITATIONS AND CRITERIA, GAMBLING IN SKAGWAY COULD BE CONDUCTED WITH THE LEAST SOCIAL COST AND THE GREATEST ECONOMIC BENEFIT.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT THE CITY OF SKAGWAY CONTRACT WITH THE PUBLIC GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO ANALYZE OUR PROPOSAL IN TERMS OF SOCIAL IMPACTS, OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS, AND POTENTIAL REVENUES.

- . RECOMMENDATION - ANY OR ALL GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS BE LICENSED AND OPERATED BY THE CITY.
 - CRITERIA FOR THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF GAMES, TYPES OF GAMES, HOURS, LIMITS OF BETS AND PROMOTION SHOULD BE SET BY THE CITY COUNCIL.
 - PROCEEDS FROM THE GAMBLING GO DIRECTLY AND EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CITY OF SKAGWAY, WITH 50% OF THOSE FUNDS GOING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION.
 - THAT A LOCAL GAMING COMMISSION BE ESTABLISHED TO MONITOR THE GAMING OPERATION.

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT A LIMITED NUMBER OF HISTORIC GAMES BE ALLOWED.
- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE REVIEW SKAGWAY'S OPERATION ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AND REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT GAMBLING ONLY BE CONDUCTED DURING THE SUMMER, WITH POSSIBLE LIMITED WINTER OPERATION.

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT THE CITY COUNCIL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS PROPOSAL.

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION NOT EFFECT THE

STATUS OF ANY CURRENT LIQUOR LICENSE.

- . RECOMMENDATION - THAT THE CITY OF SKAGWAY WRITE TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REQUESTING AN OPINION ON THE LEGALITY OF GAMBLING WITHIN THE PARK.

REPRESENTATIVE
PETER GOLL



P O BOX
JUNEAU, ALASKA
(907) 465-45

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STATE OF ALASKA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 18, 1987

The Honorable Fran Ulmer
Chair
House Committee on State Affairs
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Chairman Ulmer:

During the past weeks I have received the attached letters from citizens of Skagway offering their opinion on HB 95, relating to limited historical gambling.

I am offering the committee copies of these letters, as testimony on the legislation which is before the committee today.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter".

Peter Goll



February 9, 1987

Representative Peter Goll
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Goll:

Attached is a copy of a resolution passed by the Skagway Chamber of Commerce on January 7, 1987. The resolution supports "limited historic gambling" and would give local residents the opportunity to vote on the issue. The members of the Skagway Chamber of Commerce join me in requesting your support for legislation that is compatible with this resolution.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mitch Erickson by gc

Mitch Erickson

President

Skagway Chamber of Commerce



A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT
OF LIMITED HISTORIC GAMBLING
IN SKAGWAY

Whereas, Skagway's Gold Rush History is an attractive and integral part of the community's tourism appeal; and,

Whereas, colorfully restored gold rush era gambling halls continue to provide a spirited reminder of Skagway's history; and,

Whereas, the recreation of historic gambling in Skagway would enhance the tourism industry;

Be it therefore resolved that the Skagway Chamber of Commerce supports the Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau's proposal for: 1) local option on limited historical gambling, 2) an elected commission to oversee the gambling, bet limits and location, and 3) revenues going to the city with a percentage also going to the state for enforcement.

The Skagway Chamber of Commerce urges the Skagway City Council to actively support legislation that would achieve this goal.

*Approved
Jan 7, 1987*



February 11, 1987

Representative Peter Goll
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Goll:

On January 7, 1987, the Skagway Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution supporting enabling legislation for "limited historical gambling". The Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau has also made recommendations to the City Council in support of (1) local option for limited historical gambling; (2) an elected commission to oversee the gambling, bet limits and location; and (3) revenues going to the city with a percentage going to the state for enforcement.

As a resident of Skagway concerned with its quality of life and economic well-being, I would like to see the enabling legislation passed for ~~limited historical~~ gambling. If regulated properly the revenues from this activity could help offset the loss of state and federal monies to ~~the~~ ^{our} communities. I would at least like the opportunity to vote on this issue personally. Voting in favor of ~~limited historical~~ gambling does not mean we will have gambling in Skagway or any other community. It does mean that we would have a choice.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
ANITA KETTERTON



February 11, 1987

Representative Peter Goll
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Goll:

On January 7, 1987, the Skagway Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution supporting enabling legislation for "limited historical gambling". The Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau has also made recommendations to the City Council in support of (1) local option for limited historical gambling; (2) an elected commission to oversee the gambling, bet limits and location; and (3) revenues going to the city with a percentage going to the state for enforcement.

As a resident of Skagway concerned with its quality of life and economic well-being, I would like to see the enabling legislation passed for limited historic gambling. If regulated properly the revenues from this activity could help offset the loss of state and federal monies to this community. I would at least like the opportunity to vote on this issue personally. Voting in favor of limited historical gambling does not mean we will have gambling in Skagway or any other community. It does mean that we would have a choice.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature: Neil & Lela Finney



U Finney Toys
Box 127
Skagway AK 99840

February 2, 1987

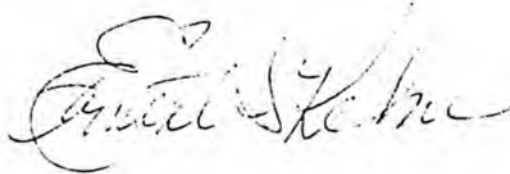
The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do ~~not~~ feel that gambling in any form ~~can~~^{will} add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable ~~negative~~^{POSITIVE} aspects and voting ~~against~~^{FOR} any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,



February 2, 1987

FEBRUARY 5, 1987

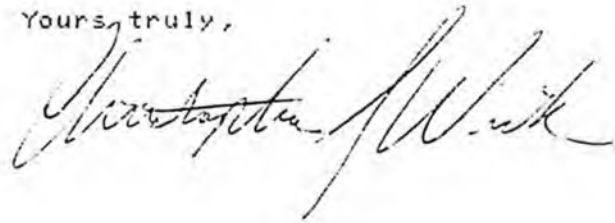
The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box 4
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do ~~not~~ feel that gambling in ~~any~~ ^{historic} form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable ~~negative~~ ^{POSITIVE} aspects and voting ~~against~~ ^{FOR} any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,



February 2, 1987

Thank you

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box 7
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do ~~not~~ feel that gambling in ^{HISTORIC} ~~any~~ form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable ~~negative~~ ^{positive} aspects and voting ~~FOR~~ ^{AGAINST} any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,

Tom Richards
July 29

Dear Peter

I'm enclosing the cover letter sent to all Skagway residents. See how this thing was presented. Please VOTE YES on gambling!

January 30, 1987

Dear Fellow Citizen of Skagway:

RANDALF

RESURRECT JEFFERSON DAVIS "SOAPY" SMITH? His infamous reign over the boom towns of the West and particularly over Skagway, is well documented. The law abiding citizens of Skagway rose against his intimidations and finally buried him. His story makes interesting copy for the tourist brochures. Local theater productions are much more colorful because of him...but would you want his counterpart actually living in our town today? I think not!

The issue of making gambling legal in Skagway is once again before us. Some would have us to believe that it would attract more tourist trade and thereby bring more money into our town. I for one would take a hard look at the facts.

It is fact that more often than not, the criminal element follows close behind the ^{Legislation!} legalizing of gambling. A spokesman for the Fargo, North Dakota police department answered one interviewer by saying, "We wish we had never had it. It's impossible to control." Law enforcement costs rise. Rather than realizing profit from this most dubious resource, many communities have found that they are "paying the cost" with citizens becoming addicted, social unrest, and increased criminal activities.

I would also ask who will pay the bill for establishing this so called "industry" in our town. I fear that in the final tally, we will discover that the tax-payers will shoulder the burden.

In any issue such as this, there are those on both sides who overstate their cases. Sometimes it is hard to separate truth from jealousy. My concern is that we not be the first victims of the gamble by having placed our community on the table as stakes. A few have voiced their wishes to have gambling in our town. Do these few really speak the mind of the citizens of Skagway? You are the only one to answer that question.

Our legislators will be acting upon this issue soon. Our Representative is Peter Goll, P. O. Box W, Juneau, AK 99811. His vote will be determined by our interests. Write a letter TODAY. If you wish you may simply sign the enclosed letter and mail it today. This is our town. Let us keep it that way.

ours in Skagway,

Don Hicks

ILLUSTRATE

Box 173
Skagway

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I ~~do not~~ feel that gambling in any form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable ~~negative~~ ^{positive} aspects and voting ~~against~~ ^{for} any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly, *Edward W. Peterson*
Thomas A. Baeten

February 2, 1987

Mary's Bed & Breakfast
Box 72
Skagway, Alaska 99840
(907) 988-2875

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

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Yours truly,

Jerry Mentile

ANITA BETHINGTON

F.S. We also feel that a state lottery would be a better way of increasing state revenues than would a state income tax. We are strongly opposed to any form of tax increase.

CORRECTION

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

February 2, 1987

Mary's Bed & Breakfast
Box 72
Skagway, Alaska 99840
(907) 998-2875

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do ~~not~~ feel that gambling in any form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable ~~aspects~~ aspects and voting ~~FOR~~ ^{FOR} any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,

Jerry Gentile

AMIA ISTIETON

F.S. We also feel that a state lottery would be a better way of increasing state revenues than would a state income tax. We are strongly opposed to any form of tax increase.

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do not feel that gambling in any form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable negative aspects and voting against any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,

Virginia Cochran

Box 276
Skagway

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do not feel that gambling in any form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable negative aspects and voting against any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,

Mary Lou Mae

P.S. For what it's worth, the year-round Klondike
highway opening was another close vote in town
every time it came up. Of course you know how
that went. Now the ones who made the most noise
to open it are screaming about the traffic &
inconvenience of the big trucks. Don't let that
happen with the gambling. Stop it before it gets
started. Love, Mary Lou Mae, I thank you.
Mary Lou Mae

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

Mr. Alvin Wayne Love

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box 4
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mr. Goll:

I understand that you will soon be voting on whether to make "historic" gambling legal in Skagway. I also am made to understand that the City Council and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have both passed resolutions backing such an issue.

Please be advised by this letter that as a citizen of Skagway, I do not feel that gambling in any form can add favorably to our community. I will appreciate you considering the probable negative aspects and voting against any legislation which allows gambling in Skagway or in Alaska.

Yours truly,

Konda J. Self
P.O. Box 378
Skagway, Al
99804

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

Guy W. Self

February 2, 1987

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P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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February 2, 1987

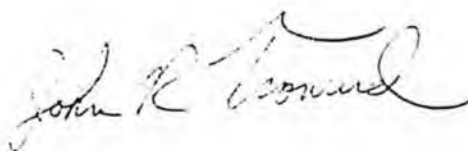
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Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John R. Leonard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Yours truly,".

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

William L. Stone
William L. Stone

Box 110
Skagway

Mike

February 2, 1987

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P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

Carolee Miller

[Handwritten signature]

When this issue first came up before the people of Skagway, the town was being struck in need of some sort of economic stability. Unfortunately, gambling is an one of the ways ^{one of} ~~to~~ ~~be~~ a way out of the hard times we faced. I for one am totally against

February 2, 1987

The Honorable Peter Goll
P. O. Box 5
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

W. L. King, Jr.

February 2, 1987

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P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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Yours truly,

Brian & Michelle Blanchard

12

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act authorizing limited historical gambling enterprises...."
 Sponsor: Rep. Taylor
 Requestor: House State Affairs

Bill Version: HB 95

Publish Date: _____

Agency Affected: Public Safety

BRU: Alaska State Troopers

Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

FUNDING:: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact is anticipated.

JNR
2/19/87 Prepared by: Francis C. Allan
 Division: Alaska State Troopers

Phone: 269-5691
 Date: 2/19/87

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
 Agency: Public Safety

Date: 2/19/87

Distribution (by preparer):

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

BILL NO: HB 95

DATE: 2/23/87

TITLE: "An Act authorizing limited
historical gambling enterprises"

CONTACT: James D. Vaden
Deputy Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY

The purpose of this bill is to enhance tourism in a limited number of Alaskan communities that meet the stated requirements, by allowing the municipalities to operate gambling enterprises after voter approval.

Law enforcement functions would be the responsibility of the individual communities with support from Public Safety. Legalized gambling may attract some undesirables into a community.

Since this bill authorizes the municipality to conduct gambling upon a vote of the people, this agency would have little involvement.

The Department of Public Safety proposes the following amendments:

1. Make it clear that municipalities must operate the gambling establishments and cannot contract with others for those services.
2. If the intent of this bill is to increase tourism, gambling should be allowed only during the tourist season.
3. The Gaming Commission should be given the responsibility to establish regulations to license and control the gambling activities and to describe and require background checks on employees or individuals involved in the gambling operations.



William R. Nix
Acting Commissioner

CORRECTION

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

12

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

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TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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2/19/87 Prepared by: Francis C. Allan Phone: 269-5691
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William R. Nix
Acting Commissioner

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PUBLIC SAFETY

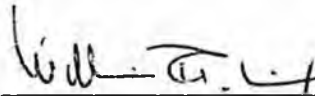
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William R. Nix
Acting Commissioner

HB 95 13

*Out in gambling
Bell file*

SEATTLE-VICTORIA EXCURSIONS

Activity will pick up on B.C. route in May

by Stanton H. Patty
Times assistant travel editor

VICTORIA, B.C. — The waterway between Seattle and Victoria will see new activity this spring and summer, not only in numbers of passengers but in style and action.

An old favorite on the run, the Princess Marguerite of the B.C. Steamship Co., will renew daily service in early May. The 300-passenger catamaran Victoria Clipper will offer two round trips daily instead of one, as in the winter season.

Joining them will be the Vancouver Island Princess, a former B.C. ferry that is being converted to an excursion ship for 1,100 passengers and that can carry 140 vehicles, including big tour buses.

B.C. Steamship carried 245,000 passengers last season with only the Princess Marguerite. The forecast is for a total of more than 300,000 passengers on the two vessels this season.

The new push is to carry additional vehicles, from tour buses and RVs to family cars, according to Frank A. Rhodes, the crown corporation's managing director.

Rhodes said the Princess Marguerite was limited to about 50 vehicles, "and always is sold out."

Both of B.C. Steamship's vessels will offer gambling — B.C.'s first government-owned, operated and controlled casinos. Both ships will have slot machines, but it has not been decided whether table games, such as blackjack and roulette, will be offered, too.

Rhodes said Princess Marguerite's interior is being made "more elegant" and will be slimmed down, so to speak, from a passenger capacity of 1,800 last season to about 1,400, for more passenger comfort. Princess Marguerite will have a coffee shop, a full-service dining room, two lounges and additional general seating.

The Vancouver Island Princess will include a coffee shop, full-service restaurant, cocktail lounge with a dance floor and a board room for seminars and corporate meetings, Rhodes said.

The firm is building a new terminal at Ogden Point, just outside Victoria's Inner Harbour, for the 440-foot Vancouver Island Princess. The smaller, 370-foot Princess Marguerite ties up in the Inner Harbour.

The Princess Marguerite may be tried soon on off-season service, with so-called "mystery cruises" in British Columbia waters that would keep its casino humming. Rhodes said such cruises, on an experimental basis, are being considered by the B.C. Ministry of Attorney General, which has jurisdiction over gambling in the province.

Casinos for charities are oper-

ating at several hotels in both Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., but are restricted, by law, to blackjack and roulette, with \$2-a-bet limits. The charities contract with professional casino operators.

Rhodes said B.C. Steamship Co. would operate its own casinos. Profits, he said, will help support the vessel service, although some of the revenue may be pledged to charities.

Gambling on the B.C. Steamship vessels will not be permitted while in Washington waters in order to comply with Washington laws.

Rhodes emphasized that Princess Marguerite and Vancouver Island Princess should not be viewed as gambling ships.

"The fundamental purpose of the company is to promote trade and commerce between Washington and British Columbia, not to operate gambling," he said. "Gambling will be merely another service or attraction available to tourists. We want the passengers to have fun."

Meanwhile, B.C. Steamship has opened discussions with a Swedish company, Rederi A-B Golland for nonstop San Francisco-Victoria voyages aboard Golland's

fast (20-knot cruising speed), 1,900-passenger, 800-foot vessel M/V Visby, now operating in Scandinavian waters. The new terminal at Ogden Point here could accommodate the Visby.

Visby's amenities include a casino. But most important, Rhodes said, is that Visby also can haul up to 500 vehicles, including tour buses and RVs.

Test marketing, Rhodes said, indicates that most of the passengers will cruise one way and drive the other, meaning that more tourism can be spread to other areas of British Columbia and Northwest states.

A decision on the Visby is to be made in the summer.

Here are details of the B.C. Steamship Co. 1987 season, May 9 - Oct 4, and the Victoria Clipper, May 1 through September:

■ **The schedule:** Princess Marguerite will leave Seattle at 8 a.m., arriving in Victoria about noon. It will depart Victoria at 5:30 p.m. and reach Seattle about 9:30 p.m. Vancouver Island Princess will leave Victoria at 8 a.m. and arrive in Seattle about noon. It will depart Seattle at 3 p.m. and arrive in Victoria about 7:15 p.m.

■ **Passenger fares:** Adult round trip, \$32 U.S. Adult one-way fare, \$22. Child's (age 5-11) round trip, \$16. Child's one way, \$11. Senior's (age 65

or more) round trip, \$28. Senior's one-way, \$19.

■ **Vehicle fares:** Automobile and driver one way, \$40. Motorcycle only one way, \$11. Bicycle only one way, \$3. For recreational vehicles (on Vancouver Island Princess only), \$40 one way for vehicle and driver with a vehicle less than 17 feet long, \$48 for vehicle and driver for vehicles between 17 and 20 feet, \$1.50 a foot more for vehicles measuring more than 20 feet. For trailers (again, on Vancouver Island Princess only), \$32 for trailers only measuring less than 17 feet long, \$40 for trailers 17-20 feet, and \$1.50 a foot more for trailers more than 20 feet long.

■ **General information:** Vehicle reservations are required. The auto/RV telephone number in Seattle now is 441-5560, during the season, 441-8200. The Victoria Auto/RV reservations number is 1-604-386-6731.

The Seattle terminal is at Pier 69 — 2700 Alaskan Way, Seattle 98121, phone 441-5560 for general information. The Victoria terminal is at 254 Belleville St., Victoria, B.C., Canada V8V 1W9; phone 1-604-386-1124 during the season, or 1-604-388-7397 off season.

■ **Victoria Clipper:** May 1 through September. Daily departures from Seattle at 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., arriving in Victoria at 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; departures from Victoria will be 11:45 a.m. and 6:15 p.m., arriving in Seattle at 2:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The vessel cruises at about 31 knots. Round-trip fare is \$59 U.S. Currently, there is once-a-day service. Information phone 443-2567.

Robin



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House

14

P.O. BOX V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fran Ulmer, Chairwoman
House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. Henry Springer
Election District 23 *Springer*

SUBJECT: House Bill 95 - Historic Gambling Bill

DATE: March 13, 1987

Many constituents from Nome support this bill because it appears to be beneficial for the enhancement of our economic situation, especially in connection with tourism. It seems to me that this bill has only limited application statewide and since it contains a "local option" clause, I see no problem with the philosophical problem connected with gambling in general.

Needless to say, our economic situation in Nome is bleak and any immediate remedy would be most welcomed.

I would appreciate an effort to calendar this bill as soon as possible.

Thank you.



Skagway Assembly of God

P.O. Box 397
Skagway, Alaska 99840
(907) 983-2350

15

March 10, 1987

The Honorable Fran Ulmer
State Affairs Committee
P. O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Ms. Ulmer:

I understand that H.B. #95 dealing with Historical Gambling is to be before your committee soon. May I take this opportunity to ask your help in seeing the defeat of this bill?

The economic value to the state and to local communities is very questionable. Other places, including Atlantic City, have found the social and economic impact to be a liability rather than the expected asset. I feel that in the Skagway situation, the moneys brought into the community would simply be more concentrated to the hands of a few (money which would have been distributed to the gift and food establishments is likely to be spent at the gambling table.)

The moral issue is of importance for all of eternity. Any industry built on greed (I can only win if someone else loses) is contrary not only to Bible principles but also to human fair play.

Again, Ms. Ulmer, I urge you to do all possible to defeat this bill. Thank you for your help in keeping our state a decent place to live.

Yours truly,

Rev. Don Hicks

March 11, 1987

Rep. Fran Ulmer
P O Box V
Juneau, Ak 99811

Dear Rep. Ulmer:

I am opposed to HB # 95
concerning legalized gambling
in Alaska.

Please vote against HB #95.

Sincerely

Jamm Berntz
Box 164
Skagway, Ak 99840

Resident of Alaska for over 20 years.

RECEIVED
MAY 11 1987

RECEIVED MAR 18 1987

11 MARCH 1987

P. O. Box 418

SKAGWAY, ALASKA 99840

THE HONORABLE SENATOR ULMER
STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

DEAR Honorable Senator Fran Ulmer,

Please help us deter the plan, HB95, that seems to be being planned for Skagway, referring to the legalizing of gambling.

That would surely cause Skagway to deteriorate, we believe.

It would cause those least able to afford gambling to use their meager income possibly to be squandered, thus preventing their families being supported.

This is urgent, as I understand next week there is a vote to that effect in the Alaskan Legislature.

Please help us offset this threat

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Helen P. Godbey

MRS. HELEN P. GODBEY

RECEIVED MAR 17 1987

3/13/87

State Affairs Committee
Chairman person
Frank Ulmer
PO BOX V
Juneau, Ak. 99811

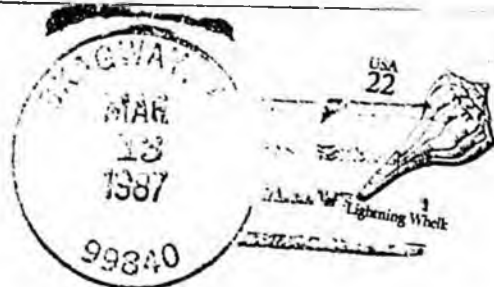
Dear Chairman:

I am writing to let you know
that I am opposed to House Bill # 95.

I feel this would be like opening
a can of worms and promoting more
moral rot to our state & community.

Respectfully
Virginia Cochran
Shagany,

Cochran
Box 195
Shagany, AK.
99840



State Affairs Community

P.O. Box 494
RECEIVED MAR 12 1987
SHAGWAY, ALASKA
MARCH 12, 1987

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PO BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

REP. FRANK BULMER
RE: HB. # 95

Dear Rep. Bulmer,

Firstly, I will say, I have not had the opportunity of meeting you, so I hope I'm not offending you with my approach. I don't have any facts, or statistics to use regarding the gambling issue. I only know we cannot let it get started in Shagway. I can't even explain it to myself. As I write this letter, it's not even really me except holding the pen. If you are one of the secular humanists I'm defeating my purpose in writing, but I hope you understand it's one of those things I have to do.

I was directed to the clearing of the temple; Matthew 21:12-19, + Mark 11:12-18 I don't want Shagway to end up like the fig tree because of a den of thieves, which the gambling would lead to, eventually or sooner. Here, I was directed to Isaiah 54:15-17: + several other passages, which I am going to skip because I feel rather foolish anyway, writing this kind of letter, especially to someone I don't know.

The people in favor of the gambling are thinking only of the big money they're going to make. That's what they were thinking of

7
RECEIVED MAR 1 1954
only, in opening our highway to trucking.

Now those same ones are having fits about all the problems with the big trucks in town. It didn't make everybody rich; but it's too late now to do anything about that. If we have to prevent the gambling before we have another problem we would certainly lose control of. Please do whatever you can, to prevent it.

I don't understand this either, but I know the gambling has to be prevented, to make a go of the railroad. The railroad will be good for us again. That will create jobs & boost our economy, without gambling.

Now if you want to send me guys with the long sleeved white jackets after me, I think I'll go willingly. That might give me a chance to figure some of this out.

I am only doing what I have to do, to be able to live with myself. Please help us to save Spagway.

I am sorry I couldn't type this for you.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Mary Lou
Box 49
Spagway



ALASKA VISITORS ASSOCIATION

Please reply to:

Nome Chapter, AVA
Lois M. Wirtz, President

**Tourism
is everybody's
business.**

RECEIVED MAR 26 1987

EW
Copy to Allen SA Committee
acknowledged
receipt & send
a copy of the letter
I did send to Allen
MAR 19 1987

Alaska Visitors Association
Nome Chapter
Box 251
Nome, AK 99762

March 10, 1987

Alaska State House of Representatives
Representative Springer
Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Springer,

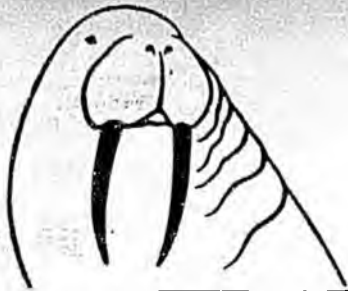
The Nome Chapter of the Alaska Visitors Association would like to express its support of House Bill 95 regarding Historic Gambling. We ask that you also support this Bill and help in its passage. Please find an enclosed copy of a resolution passed by the Nome AVA.

We appreciate your assistance and your continued support of the tourist industry in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lois M. Wirtz

Lois M. Wirtz
Nome Chapter AVA President



NOME

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

ALASKA VISITOR'S ASSOCIATION
NOME CHAPTER
RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE
PROPOSED HISTORIC GAMBLING BILL AS
CURRENTLY STATED.

WHEREAS, the Nome Chapter of the Alaska Visitor's Association seeks to cultivate innovative concepts and attractions to further develop the visitor industry in Nome, Alaska;

WHEREAS, the visitor industry is a primary resource vital to Nome's current and future economic development;

WHEREAS, the visitor industry introduces private money into the local economy which, in turn, promotes the community's independence from public resources;

WHEREAS, Tourism creates new employment opportunities and encourages private enterprise;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nome Chapter of the Alaska Visitors Association supports and encourages the passing of the HISTORIC GAMBLING BILL as it is currently stated.

SIGNED and DATED this fourth day of December, 1985.

Lois M. Wirtz

Lois Wirtz, President

'There's no place like Nome



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

April 24, 1987

Dr. Robert C. Larson
Executive Secretary of
Church Growth and Evangelism
5101 North Francisco Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625

Dear Dr. Larson:

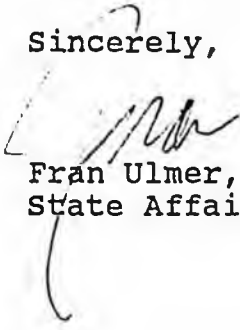
I have received a copy of Resolution 87-02 passed by the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska regarding historic gambling and paramutuel wagering.

The State Affairs Committee has held several hearings on both House Bill 32, relating to paramutuel wagering, and House Bill 95, relating to historic gambling. Compelling arguments, both pro and con, were presented for these bills. House Bill 32 was passed from committee and is currently in the House Finance Committee.

House Bill 95 is still in the House State Affairs committee. I cannot predict what the committee will do when it comes before us again, but I plan to vote no as I have not been convinced that the possible benefits outweigh the problems.

Thank you, again, for your resolution. A copy will be provided to all State Affairs Committee members.

Sincerely,


Fran Ulmer, Chair
State Affairs Committee

RECEIVED APR 21 1987

Scammon Bay Covenant Church

P.O. Box 109 Scammon Bay, AK 99662 (907) 558-5315
Nathan D. A. Toots, Pastor

April 9, 1987

Honorable Fran Ulmer:
State Representative
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

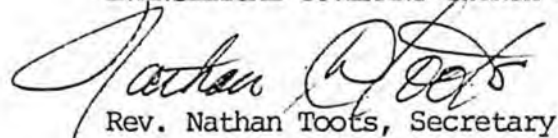
Dear Representative Ulmer:

The Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska recently celebrated its centennial birthday at Unalakleet. Delegates from Anchorage, Fairbanks, Wassilla, Mekoryuk, Bethel, Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Mountain Village, Unalakleet, Shaktoolik, Koyuk, Elim, Golovin, White Mountain, and Nome met in a duly organized meeting and acted on the two attached resolutions (87-01 & 87-02).

We request you do all you can to support each resolution. We believe gambling and abusive use of intoxicants only enhances moral decay.

Sincerely yours,

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF ALASKA


Rev. Nathan Toots, Secretary

Attachments

ECCA Resolution 87-01
ECCA Resolution 87-02

Scammon Bay Covenant Church

P.O. Box 109 Scammon Bay, AK 99662 (907) 558-5315

Nathan D. A. Toots, Pastor

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF ALASKA RESOLUTION NO. 87-02

Whereas the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska recognizes the social problems already evident because of practice in local bingo games;

We, therefore, declare our opposition to gambling in historic places of Alaska and paid mutual gambling in the State of Alaska.

BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. David Hendrickson, Chairman
8201 Wisteria St.
Anchorage, AK 99502

Rev. Keith Fullerton, Vice-Chairman
First Evangelical Covenant Church
1145 C Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

Mr. Jerry Reynolds, Treasurer
P. O. Box 773527
Eagle River, AK 99577

Rev. Nathan Toots, Secretary
P. O. Box 109
Scammon Bay, AK 99662

Mrs. Chris Nagoruk
General Delivery
Elim, AK 99739

Mrs. Marilyn Thomas
Icy View
Nome, AK 99762

Mr. Albert Kimotoak
General Delivery
Koyuk, AK 99755

Dr. Ion Olson
AK Native Medical Center
3rd & Gambell
Anchorage, AK 99502

MEMBER CITIES & VILLAGES

Anchorage
Fairbanks
Wassilla
Mekoryuk
Bethel
Hooper Bay
Scammon Bay
Mtn. Village
Unalakleet
Shaktolik
Koyuk
Elim
Golovin
White Mountain
Nome

BOARD MEMBERS (CONT'D)

Mr. Herbert Ivanoff
Box 191
Unalakleet, AK 99664

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Rev. Henry Pearson
Field Director, ECCAK
P. O. Box 772347
Eagle River, AK 99577

Dr. Robert C. Larson
Executive Secretary of
Church Growth & Evangelism
5101 North Francisco Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Sandra C. Straub
Box 986
Nome, AK 99762

April 24, 1987

Representative Fran Ulmer
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Ulmer,

The City of Nome has a 3% sales tax. Last year the people of Nome voted to sell bonds to help finance a new elementary school, and to pay for the bonds we also voted for another 1% in sales tax.

Sales in Nome have been so far down from previous years that not enough money was taken from the extra sales tax to make the bond payment, and so it was paid from general fund monies.

Now the Nome School District is asking the City of Nome for \$300,000.00, extra money for next years school budget because they feel that they have cut back all that they can and still provide a decent education for the kids in this area, and the State of Alaska cannot afford to help the school district with more money.

So the Nome City Council is working on a resolution to help the Nome School District. They will give the school district the \$300,000.00 if the people of Nome will vote in another 1% sales tax. This will leave the people of Nome paying a 5% sales tax. But the City of Nome only has \$65.00 left in it's election budget. So I don't know how they will even go about having the special election if the Nome City Council should pass the resolution calling for one.

And if they did have the special election, sales are so far down that judging from the first extra sales tax, the second extra sales tax wouldn't generate enough money to do any good.

Needless to say, the City of Nome is fast running out of money. This part of the State is going to have to find some way to make up for the less State money coming into the area.

You, State Legislature, have to allow the people in this area to work with the limited resources that we have here.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House

P.O. BOX V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

May 1, 1987

Sandra C. Straub
Box 986
Nome, AK 99762

Dear Sandra:

Thank you for your letter regarding HE 95. It is calendared for another hearing before the State Affairs Committee next week, May 8 at 3:00 p.m.

I will share your letter with the other members of the committee for their consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fran Ulmer".

Fran Ulmer, Chair
State Affairs Committee

cc: State Affairs Committee

Sandra C. Straub
Box 986
Nome, AK 99762

April 24, 1987

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P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

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So the Nome City Council is working on a resolution to help the Nome School District. They will give the school district the \$300,000.00 if the people of Nome will vote in another 1% sales tax. This will leave the people of Nome paying a 5% sales tax. But the City of Nome only has \$65.00 left in it's election budget. So I don't know how they will even go about having the special election if the Nome City Council should pass the resolution calling for one.

And if they did have the special election, sales are so far down that judging from the first extra sales tax, the second extra sales tax wouldn't generate enough money to do any good.

Needless to say, the City of Nome is fast running out of money. This part of the State is going to have to find some way to make up for the less State money coming into the area.

You, the State Legislature, have to allow the people in this area to go to work with the limited resources that we have here.

The only things we have going for us up here are tourism and mining. Mining is another story, I have written to the committees that SB98 and HB109 are in, trying to get them to pass those bills along before it gets to late in the session. SB94 which will cut down on duplicate paperwork did pass the Senate and is in the house.

The bill in your committee that would help us out is HB95. This bill will allow historic gambling. The City of Nome would not make too much money from the actual gambling, that goes without saying. But the idea of historic gambling would encourage more tourism.

The round trip airfare from Anchorage to Nome is about \$450.00. That is a major obstacle when it comes to selling a visit to Nome to the casual traveler. The airfare stops me from visiting family in Anchorage, so I can imagine how big a deterrent it is for someone who wouldn't have a special reason for visiting up here.

If Nome expects more tourist trade we have to have something to attract more people. This bill would help to do that. HB95 would not cost the State any money and it just might help those of us up here in a very remote part of the State to keep on making a living.

If you do pass this bill, it would only allow the people in Nome to vote on it. Your passage of the bill would still not guarantee that it would go into effect.

But if you don't pass HB95, then you don't even give us a chance to fight it out and decide among ourselves.

There is such a short time left in this session that some action must be taken soon or this bill won't have time to pass this year.

Please consider all of the people in this area that are going to be looking for work, and pass HB95 on to the Senate.

Sincerely,



Sandra C. Straub

HB

99



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House

P.O. BOX V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 99

FILE CONTENTS

1. SS HB 99: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DIVISION WITHIN THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
2. MEMORANDUM FROM DAVID TEAL TO REPRESENTATIVE ZAWACKI, DATED 2/9/87
3. MEMORANDUM FROM LEE ANN LUCAS TO REPRESENTATIVE ZAWACKI, DATED 2/5/87
4. MEMORANDUM FROM KURT DZINICH TO SENATOR BENNETT, DATED 4/30/85
5. MEMORANDUM FROM RICHARD RAINERY TO REPRESENTATIVE ZAWACKI, DATED 2/10/87
6. LEGISLATURE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES: FY76-FY86
7. FISCAL NOTE, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY: (\$643,800)
8. FISCAL NOTE, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY: (\$395,800)
9. MEMORANDUM FROM PAMELA STOOPS TO REPRESENTATIVE ZAWACKI, DATED 2/18/87 (ACTUAL EXPENDITURES FOR RURAL RESEARCH AGENCY, FY84-FY86)
10. LETTER FROM REPRESENTATIVE ZAWACKI TO HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DATED APRIL 24, 1987

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 4/15/87

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

DATE: 4-24-87

The State Affairs Committee has considered 2d SSHB 99

"An Act establishing a legislative research division within the Legislative Affairs Agency; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with CS HB 99 (SA) 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):

- 2 fiscal impact same as previous fiscal note published _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

Terry Martin

Scott McManish

Walter Wilson

W.C. Brouha

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cliff Davidson no rec

Walter Wilson

Chairman's signature

Original sponsors: Zawacki, Brown,
Frank and Gruenberg

Wterm

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CS FOR 2d SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 99 (State Affairs)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a legislative research division within the Legislative Affairs Agency; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that the staffs of the House Research Agency, the Senate Advisory Council, and the Rural Research Agency should be combined into a single legislative research agency and that fiscal economies will be achieved by elimination of overlapping functions and staffs of the present research agencies.

* Sec. 2. AS 24.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 24.20.055. LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DIVISION. There is established within the Legislative Affairs Agency a permanent research staff, to be known as the legislative research division. The establishment of the division recognizes the need for nonpartisan, objective research to support the legislature in its decision making. The division shall be headed by a research director appointed by the legislative council through established procedures.

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.

1

1 IN THE HOUSE

CS HB 79 (SA)

BY ZAWACKI, BROWN, FRANK
AND GRUENBERG

2

2d SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 99

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a legislative research division
within the Legislative Affairs Agency; and providing
for an effective date."

9

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

10

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15

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16

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tive research to support the legislature in its decision making. The
division shall be headed by a research director appointed by the
~~presiding officers of both houses of the legislature.~~
legislative council.

23

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect ~~immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).~~

July 1, 1987

check for return

→ no custome
legislative council (R + D - stability over
time)
centralization of power



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
RESEARCH AGENCY

2

P.O. Box Y, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100
Mail Stop 3100
(907) 465-3991

February 9, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Jim Zawacki
FROM: David Teal, Director *Teal*
RE: House Research Agency Background

As you requested, I have compiled a package of information on this agency, including research policy, budget, staff biographies and a list of publicly released research. We have added two staff since the session began: Karla Haru has a degree in Anthropology and Jay Moor is a former policy advisor to the Governors of Alaska and Washington. He received his Ph.D in Urban Planning from the University of Washington in 1974.

The attached FY 87 budget summary shows the compensation of all staff as well as anticipated expenditures in other budget categories. The document is intended for internal use and may appear somewhat cryptic to you. The attached FY 88 budget request should be more understandable. It shows the job title and number of months of employment for each position.

Without some clue regarding your focus, providing information that responds to your interest in the agency in very difficult. Perhaps some statistics on work load during the fiscal year would be helpful--

- we have spent 2,484 hours on 124 research requests through the first week of February, and currently have 31 requests in progress.
- interim projects required 2,469 hours of staff time.
- other research--requests we expect to complete in less than an hour--has taken 240 hours.
- as in the past, we expect our work for the majority and minority to correspond very closely to the number of legislators in each caucus.

As I mentioned on the telephone, I believe that a discussion is far superior to a brief memorandum in terms of rapid exchange of relevant information. I would be pleased to meet with you at your convenience to discuss this or other issues of interest to you.

DT

Attachments

HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY
Research Policies

The House of Representatives Research Agency performs factual and policy-oriented research upon the request of members of the House. A "first come, first served" rule is the guiding principle in responding to research requests. Work assignments are made by the agency director, however, requests may be submitted orally or in writing to any member of the staff. Among the services available are:

- issue analysis providing interstate comparisons, economic evaluation and/or other information on specific topics;
- research support to legislative committees and personal staff (including access to the agency's library);
- critiques of reports, studies and bills affecting public policy and programs;
- program evaluation of State and State-supported programs;
- tracking of legislation, including historical searches on past legislative action and reports on the implementation of laws passed;
- analysis of federal legislation and regulations affecting Alaska; and
- formal solicitation and evaluation of contract proposals and monitoring of contractual research.

All requests submitted and all research performed by the agency will be treated confidentially with the following exceptions:

- the requesting legislator explicitly gives permission to use his/her name in soliciting information or to release the research product prepared for him/her; and
- agency research staff seek assistance on or refer requests to the Legislative Affairs Agency, Division of Legal Services, or the Legislative Finance and Audit Divisions, which are also bound by confidentiality rules comparable to those of the House Research Agency. Conversely, any legislative request referred from these agencies to the House Research Agency will be treated confidentially.

In addition to the name of the requesting legislator, the intended use of the research and factors that prompted the request (e.g., a constituent's letter) may not be revealed. In some instances, the nature of the research request itself may not be revealed in soliciting information to fulfill the request, if, in the director's or requesting legislator's judgment, such confidentiality is warranted.

In the event that two or more similar requests for research are taken, Agency staff may ask permission of each requesting legislator to share his/her name and request with the other requesters for purposes of consolidation of the research effort and expedited transmittal of the research to all requesting legislators. In any event, basic data may be shared when requests are similar.

In the event that a legislator fails to indicate that a request is to remain confidential, the research may be released (with the requester's name removed) once the legislator is out of office.

Gross violations by staff of the confidentiality rules constitute cause for termination.

Research requests that the Agency may not accept are:

- research directly related to a legislator's personal business;
- research that directly benefits a legislator's campaign for re-election, e.g., analysis of an opponent's voting record or prior years' voting returns. However, research that is indirectly related to a campaign, such as an evaluation of a reapportionment plan or an analysis of issues that arise during a campaign, may be performed; and
- research that entails investigations into a citizen's personal life.

Research requests that may not be accepted without the approval of the governing committee include:

- research that, if performed, would constitute a significant variance from the "first come, first served" rule; and
- research that would require a significant percentage of total staff time or funding available during a given fiscal period, in the director's judgment.

In addition to research memorandums, representatives may submit proposals for major research projects. Work on projects authorized by the agency's governing committee is performed between legislative sessions.

The nonpartisan agency staff consists of a director, nine legislative analysts, an administrative officer and a secretary. Agency policy is set by the director in consultation with the governing committee. The committee is composed of the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House and the ranking House member of the Legislative Council.

January 1987

HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY
STAFF BIOGRAPHIES
January 1987

Director

David Teal was hired by the Agency in 1981 and became the director in 1984 after serving a year as assistant director. He worked three years as an economist for the Alaska Department of Labor and three years as an economist at the national headquarters for credit unions in Madison, Wisconsin. David was raised in Anchorage and holds a masters degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin.

Legislative Analysts

Ginny Fay joined the staff in November 1986. Prior to her employment with House Research, she worked as an economist with the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and the Department of Fish and Game as well as various federal and university agencies and the private sector. Since joining the Agency, her work has included research on open meeting requirements, fisheries permits and local hire. Ginny has a masters degree in economics from the University of Washington.

Mary Jennings was hired by the Agency in January 1986. She worked for the Department of Revenue and in the Southeast Alaska commercial fishing industry prior to joining the Agency. Her work at the Agency has included research on the marine highway system, education, and various criminal justice issues. Mary has a bachelors degree in business administration from the University of Alaska, Juneau.

Gretchen Keiser has worked for the Agency since July 1983. She was a research associate for an economics consulting firm before joining the Agency and worked for two years in the Governor's Office as a policy analyst for State and federal oil and gas leasing. Gretchen also worked as a fisheries biologist for the federal Fish and Wildlife Service for two years. Her fields of research include petroleum production, refining and marketing, mineral taxation and revenues, agriculture, energy, utilities, and operating/capital budgets. Gretchen holds a masters degree in zoology from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Jay Livey was hired by the Agency in July 1983. Prior to working for the Agency, Jay spent five years in Bethel where he served as City Planner and as Administrative Director for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. He has performed research on State loan programs, health and social services, local government, education, oil and gas taxation and other financial issues. Jay holds a masters degree in business administration from Tulane and a masters degree in labor relations from Michigan State University.

Karen Oakley joined the staff in January 1986. She has worked as a Habitat Biologist with the Department of Fish and Game and a Research Analyst with the Department of Natural Resources. Karen holds a masters in biology from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Brad Pierce was hired in July 1985. Prior to joining the Agency, he worked two years as a research associate for Alaska Economics and two years as an independent consultant to State and federal agencies. Brad has also worked as a commercial diver and fisherman in several different Puget Sound and Southeast Alaska fisheries. During his tenure with the Agency, his research emphasis has been on fisheries and timber issues, the State budget and economic development. Brad holds a masters degree in agriculture and resource economics from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Penelope Weyhrauch joined the Agency in October 1986. She has worked throughout Alaska, most notably in Barrow as the City Grant Writer and in Aniak as the Executive Director of the Kuskokwim Native Association. While at the Agency, she has performed research on criminal/civil justice issues and human service issues such as child support enforcement and runaway youth. Penelope holds a law degree from Lewis & Clark and is a member of the Alaska and Juneau Bar Associations.

Administrative Staff

Deb Pomeroy is the Administrative Officer for the House Research Agency and has been with the Agency since its inception. She also devotes part of her time to research requests including research on budget appropriations and other states' laws and regulations.

Carol Hart serves as the Agency's secretary and receptionist. In that capacity, she compiles a list of the Agency's research and, on request, distributes copies of the Agency's publicly released reports and memorandums to legislators, staff, and other interested parties.

HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY BUDGET—FY58 PRELIMINARY DRAFT—NOT SUBMITTED TO GOVERNING COMMITTEE
06-Feb-57

	FY 55 Actual	FY55 Actual	FY57 Authorized	FY58 Request	Change from FY57 Dollars	Change from FY57 Percent	Change from FY55 Dollars	Change from FY55 Percent
71000 PERSONAL SERV		\$335,537	\$510,550	\$527,232				
PS SALARY		27,255	0					
PS SUBTOTAL	\$535,600	425,792	510,550	527,200	\$16,400	3.2%	\$101,509	23.8%
72000 TRAVEL	10,500	4,779	3,000	3,000	\$0	0.0%	(\$1,779)	-37.2%
73000 CONTRACTUAL	125,000	39,213	22,400	18,700	(\$3,700)	-15.5%	(\$20,513)	-52.2%
74000 COMMODITIES	1,500	3,541	1,200	1,500	\$300	25.0%	(\$2,041)	-57.5%
75000 EQUIPMENT	9,600	21,057	5,500	2,000	(\$4,900)	-71.0%	(\$19,057)	-93.5%
TOTAL	\$683,300	\$454,383	\$544,400	\$552,500	\$8,100	1.5%	\$68,117	11.8%
CARRY FORWARD (\$7,703)		\$7,700	\$0					
EFFECTIVE BUDGET	\$615,600	\$552,083	\$544,400	\$552,500	\$8,100	1.5%	(\$6,581)	-1.7%

71000—PERSONAL SERVICES DETAIL

Name	Current Range	FY55 Expected Range	Position	FY58 Months	FY 58 Monthly Salary	FY 58 Monthly Salary	FY 56 Salary + Benefits	Explanation
Teal	25	26c	Director	12	\$5,568	\$5,568	\$4,150	The \$16,000 increase in personal services is attributed to an increase in benefit costs and leave without pay taken in FY 57. In addition, one hourly temporary has been changed to a monthly session employee.
Punery	18	18c	Admin Off.	12	3,353	3,353	\$2,543	
Hart	13	13d	Secretary	12	2,445	2,445	\$3,650	
Meiser	22	22a	Analyst	12	4,095	4,095	\$3,695	
Lively	21	21c	Analyst	12	4,095	4,095	\$3,695	
Pierce	21	21a	Analyst	12	3,831	3,831	\$9,935	
Fay	21	21a	Analyst	12	3,831	3,831	\$9,936	
vacant	15	15a	Analyst	4	3,353	3,353	\$19,101	
Keybauch	17	17a	Analyst	5	2,910	2,910	\$19,755	
Temp.	17	17a	Analyst	4	2,910	2,910	\$15,941	
Temp.	15	17a	Analyst	4	2,910	2,910	\$15,941	
Jannings	15	15a	Analyst	5	2,715	2,715	\$18,569	
Temp.	14	16a	Analyst	4	2,715	2,715	\$14,950	
TOTAL				110	\$44,731	\$44,731	\$527,232	

72000—TRAVEL DETAIL

	FY 55 Actual	FY57 Authorized	FY58 Request	Change from FY57 Dollars	Change from FY57 Percent	Change from FY55 Dollars	Change from FY55 Percent	
72240 staff travel	\$4,779	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%	(\$1,779)	-37.2%	No more annual meetings of CSU or NSL.
72270 admin travel	0	0	0	0	ESR	0	ESR	
72350 moving	0	0	0	0	ESR	0	ESR	
72540 per diem	0	0	0	0	ESR	0	ESR	
	\$4,779	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%	(\$1,779)	-37.2%	

74000-UTILITIES DETAIL

	FY 85	FY87	FY88	Change from FY87		Change from FY85		Explanation
	Actual	Authorized	Request	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	
73250 data processing	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	-100.0%	\$0	ERR	Do not anticipate the need for outside DP services.
73270 other prof serv	0	0	0	0	ERR	0	ERR	
73320 telephone	11,532	15,300	14,250	(1,100)	-7.2%	2,618	22.6%	Expected savings through using GCI.
73380 postage	527	700	1,000	300	42.5%	473	81.5%	LAA is now charging for railroad services.
73501 subscriptions	2,224	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%	276	12.4%	
73542 advertising	91	0	0	0	ERR	(91)	-100.0%	
73550 printing/blinding	478	500	500	0	0.0%	22	4.7%	
73702 equip repair	9,683	1,400	0	(1,400)	-100.0%	(9,283)	-100.0%	LAA Data Processing repairs the agency's pos.
73850 equip rental	13,507	0	0	0	ERR	(13,507)	-100.0%	
73880 other rental	180	0	0	0	ERR	(180)	-100.0%	
73912 conference req	1,175	1,000	500	(500)	-50.0%	(675)	-57.4%	No more annual meetings of NCSL or USG.
	\$39,213	\$22,400	\$18,700	(\$3,700)	-15.5%	(\$20,513)	-52.3%	

74200-COMMODITIES DETAIL

	FY 85	FY87	FY88	Change from FY87		Change from FY85		Explanation
	Actual	Authorized	Request	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	
74220 office & lib	\$2,584	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$300	25.0%	(\$984)	-28.4%	Increase due to expected library expansion.
74550 Data Processing	1,442	0	0	0	ERR	0	ERR	
	\$3,541	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$300	25.0%	(\$984)	-16.8%	

75000-EQUIPMENT DETAIL

	FY 85	FY87	FY88	Change from FY87		Change from FY85		Explanation
	Actual	Authorized	Request	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	
75800 data processing	\$21,057	\$5,900	\$2,000	(\$4,900)	-71.0%	(\$19,057)	-90.5%	Conversion to PCs will be completed.
76095 furniture	0	0	0	0	ERR	0	ERR	
75150 office equip	0	0	0	0	ERR	0	ERR	
	\$21,057	\$5,900	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%	(\$19,057)	-90.5%	

Alaska State Legislature

5

SENATE ADVISORY COUNCIL



Pouch V
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Zawacki
Alaska State Legislature

ATTN: Tally Miller

FROM: Lee Ann Lucas *LAL*
Senate Advisory Council

DATE: February 9, 1987

RE: Senate Advisory Council

The following is in response to your request for information pertaining to the structure and functions of the Senate Advisory Council.

FY 87 - Appropriation \$464,700

Current SAC Payroll - 8 Employees

(1) Senior Advisor/Director	22K
(1) Senior Advisor	21F
(1) Adm. Officer/Researcher	19A
(3) Researchers	17A - 18E
(1) Assistant Researcher	17A
(1) Secretary	15A

I am also attaching a summary that outlines the services of the Senate Advisory Council. Let me know if I can be of further service.

LAL:lal
Attachment

SENATE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Room 209, Goldstein Bldg.
465-3114

The Senate Advisory Council (SAC) is a nonpartisan research agency available to assist all members of the Alaska State Senate. The SAC concept was conceived by the Senate Leadership in 1981, who foresaw the need to address such major issues as hydropower and related energy topics, the Alaska railroad, fisheries, agriculture, governmental operations, and various people issues such as health, child abuse, education, etc. The key element of the concept was to hire senior advisors who had expertise in desired specialities or fields and who would be involved with all aspects of a major issue. Further, the senior advisors were expected to help in formulating policy and evaluating the effectiveness of pertinent programs mandated by the Legislature.

In addition to the senior advisors, SAC researchers are available to assist the senators with the more traditional research type requests. Specifically, the following services are available:

1. Collect, analyze and disseminate information on issues and events relating to legislative concerns for individual senators and Senate Committees.
2. Monitor designated state and federal issues or programs and assist in analyzing and resolving major problem areas.
3. Conduct research on policy issues in anticipation of or in response to legislative need.
4. Provide on-line access to selected computer data bases such as:

DIALOG- DIALOG provides an information retrieval service containing approximately 250 data bases. These data bases cover a vast array of subject areas.

LEGISNET - NCLS's information system provides access to thousands of legislative research reports, public policy articles, and other documents relevant to state legislatures.

5. Maintain a reference library and subject reference files available for use by senators and their staff.

All requests should come directly from the senators or on their behalf. While requests may be verbal or in writing, the latter is preferred for clarity of purpose, especially on lengthier requests. All in-house work done by the staff will remain confidential until and unless the requesting senator approves the release of the information.

In general, requests requiring a verbal response, or less than approximately three pages of written response, will be done on a first come, first serve basis. Requests requiring major effort, or a substantial amount of resources may be undertaken upon approval of the Council's governing body, traditionally made up of the Senate President and other senators in the Leadership.

Alaska State Legislature

Advisory Council Members
Senator Bennett, Chairman
Senator Kerttula
Senator Abood
Senator Sackett



4
Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

SENATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Bennett
FROM: Kurt S. Dzinich *KSD*
Acting Director
DATE: April 30, 1985
RE: Legislative Research Agencies

In accordance with your request, we have gathered data and information on how legislative research is performed in other states. The report is attached for your information.

To briefly summarize, the survey shows that centralized research agencies outnumber decentralized agencies with the trend being towards increased fragmentation since the 1970's. Even in those states that have retained central research agencies, the growth of noncentral research and individual staff has outstripped the growth of central agency staff.

It is clear that based only on efficiency and economics the central research agency represents the optimal solution. In the real world, however, there are some additional factors such as the organizational and political structure of the legislature, the leadership styles in charge of the legislative bodies and various committees, the perception of quality and objectivity of the research, and equality of access to the research resources that represent important and sometimes the determining criteria in deciding on the most suitable solution.

From historical perspective, Alaska seems to have come full circle, i.e., from a centralized research agency in the late 1970's, to separate agencies in the early 1980's, and now back towards a central agency again. There is clearly no reason why a central research agency should not succeed as long as the problems leading to the demise of the first one are avoided. It should be noted that due to the proliferation of individual and committee staffs the need for the central research staff seems to be decreasing.

Senator Bennett
April 30, 1985
Page 2

What are the most compelling reasons for legislative research capability? I believe that the desire by the legislators for objective, unbiased and indepth analysis of complex issues represents the major reasons for the establishment and operation of a research agency. In addition, the senate leadership in 1981 and 1982 recognized the need for staff with expertise in certain critical areas such as transportation, fisheries, health and people issues, oil and gas issues, and hydropower and related issues. These experts were to have experience in their area of responsibility, to follow and monitor developments in those areas and provide on call assistance to individual senators or committees.

I believe that this latter service has proven to be of significant help to the Senate, and the House occasionally, addressing such issues as the railroad transfer, fishing industry, hydropower and other APA related issues, and women and children issues. Regardless of whether the decision is to centralize or not, the concept of having experts is a sound one and should be continued.

One final thought. Having worked for the Senate Advisory Council for over three years, I believe that the concept of unbiased, apolitical and objective staff is probably not attainable. While it is conceivable to gather such an impartial staff of researchers and experts, it is highly improbable that they would be perceived as such by all of the legislators. Since the perception is the reality that counts, I would recommend that all actions affecting that perception in a negative sense be minimized while those that enhance it be maximized. The alternative is to accept the fact that the staff reflects the desires and goals of the leadership.

Attachment:
KSD;crb

Alaska State Legislature

Advisory Council Members
Senator Bennett, Chairman
Senator Kerttula
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Senator Sackett



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SENATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

TO: Kurt Dzinich
Acting Director, SAC

FROM: Rob Nauheim *Rob Nauheim*

DATE: April 25, 1985

RE: Report on research agencies, national trends.

One of the most important determinants of the ultimate role a research body will play, or the organizational framework under which it will operate, is the organization and staffing pattern of the state legislature in general. Some state legislatures are highly centralized and depend on staff services which emanate from a central organization. The National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL) has characterized the most centralized of state legislatures as "legislative council" legislatures. In the legislative council legislature all staff services are organized under one nonpartisan agency which is overseen by a joint house and senate council. There is no partisan staff. In contrast to the legislative council model, some legislatures are highly decentralized and tend to structure staff services around house and senate leadership. The NCSL has characterized this kind of legislature as a "partisan leadership" legislature. While few state legislatures fit neatly into these two divergent models, most can be described as composites of the two approaches varying in their resemblance to one or the other. The degree of fragmentation of legislative services in a particular state seems to be related not only to party competition and the political and historical traditions of a state, but also to the ever increasing complexity of the issues as embodied in the legislative process.

In the more centralized state legislatures, many research responsibilities are carried out by a nonpartisan office of the central legislative agency and overseen by a joint house and senate legislative council. On the other hand, state legislatures which have divided staff services into separate house and senate offices frequently delegate many of their research responsibilities to a senate or house research body. In addition to the services provided by separate research offices of the house and senate, research services are carried out by caucus and majority or minority offices.