

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672
5547 SSTA HB 4 (file 2) - HB 5

EDITH BULLOCK

Arctic Alaska businesswoman Edith Bullock started the B & R Tug and Barge operation in 1951 with her husband, Jack. For many years the Bullocks and partner Louis Rotman supplied the villages of Alaska's Northwest coast with supplies as critical as electric generators and as whimsical as lace petticoats. Regardless of the cargo, Bullock was a vital link to the Arctic. Later, she served as a territorial legislator helping to firm up Alaska's future economic base.

FRANCES HOWARD

In 1967, young Frances Howard was working for the Alaska State Troopers in Juneau doing much of the work the officers did but getting paid much less. Largely because of her work, officials saw the need for female officers, and in 1969 opened the ranks to women. Howard passed each and every one of the grueling tests to become Alaska's first female state trooper.

EVANGELINE ATWOOD

Evangeline Atwood fought hard to make Alaska a state and then build that state. She now preserves its history as an author. Alaskan born of Swedish missionaries, Atwood started many organizations including the Alaska Statehood Association, Anchorage's P.T.A., League of Women Voters and Alaskan World Affairs Council. Her books are Alaska's story.

BARRETT WILLOUGHBY

The simple, startling beauty of Alaska and its people in everyday activities were the subject of the hundreds of stories and books written by Barrett Willoughby. Her work attracted the attention of magazine and book editors from around the country, and despite a critique by a famous author early in her career that she would never amount to beans as a writer, Willoughby achieved great success and national attention as Alaska's first celebrated author.

ISABELLE CLEARY BARNETTE

In 1901 the upper Tanana River was gold rush country swarming with prospectors. It also was the year Isabelle Cleary Barnette arrived with her husband at the site of what we now call Fairbanks. As the first white woman in the area, Barnette helped settle the burgeoning new town. But it was in March of 1902 that she faced her biggest challenge. With only her husband as companion, Barnette drove a team of dogs, and a sled laden with furs, on an epic journey from Fairbanks to Valdez. In honor of her trail-blazing spirit, Isabelle Pass is named for her.

MAHALA ASHLEY DICKERSON

In 1959, Mahala Ashley Dickerson set up law practice in Anchorage becoming the first black attorney in the state. But she was no stranger to "firsts." Dickerson had practiced law as the first black attorney in Montgomery, Alabama. No matter where the courtroom, she fought valiantly for justice and the rights of all people. Today, she remains devoted to the full time practice of law.

PIONEER WOMEN PILOTS

Pioneer women pilots played a vital role in the development of Alaskan aviation. At age 27, Marvel Crosson was one of the first to conquer the frontiers of bush flying in Alaska. Crosson's untimely death in 1929 left the legacy of flight to others such as Ginny Hill Wood and Celia Hunter who served in the Women's Air Force ferrying planes from Alaska to the Lower 48, as well as flight instructors Ruth Jeffords and Irene Irvine.

ERINIA CHEROSKY CALLAHAN

Erinia Cherosky Callahan spent much of her early life traveling up and down the Yukon River with her husband, brother and her two young children. But none of her journeys would be as important as the one made in 1893. That year the family struck gold on Birch Creek. Callahan's find helped establish the Interior's first major mining camp and Alaska's placer gold rush.

ORAH DEE CLARK

Pioneer school teacher Orah Dee Clark first came to Alaska in 1906 and although she never married, Clark made children her life's work. During her 51-year career, she taught in schools from the Aleutian Islands to the Arctic Circle, in Native villages and in cities as well. Working with few assets other than her quick intelligence and common sense, Clark made education possible for many children in the new territory. She set up the first Anchorage school in 1915, and served as its superintendent. Orah Dee Clark Junior High School stands as her living tribute.

MARY LOUISE RASMUSON

Mary Louise Rasmuson, under stiff competition, was selected as one of the original 400 women to begin the Women's Army Corps during World War II. By 1956, she had risen through the ranks to the top post of Corps Director. Having loaned her leadership efforts to many Alaskan communities, she is best known as the first and 20-year chairwoman of the Citizens Advisory Commission to the Anchorage Museum of History and Art.

HARRIET PULLEN

Skagway's Harriet Pullen began her working career in a cook t... amidst the squalor of the gold rush gateway. She had come to Alaska with seven dollars to her name and four children to support in Seattle. Spurred on by her famed apple pies and pioneer spirit, Pullen achieved great success first as the only woman freighter on the White Pass Trail, ferrying goods from Skagway to Dawson, and later as the genteel owner of the Pullen Boarding House, which earned her the name, "Mother of the North."

MARY ANTISARLOOK

Although she never went to school, Mary Antisarlook, a Native woman living near Nome, was fluent in Russian, English and Eskimo. When Dr. Sheldon Jackson heard of the young girl from Sinruk, he hired her to translate for him on his quest to import reindeer from Siberia to Alaska. Sinruk Mary and her husband were given reindeer in exchange for her services, and by the early 1900s she owned one of the largest herds in the state. Her economic status and wide ranging influence made Sinruk Mary one of the most influential women in Northwest Alaska.



STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
3601 C STREET - SUITE 742
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503

REQUEST FOR RESOURCES

<u>Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life.</u> A handbook for political involvement. Includes information on campaign planning, voter contact, and working with volunteers.	1986	_____
<u>Women In Prison: Does the Justice System Do Them Justice?</u> A report on the current status of female offenders in Alaska and the United States.	1986	_____
<u>Regional Conferences 1986.</u> Activities and recommendations from the rural women's conferences funded by the Commission in 1986 - Bethel, Huslia, Sitka, and Wasilla.	1986	_____
<u>Committment or Complacency:</u> An assessment of sex equity in Alaska's educational institutions with recommendations for future action.	1986	_____
<u>Annual Report.</u> A review of the major accomplishments of the Women's Commission from January 1, 1986, to December 31, 1986.	1986	_____
<u>A Review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination</u> Final report of the comprehensive review of Alaska Statutes to determine sex discrimination.	1985	_____
<u>A Sense of History: A Reference Guide to Alaska's Women 1896 - 1985.</u> An annotated bibliography of books, articles, audio visual aids, and photo displays about Alaska women in history.	1985	_____
<u>At the Edge of Opportunity: A Statewide Conference on Women, The Economy, and Public Policy.</u> A summary of the workshops, activities, and recommendations from the March 1985 conference.	1985	_____
<u>Directory of Women's Organizations.</u> Statewide directory of women's organizations.	1985	_____
<u>Alaska Women: A Databook.</u> Profile of Alaska women based upon the 1980 Census, includes statistical appendix.	1984	_____
<u>Women in Labor Unions: Seminar Report.</u> Summary of the seminar that focused on the role of women in labor organizations, what problems women face and how to make unions more responsive to women.	1984	_____

Alaska State Legislature

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



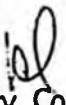
PO Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

Senate Advisory Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Paul Fischer
Alaska State Senate

ATN: Jack Sanderson

FROM: Lee Ann Lucas 
Senate Advisory Council

DATE: January 14, 1987

RE: Ak. Women's Commission

In response to your request, I offer the following.

The Alaska Women's Commission was established by the Legislature in 1978 (Ch. 120, SLA 78). The Commission was reaffirmed and renewed in 1983 (Ch. 52, SLA 83) by the Legislature and the Governor. Copies of these Acts are attached for your information.

CORRECTION

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



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ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
3601 C STREET - SUITE 742
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503

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Women's Legal Rights in Alaska. Outlines legal rights affecting women in Alaska. 1984 _____

Profiles in Change: Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women. Stories about Alaskan women who have contributed to the state's economic, social, and political development. 1983 _____

Report on the Economic Status of Alaska Native Women. Results of the study on the economic status of Alaska Native women with recommended actions to improve their economic status. 1983 _____

Summary of the Report on the Economic Status of Alaska Native Women. Summary of above report. 1983 _____

POSTERS:

Families - A Shared Experience * _____

Be What You Want to Be * _____

* Multi-colored posters are aimed at a young audience emphasizing non-sexist choices in career and family living.

Women: Alaska Women's Commission _____

Women in Alaska History. A timeline of famous Alaskan women. _____

BROCHURES & FACT SHEETS:

Alaska Women & Education. A review of Title IX and Alaska's Chapter 18 educational equity legislation. 1985 _____

Alaska Women & Insurance. Summary information on insurance discrimination in Alaska and the nation. 1985 _____

Alaska Women & Pensions. Summary of federal reform legislation on private pension plans and its effect upon women in Alaska and in the nation. 1985 _____

Alaska Women's Commission. Describes the purpose of the Commission and its current activities. 1984 _____

Alaska Women: A Profile. Summary information on the economic, educational, and family status of Alaska women. 1984 _____

Alaska Women in Politics. Summary information on the growth of women's participation in politics in Alaska and in the nation. 1984 _____

Check here to be added to the Commission mailing list in order to receive the quarterly newsletter, "Status Report." _____

NAME _____ ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

Alaska State Legislature



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

PO Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Phone: (907) 465-3114

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LAWS OF ALASKA

1978

Source

Chapter No.

SCS CSHB 303 am S

120

AN ACT

Creating the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women.

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

* Section 1. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Sec. 44.19.956. CREATION OF COMMISSION. There is created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women.

Sec. 44.19.957. COMPOSITION. The commission consists of nine members and an ex officio member representing the office of the attorney general who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

Sec. 44.19.958. APPOINTMENT. (a) The members shall be appointed on a nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory basis by the governor within 60 days of the effective date of this Act. The members shall be residents of the state. At least one member shall be a homemaker who is not otherwise employed. In making the appointments, due consideration shall be given to

(1) the recommendations made by civic organizations, women's organizations, educational and vocational groups, employer groups, labor unions, church groups, homemakers clubs and organizations and other groups having an interest in the status of women;

(2) statewide geographical representation of the commission; and

(3) minority and low-income representation.

Chapter 120

(b) The commission shall elect one of its members as chairperson and may select other commission officers as it considers necessary.

Sec. 44.19.959. MEETINGS. Within 60 days after the appointment of all the members of the commission, the governor shall call the first meeting of the commission. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for conducting business and exercising the powers of the commission. The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson, at the request of a majority of the members, or at a regularly scheduled time as determined by a majority of the members.

Sec. 44.19.961. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office of each member is five years. Terms shall be staggered. Initial terms shall be three members serving for one year, three members serving for three years, and three members serving for five years. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments.

Sec. 44.19.962. COMPENSATION. Members of the commission receive no compensation for their services but are entitled to per diem and travel allowances authorized by law for other boards and commissions.

Sec. 44.19.963. PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to implement the recommendations contained in the preliminary study on the status of women in Alaska which was mandated by the Ninth Legislature, Second Session, under ch. 99 SLA 1976, and improve the status of women in Alaska by conducting further research and by making and implementing additional recommendations on the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in Alaska including, but not limited to,

- (1) education,
- (2) homemaking,
- (3) civil and legal rights,
- (4) labor and employment.

Sec. 44.19.964. POWERS AND DUTIES. To accomplish its purpose, the commission may

- (1) hire an executive director and additional administrative staff as may be necessary to the commission's function;
- (2) act as a clearinghouse and coordinating body for governmental and nongovernmental information relating to the status of women;
- (3) cooperate with public and private agencies in joint efforts to study and resolve problems relating to the status of women in Alaska;
- (4) accumulate and compile information concerning discrimination against women;
- (5) disseminate the results of research and

compilation of data acquired under (4) of this section by publication and other methods such as public hearings, conferences, and seminars;

(6) study and analyze all facts relating to Alaska laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to equal protection for women under the state constitution;

(7) recommend legislative and administrative action on equal treatment and opportunities for women;

(8) select and retain the services of consultants whose advice is considered necessary to assist the commission in obtaining information;

(9) encourage women to utilize their capabilities and to assume leadership roles;

(10) establish standing committees among the members to investigate and make recommendations on various areas of concern;

(11) create task forces composed of commission members and other experts as needed;

(12) accept monetary gifts or grants from the federal government or an agency of it, from any charitable foundation or professional association or from any other reputable source for implementation of any program necessary or desirable for carrying out the general purposes of the commission.

Sec. 44.19.966. ANNUAL REPORT. Each year the commission shall file a report with the governor and the legislature of its proceedings for the previous calendar year and shall submit recommendations for legislative and administrative action. Reports and recommendations required under this section shall be prepared no later than the convening of the legislature.

* Sec. 2. The Alaska Commission on the Status of Women created under AS 44.19.956 shall terminate on June 30, 1983.



LAWS OF ALASKA

1983

Source

Chapter No.

CSSB 63(SA) am

52

AN ACT

Relating to the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women;
and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1, LINE 10

UNDERLINED MATERIAL INDICATES TEXT THAT IS BEING ADDED TO
THE LAW AND BRACKETED MATERIAL IN CAPITAL LETTERS INDICATES
DELETIONS FROM THE LAW; COMPLETELY NEW TEXT OR MATERIAL
REPEALED AND RE-ENACTED IS IDENTIFIED IN THE INTRODUCTORY
LINE OF EACH BILL SECTION.

Approved by the Governor: July 11, 1983
Actual Effective Date: July 12, 1983

AN ACT

Relating to the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women;
and providing for an effective date.

- * Section 1. AS 44.19.165 is amended to read:
Sec. 44.19.165. CREATION OF COMMISSION. There is created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Women's Commission (ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN).
- * Sec. 2. AS 44.19.175 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:
(13) encourage the development of regional and municipal women's councils or commissions.
- * Sec. 3. AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:
(12) Alaska Women's Commission -- June 30, 1987.
- * Sec. 4. The Alaska Women's Commission established in sec. 1 of this Act succeeds to all the powers, duties, and facilities of the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women.
- * Sec. 5. Section 2, ch. 120, SLA 1978 is repealed.
- * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-070(c).



STATUS REPORT

Alaska Women's Commission



Vol. 6, No. 1

February/March 1987

Bills Filed to Extend The Alaska Women's Commission

Companion bills extending the Alaska Women's Commission to 1991 were introduced into both chambers of the Legislature. HB4 was prefiled by Representative Mike Davis and co-sponsored by Representatives Fran Ulmer, Niilo Koponen, Johnnie Ellis, Kay Brown and Dave Donley. Representatives Davis and Koponen were also sponsors of a 1983 bill to extend the Commission. HB4 was referred to two committees in the House: State Affairs and Finance.

In the Senate, Governor Cowper introduced SB89. The Governor stated in his transmittal letter to the Senate that "the Commission must be continued because of the valuable services it performs." Four committees of referral have been assigned in the Senate: State Affairs, Health and Social Services, Judiciary and Finance.

HB4 has successfully completed its committee hearings in the House of Representatives and is currently awaiting calendaring for the floor vote. At its first hearing February 4th in the House State Affairs Committee, a strong show of support was echoed for continuation of the Commission from around the state. Testimony was taken from over 25 people in nine communities.

In her testimony before the committee, Chairwoman Kris

Chatfield said "The Alaska Women's Commission has earned respect from all quarters for its dedicated work as an advocate for change to improve the status of women in Alaska. The Commission's research has provided the necessary data to show areas of weakness in public policy, and pointed the way to bring about statutory or policy changes to end discriminatory practices against women."

"The Alaska Women's Commission is a conduit for women and organizations representing their needs and interests. The Alaska Women's Commission provides a voice with a legislative mandate and support through the Governor's office that can effect positive changes toward the goal of equality for women."

"...The goal of improving the status of women is so important that to eliminate the Alaska Women's Commission or reduce its effectiveness by removing funding, jeopardizes the precarious status of women and as a result, the overall economy."

The House Finance Committee heard similar testimony from women's rights advocates, commissioners and staff. After a relatively short hearing, the bill was quickly passed out of committee and now awaits a vote of the House.

— As we go to press, HB4 has passed the House, (Y)33 - (N)2. —

Women's Legal Rights Conference To Be Held

Can you help me, I'm pregnant and I've been fired from work. Can you help me, I'm getting divorced and my spouse is pressuring me...

Can you help...is a question often asked of the Alaska Women's Commission. Legal issues influence every area of a woman's life: her education, the family, the workplace, her ability to obtain credit; but, often it is difficult to know where to go for the right information or assistance.

To address this need, a conference on **Women's Legal Rights** will be held **April 25** in **Anchorage**. Sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission, the one-day conference will bring together legal specialists in the areas of marriage, divorce, children, domestic violence and sexual assault, employment practices, pregnancy discrimination, affirmative action and access to credit. The conference will be free of charge and located at Anchorage Community College, a co-sponsor of this event. To register for the conference call The Growth Company, 276-4769. For more information ask for Hilary Hardwick.

New Executive Director Appointed



Christine Callahan was appointed Executive Director at the December meeting of the Alaska Women's Commission. An Alaska resident since 1975, Callahan has worked in human services for the past 15 years. She has held positions of increasing responsibility with the Commission since 1980, overseeing key projects such as rural regional conferences, the study on the Economic Status of Alaska Native Women, and leadership seminars for women throughout

the state. She coordinated the 1985 Statewide Women's Conference and has served as acting director since July, 1986.

Focus Point

The voice on the other end of the phone line said, "I want to know who on the Commission represents me? I understand that you're supposed to represent all the women in the state, but who represents me as an individual?"

As the conversation evolved, her question became clearer: Who on the Commission knows what I'm going through? Does anyone really know or even care what it's like to be unemployed, on welfare, a minority, or raising a family alone? What are you doing to help me?

The women who serve on AWC have a greater empathy for these situations than the public will ever know. They represent a broad spectrum of the population and if their immediate economic condition doesn't match that of my caller, in their collective past they have shared many of her burdens.

Although, realistically, the Commission cannot fight every individual woman's battle, our job is to search out the roots of the problems and advise the Governor of the need of women in our state.

The causes are many, and it is through our research, advocacy and education efforts that the heavy wheels of change begin to move. The battle is also fought on the legislative front and there is progress. In 1985, the Commission completed a comprehensive review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination. The review identified more than 80 discriminatory laws.

The proposals that resulted from this study were included in 7 bills that were part of the Commission's legislative platform. Of these, the House of Representatives passed six and the Senate passed three. All three bills were signed into law on June 7, 1986. These three dealt with pension reform, inheritance and probate, and a bill which eliminated discriminatory language in a variety of existing laws.

Two bills that did not pass during the last session have been targeted by the Commission for re-introduction. These deal with parental leave and changes in divorce and dissolution.

The Commission is greatly concerned about the economic disparity faced by women, and the resulting struggle against poverty for many of them. Public support must accompany all these efforts, and by working together awareness and change will occur.

Kris Chatfield, Chair

Meetings and Events

March — **Women's History Month in Alaska.** The Commission's TV and radio spots on "Profiles of Alaskan Women" will air in communities throughout the state. Contact local women's organizations for other activities scheduled within your community.

March 24 & 25 — **The Alaska Women's Commission** will meet in **Juneau.**

March 26 & 27 — **Female Minority Leadership Conference** will be held in Anchorage, sponsored by the Anchorage School District, co-sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission and other community groups.

April 9 - 11 — **The Anchorage Association for the Education of Young Children** will sponsor a conference on **Alaska's Children: Reaching New Heights.** The conference will include over 40 workshops with guest speakers including: Heather Weiss, Robert Lurie and Bev Bos.

Notes from the Director

It is with a great deal of pride that we publish this issue of **Status Report**, for it includes a summary of the tremendous accomplishments of the Alaska Women's Commission since its inception in 1978. The Commission must surely stand at the forefront of agencies whose records demonstrate consistent effectiveness in meeting their original goals. The status of women in Alaska has improved in the last 10 years. Women's work force participation has increased by 17.2 percent. By 1985 Alaskan women comprised 30 percent of professional and managerial positions while in the United States that figure had reached only 22.5 percent. State employment of minority women has increased slowly but steadily, up 1.5 percent between 1980 and 1986. Some measure of this improvement is certainly due to the Commission's efforts reviewed in this newsletter.

The Commission's dedication, and yours, has helped create this progress. It would be a shortsighted step at this critical juncture in the state's history to reverse this tide of progress. Much work remains to be done. Health issues such as teen pregnancy need to be explored and addressed. Families need the protection of a parental leave policy so that home and work responsibilities are more compatible. As we struggle to develop methods for dealing with the current budget crisis, issues such as these will need continued advocacy.

Your testimony at the first hearing of HB4 (Davis) - the house bill which will extend the Commission's existence past June 30 of this year - was a strong indication of your continuing dedication to equality for all of Alaska's people. From Nome, Sitka, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Juneau, Kodiak, Anchorage, and Mat-Su, the message was clear - the vast majority of you believe the Commission should be directed to continue its work.

We have found ways to do more with less. Our budget is at its leanest since 1982 and represents an annual expenditure of less than one dollar for every female in the state. We will continue to trim and cut. Your volunteer efforts have always formed a major part of our work force and we will continue to rely on your dedication. Suggestions to combine the Alaska Women's Commission with other human rights agencies such as the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity or the Human Rights Commission may surface. These and any similar recommendations should be evaluated carefully to ensure that they do not compromise the autonomy and effectiveness of the Commission. In many ways the Commission as it is currently structured stands as a model of economy and effectiveness. Changes that would limit your access to the Commission, or its ability to function independently, should be approached cautiously.

Your support, the support of the House members who have sponsored HB4 and the support of Governor Cowper who has sponsored the companion bill in the Senate (SB89) are essential to the Commission's survival, and more importantly, to achieving equality for all.

Christine Callahan
Executive Director

April 23 & 24 — **Health 90** will bring together Alaskans in Anchorage to share information, develop policy and establish priorities for health promotion in our state.

April 25 — **Women's Legal Rights Conference in Anchorage.** Sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission (see related article, page 1).

Letters

(While the Alaska Women's Commission can easily articulate its accomplishments, the importance of its continued mission can best be told by the people it serves. The following selection of letters breathes life into the programs, research and legislative advocacy the Commission has provided for the past nine years.)

Dear Women's Commission:

The Governor and the Legislature should continue funding the Alaska Women's Commission. Adequate funding will confirm the role, purpose and permanence of the Women's Commission to be essential to the social and economic well-being of all Alaskans.

As America's first Filipino woman state legislator, I voted to establish the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women at a time in America when our nation began to understand the need for affirmative action toward social, economic and political equality of women. Today, several years later, engaged in a financial emergency, we are met with a test to determine if the gains made by women in Alaska toward equal status with men can be maintained.

The Commission has proved effective in influencing and shaping public policy affecting women, but the struggle continues. And in our time of economic recession, we need the Women's Commission to help us guard against loss of gains we women have made over the past decade. We need not only to hold the line during bad times, we also must strive to build on these gains, and to strengthen the equal status of women in Alaska.

Thelma Buchholdt
Anchorage, Alaska



ANCHORAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Dimond High School
2100 West 14th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Women's Commission:

It has been brought to my attention that the Alaska Women's Commission will face its sunset review this year.

Because the review provides the legislature with an opportunity to evaluate the Commission's effectiveness and decide if its work should be continued, I wish to express my appreciation for the Commission's accomplishments. The Commission has played an important role in improving the status of women in the field of education, particularly through the evaluation of the implementation status of Alaska's sex equity in education law, Chapter 18. And the *Legal Rights Handbook* is an invaluable personal as well as educational resource. Additionally, the statewide women's conference provided immeasurable opportunities for women throughout the state to meet with outstanding resource women to share, resolve and have a better understanding of the economic, educational, medical and legal issues that impact the status of women in Alaska.

The Commission has proven its significant need and there's more work ahead. Thanks for all your effort.

Sonya LaMarr, Assistant Principal
Dimond High School
President, Alaska Black Caucus



ALASKA MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2011 F... 4245-881 Suite A
Telephone 278 1725

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

A Division of the National Mental Health Association

Dear Women's Commission:

At a time when our local and state dollars are scarcely meeting the needs of established human services, I worry now that the Women's Commission may also be in jeopardy.

As a 24 year resident of Alaska, my education and work experience have been enhanced by the Women's Commission and the awareness it has worked hard to create. Having attended and participated in conferences and seminars that have successfully affected my career both professionally and personally, it was my opinion that Alaska was forward thinking in establishing a commission for women which specifically spoke to the needs of our female population both young and old. Any attempt to measure the validity and scope of the Commission would be difficult. I do feel strongly that if the Commission were eliminated it would once again place Alaska in the dark ages of women's rights.

Another cogent fact is the legislative advancement that has barely begun through the Commission. The public educational process should not be abandoned. Since 1977 the commission has established an important role in helping women help themselves. This is healthy - necessary - and should be forcefully continued.

Janet M. Campbell
Executive Director

"The Commission is the only voice to which women in all walks of life can appeal for information, guidance, and advocacy regarding their problems."

Dorothy Jones
Eagle River

"Maybe that is what the Commission does for women. It makes it acceptable to call oneself a "feminist."

*Laurel Murphy
Anchorage*

Dear Women's Commission:

I am writing on behalf of the **Alaska Federation of Business and Professional Women, Inc.** in support of the continuation of the Alaska Women's Commission. This commission has continually proven itself as an organization dedicated to research, education and political action in support of Alaskan women and children as mandated at its inception.

The people appointed as Commissioners to carry out the work of the Women's Commission have been attentive to the needs of women and children and have demonstrated their "grass roots" approach in a highly organized and professional manner. By taking controversial steps to promote and carry out educational seminars, lobbying efforts and workshops throughout Alaska, the Commission has been sensitive to ethnic, cultural and regional differences.

I have found the research done by the Alaska Women's Commission to be impeccable and have come to rely on it as a tool in developing legislative platforms for the Alaska Federation of Business and Professional Women, Inc. of which I am currently the state president. In addition, our organization has appreciated representation in the Commission's LAWS group which meets to formulate legislative proposals with other interested groups. The expertise brought to groups such as this one is vital to the systematic development of good legislation and programs which can enhance the quality of life for families in Alaska.

It is vital to maintain the Women's Commission in its essential form. Collapsed into another agency or ended by "sunset" would not only dilute the effectiveness of the programs and services provided by the existing Commission, but might truly destroy future opportunities for women and children in Alaska. Their research, dedication and promotion of programs to enhance the quality of life for women and children guarantees a promising future for all Alaskans.

Candy Rutledge, President
Alaska Federation of Business
and Professional Women, Inc.



Dear Women's Commission:

The Alaska Women's Commission has played a significant role in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault. Most important has been the excellent *Legal Rights Handbook* for women which we utilize and distribute regularly. The research on statutes leading to proposed changes which affect women's rights in divorce and custody and women's economic status are also vital to our work. The shelter programs do not have the staff and resources to do this much needed work; nor does any other organization or agency.

The State has an obligation to understand, protect and enhance the legal rights and economic status of women. The Alaska Women's Commission is essential to our ability to fulfill this obligation.

Ruth Lister
Executive Director, Women In Crisis
President, Alaska Network on Domestic
Violence and Sexual Assault

KATIE HURLEY

Dear Women's Commission:

It is hard to believe that it is again time for the "sunset" review of the Commission.

There is no commission to my knowledge that does so much for so many with so little expenditure of tax dollars. I know you have continued to get the maximum from your appropriations.

I believe the need for the Commission is greater because of the budget cuts that are being made in agency programs. I see an expanded role for you to take up the slack.

The majority of women who are heads of households are still in low paying jobs. Who will be the advocate for these women if you are not there working for them?

Who will be the catalyst to have the information to support the needs of children?

Who will remind educators that there is a law regarding equality for women — students, teachers, administrators?

Who will continue the research regarding minority hire?

The positive result of sunset review is the opportunity to tell the public what it is that you do and do so well.

We are now building on nearly ten years of experience let's not go backwards, but continue to strive for equality.

Katie Hurley
Wasilla, Alaska

Meet the Commission



Kris Chatfield (Chair) has served on the Commission since 1983. During her tenure, she served as vice-chair from 1984-86 and helped craft the Commission's legislative agenda and

policy decisions. She has also chaired numerous programs sponsored by the Commission including the Program Committee. As a member of the Anchorage community, she has served as board member and chair for a local community school association and organized a pre-school enrichment program. Chatfield works as a pediatric receptionist, is married and has four children.



Marcia Johnson, Sitka, is an activist involved in numerous women's organizations and community groups. As a member of the Commission, she assisted in the development of the Sitka

Women's Council and has served for 2 years on the state Commission on Child Support Enforcement. Johnson is a partner in a charter boat business and serves as guardian ad litem for the court. Recently, she was accepted into law school and plans to begin her studies this fall.



Mary Pete, Bethel, is an anthropologist for the Subsistence Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Pete has conducted considerable research in the field of alcohol abuse and do-

mestic violence. She is a member of the Tundra Women's Coalition and has previously served on the board.



Betty Ramage, Anchorage, is a state attorney. As former chair of the Commission, Ramage has been very active in its operations. She continues to serve on the Executive Commit-

tee, is chair of the upcoming "Women's Legal Rights Conference" and remains active in legislative issues. Ramage is a member of the Women's Lobby, married and the mother of two children.



Joy Green-Armstrong (Vice-Chair) Anchorage, is an account administrator with IBM. She is serving as the Commission's representative on the steering committee for the Female Mi-

nority Leadership Conference planned for March 1987 by the Anchorage School District. The conference will assist young women in developing skills for making personal and career life choices. Green-Armstrong is the mother of two and is active in school, church and community organizations. She and her husband also volunteer time with Little League during the summer.



Pat Kennedy, Anchorage, is a state attorney and a licensed foster parent for long-term and emergency shelter placements. She is president-elect of the Child Advocacy Network

and serves on the Board of Governors for the Alaska Bar Association. Kennedy is also affiliated with numerous social and civic organizations in the Anchorage area. She is an ex-officio member of the Commission appointed by the Attorney General.



Wendy Redman, Fairbanks, is director of government relations for the University of Alaska statewide system. Redman has been active in community groups and women's organizations for years. She

founded the Women's Center at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. As a member of the Commission, she has been active in promoting its legislative proposals. Redman is the mother of two children.



Loretta Bullard, Nome, is a planner with Kawerak, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides socio-economic and educational services to the Norton Sound area. She is the mother of a

four year old daughter. As a member of the Commission, she brings an understanding of the issues and interests of rural women. Bullard serves on the board of directors of the Norton Sound Health Corporation and has been a past officer in Native Women of Alaska, Anchorage Chapter.

Alaska Women's Commission Meets In Juneau March 24-25



Paula Ziegler, Ketchikan, a homemaker, was former state president and chief lobbyist for the League of Women Voters of Alaska. Ziegler also serves on the regional council of her church. Living

in Juneau during the legislative session, she acts as the Commission's principal volunteer lobbyist.

More Letters *continued from page 4*



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
STATE OF ALASKA

Dear Women's Commission:

The Alaska Women's Commission is effective because its commissioners and staff members have understood how to influence public policy for the benefit of women. Additionally, they have understood how important data collection and analysis is for helping influence important decision-making by the Legislature and the Governor.

The outreach the Commission has made through the statewide conference in 1985, regional conferences, and the establishment of local women's councils has been invaluable. Reaching women in many communities across this vast state to help raise consciousness, provide them information, and give them hope is an important task.

We need the Alaska Women's Commission to continue doing its excellent job. It is an essential aid in the long-running battle for women to attain full equality in our society.

Jan Erickson
Legislative Chair

Dear Women's Commission:

The Alaska Women's Commission has done a good job in helping to rid the books of laws that are discriminatory to women. They have worked hard for all Alaskans in promoting better child care centers and more funding. The Commission has been the catalyst behind the formation of several community women's councils, including the one here in Sitka whose theme this year is "Working to Promote the Family". The publications, reports, and research produced by the Alaska Women's Commission have helped fill in the information gaps on issues such as divorce/dissolution laws and sex equity in Alaska's educational system. I attended the first statewide women's conference sponsored by the Commission, and know many other such conferences and workshops continue to be held which bring urban and rural women together to share concerns.

Alaska is in a tough financial spot; its revenue picture is not expected to greatly improve for the next three years. Many politicians are likely to say there is no longer a "need" for the Alaska Women's Commission. Allowing the Alaska Women's Commission to be "sunsetting" is short-sighted. Who can look into the future and know for certain that the progress made so far in improving the status of women will not be thwarted or whittled away by changing social circumstances (such as a recession) or because women will be less informed, or not fully represented in Juneau?

I believe the Commission is a valuable resource with lots of "unfinished business" on its agenda (such as passage of a parental leave bill in Alaska). I only hope the Alaska Women's Commission will be given the opportunity to "carry on".

Kathleen Tarr
Sitka, Alaska

"What better viable on-going effort than that of the Alaska Women's Commission. A body that provides a calm, common sense approach affording Alaskans the unique experience of restoring a healthy balance to their families' existence."

Joan Cottman-Coston
The Women's Support Network
North Pole



American Association of University Women
Alaska Division

Box 13917
Juneau, AK 99803

Dear Women's Commission:

The Alaska Division of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is vitally interested in and supportive of HB4 (and its companion bill, SB89) which would extend the Alaska Women's Commission until 1991.

It would be wonderful to not have to be interested in extension of the Women's Commission...to let it fade into the arctic sunset...because that would be indicative of no further need for an Alaska Women's Commission. But that is not yet the case in 1987, and unfortunately Alaskan women are still very much in need of an advocate agency.

On the average, Alaskan women are still paid less than two-thirds than men for performing work of similar nature. Half of the adult women in Alaska are employed away from home, many out of need rather than choice. With the harsh economic realities that Alaska is now facing, it would be all too easy for society to slip backwards in time to social and economic patterns discriminating against women.

In FY 87, the revised budget for the Alaska Women's Commission represents only 0.02% of the entire general fund operating budget. In light of the accomplishments of the Alaska Women's Commission, which I need not reiterate here, it would **not** be appropriate to sacrifice the enormous gains women in Alaska have made by not extending the Alaska Women's Commission.

Marcia Lynn McKenzie
President



Alaska Women's Resource Center
111 W. 9th Ave. Suite 4 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501 • (907) 256-0520

Dear Women's Commission:

Considering the economic condition of the Municipality and the State, not only is the Alaska Women's Commission facing a sunset review, so too are many of the agencies which serve the needs of women. It is in that vein that the Alaska Women's Resource Center lauds the efforts of the Alaska Women's Commission. With our resources so strained, we are unable to devote staff or even volunteer time to the necessary research to make our case before various funding agencies. So we are especially pleased that the Women's Commission has chosen to publish the results of some exceptionally fine studies into the status of women in Alaska. Our agency daily uses the *Legal Rights Handbook*, and looks forward to the work you are undertaking regarding the economic status of women following divorce and dissolution.

AWRC appreciates the organizational and monitoring abilities of the Commission with regard to proposed or pending legislation. It is the one place where we can get a reading on all such pieces of legislation, their current status, their likelihood of passage and their impact on women. We also appreciate your thorough research and your excellent network to all agencies serving women. Despite your significantly reduced funding, we hope you maintain the emphasis upon both research and legislative monitoring.

Thanks for your efforts and good luck in your sunset. May it prove to be a new dawning for women.


Heather Flynn
Executive Director

"There is no commission that does so much for so many with so little expenditure of tax dollars."

*Katie Hurley
(former state representative)*

Boards & Commissions

Fifty Alaska boards and commissions have vacancies, including Fish and Game Boards, Athletic Commission, Human Rights Commission, Permanent Fund Corporation and the Women's Commission. If you are interested in finding out how to apply, contact: Sheila Gottehrer, Office of the Governor, Boards and Commissions, P.O. Box A, Juneau, AK 99811, or phone 465-3500.

A Job Well Done

Senator Jan Faiks of Anchorage was named Senate President of the fifteenth Alaska Legislature. Serving her second term in office, Senator Faiks is the first woman to reach this post.

Sonya LaMarr has been elected President of the Alaska Black Caucus. LaMarr, an administrator with the Anchorage School District, reaffirmed the organization's goal of cross-cultural understanding on accepting her new position. Other officers are Cynthia Batts, Vice President, Pat Berkley, (former member, Alaska Women's Commission) Treasurer.

Thelma Buchholdt, former Anchorage State Representative, was elected to head the National Order of Women Legislators (NOWL). NOWL is a professional organization of women, who have been elected to their state and territorial legislatures.

Laurel Murphy was elected Chair of the Alaska Women's Political Caucus. Murphy is acting director of the Division of Mining and Geology for the Department of Natural Resources and former chair-elect of the caucus. **Leila Wise** was elected the chair-elect; **Nelda Warkentin**, recorder and **Nancy Grant**, financial officer.

Barbara Eichner of Anchorage was elected President of the National Association of Cooperative Extension Services. She's the first Alaskan to hold this national post.

Janice Holst of Juneau was named Mother of the Year by American Mothers Inc. Holst is married and has four children. She owns and operates a dance studio and tourist agency. Holst is also the founder and director of the Alaska Cancer Research Telethon.

Governor Cowper announced the appointments of **Grace Schaible**, a senior partner in the law firm Schaible, Staley, Delisio and Cook as the **first female Attorney General**; **Myra Munson**, former assistant attorney general as Commissioner for the Department of Health and Social Services; **Judy Brady** former director of Commonwealth North as Commissioner of Natural Resources; **Mary Halloran** as Director of Division of Policy in Office of Management and Budget; and **Susan Humphrey-Barnett** former Director of Statewide Programs for the Department of Corrections as Commissioner for the department. Other appointments to the Cowper administration include, **Patty Kastelic**, executive assistant, **Nadine Winters**, special assistant; **Caren Robinson**, special assistant; **Sheila Gottehrer** special assistant for boards and commissions.



In Passing...Lillie McGarvey

Long time community activist Lillie Hope McGarvey died at her Anchorage home January 30 at age 63. Born and raised in Unalaska, Lillie was active in promoting Native and women's interests throughout her life. She had worked closely with the Alaska Women's Commission on Native concerns, and served on the Steering Committee of the 1985 Statewide Women's Conference.

Lillie gave tirelessly to so many and with such joy. In reflection, a friend, Rosita Worl said "Lillie gave so much of her time. On behalf of many, especially Alaska Native women, may I thank the family for sharing Lillie with us."

Lillie's activities and honors included Vice President of the Aleut Corporation; Secretary/Treasurer of the Aleut League; President of Panama Marine, Ltd.; President of Cape Sarichef, Inc.; Chairperson of Aleutian Transportation Co.; member, Volunteers of America of Alaska; Anchorage Women's Commission; President, Native Women of Alaska; member, Historical and Fine Arts Commission; President, South Central Health Planning and Development Inc.; member, Anchorage Municipal Health Commission; member, State Health Coordinating Council; Director of Aleut League Alcohol Rehabilitation Project; Chairperson, Alaska Native Health Board; Treasurer, National Indian Health Board. She was recently honored by the Soroptimist Society for her extensive community service.

Mrs. McGarvey operated her own consulting business in Anchorage, and had previously owned and operated the Williwaw Hotel in Unalaska. At various times, she served as Mayor, City Clerk, Post Master, School Board Clerk and Magistrate for the city of Unalaska.

"She will remain with us always for she was a teacher and mentor," said her daughter Charlotte Gisvold.

Alaska Women's Commission
3601 C Street, Suite 742
Anchorage, AK 99503
Telephone (907) 561-4227

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U.S. Postage

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Anchorage, AK

State of Alaska

Steve Cowper, Governor
Stephen McAlpine, Lt. Governor



"No person is to be denied the enjoyment of any civil or political right because of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin"

Article I, Section 3
of the Alaska Constitution

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



**ALASKA
WOMEN'S
COMMISSION**

Annual Report 1986

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Annual Report 1986

Published
January 1987

3601 "C" Street, Suite 742
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 561-4227



STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
3601 C STREET - SUITE 742
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503

January 19, 1987

Dear Governor Cowper and Members of the Alaska Legislature:

The 1986 Annual Report of the Alaska Women's Commission reflects an increasing public awareness of the vital role that the Commission fulfills.

You will note, as you read through the report, that the Commission has continued its legislative mandate to improve the status of women in Alaska. Our activities have included research, publications, educational programs, conferences, and advocacy.

Changes in public policy as a result of the efforts of the Alaska Women's Commission impact a significant number of Alaskan women. The tremendous interest in, and response to our work was evidenced by the supportive testimony given at the Statewide teleconference on the budget held by the Senate in May 1986.

As the state grapples with the complex problems of a reduced budget, the needs of women caught in the web of the economic downturn have increased. The support and sincere interest the Administration and the Legislature have shown for our efforts are vital. We look forward to your renewed dedication to the achievement of full equality for Alaskan women.

Sincerely,

Kris Chatfield

Kris Chatfield
Chairperson

Alaska Women's Commission
1986 ANNUAL REPORT

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Commission Members and Staff 1986

COMMISSION MEMBERS

As of December 31, 1986

Kris Chatfield, Chair,
Anchorage, AK

Joy Green-Armstrong, Vice Chair
Anchorage, AK

Loretta Bullard
Nome, AK

Marcia Johnson
Sitka, AK

Pat Kennedy (Ex Officio)
Anchorage, AK

Mary Pete
Bethel, AK

Betty Ramage
Anchorage, AK

Wendy Redman
Fairbanks, AK

Paula Ziegler
Ketchikan, AK

January - June 1986

Betty Ramage, Chair
Anchorage, AK

Kris Chatfield, Vice Chair
Anchorage, AK

Pat Berkley
Anchorage, AK

Charlotte Brower
Barrow, AK

Marcia Johnson
Sitka, AK

Pat Kennedy, (Ex Officio)
Anchorage, AK

Suzanne Lombardi
Wasilla, AK

Agnes Nichols
Cordova, AK

Wendy Redman
Fairbanks, AK

Grace Smith
Bethel, AK

COMMISSION STAFF

Full-time

Christine Callahan
Executive Director

Barbara Baker
Research Analyst

Hilda Gayton
Secretary

Part-time

Dorothy Pollock, Title V
Information Assistant

Full-time

Kathy Marshall
Executive Director

Christine Callahan
Staff Assistant

Barbara Baker
Research Analyst

Sandra Shelley
Secretary

Part-time

Anna Pickering, Title V
Information Assistant

Roberta Graham
Media Specialist

Introduction

The ten-member Alaska Women's Commission was created in 1978 to conduct research and to make and implement recommendations on the needs, problems and contributions of women in Alaska. The four primary areas of the Commission's focus are education, homemaking, civil and legal rights, and labor and employment. Each year the Commission submits legislative recommendations to the Governor as part of its advocacy efforts; conducts a major research study on an issue of importance to women's equality; compiles and disseminates information about women through extensive publications; presents educational seminars and conferences; assists in the development of local and regional women's councils; and provides information and referral services to individuals and organizations.

This year the Commission is continuing its legislative effort to establish a Parental Leave Policy for state employees and secure reforms in the marital dissolution laws. Its major research project will assess the economic inequities that have accompanied "no-fault" divorce in Alaska. And in an effort to assist women whose access to affordable legal assistance has been drastically reduced, a conference on Women's Legal Rights is in the plans as well.

In 1987 the Commission will face its "sunset" review. This provides an opportunity for the legislators of Alaska to evaluate the Commission's effectiveness and decide if there is a continuing and compelling need for the work that it performs.

The current economic conditions in Alaska will affect women profoundly throughout the state. The Commission's role during these difficult times is to ensure that women and children are not disproportionately affected by the economic downturn. The decline in state revenues, as traumatic as it has been, does not approach the economic distress that women and children will face at the close of this century if action is not taken now. The trends toward increased poverty of women and children must be reversed. The Alaska Women's Commission is the only state agency working exclusively to insure that economic equity is considered in the development of all public policies.

Through its research, advocacy, publications, educational seminars and workshops, the Commission will continue its effort to achieve equal legal, economic, social and political status for women in Alaska.

Research And Publications 1986

The Alaska Women's Commission is committed to improving the status of women. In order to achieve this goal, the Commission researches and publishes current information about women which is disseminated to the Office of the Governor, the legislature, other government agencies, the media, women's organizations, and the general public.

Research efforts are most effective when they build on earlier findings. In its first years of operation the Commission explored a number of issues including the status of Alaskan homemakers, the circumstances facing displaced homemakers, and the problems created for women and children by uncollected child support. In 1983 a major study of the economic status of Alaska Native women led the Commission to establish a Task Force to spur employment opportunities for Native women in state government.

In 1984 the Commission analyzed the social and economic status of all Alaskan women as compared to their national counterparts. That study found that despite increased labor-force participation, Alaskan women were earning only \$11,000 compared to \$22,000 earned by working men. Despite the fact that they were better educated than women in the nation as a whole, over 62% of Alaskan women were concentrated in low-paying occupations such as clerical and service jobs.

The results of this study were disturbing, and the Commission undertook subsequent research efforts to identify some of the causes of these disparities. In early 1985 the Commission enlisted the aid of the Alaska Bar Association to identify any sex discrimination that existed within the statutes of the state. These efforts led to the first major legislative platform spearheaded by the Commission. In 1986, the Commission continued the effort to identify the reasons for the economic disparities faced by women. A review of educational institutions was undertaken to determine if the laws prohibiting sex discrimination in education were being enforced properly in the state. In the discussion that follows the 1986 research project on sex equity in education is described in greater detail. In 1987 the Commission will launch the first major research probe into the economic impact of divorce on Alaskan women and children.

The social impact of public policies is not always immediately apparent. The research component of the Alaska Women's Commission is an essential ingredient of the long-term goal to establish a more equitable society. By identifying the sources of inequality through research, the Commission can help point the way to greater parity.

1986 RESEARCH Sex Equity in Education

As the result of a year long study of Alaska's laws governing equal educational opportunity, in 1986 the Alaska Women's Commission released the report **Commitment or Complacency: An Assessment of Sex Equity in Alaska's Educational Institutions**. The study looked at two laws governing sex equity in education: the federal law known as Title IX — landmark legislation requiring schools that receive federal funding to offer equal access to the educational process for males and females; and, Alaska's Chapter 18 — a state statute that goes beyond federal law to include a review of all instructional curricula and materials to guard against sex bias, as well as requiring sex equity training for all teachers and counselors, K-12.



Equal education opportunity represents an important step in providing the encouragement necessary to open additional options for women. Unless female students are encouraged to enter fields that will provide upward mobility and higher pay—as well as personal satisfaction—women will continue to dominate the poverty population in this country. It was for these reasons that the Commission undertook a probe of educational equity.

The findings of the study indicated that some of Alaska's educational institutions, including the University of Alaska, have adopted a complacent attitude towards enforcing the laws. The report noted that the Department of Education and the University of Alaska lack a comprehensive plan for implementing equity into the educational process and that neither have developed effective monitoring devices to track the status of equity.

The study drew upon many sources of information to assess the status of sex equity since monitoring agencies lack quantifiable data. The report found both success and failure in efforts to achieve equity. For example: Female students are close to parity with their male counterparts in interscholastic sports. Attitudes of high school senior women are shifting in favor of college and high-paying career fields. However, female interest in non-traditional vocational fields remains woefully low. The report also found that women are not rising to leadership positions within the educational system. With few exceptions, school districts and the statewide university system have failed to hire or promote women to top administrative positions. In addition the percentage of women faculty at Alaska's colleges and universities has declined since 1979 while the number of faculty positions has increased.

The Commission mapped out 10 recommendations that will build a consensus of commitment to sex equity in Alaska's educational institutions. Among the recommendations are:

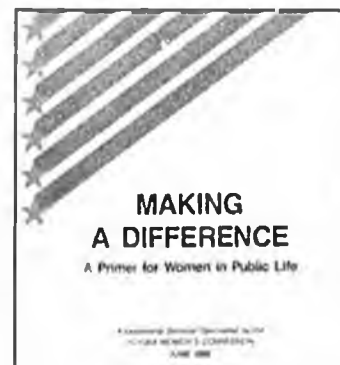
- The Department of Education and the University of Alaska should develop comprehensive plans for implementation of sex equity; form equity coordinating teams; create ongoing data bases and develop effective monitoring systems.
- Teacher certification and evaluations should include sex equity components.

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR REPORTS



"Women in Prison" highlights information from a seminar offered by the Commission in March, 1986. The report includes statistics on Alaska's female prison population, programs offered to rehabilitate women prisoners, and a statistical comparison of Alaska's female offenders versus the nation. Distributed to government officials and all women's organizations throughout the state, the report is the only compilation of its kind which is available currently in the state.

"Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life" is a synopsis of information provided at a seminar which the Commission sponsored in Fairbanks in April, 1986. Washington State Representative Jennifer Belcher conducted the day-long training session for women considering running for public office. This report has been provided to every individual on the Commission's mailing list, which currently numbers approximately 1700. This is a handbook for political involvement and includes information on campaign planning, voter information and working with volunteers.



REGIONAL CONFERENCES REPORT

Alcohol and drug abuse, local control, the family, education and employment were among the issues discussed at four regional conferences sponsored this year by the Alaska Women's Commission. The conferences were held in Bethel, Huslia, Sitka and Wasilla. A synopsis of each conference, their activities, agendas and recommendations were summarized in the Commission's report "Regional Conferences, 1986." These reports were distributed to conference coordinators and participants, women's organizations and other interested parties.



Seventeen rural and regional conferences have been sponsored by the Commission since 1979 in an effort to reach all the women of the state.

NEWSLETTER

Four times per year the Alaska Women's Commission publishes a statewide newsletter. Titled *Status Report*, it provides information on state and federal legislation, programs, services and issues that pertain to the equality of women. It is provided free of charge to approximately 1700 individuals.

1986 COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Publication	Number distributed
Annual Report 1985 A review of the major accomplishments of the Women's Commission from January 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985.	734
Commitment or Complacency? An assessment of sex equity in Alaska's educational institutions with recommendations for future action.	405
Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life. A handbook for political involvement. Includes information on campaign planning, voter contact, and working with volunteers.	2,116
Regional Conferences 1986 Activities and recommendations from the rural women's conferences funded by the Commission in 1986 - Bethel, Huslia, Sitka, and Wasilla.	348
Women in Prison: Does the Justice System Do Them Justice? A report on the current status of female offenders in Alaska and the United States.	754
Poster Women in Alaska History	1,448
Newsletter "Status Report"	5,000

ADDITIONAL COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

Publication	Year Published	Number Distributed in 1986
Profiles in Change: Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women Profiles of 60 Alaskan women who have contributed to the State's economic, social, and political development. The publication includes journal pages for the reader to record reflections and impressions.	1983	576
Summary of the Report on the Economic Status of Alaska Native Women A summary of the findings from the study of the economic status of Alaska Native women, with actions recommended to improve their economic status.	1983	94
Women in Labor Unions: Seminar Report Summary of the seminar that focused on the role of women in labor organizations, what problems women face, and how to make unions more responsive to women. Includes profiles of speakers, descriptions of workshops and a list of participants.	1984	25
Women's Legal Rights in Alaska Outlines legal rights affecting women in Alaska in such areas as employment, credit, inheritance, adoption, marriage and divorce, criminal law and violence against women.	1984	375
Directory of Women's Organizations Statewide directory of women's organizations, which includes listings in 38 Alaskan communities.	1985	182
A Review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination Final report of the comprehensive review of Alaska Statutes.	1985	50
A Sense of History: A Reference Guide to Alaska's Women 1896-1985 An annotated bibliography of books, articles, audio-visual aids, and photo displays about Alaska women in history.	1985	948
At the Edge of Opportunity: A Statewide Conference on Women, The Economy and Public Policy A summary of the workshops, activities, and recommendations from the March 1985 conference.	1985	50
Brochures and Fact Sheets:		
Alaska Women's Commission Describes the purpose of the Commission and its current activities.	1984	175
Alaska Women: A Profile Summary information on the economic, educational, and family status of Alaska women.	1984	100
Alaska Women in Politics Summary information on the growth of women's participation in politics in Alaska and in the nation.	1984	100
Alaska Women & Education A review of educational equity legislation at the state and federal levels.	1985	120
Alaska Women & Insurance Summary information on insurance discrimination in Alaska and the nation.	1985	75
Alaska Women & Pensions Summary of federal legislative reform of private pension plans and its effect upon women in Alaska and in the nation.	1985	75
Posters:		
Families - A Shared Experience *	1983	100
Be What You Want to Be * * Multi-colored posters aimed at a young audience, emphasizing non-sexist choices in career and family living.	1983	75
Women: Alaska Women's Commission	1984	80

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

The Women's Commission's Legislative Committee analyzes legislation, develops positions, and makes recommendations to legislators and policy makers at all levels of government. The Commission also testifies at public hearings, and assists in educating individuals and organizations about the issues.

In 1985, the Commission completed a comprehensive review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination. The review identified more than 80 discriminatory laws. In FY86, based on the results of the statutory review, the Commission submitted 37 legislative proposals for introduction by the Governor. Twenty eight of these proposals were accepted and included in 7 bills. Of the seven bills that were part of the Commission's platform, the House of Representatives passed six and the Senate passed three. Governor Sheffield signed all three bills into law on June 7, 1986.

The three bills on the Commission's platform which became law in 1986 were:

HB 237 Pension Reform — makes spouses of state workers the automatic beneficiary of retirement benefits, and allows benefits to be assigned if ordered in a divorce decree.

HB 499 Inheritance and Probate — Changes the priority assigned to past due child support payments. Under the new law, past due child support payments will be given one of the highest priorities among creditors of an estate.

HB 493 Revisor's Bill — Eliminates discriminatory language in a variety of existing laws.

The following chart lists all of the Commission-backed bills and where they ended up at the close of the 14th Alaska State Legislature.

LEGISLATION	PRIME SPONSOR	HOUSE	SENATE	GOV.
HB 237 Pension Reform: Makes spouses of state workers the automatic beneficiary of retirement benefits, and allows benefits to be assigned if ordered in a divorce	Gov Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-7-86
HB 499 Inheritance & Probate: Changes the priority of payment assigned to past due child support. New law gives past due child support one of the highest priorities among creditors of an estate	Gov Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-7-86
HB 493 Revisor's Bill: Eliminates discriminatory language in a variety of laws	Rules/ Leg. Council	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-7-86
HB 238 Parental Leave: would have changed maternity to parental leave without pay from 9 to 16 weeks, and would have allowed state employees to buy back retirement credit earned while on parental leave	Gov Sheffield	Passed	Died in Senate Finance	
HB 496 Dissolution & Divorce: would have given court system greater scrutiny in dissolution cases	Gov Sheffield	Passed	Died in Senate Rules	
HB 497 Children's Bill: Requires greater judicial scrutiny of custody cases to insure that the best interests of the children are met	Gov Sheffield	Passed	Died in Senate Rules	
HB 498 Sexual Assault: prohibits the use of victim's past sexual conduct, other than with person accused of the crime, in a trial	Gov Sheffield	Died in House judiciary		

LEGISLATIVE ALLIANCE FOR WOMEN STATEWIDE

In 1986 the Commission continued its leadership role in the Legislative Alliance for Women Statewide. Established by the Commission in 1985, the Alliance is a coalition representing nearly 15 women's organizations throughout Alaska. This organization analyzes and takes positions on legislation, and monitors budget and policy decisions which have direct impact on women's lives. By providing a forum in which these diverse organizations can participate and work together, the Commission helps mobilize the tremendous energy and commitment contained in these groups. The Commission provides these organizations with an access point to the policy and decision makers whose actions affect their lives. In turn, policymakers benefit from having the information and feedback that this group provides to them.

WOMEN'S COUNCILS

The Women's Commission statute was amended by the Alaska Legislature in FY83 to include the development and implementation of regional and municipal women's councils around the state. The purpose of the local councils is to increase local control and to ensure that local priorities and issues are addressed at that level. Initially, the councils were established in communities where Commission members live, in order to enable Commissioners and staff to meet with representatives of local governments and women's organizations. During 1984, the Commission worked to establish councils in Anchorage and Sitka. In 1985, Juneau was successfully targeted. In 1986, the Barrow City Council passed an ordinance establishing a Barrow Women's Council.

Each council functions independently of the Women's Commission, consists of at least nine members, and meets quarterly. The duties of the local councils are to:

1. analyze and prioritize the needs of women at the local level;
2. recommend legislative and administrative action on women's issues to the Alaska Women's Commission;
3. disseminate research and publications of the Alaska Women's Commission to local women, and
4. serve as a clearinghouse for information relating to the status of women in local communities.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In 1985 a member of the Alaska Women's Commission was appointed to serve on the Commission on Child Support Enforcement. This commission was established to study the state child support program and report to the Governor with findings and recommendations. The commission reviewed the full spectrum of services and issues: collections; administrative and judicial procedures; guidelines for standard child support awards; and, custody and visitation. Their findings have now been submitted to the Governor.

At the current time the supreme court is reviewing a proposed rule of court which would establish guidelines to make child support payments more uniform, less arbitrary and more in line with the actual experience of raising children. The work of this commission was an essential element in dealing with this difficult and complex social problem.

SEX EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Since 1984 a representative of the Alaska Women's Commission has served on the Anchorage school district's Sex Equity Advisory committee. This year the committee presented the Anchorage School Board with a comprehensive sex equity plan which was fully endorsed and adopted by both the board and the administration. The plan includes but is not limited to curriculum, extracurricular activities, staff training, and student equity. As a result of this effort the state's largest school district has a clear set of goals and measurable objectives for providing more equitable and encouraging opportunities for all of its students. One concrete outcome of this effort is a Female Minority Leadership conference planned to coincide with Women's History Month in March 1987. The Alaska Women's Commission is represented on the steering committee of this conference as well.

Other

In an effort to improve the economic security of women, the Commission in 1986 worked to revise forms for marital dissolutions so that lay people could understand their rights and obligations and reach more equitable settlements. Nearly 3500 dissolutions occur in Alaska each year. Clearer forms and instructions will help these people reach agreements that are more equitable and fair.

In other advocacy efforts in 1986, the Commission helped obtain an administrative change enabling widows and former spouses of state employees to continue group health insurance at no cost to the State. This measure is likely to affect several thousand women and children this year alone, preventing large numbers of these same families from requiring state funded medical assistance.

Education 1986

Through its educational component the Alaska Women's Commission provides an extensive array of seminars, workshops, and other activities to women throughout the state. These activities are an important part of the effort to improve the status of women.

As women become more knowledgeable about issues of public policy, their ability to influence those policies is likely to grow. As part of its 1986 educational component the Alaska Women's Commission sponsored leadership seminars this year in Fairbanks and in Juneau. The different topics reflected the varied interests of the women in those communities.

FAIRBANKS LEADERSHIP SEMINAR — "WOMEN IN POLITICS"

In Fairbanks, the workshop was designed to encourage women to seek public office. The Commission provided an experienced trainer from the National Women's Education Fund, an organization funded specifically to encourage women to run for office. Representative Jennifer Belcher, currently serving her second term in the Washington State Legislature, drew from her own personal experience as a legislator to provide the sixty-five participants with information on how to plan and win a campaign. Three panelists who had conducted their own successful political campaigns joined the participants for a lively exchange: Ruth Burnett, the former mayor of the City of Fairbanks; Juanita Helms, Fairbanks North Star Borough mayor; and, Sandra Stringer, the presiding officer of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly. The three shared with the audience some of the issues they faced in their own political careers. In introducing these Fairbanks leaders, Commission member Wendy Redman encouraged each seminar participant to consider seriously her own personal potential for providing sound political leadership to her community and state. The Alaska Women's Commission hopes that seminars such as these will help to encourage women to increase their involvement in public leadership. The intelligence, perspective and knowledge which women possess will help make public policies more responsive to the diversity of Alaska's people on the local, state and national levels.

JUNEAU LEADERSHIP SEMINAR — "WOMEN IN PRISON"

In Juneau, the leadership seminar focused on the conditions faced by women in prison in Alaska. Current statistics indicate that the national female arrest rate is climbing—up nearly 20 percent from 1973—and that in 1984 there were nearly 20,000 women in state and federal prisons in the United States. It is not clear whether the increase in female arrest and conviction is the result of population changes, tougher laws, or changing behavior patterns among women. But historically, because they have constituted a small proportion of total prison population, women have had access to fewer programs and resources than men. In many facilities female inmates have limited vocational training and inadequate access to work release, educational, and recreational programs. Even though a high proportion of incarcerated women have dependent children, visitation privileges are often severely restricted or nonexistent.

In an effort to review the situation of Alaska's female prisoners, the Commission invited Dr. T.A. Ryan, the director of criminal justice planning at the University of South Carolina and author of a state-of-the-art analysis of programs for female offenders, to present her findings. Susan Humphrey-Barnett, the director of statewide programs for the Alaska Department of Corrections, was asked to give an overview of female offenders in Alaska and the programs provided for their rehabilitation. A panel of guests, including female inmates from Anchorage and Juneau facilities, was invited to respond to the keynote presentation and questions from the audience.

This leadership seminar, attended by approximately forty-five participants, provided an historical perspective of female offenders and a profile of criminals in the nation and in the state. In addition, the seminar very clearly presented the challenge for working effectively with offenders in the future. The challenge is to develop and implement interdisciplinary correctional models to make female offenders constructive, contributing members of society.

BETHEL, HUSLIA, SITKA, AND WASILLA 1986 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Since its inception, the Alaska Women's Commission has provided funding for regional women's conferences in rural parts of the state. Rural women, whose needs and problems are often unique, generally lack access to conferences because of Alaskan geography and the vast distances which must be traveled. Members of the Commission believe that an emphasis must be placed on conferences that involve rural women in leadership roles. These meetings can help establish or strengthen local women's networks. They provide a forum for rural women to discuss their common concerns. They also provide rural women with an opportunity to make recommendations for improving their status to the Alaska Women's Commission and other state policymakers.

Rural and regional conferences have been sponsored by the Commission since 1979 in an effort to reach all the women of the state. Seventeen projects have been funded in rural and bush communities throughout Alaska in areas such as Bethel, Hoonah, Kotzebue, Galena, Barrow, Kodiak and Huslia. Several conferences designed to address specific cultural or ethnic groups within urban areas such as Anchorage and Fairbanks have also been supported.

All groups selected to receive Commission funding are required to demonstrate that their efforts represent a geographic, ethnic, age and interest cross section of the women in their region. Groups offering the conferences must encourage participation from Native Sisterhoods, local women's councils, church women, political organizations, women's resource centers, service organizations and civic, professional or other women's groups. Co-sponsorship by any number of local organizations or groups is encouraged.

In FY 86, the Alaska Women's Commission provided Regional Conference grants to four Alaskan communities; Bethel, Huslia, Sitka and Wasilla.

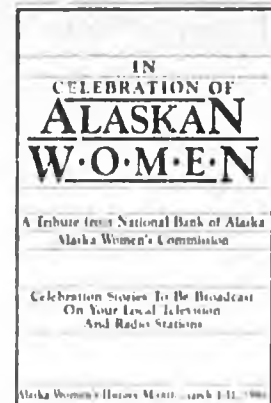
More than four hundred rural women participated in regional conferences sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission in 1986. Each community and each conference was unique. At some conferences there were formal resolutions adopted and provided to local and state policy makers, as well as to the Commission. At others, workshops and keynote addresses formed the primary focus of the event. Some conferences dedicated large portions of their grant from the Alaska Women's Commission to travel and registration scholarships in order to encourage out-of-town participation. Others tapped community resources and generated contributions from local businesses to assist and encourage widespread participation.

As unique as each conference was, there were essential elements common to all. They all involved rural women in positions of leadership. Each one dealt with issues and topics that were important to the women in the local area. And each event identified capable, knowledgeable women to serve as resources on issues such as education, local control, health and human services, employment, and the challenges and difficulties of cultural transition.

The Alaska Women's Commission is proud of the accomplishments of the talented and resourceful women of this state. Through events such as Regional Women's Conferences and many other Commission activities, the status of all women will be enhanced and improved.

PROFILES OF ALASKAN WOMEN

Each year since its inception the Commission has helped bring a new emphasis to Alaska Women's History. In 1986, with the generous assistance of the National Bank of Alaska, the Commission produced thirty, 30-second public service announcements which were aired on all the state's radio and television stations during March, Women's History Month. In each of the thirty profiles an individual Alaskan woman's accomplishments are recounted and her contribution to Alaska's history described. The profiles presented in this series are representative of thousands of women whose courage and determination made a difference in Alaska's history.



Listed below are the women whose accomplishments were profiled in this Commission series. Because of the quality of the series and the interest it has generated, plans have been made to air it again during each year's celebration of Women's History Month.

ORAH DEE CLARK
FOUNDER OF ANCHORAGE SCHOOLS

MARY LOUISE RASMUSON,
WOMAN'S ARMY CORPS AND ARTS PATRON

HARRIET PULLEN
SKAGWAY ENTREPRENEUR

ERINIA CALLAHAN
GOLD MINER

MARY ANTISARLOOK
REINDEER HERDER

IRENE RYAN
GEOLOGIST

LIL ANGERMAN
UNION ORGANIZER

BLANCHE McSMITH
ACTIVIST

RUSTY DOW
TRUCK DRIVER

NETTIE JONES ELLISON
KETCHIKAN NATIVE WHO FOUGHT
DISCRIMINATION

LORENE HARRISON
MUSICIAN AND EDUCATOR

DORA KEEN AND
BARBARA WASHBURN
MOUNTAINEERS

LUCY CUDDY
TEACHER AND FIRST BANK BOARD CHAIR
WOMAN

MARIE DRAKE AND
ELINOR DUSENBURY
ALASKA FLAG SONG COMPOSERS

DELLA KEATS
HEALER

SADIE NEAKOK
MAGISTRATE

MARGARET MURIE
ARCTIC EXPLORER

LYDIA FOHN-HANSON
PIONEER HOMEMAKER

AMANDA McFARLAND
MISSIONARY

EDITH BULLOCK
TUG AND BARGE OPERATOR

FRANCES HOWARD
FIRST WOMAN STATE TROOPER

EVANGELINE ATWOOD
AUTHOR AND STATEHOOD ORGANIZER

BARRETT WILLOUGHBY
AUTHOR

ISABELLE BARNETT
CO-FOUNDER OF FAIRBANKS

NELL SCOTT
FIRST WOMAN LEGISLATOR

MAHALA ASHLEY DICKERSON
ATTORNEY

PIONEER WOMEN AVIATORS

WOMEN'S VOTING RIGHTS

WOMEN OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE AND
ST. ANN

In 1986, in other Women's History activities, the Commission produced the first Alaskan Women's History Poster with the assistance of the Older Alaskans Commission and the Department of Education. The poster was distributed to every social studies teacher in the state of Alaska for use in their classrooms. Accompanying the poster was a copy of the Commission's 1985 publication *A Sense of History: A Reference Guide to Alaska's Women 1896-1985*, produced with a grant from the Alaska Historical Commission. This bibliography lists books, articles, photo exhibits, audiovisual products, and oral history collections about Alaskan women. The publication includes over 700 citations and a time line of significant historical events impacting women in Alaska.

By researching, publishing and distributing materials such as these, the Commission helps ensure that the real significance of women's contributions to history will be recognized and will inspire young women to meet their full potential.

Information And Referral

The Alaska Women's Commission increasingly has become a clearinghouse for information on services, programs, legislation, and issues which relate to women's concerns in the state of Alaska today. In 1986, 1,054 calls and/or walk-in contacts were received on a wide range of topics. A predominant number of requests were for statistical and research information on Alaskan women. These requests came from individuals, legislators, educators, attorneys, researchers, the media, and other groups. Listed below are the number of requests by topic.

Commission programs/events	159	Legal & civil rights	79
Community programs/events	16	Legislation	188
Children	32	Minority women	14
Economics	31	Older women	9
Business loans	17	Politics	41
Education	56	Requests for Publications	190
Employment	54	Violence/Sexual Assault	17
Employment discrimination	43	Media contacts	31
Health	21	Women in history	15
		Other contacts	41

The Commission also maintains a resource library of more than 500 books, periodicals, and files on issues impacting women. All materials are available to the general public.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Providing information about the status of women to the general public is essential to improving the status of women. In 1985, the commissioners and staff gave 58 presentations and media interviews to present information on women's issues. Following is a list of the topics and organizations addressed:

Organization	Topic
Alaska Nurses Association	Legislative Platform
Statewide Legislative Alliance for Women	Legislative Platform
Juneau Women's Council	Legislative Platform
Alaska Women's Lobby	Legislative Platform
Estate Planning Commission	Pension Reform
Northwest Pacific Personnel Association	Comparable Worth
Anchorage Community College	Commission and Legislative Platform
Anchorage Women's History Reception	Women's History Profiles
League of Women Voters, Juneau	Legislative Platform
Gerontological Association	Legislative Platform
American Association of University Women, Anchorage	Women's History Profiles
Juneau Women's History Reception	Women's History Profiles
Alaska Women's Political Caucus	Women in Politics
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence	Legislative Platform
Rotary Wives	Legislative Platform
Republican Assoc. of Business and Professional Women	Boards & Commissions
Steller High School	Women In History
American Assoc. Of University Women, Statewide	Legislative Platform
Wasilla Regional Women's Conference	Legislative Platform
Legislative Alliance for Women Statewide	Legislative Platform
American Association of University Women, Anchorage	Legislative Platform



**ALASKA
WOMEN'S
COMMISSION**

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
3601 "C" STREET, SUITE 742
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503
(907) 561-4227

Members of Commission:

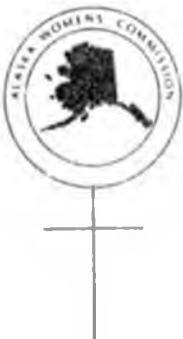
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Anchorage
Joy Green-Armstrong, vice chair
Anchorage
Loretta Bullard,
Nome
Marcia Johnson, Sitka
Elizabeth (Pat) Kennedy, Anchorage
Mary Pete, Bethel
Betty Ramage, Anchorage
Wendy Redman, Fairbanks
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Executive Director

Christine Callahan

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REPORT
ON THE
ECONOMIC STATUS
OF
ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

September 1983



THE
ECONOMIC STATUS
OF
ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

September 1983

Prepared By:

C.K. THOMAS & ASSOCIATES

Cheryl Thomas

In Association with:

CHILKAT INSTITUTE

Rosita Worl Charles W. Smythe

and

THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Theodore Lane

CHRISTINE CALLAHAN

Project Manager for the Commission

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We would like to express our appreciation to the Alaska Native women in Anchorage, Juneau, Bethel, Nunapichuk, Fort Yukon, Point Hope, and King Cove. Without their participation, cooperation, and support, the project would not have been possible. We would also like to acknowledge the contributions of Betty Marvin of Juneau and Ramona Suetopka-Duerre of Anchorage, who assisted in the field interviews.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS,
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to report on the economic status of Native women in Alaska in the 1980's and to compare the economic well being of Native women to other women in the state and nation. Factors that affect equal access to jobs and occupations are examined and recommendations are developed for eliminating barriers to employment opportunities for Native women.

Findings

- During the 1970's, when Native women in Alaska were entering the work force at a rapidly increasing rate, the number of Native men and women in the labor force age group increased by half, creating a very young labor force as well as an intense need for jobs, particularly in rural Alaska. Thirty-five percent of Native women in the labor force age group are under 25 years of age, as compared to only 24 percent of white women in the labor force age group.
- During the decade from 1970 to 1980, Alaska Native women moved into the work force at a much faster rate than did white women in Alaska. During this period, labor force participation of Native women increased by an amazing 50 percent. If Native women in Alaska continue to move

villages. Average Native family income in 1980 was 21 percent higher in regional centers than in urban places and 42 percent higher than in rural Alaska.

- Average annual income of Native families in Alaska in 1980 was 56 percent lower than that of white families in the state. However, this disparity between Native and white family incomes narrowed significantly between 1970 and 1980. In 1970, the median white family income was 2.28 times larger than the median Native family income; by 1980, the median white family income was only 1.75 times larger than the median Native family income.
- It appears that education has a significant impact on the desire and ability of Native people to enter the labor force. Of all Native college graduates in Alaska in 1980, 76 percent were in the labor force, compared to 70 percent of those with 1 to 3 years of college work. In comparison, only 64 percent of Native high school graduates and 38 percent of those with 8 years or less of schooling were in the labor force that year.
- Rising labor force participation rates of Native women paralleled the tremendous gains made by Native people in Alaska in education during the 1970's. The proportion of Native persons over age 25 with high school degrees

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into the work force they will soon surpass the national participation rate of women, which in 1980 was 50 percent. By 1980, 45 percent of Alaska Native women were in the labor force, as compared to 63 percent of white women in Alaska.

- Native women are, however, in lower paying occupations than are white women in Alaska. Only 17 percent of Native women who worked held managerial, professional, and technical jobs in 1980, while 32 percent of white working women in Alaska held such jobs. The majority of Native women (67 percent) who held jobs in 1980 were employed in service and administrative support occupations, compared to only 49 percent of white and 46 percent of black working women in Alaska.
- The significant change in occupations of Native women that occurred between 1970 and 1980 was a shift out of service jobs and into the generally higher paying administrative support jobs. Although 31 percent of Native working women still held service jobs in 1980, in 1970 that proportion had been greater than 40 percent.
- Native families in regional centers such as Bethel, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow, and Dillingham had considerably higher incomes than did those in cities or rural

villages. Average Native family income in 1980 was 21 percent higher in regional centers than in urban places and 42 percent higher than in rural Alaska.

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doubled in the decade between 1970 and 1980, rising from 22 to 46 percent.

- Although educational levels among adult Natives have risen dramatically since 1970, on average, they remain considerably below those of white adults. In 1980, 49 percent of white adults in Alaska had had some college work, compared to only 14 percent of Native adults.
- The Native population in Alaska is much closer to national educational norms than is the white population. The white adult population in Alaska is extremely well educated compared to the national average. Sixty-seven percent of adults in the United States have high school educations, while 46 percent of Native adults and 89 percent of white adults in Alaska have at least that much education.
- A substantial proportion of young Native women in the labor force have had some college education, while very few older Native women ever attended college. In 1980, 32 percent of employed Native women 25 to 29 years old had at least 1 year of college.
- The proportion of women raising families without husbands is twice as high among Natives as it is among

whites in Alaska, and Native women on average have more children for whom to care. These factors make the economic role of Native women both more important and more difficult.

- The majority of Native women in Alaska lived in rural parts of the state; over half (52 percent) lived in places with populations of less than a thousand persons in 1980, while 19 percent lived in regional centers and 29 percent lived in the urban cities of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Ketchikan.
- Even though most Native women still live in non-urban areas, they are migrating out of rural Alaska in greater numbers than are Native men. Native women outnumbered Native men in urban cities by 45 percent in 1980.
- Employment rates for Native women are considerably lower in rural Alaska than in either urban Alaska or in regional centers. Also, over two-thirds of the jobs held by women in rural Alaska are only part-time or seasonal.
- Only 400 Native women held state and local government jobs in rural Alaska in 1980, out of a total of almost

13,000 state and local government employees in rural areas of the state. Almost half (43 percent) of the job growth in rural Alaska during the decade of the 1970's was in the government sector.

- Native women interviewed for this study said they worked primarily to earn money to help support their households, but other benefits of working included social interaction at the work place and the satisfaction of learning new skills and taking on greater responsibilities.
- Approximately 70 percent of the 92 Native women we interviewed said they would like to work full-time on a year-around basis, if jobs were available, and half said they would be willing to commute to another community to work.
- Primary factors related to job success, as stated by the Native women interviewed, were the following: getting along with people, liking the job and being organized, being reliable, and having skills and experience. However, social interaction and getting along with people were considered to be the most important factors.
- Most women we interviewed said they would like to have jobs that included learning and challenge, and that

involved working with people. In particular, they mentioned administrative support jobs as being desirable.

- The primary barriers to employment, as seen by the women we interviewed, were lack of training, experience and education; lack of jobs in their communities; and racial and sexual discrimination.
- Suggestions by the respondents for improving their job opportunities were on-the-job skill building and assertiveness training, more jobs in their communities, greater availability of child care, and employer training to increase cross-cultural awareness at the work place.
- Most of the women interviewed looked for jobs through friends and family connections, in newspaper advertisements, and in community notices. Very few said they had used the state employment services or the Native corporations.

Conclusions

- Native women in Alaska want to enter the cash economy.
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Conclusions

- Native women in Alaska want to enter the cash economy. This is evidenced by the rapid entry of Native women

into the work force during the last decade and by the migration of women into the urban cities. That the majority of Native women interviewed for this study said they wished to work full-time and would even be willing to commute to other communities for work is also evidence of this desire.

- Alaskan Native women need to obtain jobs. The average Native family income was 56 percent below that of the average white family in 1980, and in addition, almost a quarter of Native women with children were raising those children without the support of husbands. Almost all Native women we interviewed said they worked primarily to support their households.
- Native women in rural Alaska have different employment problems than do women in the regional centers and in urban cities. The primary problem for rural women is the lack of jobs. Job opportunities are limited in rural Alaska, and a large share of the existing jobs are government jobs which often require professional certification. Most women who work in rural Alaska hold only part-time or seasonal jobs that generate low annual incomes. Of the Native women we surveyed in rural Alaska, a majority spoke about the need for more jobs in their areas.

- Native women need and want more job training, work experience, and education. Native women of working age in Alaska have less education than do white women and are also, as a group, younger and therefore have less job experience. This is a problem since Native women compete with white women in the state for jobs. Primary barriers to employment as seen by the Native women we interviewed were lack of training, experience, and education. Their suggestions for improving job opportunities included assertiveness and on-the-job skill training.
- Racial and sexual discrimination in the work place must be eliminated. Discrimination in hiring and promotion practices were cited as barriers to employment by the Native women interviewed for this study. The lack of self-confidence expressed by a large proportion of the women we interviewed may well reflect employers' lack of appreciation and understanding of both female and Native character and personality.

Recommendations

Issue: There is a lack of job opportunities for Native women in rural Alaska.

- Native women should be helped to obtain a larger share of the existing jobs in rural Alaska. This help could

consist of recognizing personal experience in lieu of some educational requirements for state and local government jobs, including accepting teacher-aide training toward teacher certification. Also, expanding state "local hire" requirements on state-funded projects in rural Alaska could help rural women get more jobs.

- Jobs might be created in rural Alaska if the state government increased local administration of its programs, and by Native corporations promoting cottage industries.
- Native women in rural Alaska who want to look for jobs in regional and urban centers should be given information and assistance in the villages on what to expect and how to find housing, employment, child care, and transportation in the larger communities.

Issue: Native women need and want job training, work experience, and education.

- Schools, universities, and state and local government agencies should sponsor on-the-job workshops to provide training in assertiveness, communication skills, and English as a second language.
- Native women should be helped to obtain high school degrees through an expanded G.E.D. program.

- The University of Alaska should continue to promote its rural-based education delivery system.
- Community colleges and the University of Alaska should place emphasis on recruiting Native women for careers in education and business administration because jobs are available in these fields in rural Alaska.

Issue: Native women experience discrimination in looking for jobs and in getting promotions.

- The State of Alaska should develop an active program to hire Native women.
- The state Human Rights Commission should conduct training programs to teach employers and employees what the laws are governing acts of discrimination, and what remedies are available to those who have been discriminated against.
- State-funded agencies should be required to sponsor cross-cultural training programs with particular emphasis on improving communication between Native and non-native workers.

STATE OF ALASKA
Bill Sheffield, Governor

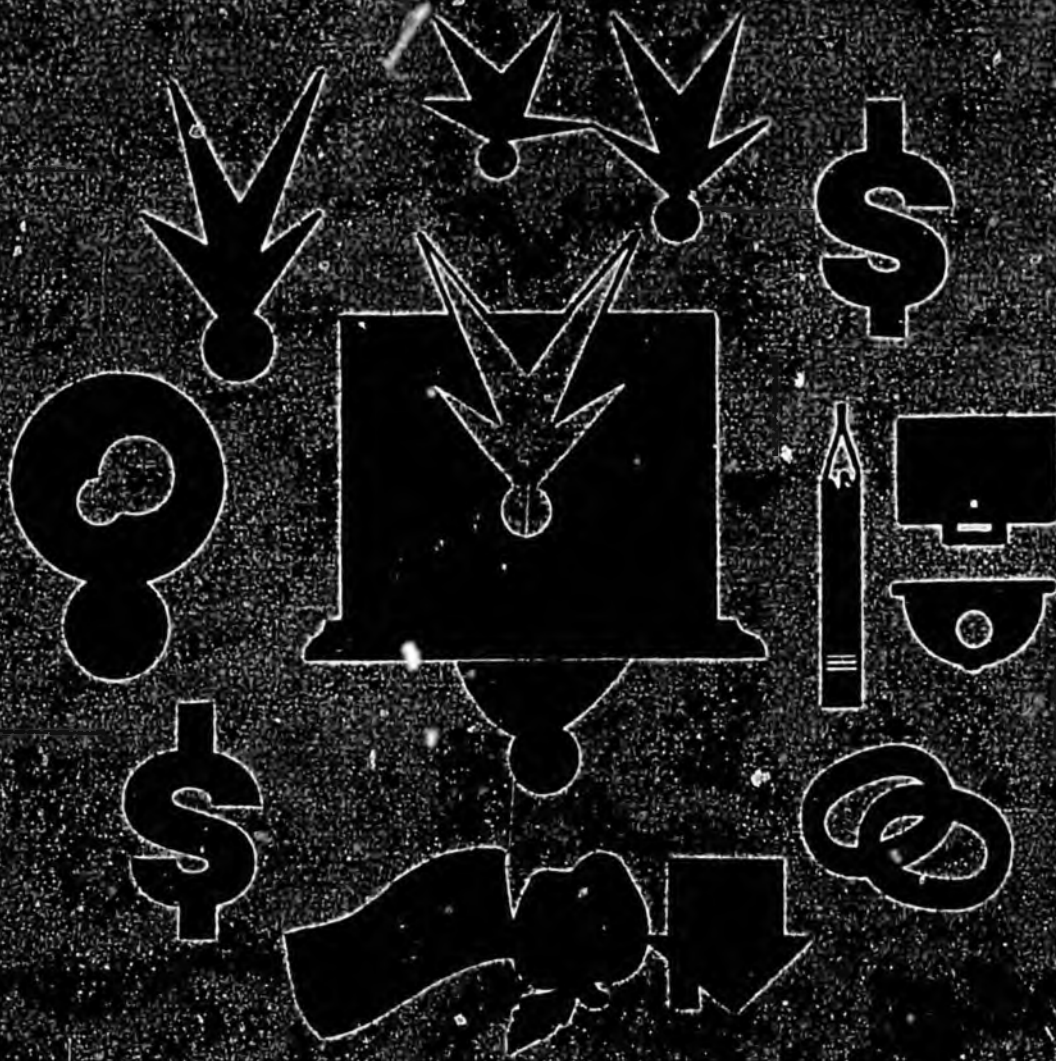
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Carla Timpone, Juneau
Teresa Sockpealuk-Perry, Shaktoolik

ALASKA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
3601 C Street, Suite 742
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907)561-4227

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL
FILE

Alaska Women's Commission



WOMEN'S
LEGAL RIGHTS IN ALASKA

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL
FILE



COMMITMENT OR COMPLACENCY?

*AN ASSESSMENT
OF SEX EQUITY IN
ALASKA'S EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS*

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION

5-0887A
Cramer
3/23/87

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BROWN

2 HOUSE BILL NO.

3 THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled "An Act relating to employment rights based on preg-
7 nancy, childbirth, and adoption."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. (a) The legislature finds that

10 (1) the number of single-parent households and two-parent house-
11 holds in which the single parent or both parents work outside the home is
12 increasing significantly;

13 (2) it is important to the development of a child and to the
14 family unit that parents be able to participate in early childrearing; and

15 (3) the lack of employment opportunities to accommodate working
16 parents can force individuals to choose between job security and parenting.

17 (b) The legislature declares that the purposes of this Act are

18 (1) to balance the demands of the workplace with the needs of
19 families, and to promote stability and economic security in families;

20 (2) to entitle employees to take reasonable leave for the birth
21 or adoption of a child; and

22 (3) to accommodate the legitimate interests of employers.

23 * Sec. 2. AS 18.80 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 Sec. 18.80.225. PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, AND RELATED CONDITIONS.

25 (a) An employer shall grant an employee whose health is affected by
26 pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition the same employ-
27 ment benefits and privileges that the employer grants to other employ-
28 ees with similar ability to work who are not so affected, including
29 allowing the employee to take disability or sick leave or other

1 from the date the leave commenced to the date the employee returns
2 from leave under (e) of this section. However, the employer may
3 require that the employee pay all of the costs for maintaining cover-
4 age during a period of unpaid leave.

5 (e) Unless the employer's business circumstances have changed to
6 make it impossible or unreasonable, when an employee returns from
7 leave under (a) or (b) of this section, the employer shall restore the
8 employee

9 (1) the position of employment held by the employee when
10 the leave began; or

11 (2) a substantially similar position with substantially
12 similar benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment.

13 (f) An employer may not refuse to temporarily transfer a preg-
14 nant employee to an existing, unfilled position that is less strenuous
15 or less hazardous if the employee requests the transfer, the transfer
16 is recommended by a licensed health care provider, the employee is
17 qualified to perform the job, and the transfer will not subject the
18 employer to legal liability. An employer shall compensate an employee
19 who requests a transfer under this subsection at least the lesser of

20 (1) the rate at which the employee was compensated immedi-
21 ately before requesting the transfer, as adjusted by changes to com-
22 pensation that apply generally to the work force; or

23 (2) the rate of compensation set for the position into
24 which the employee transfers, as adjusted by changes to compensation
25 that apply generally to the work force.

26 (g) This section does not affect any other provision of law
27 relating to sex discrimination or pregnancy.

28 (h) This section applies to an employer only if the employer
29 employs at least 5 employees for each working day during each of at

CORRECTION

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

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BROWN

2 HOUSE BILL NO.

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4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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26 pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition the same employ-
27 ment benefits and privileges that the employer grants to other employ-
28 ees with similar ability to work who are not so affected, including
29 allowing the employee to take disability or sick leave or other

1 accrued leave that the employer makes available to temporarily dis-
2 abled employees. However, except as provided in (d) of this section,
3 an employer is not required to provide an employee health insurance
4 coverage for the medical costs of pregnancy, childbirth, or a related
5 medical condition. The inclusion in health insurance coverage of
6 provisions or coverage relating to medical costs of pregnancy, child-
7 birth, or a related medical condition does not require the inclusion
8 of other provisions or coverage. Coverage of a related medical condi-
9 tion is not required by virtue of coverage of medical costs of preg-
10 nancy, childbirth, or another related medical condition.

11 (b) An employer shall permit an employee who has been employed
12 by the employer for at least three consecutive months to take family
13 leave for a total of 18 workweeks because of the birth of a child of
14 the employee or the placement of a child with the employee for adop-
15 tion or foster care. The leave may be unpaid leave. However, the em-
16 ployee may choose to substitute, or the employer may require the em-
17 ployee to substitute, accrued paid vacation leave, sick leave,
18 personal leave, or other paid leave during this period. The leave
19 shall be taken immediately preceding and immediately following the
20 birth or placement of the child. If the employee is entitled to a
21 longer period of time under (a) of this section, then the longer
22 period applies.

23 (c) An employee who plans to take leave under (a) or (b) of this
24 section shall give the employer reasonable notice of the date the
25 leave will commence and the estimated duration of the leave.

26 (d) During the time that an employee is on leave under this
27 section, the employer shall maintain coverage under any group health
28 plan at the level and under the conditions that coverage would have
29 been provided if the employee had continued in employment continuously

1 from the date the leave commenced to the date the employee returns
2 from leave under (e) of this section. However, the employer may
3 require that the employee pay all of the costs for maintaining cover-
4 age during a period of unpaid leave.

5 (e) Unless the employer's business circumstances have changed to
6 make it impossible or unreasonable, when an employee returns from
7 leave under (a) or (b) of this section, the employer shall restore the
8 employee

9 (1) the position of employment held by the employee when
10 the leave began; or

11 (2) a substantially similar position with substantially
12 similar benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment.

13 (f) An employer may not refuse to temporarily transfer a preg-
14 nant employee to an existing, unfilled position that is less strenuous
15 or less hazardous if the employee requests the transfer, the transfer
16 is recommended by a licensed health care provider, the employee is
17 qualified to perform the job, and the transfer will not subject the
18 employer to legal liability. An employer shall compensate an employee
19 who requests a transfer under this subsection at least the lesser of

20 (1) the rate at which the employee was compensated immedi-
21 ately before requesting the transfer, as adjusted by changes to com-
22 pensation that apply generally to the work force; or

23 (2) the rate of compensation set for the position into
24 which the employee transfers, as adjusted by changes to compensation
25 that apply generally to the work force.

26 (g) This section does not affect any other provision of law
27 relating to sex discrimination or pregnancy.

28 (h) This section applies to an employer only if the employer
29 employs at least 5 employees for each working day during each of at

1 least 20 calend orkweeks in either the current calendar year or the
2 preceding calen year. However, this section does not apply to a
3 facility of an oyer at which fewer than 15 employees are employed
4 if the combined mber of employees employed by the employer within
5 200 miles of the cility is fewer than 15.
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HB

5

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERRAL

Date of 4/22/87 5-DAY NOTICE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFORM RULE 23

FURTHER: L&C

**FISCAL NOTE(S) ATTACHED **
IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS 24.08.035
(see below)

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE 4/28/87

Mr. President:

STATE AFFAIRS

Committee considered CSHB 5 (L&C)

declaring that telecommunications service utilities affect the public interest; and directing that regulation of telecommunications service utilities maintain and further universal basic telecommunications service.

and recommended:

- replace with CS _____ same title
- attached amendment(s) and new title

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

letter of intent adopted and attached

** Committee attached or adopted fiscal note(s)
 zero PREVIOUS fiscal impact

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

Rich Healy (Do Pass)
Greg P. Greenman (Do Pass)

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Jan. 1987. No Rec.

Sen. Michael Roberson
Chairman signature and recommendation

Committee Backup Attached

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE LABOR AND COMMERCE
COMMITTEE

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 5 (L&C)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act declaring that telecommunications service utilities affect the public interest; and directing that regulation of telecommunications service utilities maintain and further universal basic telecommunications service."

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

* Section 1. AS 42.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 42.05.145. TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION POLICY. A utility that provides in state [local exchange or inter-exchange] telecommunications service [in the state] affects the public interest. Regulation of these utilities shall, consistent with this chapter, seek to maintain and further the efficiency, availability, and affordability of universal basic telecommunications service and shall ensure that customers enjoy where possible a choice of telecommunication suppliers and services.

Alaska State Legislature

POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-4931



CHAIRMAN
Special Committee on
Telecommunications

DISTRICT 10
BOX 111038
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99511
(907) 349-2192

MEMBER
Labor and Commerce
State Affairs
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher

TO: MEMBERS OF SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: H.A. "RED" BOUCHER *HAB*
SUBJECT: CSHB 5 (L&C) "Universal Service"
DATE: APRIL 27, 1987

INTENT

The intent of the bill is to put the state on record in support of "universal service" (i.e., basic telephone service that is available to all Alaskans at affordable rates).

The bill does not intend to make a statement about preferential telephone market structures (i.e., competition vs. monopoly). The market structure issue is being decided at the federal level within the context of the State/Federal Joint Board.

THE ISSUE

The deregulation of long distance telephone utilities (AT&T) in 1984 and the resulting rise in private sector competition in the telephone and telecommunications industry has already affected basic telephone rates and the market structure in Alaska. Telephone rates have decreased for some services (long distance calls) but increased for others (subscriber line charges).

Continuing technological advances and market restructuring are likely to continue having effects on the affordability and availability of basic telephone service.

POLICY GUIDELINES PROPOSED BY HB 5

The Alaska Public Utilities Commission (APUC) has the responsibility (AS 42.05) for regulating telephone utilities within the state. CSHB 5 directs the APUC to consider public access to affordable telephone service when regulating telephone utilities within the state.

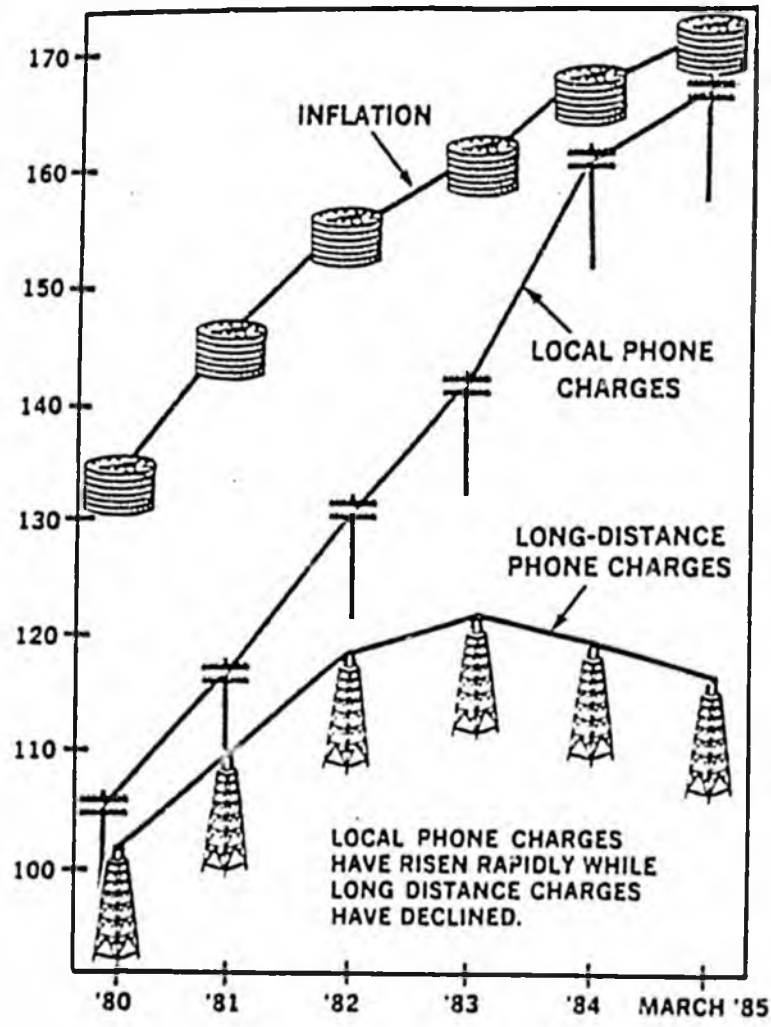
DEFINITIONS

"local exchange" means telephone service within a community.

"interexchange" means telephone service between communities.

CONSUMER COSTS FOR PHONE SERVICE

BASED ON CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1977=100



LOCAL PHONE CHARGES
HAVE RISEN RAPIDLY WHILE
LONG DISTANCE CHARGES
HAVE DECLINED.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

BY JO ELLEN MURPHY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

After divestiture

Breaking up is

by Michal Smith



Photo courtesy of NYNEX

The preservation of universal telephone service remains central to the competition vs regulation argument that dominates the telecommunications agenda today. At greatest risk in a totally unregulated market is the rural user.

It was a legendary love-hate relationship.

The American consumer's passion for the telephone made it a fixture in virtually every home. While we happily let our fingers do the walking, we never let *The Telephone Company* off easily. Whenever service was poor, it denied us access to an essential lifeline or simply frustrated our efforts to do what we most wanted to do — talk to another human being. It seemed an unforgivable transgression.

On January 1, 1984, the telephone company we knew and loved — and sometimes hated — ceased to exist. With it went that comfortable knowledge of who was the source and the solution to all our telephone problems.

In the wake of the Bell System breakup, consumers found themselves in an often bewildering marketplace, confused by choices of equipment and services. They had to select service contracts, buy or lease telephones, sort through dozens of promotional gimmicks to find a long distance provider, and adjust to cryptic new billing procedures.

This intensely competitive environment came to life with AT&T's fulfillment of a January 1982 consent agreement it reached with the federal government. The agreement settled an eight-year-old anti-trust suit against AT&T and required the then-monopoly to divest itself of its local operating companies within two years.

As a result of the breakup of the Bell System, local and long distance services became separate. Until that time, AT&T had inflated long distance rates in order to subsidize the costly maintenance of local services. The federal government carefully regulated AT&T's rate of return, but by the mid-1970s competitors began entering the long distance market. The

pressure to lower rates mounted. AT&T attempted to hold the competition at bay by frustrating its access to customers via the AT&T-owned local companies. The Justice Department and the new competitors answered with a series of anti-trust suits that eventually forced AT&T to divest.

Issues remain the same

Three years post divestiture, the same issues that loomed over the breakup continue to dominate the public policy agenda for telecommunications. At the core of these issues is the persistent question of whether "universal" telephone service, service that is affordable and accessible to all, can and will remain an American reality.

Though long distance rates have declined since divestiture, consumers are paying an estimated 20 percent more overall for telephone service and 40 percent more for local rates alone, according to the Consumer Federation of America.

"Affordable service is going down the tubes," says Gene Kimmelman, legislative director for the Consumer Federation of America. "... people are paying more and getting less for their phone-service dollar."

The movement toward cost-based rates which reflect the actual cost of service will in all likelihood continue to push local rates upward. Consumer advocates argue that rising rates for a simple telephone hookup threaten universal service, but proponents of deregulation view the gradual price adjustment as a necessary move. In the past the infrequent telephone user subsidized the loquacious, paying the same rate regardless of how much he or she used the telephone. Similarly, inflated long distance rates financed local operations, placing the burden of cost on those

hard to do

who made the most use of the system. This artificial rate structure distanced consumer costs from the actual cost of providing a service.

Also contributing to the upward push on local rates is a force that many have predicted will prove the demise of universal service: bypass. Bypass refers to the abandonment of the telephone network by big users who create their own closed communications systems. Typically, fewer than 10 percent of a local telephone company's users account for between 50 and 80 percent of its revenues. As large corporate and government users leave the existent network, operating revenues for local companies go with them. Left behind to maintain a costly telecommunications infrastructure are residential and small business users, for whom costs could soar.

And some consumer advocates predict that local telephone companies, which continue to retain a monopoly over local service, will eventually enter more lucrative markets and finance these ventures through higher local rates, a move that only state public service commissions will be in a position to block. The vast majority of residential and small business customers have no alternative to the local operating company, generally the sole source of basic telephone service. And, in Nebraska, even the public service commission check on local rates has been afforded a "bypass" option as long as rate increases do not exceed 10 percent a year.

Though the seven independent telephone operating companies do not have access to some potentially lucrative markets at present, that will likely change. A consent decree provision that bars them from manufacturing equipment or entering the long distance market may soon be lifted per February's Justice Department recommendation to that effect. That will open a path to new markets that consumer advocates fear will be fi-

nanced on the backs of powerless local ratepayers.

Critics of unregulated telecommunications competition also argue that the revolutionary advances in communications technology that were the promised benefits of competition have little chance of ever reaching small town America. As with airline deregulation, service is likely to become concentrated in large urban areas where the rate of return justifies investment in advanced telecommunications offerings. For the rural user, pricing which reflects real costs could render even the most basic phone service a luxury item.

For low-income families, the increased costs of basic telephone service already represent a deeper cut in family income, but that cut has not resulted in a significant decline in telephone use, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. The percentage of families with a telephone has actually increased since divestiture, from 91.4 percent in November 1983 to 91.9 percent in November 1985. Households with incomes below \$5,000 experienced the greatest increase in telephone service, a development that may be a reflection of moves by states to protect low-income users through lifeline legislation. Lifeline rates provide basic telephone service to the elderly and indigent families at an abbreviated monthly cost.

Proponents of complete or partial deregulation argue that government intervention stands in the path of progress, that free to explore, create, and market at will, the industry will rapidly advance America's telecommunications capabilities. Under a free market, they believe consumers will ultimately benefit from a myriad of choices. And given the freedom to create consumer alternatives, proponents believe competition will ultimately force prices downward.

Because of the growing interconnectedness of telecommunications and computer technology, obsta-

cles to rapid advancement are also widely viewed as obstacles to American dominance in the Information Age.

The regulatory dilemma

State policymakers are faced with the challenge of striking a difficult balance between encouraging technological advancement and protecting the consumer.

To that end such groups as the Midwestern Legislative Conference Utility Regulation Task Force are exploring regulatory avenues open to state leaders in achieving this balance.

In Missouri, Gov. John Ashcroft spearheaded a task force on telecommunications that has yielded proposed legislation aimed at granting greater regulatory flexibility to commissions and protecting universal service. The draft legislation is based upon testimony from industry and consumer spokespersons. It suggests distinctions between those markets which are monopolized by single providers, those that are openly competitive, and those in transition.

From this complex new telecommunications industry and the regulatory maze that surrounds it, states want to emerge as viable competitors for high-tech jobs while preserving basic phone service for their citizens. At the same time, they must enhance the efficiency of their own vast telecommunications networks, often the largest in a state.

The final question from ratepayers and taxpayers is likely to remain, "How much?" State leaders are challenged to find the larger, long-term answers through savings within their own networks and economic opportunity throughout their states. But, in the short-term, the constituent/consumer who wants nothing more than affordable, accessible telephone service is likely to remain a top priority for lawmakers.

HB 5: An Act relating to the regulation of telecommunications services.

This bill directs regulation of telecommunications utilities to seek three goals:

efficiency and affordability

reasonable cost

ensure that noncompetitive service delivery does not subsidize competitive service delivery

The Alaska Public Utilities Commission supports this bill. The Commission believes that this bill is compatible with established goals of the Commission. The Commission further believes that the same concept could and possibly should apply to all other utilities that provide essential services

There is no fiscal impact associated with this bill.



J. Anthony Smith, Commissioner

DATE: March 9, 1987

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

112

REQUEST: _____

Bill Version :CSHB 5(Tele)
Publish Date :HOUSE 3/4/87

Revision Date: _____

Commerce & Econ. Dev.

Title: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication services"

Agency Affected: _____
BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Sponsor: Boucher

Components: _____

Requestor: _____

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	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill proposes a basis statement of telecommunications policy and is not expected to have any fiscal impact on this agency.

Prepared by: T.S. Moninski, II, Executive Director

Phone: 276-6222

Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Date: 2/26/87

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

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

No. 1

REQUEST: _____
 Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication services"
 Sponsor: Boucher
 Requestor: _____

Bill Version: CSHB 5(L&C)
 Publish Date: HOUSE 4/1/87
 Commerce & Econ. Dev.

Agency Affected: _____
 BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
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LAND & STRUCTURES						
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TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

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Prepared by: T.S. Moninski, II, Executive Director Phone: 276-6222
 Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 2/22/87
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

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

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE**

REQUEST: _____
 Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication services"
 Sponsor: Boucher
 Requestor: _____

Bill Version: HB 5
 Publish Date: _____

Agency Affected: Commerce & Econ. Dev.
 BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission
 Components: _____

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	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

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 Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]* Date: 2/26/87
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date referred: 3/4/87

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 3/26/87

The Labor & Commerce Committee has considered HB 5

"An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication services."

RECOMMENDS:

- replace with CSHBS (L+C) 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 _____
- zero fiscal note same as previous zero fiscal note published _____
- zero with analysis

SIGNING DO PASS:

W. Kozma
W. A. Bush
J. Ellis
W. D. Dain
Dave Donley

SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

W. Furnace No. 1

Dave Donley
 Chairman's signature

