

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 1989-1990 8672
6092 HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

- Borrowing
- utul for DEGT service

→ exposed to const ASSUM "D" level

→ GOV }
 } ALLEG FOR - reveal shares
 } GO IN CONST.

→ GOV has indicated people have
choice - FEDERAL choice -
INDIVIDUAL MARKET STATUS?
QUO - let it be done /
ON PROPOSITION.

→ Pain back window - more "cash"
→ "check off" satisfied -

→ not satisfied with business
the other way are in place

→ PAY ONLY OIL - we are
TAKEN NOW - received WORKER -

→ PAY ON basis 100 CONTRACT
with WELFARE etc -

everyone should pay a little

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54

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

**RECAP OF
HB 54**

Respite Care and Adult Day Care

Received February 23, 1989
by Reps. Ellis, Goll, Brown and Hudson

Heard March 8, 1989

Passed Out of Committee March 8, 1989
5 Do Pass

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HB 54: Respite Care and Adult Day Care

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CS HB 54 (HESS)
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- Item 3:** Memorandum from Rep. Johnny Ellis
March 8, 1989
- Item 4:** HESS Bill Packet
- Item 5:** Letter from AARP
March 7, 1989

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: February 23, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS: FINANCE

Date of Committee Action: _____

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 54

HOUSE BILL NO. 54 ^{CS} [RESPITE CARE AND ADULT DAY CARE]

"An Act relating to the Older Alaskans Commission."

RECOMMENDS:

- replacing with CS HB 54 (Hess) the same title
- the 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
- zero fiscal note
- zero with analysis

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

- fiscal note(s) published:
- zero fiscal notes(s) published:
2/23/89 Admin.

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING OTHER THAN DO PASS: (Do Not Pass, No Recommendation, Amend)

W.G. Barber

Chairman's signature

Item 3

3111 C STREET, SUITE 455
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 561-7828

ALASKA STATE HOUSE

OFFICE OF MAJORITY WHIP

CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

JUDICIARY

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN & DOMESTIC TRADE

WHILE IN SESSION
P.O. BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3704



REPRESENTATIVE JOHNNY ELLIS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. Johnny Ellis *JE*

DATE: March 8, 1989

RE: HB 54; Grants for adult day care and respite services

I have introduced this legislation in response to the enormous need for adult day care programs and family caregiver respite in Alaska.

The Older Alaskans Commission is presently the only funding source for adult day care. However, there are many adults in need of day care service who are not seniors. HB 54 would allow non-profit service providers to receive grants to serve a mixed group of clients, including seniors over 60 with general health problems, adults with Alzheimer's disease, victims of dementia, stroke victims and the developmentally disabled.

HB 54 also addresses the need for "time-out" or respite care for families who care for disabled adults or seniors. Respite care can indefinitely extend the ability of a family to continue in-home care, by providing family members with periodic breaks in order to alleviate stress created by the demands of caring for adults with special needs. While respite care is available in certain areas of the state for families of the developmentally disabled, it is not presently available anywhere for families caring for seniors (with the exception of Fairbanks).

This legislation allows the OAC to set fees for these services based on a sliding scale formula, taking the client's income into consideration. It is important to also note that no individual would be denied service if unable to pay such a service fee.

Enclosed for your information are relevant supporting materials. You are welcome to contact me or Linda Kingkade of my staff if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Item 4

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU 99811
(907) 465-3759



February 22, 1989

COMMITTEE CALENDAR:

HB 54: Respite Care and Adult Day Care

ITEMS IN THE FILE FOLDER:

- item #1: CS HB 54 (HESS)
- #2: HB 54
- #3: fiscal note: DOA
- #4: statement from Rep. Ellis
- #5: Position Paper: Older Alaskans Commission
- #6: sectional analysis
- #7: statutes
- #8: letters of support - Salvation Army
- Kenai Senior Services
- #9: House HESS Committee Report - pass
- #9: HESS Committee Report Form

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Expanding authority of the OAC
to make grants for adult day care
 Sponsor: Ellis
 Requestor: Ellis

Agency Affected: Administration
 BRU: Older Alaskans Commission
 Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL		0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE		0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME		0				
PART-TIME		0				
TEMPORARY		0				

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Connie L. Sipe, Executive Director
 Division: Older Alaskans Commission

Phone: 465-3250
 Date: Feb 17, 1989

Approved by Commissioner: John M. Andrews
 Agency: Administration

Date: 2/21/89

Distribution (by preparer):

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

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WHILE IN SESSION
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ALASKA STATE HOUSE

OFFICE OF MAJORITY WHIP



CHAIR
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

JUDICIARY

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN & DOMESTIC TRADE

REPRESENTATIVE JOHNNY ELLIS

HB 54 GRANTS FOR ADULT DAY CARE AND RESPITE SERVICES

I have introduced this legislation in response to the enormous need for adult day care programs and family caregiver respite in Alaska.

The Older Alaskans Commission is presently the only funding source for adult day care. However, there are many adults in need of day care service who are not seniors. HB 54 would allow non-profit service providers to receive grants to serve a mixed group of clients, including seniors over 60 with general health problems, adults with Alzheimers' disease, victims of dementia, stroke victims and the developmentally disabled.

HB 54 also addresses the need for "time-out" or respite care for families who care for disabled adults or seniors. Respite care can indefinitely extend the ability of a family to continue in-home care, by providing family members with periodic breaks in order to alleviate stress created by the demands of caring for adults with special needs. While respite care is available in certain areas of the state for families of the developmentally disabled, it is not presently available anywhere for families caring for seniors (with the exception of Fairbanks).

This legislation allows the OAC to set fees for these services based on a sliding scale formula, taking the client's income into consideration. It is important to also note that no individual would be denied service if unable to pay such a service fee.



Older Alaskans Commission

Box C
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0209
907/465-3250

POSITION PAPER

HOUSE BILL NO. 54

The Older Alaskans Commission (OAC) strongly urges the passage of HB 54. HB 54 contains two major changes which pave the way for developing an expanded funding base for the adult day care and respite services offered by grant programs funded through the OAC.

First, HB 54 allows adult day care and respite providers to capture third-party payments, such as from long term care insurance, by authorizing the OAC to set fees for these services, along with a sliding fee schedule. (Clients are now asked to make voluntary contributions for service.)

Secondly, HB 54 allows the OAC and its grantee providers to serve adults under the age of 60, if alternate funding or third-party sources to support the expanded service can be found (e.g., Alzheimer's victims younger than 60 might be served with funding from community mental health grants).

Although some day care centers or respite providers might choose to restrict their client population to seniors, providers in smaller communities might be able to open an economically viable day care service only if they accept a broader group of clients. For example, a day care center in a town the size of Homer could serve a majority of seniors (over 60), stroke victims or Alzheimer's victims ranging in age from 15 to 60, and a few developmentally disabled adults. Note however, that HB 54 does not require the OAC or any of its grantees to offer services to persons under 60.

The Older Alaskans Commission has funded adult day care centers since 1980, and currently funds six day care centers and two in-home respite programs. In FY 89, the day care centers will serve 209 older Alaskans, and 75 other seniors will receive respite service. So far, these programs have been based in larger communities, but the need is growing in smaller communities as well. Also, many "similarly disabled adults" who are not 60 are in need of day care or respite services. HB 54 authorizes the OAC to seek creative ways to meet these needs for community-based services--services which keep people in their homes, and which enable family caregivers to maintain home care for a longer period of time.


OLDER ALASKANS COMMISSION
February 21, 1989

HOUSE BILL 54
Position Paper

Although HB 54 will assist in the maintenance and possible expansion of adult day care centers and respite programs, it actually contains the first state statutory reference to these particular types of service. Until now, the OAC has operated such programs under the definitions contained in the federal Older Americans Act, or the general category of "health services" in AS 47.65.060(3)(D). By inserting adult day care and respite as separately authorized services, at page 3, lines 22 and 23, the legislature will give recognition to the importance of these services. (At the same time, deletion of reference to leisure-time and recreational activities recognizes and sanctions the OAC's priority to fund home and community services to promote independent living, and to leave leisure-time activities, valuable as they are, to local efforts.)

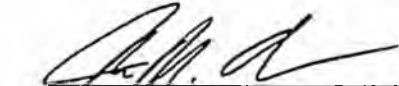
The Older Alaskans Commission believes strongly in the value of adult day care and family respite care services. They are an integral part of the OAC's policy to promote independent living which, for many seniors or other disabled persons, can delay or eliminate the need for costly and restrictive institutional placements. Therefore, the Older Alaskans Commission supports the passage of HB 54.

APPROVED:


Mellie Terwilliger, Chair
Older Alaskans Commission

DATED: February 17, 1989

REVIEWED:


John M. Andrews, Commissioner
Department of Administration

DATED: 2/21/89

[NOTE: A chart showing current OAC adult day care and family respite care providers, clients, and funding is attached.]

OLDER ALASKANS COMMISSION
February 21, 1989

HOUSE BILL 54
Attachment to
Position Paper

ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY RESPITE PROGRAMS
FUNDED BY THE OAC -- FY 89

<u>Project Name & Community</u>	<u>No. of Clients (Average Daily)</u>	<u>OAC Funding</u>
Daybreak Day Care (Anchorage Community Mental Health)	23	\$ 105,410
Serendipity Day Care--Anchorage (Salvation Army)	24	124,722
Rendezvous Day Care--Ketchikan (Easter Seals)	16	72,516
The Bridge Day Care--Juneau (Southeast Senior Services)	33	40,495
Forget-Me-Not Day Care--(City of Kenai)	12	76,306
Caring and Sharing Day Care (Chugiak Senior Center)	19	90,030
Senior Respite Care--(Fairbanks Resource Agency)	44	78,872
Respite Care--Anchorage (Home Health Care)	12	20,236
PROJECTED TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED FY89: 284		TOTAL: \$ 608,587

[For FY 89, the OAC was not able to fund three requests for additional day care services: Palmer/Wasilla \$ 51,873, Homer \$ 73,484, and Fairbanks \$ 29,883.]

ESTIMATE OF PER CLIENT COST -- FY 88

Exact client costs are difficult for the OAC to calculate, as some day care clients attend the center five days a week, others only once or twice. Similarly, the Fairbanks respite program offers up to 40 hours per month of respite care, but families vary in their actual hourly usage.

	<u>Adult Day Care</u>	<u>Respite Care</u>
Approx. Unit Cost in OAC funds	\$ 3.52 hour	\$ 8.53 hour
Annualized Cost in OAC funds per client	\$ 1,917. per yr.	\$ 1,582. per yr.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUR LEY STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
907 465 3811

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1989

SUBJECT: Sectional Analysis of HB 54
(Work Order No. 6-0281)

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis
Attn: Linda Kingkade

FROM: Terri Lauterbach *Terri*
Legislative Counsel

Following is a sectional analysis of HB 54. Please let me know if you have further questions about specific provisions.

Sec. 1. - Sec. 3. These sections contain technical amendments to accommodate the addition of AS 47.65.055 by sec. 4 of the bill. Since AS 47.65.055 does not operate through sponsors and is not confined to service programs for older Alaskans, but is part of the same chapter as the sponsors program, the "chapter" references in secs. 1 - 3 needed amending so that they did not refer to AS 47.65.055.

Sec. 4. This section allows the Older Alaskans Commission to make grants for adult day care programs and family respite care services for frail older persons and other similarly disabled adults, as those terms are defined in subsection (e) of this section.

Sec. 5. This section amends the definition of "service program" which is applicable to AS 47.65.010 - 47.65.050. By amending this definition, sponsor programs could also provide for adult day care programs and family respite care services. These would be in addition to the services funded by grants under AS 47.65.055.

Sec. 6. This section defines terms that are applicable to both the sponsor programs and the grant program.

TL:lmb
L6/158

Sec. 47.60.040. Powers of corporations. A nonprofit corporation which undertakes the development and operation of multi-purpose senior centers may:

- (1) operate in one or more home rule and general law municipalities;
- (2) issue notes, bonds or other obligations for the purpose of developing and operating multi-purpose senior centers;
- (3) perform other functions necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Sec. 47.60.050. Acceptance and use of assistance, cooperation and contributions. A nonprofit corporation may accept and use the assistance, cooperation and contributions of private persons, charitable organizations and public agencies for the purpose of establishing and operating a multi-purpose senior center. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Sec. 47.60.060. Lease of property from state. The Department of Administration may lease property under its jurisdiction, suitable for use as a multi-purpose senior center, to a nonprofit corporation which undertakes the development and operation of a multi-purpose senior center. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Sec. 47.60.070. Municipal contributions. The governing body of a home rule or general law municipality may give financial assistance to a nonprofit corporation which undertakes the development and operation of a multi-purpose senior center. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Sec. 47.60.080. Exemption from taxation. A multi-purpose senior center developed and operated by a nonprofit corporation under this chapter is not subject to real or personal property taxation by a home rule or general law municipality. The exemption granted under this section continues in force only while the multi-purpose senior center is owned and operated by a nonprofit corporation under the provisions of this chapter. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Sec. 47.60.090. Federal regulation. Nothing in this chapter may be construed as a limitation on the power of the federal government to regulate the development and operation of multi-purpose senior centers. (§ 1 ch 87 SLA 1974)

Chapter 65. Service Programs for Older Alaskans.

Section	Section
10. Older Alaskans service programs account	30. Pilot project grants
20. Grants for community service programs	40. Required contribution by sponsor
	50. Administrative requirements
	60. Definitions

Legislative conflicting view see memo cil at page 172

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§ 47.65.010 WELFARE, SOCIAL SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS § 47.65.030

Legislative history reports. — For conflicting views on the status of HB 611 amS see memorandum of legislative council at page 1723, 1980 Senate Journal and the opinion of the Attorney General at 1980 Senate Journal page 1764 and 1980 House Journal page 2221.

would be amended by HB 54

Sec. 47.65.010. Older Alaskans service programs account. The older Alaskans service programs account is established in the Department of Administration. An amount to carry out the provisions of this chapter may be appropriated annually by the legislature to the account. The amount appropriated to the account shall be fully distributed by the Older Alaskans Commission to sponsors of older Alaskans service programs in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am § 5 ch 79 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "Older Alaskans Commission" for "Office on Aging" in the third sentence.

Sec. 47.65.020. Grants for community service programs. Not less than 60 percent of the amount appropriated by the legislature to the account established in AS 47.65.010 shall be allocated annually by the commission as community program grants to sponsors of older Alaskans service programs. Payments shall be made on the basis of applications submitted to the commission by sponsors of community programs. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am § 6 ch 79 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. -- The 1981 amendment substituted "commission" for "office on aging" in two places.

Sec. 47.65.030. Pilot project grants. (a) The balance of the amount appropriated to the account established in AS 47.65.010 not allocated under AS 47.65.020 shall be allocated annually by the commission as grants to support pilot projects for the benefit of older Alaskans under this section.

(b) The commission shall adopt standards for pilot project grants and, after adoption of the standards as regulations, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), shall apply the standards to determine eligibility of applicants for pilot project grants. In awarding pilot project grants, the commission shall

(1) enter into agreements with the project sponsor to operate one or more of the selected pilot projects consistent with the standards adopted;

(2) monitor and evaluate, in a written report, each pilot project; the report shall include

(A) a description of the project and of the persons served by it;

- (B) the problems presented by the persons served by the project;
- (C) a description of the problems most effectively handled by the project; and
- (D) an estimate of projected cost of operation of the project for the next three succeeding years. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am § 7 ch 79 SLA 1981)

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- section. (§ 1

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "commission" for "office on aging" once in subsection (a) and twice in the introductory language of subsection (b).

Effect of an amendment ad "contribution" sion" for "effice tence of the ir added the fo introductory lar the amendment

Sec. 47.65.040. Required contribution by sponsor. (a) A sponsor receiving a grant under this chapter shall contribute to the total cost of the program or project. The contribution may be in cash or in-kind services. The amount of the sponsor's required contribution is determined by the application of the following formula: average per capita full and true value of all property in the municipality or community in which the project or program takes place divided by the average per capita full and true value of all property in the state, and then multiplied by the contribution percentage to the estimated total program or project cost as determined by the commission at the time of approval of a grant application. However, the amount of the sponsor's contribution may not amount to more than 10 percent of the total program or project cost.

Sec. 47.65 received by a of services wh Alaskans. A section unless (1) the spor public funds; (2) the spor services which (3) the spor information re this chapter.

(b) For purposes of this section

(1) the contribution percentage for

Effect of ame: amendment subst "office on aging" c

(A) a program or project in a municipality or community having a population of 5,000 or less is 10 percent of the total program or project cost;

(B) a program or project in a municipality or community having a population of 5,001 to 10,000 is 20 percent of the total program or project cost; and

(C) a program or project in a municipality or community having a population of more than 10,000 is 30 percent of the total program or project cost.

Sec. 47.65.0 (1) "commiss lished in AS 4 (2) "older Al age and older: (3) "service p vices to older A (A) nutrition (B) volunteer (C) programs (D) health se (E) housing s (F) legal serv (G) home hea

(c) If an application is submitted for a program or project in a municipality or community for which no average per capita full and true property value determination has been made.

(1) if the population of the municipality or community is 750 or more, the commission shall request the state assessor to compute the average per capita full and true property value of that municipality or community and report it;

(2) if the population is less than 750, the commission may substitute for the average per capita full and true value of property in the municipality or community an amount equal to the average per capita full and true value of property in the smallest municipality for which that amount has been determined by the state assessor.

§ 47.65.050 WELFARE, SOCIAL SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS § 47.65.060

(d) The required contribution rate of the sponsor may not exceed the contribution percentage established in (b) of this section;

(e) The grant awarded by the commission may not exceed the estimated total program or project cost as determined by the commission less the contribution by the sponsor determined in accordance with this section. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am § 8 ch 79 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment added "required" preceding "contribution" and substituted "commission" for "office on aging" in the third sentence of the introductory language and added the fourth sentence of the introductory language. In paragraph (2), the amendment substituted "commission"

for "office on aging" once in subparagraph (A) and once in subparagraph (B). In paragraph (4), the amendment substituted "commission" for "office on aging" in two places.

Revisor's notes. — Reorganized in 1984.

Sec. 47.65.050. Administrative requirements. Payments received by a sponsor under this chapter may be used only to meet costs of services which the commission has determined directly benefit older Alaskans. A payment may not be made by the commission under this section unless the commission determines that

(1) the sponsor meets accepted standards of fiscal accountability for public funds;

(2) the sponsor can demonstrate, when requested, the actual cost of services which it is providing for the benefit of older Alaskans; and

(3) the sponsor agrees to make available, upon request, all fiscal information relating to service for which payments are provided under this chapter. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am § 9 ch 79 SLA 1981)

Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "commission" for "office on aging" once in the first sentence

of the section and twice in the second sentence of the section.

Sec. 47.65.060. Definitions. In this chapter,

(1) "commission" means the Older Alaskans Commission established in AS 44.21.200;

(2) "older Alaskan" means a resident of Alaska who is 60 years of age and older;

(3) "service program" means the following general categories of services to older Alaskans, including reasonable costs of administration:

(A) nutritional programs;

(B) volunteer programs;

(C) programs for leisure-time and recreational activities;

(D) health services;

(E) housing services;

(F) legal services and assistance;

(G) home health and homemaker services;

- (H) counseling;
- (I) information and referral services;
- (J) programs which train persons to work with or assist older Alaskans;
- (K) transportation services;
- (L) educational activities; and
- (M) employment services;
- (4) "sponsor" means the provider of one or more service programs or pilot projects for the benefit of older Alaskans, including
 - (A) a municipality of the state;
 - (B) a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the state; and
 - (C) an educational institution. (§ 1 ch 152 SLA 1980; am §§ 10-12 ch 79 SLA 1981)

Revisor's notes. — Reorganized in 1984 to alphabetize the terms defined. Effect of amendments. — The 1981 amendment added paragraph (1) and sub-

paragraph (C) in paragraph (4) and repealed a paragraph that defined the office on aging.

Chapter 70. Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children.

<p>Section</p> <p>10. Compact enacted</p> <p>20. Financial responsibility</p> <p>30. Designation of authority</p> <p>40. Agreements</p>	<p>Section</p> <p>50. Delegation by agreement</p> <p>60. Executive head</p> <p>70. Violations of compact</p> <p>80. Short title</p>
---	---

Sec. 47.70.010. Compact enacted. The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children as contained in this section is enacted into law and entered into on behalf of the state with any and all other states legally joining in it in a form substantially as follows:

INTERSTATE COMPACT ON THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN.

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE AND POLICY

It is the purpose and policy of the party states to cooperate with each other in the interstate placement of children to the end that:

- (a) Each child requiring placement shall receive the maximum opportunity to be placed in a suitable environment and with persons or institutions having appropriate qualifications and facilities to provide a necessary and desirable degree and type of care.
- (b) The appropriate authorities in a state where a child is to be placed may have full opportunity to ascertain the circumstances of the proposed placement, thereby promoting full compliance with applicable requirements for the protection of the child.

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- (a) No sendin brought into an care or as a pr agency shall cor article and with the placement o
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THE SALVATION ARMY
OLDER ALASKANS PROGRAMS

1709 South Bragaw
Anchorage, AK 99508-3400
(907) 279-7658

February 17, 1989

Johnny Ellis, Chairman
House Health, Education
and Social Services Committee
Alaska State Legislature
PO Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RECEIVED
FEB 21 1989

OLDER ALASKANS COMMISSION

Re: HB 54 "An Act Relating to the Older Alaskans Commission."

Dear Chairman Ellis:

The rapid increase in the oldest segment of Alaska's residents requires the availability of a wider range of choices to support dignity and prolong independence as functional abilities change. Serendipity Adult Day Care in Anchorage serves an average of twenty participants each day who are impaired and need supervision. Some are at risk of institutional placement. Caregivers need respite to provide time to work, to care for themselves, and reduce the stress of caring for a frail elder. Ability to continue caregiving is enhanced and older persons remain where they most want to be--in their home and community. There are more than 500 seniors and many caregivers who could benefit from adult day services in the greater Anchorage area.

The Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted estimated that there are over 7,500 handicapped individuals in the Anchorage area of all ages who have three to seven limitations in activities of daily living which began early in life. Seniors are not included in this figure. Our experience with adult day care for seniors indicates there are younger adults and their caregivers who would also benefit from day services.

Community based services are less costly than insitutional care. We can strongly endorse HB 54. Our ability to provide increased and strengthened services to Anchorage area seniors and others who have functional losses rests on your Committee's "Yea" vote.

Please keep us informed about the progress of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Lillian Wilder
Executive Director



CITY OF KENAI

KENAI SENIOR SERVICES

361 SENIOR COURT KENAI, ALASKA 99611
(907) 283-4156

February 20, 1989

Ms. Connie Sipes, Executive Director
Older Alaskan Commission
Box C
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0209

Dear Ms. Sipes,

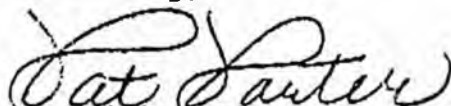
As a provider of Adult Day Care services for the elderly I am very much interested in House Bill No. 54, as presented by Representative John Ellis.

House Bill No. 54 would allow for third party payment to Adult Day Care centers. As State and Federal funds shrink it is necessary for service providers to look to other funding sources to maintain their quality of care....or to just stay in business. I would encourage the support of the Older Alaskan Commission for passage of this bill.

By enabling the care centers to seek payment from third parties and to establish fee schedules it will offer a more dependable source of revenues into the programs.

My congratulations to Representative Ellis for the thought and concern he has for the aging programs.

Sincerely,


Patricia Porter
Project Director

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: January 9, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS: STATE AFFAIR
FINANCE

Date of Committee Action: 2/22/89

The HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES Committee recommends that:

HOUSE BILL NO. 54 [RESPITE CARE AND ADULT DAY CARE]
"An Act relating to the Older Alaskans Commission."

be replaced with CSHB 54 (HESS) [] the same title
[] a new title

[] have attached amendment(s)

- 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
- zero fiscal note
- [] zero with analysis

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

- [] fiscal note(s) published: _____
- [] zero fiscal notes(s) published: _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

Cheri Davis
Mark Boyum
Peter J. ...
Berg ...
...
...

SIGNING OTHER THAN DO PASS:

(Do Not Pass, No Recommendation, Amend)

Wernace

J. Ellis
 chairman's signature

Items



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
Mr. R. W. "Bob" Pavitt
130 Seward Street, #205
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-2066

VICE CHAIRMAN
Mrs. Marie C. MacKenzie
1620 Crescent
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 562-4995

SECRETARY
Ms. June A. Robinette
P.O. Box 870797
Wasilla, AK 99687
(907) 376-2092

March 7, 1989

Representative Johnny Ellis
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Rep. Ellis:

As you know, the two major priorities of the legislative program adopted for 1989 by the **AARP Alaska State Legislative Committee** are to "Strengthen programs that foster independence and dignity for older Alaskans" and to "Increase access to appropriate and affordable health care for all Alaskans".

House Bill 54 outlines a program that works toward reducing the need for institutional care through adult day care and respite services to caregivers.

The **AARP Alaska State Legislative Committee** wishes to go on record as enthusiastically supporting HB 54 as an important step in the State of Alaska's progress toward assuring that older Alaskans will continue to have the opportunity to live independently and contribute socially and economically to their communities.

As I will be out of town tomorrow and unable to testify on this bill, I am delivering this letter to Chairman Boucher's office with the request that our endorsement of HB 54 be read into the Committee records.

Respectfully,

Bob Pavitt
Chairman

b. Example / Checklist Contact Sheet

LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR: House St Affairs

TC DATE/DAY: Wed, Mar 8

Pub. Hear Work Ses. Inv. Hear

TIME: 8:30-10:00

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: HB54

JUNEAU ROOM: C-102

SUBJECT: Respite Care Adult Day Care

BRIDGE: _____

OF PORS: _____

CONTACT: Ann PH: 4931

DATE TAKEN/BY: Paper 3/6

TELECONFERENCE SITES:

LIO'S

LTC'S

VTS'S

- Anchorage
- Barrow *
- Bethel
- Delta Junction *
- Dillingham *
- Fairbanks
- Glennallen *
- Juneau
- Ketchikan
- Kodiak
- Kotzebue
- Mat-Su
- Nome
- Petersburg *
- Sitka
- Soldotna
- Valdez *

- Homer
- Wrangell

See List on Reverse Side

ALI. LIO'S

OTHER SITES WELCOME WITH PRIOR NOTIFICATION

OFFNETS: afnet
279-7658
Lillian Wilder

CHAIRING SITE: Juneau

CHAIRPERSON: Rep Brucher

[] CONFORMS TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL POLICY 4/85

SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR/CONTACT PERSON

DATE

Paper will let me know. ok

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

ANN

Lillian Wilder / Teleconference
279-7658 At site

HB 54 UM 1/3/6
SEC + 11:55 AM
set-up

HB

56

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

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

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

Mary Van Nimwegen

HB 56

H State Affairs

1/17/89

STEVE COWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

January 31, 1989

The Honorable H.A. "Red" Boucher
Alaska State Representative
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Red:

Thanks for your letter about the State Affairs Committee hearing and testimony with respect to HB 56. I appreciate your support of the Alaska Women's Commission and your desire to address the issues that were raised during this hearing. I and my office are concerned about the matters you mentioned in your letter. The commission is open to discussing and acting upon a broad range of issues and viewpoints; I, too, am most sensitive to these concerns.

You referred in your letter to testimony given to the Committee which charged that the Governor's Office failed to meet with certain members of a women's "task force" prior to extending the commission by executive order. I believe you are referring to the Task Force of Advocates for Women.

On June 13, 1988, the Task Force of Advocates for Women wrote a letter to Garley Peska, Chief of Staff, requesting an appointment with him to discuss issues of concern to the task force members. Mr. Peska was not able to meet with the members and asked Sheila Gottehrer, Director of Boards and Commissions and liaison between the Women's Commission and the Governor's Office, to contact them and discuss their concerns.

Ms. Gottehrer called Ms. McClinton and explained that Mr. Peska was not in town to either meet with her or answer her letter. Ms. Gottehrer offered to meet with Ms. McClinton, but Ms. McClinton only wanted to meet with Mr. Peska. Ms. Gottehrer discussed at length with Ms. McClinton some of her concerns and suggested some options available to her and the Task Force of Advocates for Women.

Subsequent to this conversation, Ms. Gottehrer wrote Ms. McClinton a letter summarizing what they had discussed that day and evening. On June 22, Ms. Gottehrer received Ms. McClinton's letter which thanked her and stated that she still wished to meet with Mr. Peska.

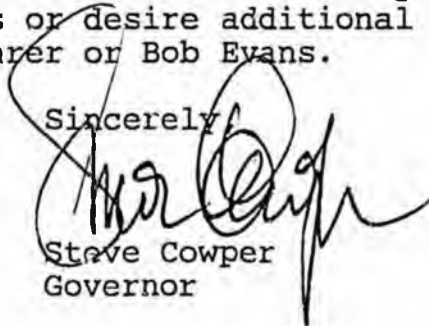
Subsequent to receiving Ms. McClinton's letter, Ms. Gottehrer attempted to contact Ms. McClinton but was unsuccessful in reaching her. Ms. Gottehrer then wrote Ms. McClinton a letter requesting that Ms. McClinton call her at her convenience to discuss the matter, which they did by phone.

Since it is impossible for me and/or Mr. Peska to meet with every individual who requests a meeting with either of us, my staff assistants often meet with them. My assistants then share with me the information. This is a normal and frequent occurrence.

Please be assured that the Women's Commission will carefully and seriously consider the testimony presented. I and my office want to and will allow all sides of women's issues to be heard. I strongly support the Women's Commission and the importance of providing an open forum for all women to express their different viewpoints. I am committed to this mission.

Thank you for your support on these matters. If you have any questions about these issues or desire additional information, please contact Sheila Gottehrer or Bob Evans.

Sincerely



Steve Cowper
Governor

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Paul Fischer
Alaska State Senator

COPY TO:

- HOUSE FINANCE MEMBERS - 11
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 7
- SUE MILLEN
- MARY McCLINTON

done 2/6/89 AS
THANKS
D

Sheila

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Office of the Governor
Gary Peska, Chief of Staff
Third Floor, State Capitol
P.O. Box A
Juneau, Ak. 99811

JUN 14 1988

June 13, 1988

Dear Mr. Peska:

Re: Request for appointment by Task Force of Advocates for Women.

Governor Cowper has made public that he will use \$228,300 of budgeted funds to reestablish by administrative order, the Women's Commission.

Input from a large number of women representing many elements of society across the state, and input from some legislators who signed the letter of intent, the Governor has a rare opportunity to create a new and exciting entity that will serve the needs of all women with many differing philosophies and concerns.

A major issue throughout the life of the Womens' Commission that more representative areas of Womens' concerns need to be addressed, has been evidenced by the majority of women in this state who testified to the need at the Senate H.E.S.S. teleconference in the spring.

These issues of concern could well be addressed by providing "Information for Direct Services" to women.

The Womens' Commission has had positive results in several areas, however, we feel that the proposal we would put forth, to you and the Governor, would broaden their effectiveness and would creatively solve the concerns of large groups of bipartisan, multiracial women statewide.

Based on the input of these women and suggestions of various legislators, we request an appointment directly with you, prior to the Governor's administrative order, reestablishing the womens' commission.

We have made prior requests for appointment through Judy Lentz starting May 31st, and now she has graciously advised us to contact you in this manner so that you could see it in writing and coordinate with your travel plans.

We anxiously await your reply prior to the Governor's administrative order.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Task Force of Advocates for Women, Statewide

Mary McClinton.....Hm. 789-1840
wk. 780-4777

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 391
Douglas, Ak. 99824

Marilyn Freymueller.....789-7243
Barbara Petersen.....hm. 789-7243
wk. 465-3603
Jackie Paradise.....wk. 789-5335
Sue Miller.....789-0479

Please contact Mary McClinton for appointment date.

- cc: Governor Steve Cowper
- Caren Robinson, Special Assistant
- Sheila Gottehrer, Boards and Commissions
- Senator Jim Duncan
- Representative Fran Ulmer
- Representative Bill Hudson
- Jan Faika, President of the Senate
- Ben Grussendorf, Speaker of the House

11/17

June 16, 1988

Ms. Mary McClinton
P.O. Box 391
Douglas, AK 99824

Dear Mary,

As you know, Mr. Peska is not in town to answer your letter. Therefore, I want to respond to you and your group and summarize what you and I discussed both this afternoon and evening.

We discussed some options available to you and the Task Force of Advocates for Women:

1. Approach the Juneau Women's Council with the idea of compiling a directory of information that details southeast communities' resources for women;
2. Contact the Women's Commission about some of your concerns and share your ideas with them. There certainly is value in your suggestions that the Women's Commission broaden the issues they work on; and
3. Copy me on your correspondence to the Women's Commission and if you do not receive a response notify me.

If there are other ways in which I can be of additional assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'm glad we had the opportunity to talk. I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Sheila K. Gottehrer
Director
Boards and Commissions

cc: Garrey Peska, Chief of Staff

Mary L. McClinton
P.O. Box 391
Douglas, AK 99824

June 19, 1988

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

JUN 22 1988

Ms Sheila K. Gottehrer
Director, Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box A
Juneau, AK 99811-0101

Dear Sheila,

Thank you for your gracious and timely summary regarding our recent discussions.

I appreciate your comments and suggestions and will follow through on them. However, I suppose the real thrust of my contacts was to obtain free and equal access to those who are in the seat of government to voice some concerns that I think are reflective of many people throughout the state.

I am frustrated and, at this point, feel thwarted in my attempts to get an appointment with the Chief of Staff and/or the Governor.

As I discussed with you, to allow someone else to try and relay my ideas to anyone else is not acceptable, mainly for the following reasons: 1) It would not take me any longer to present my own than it would for someone else to do so; 2) Something important may be lost in the translation. (Some of this has already happened.) ; 3) The Women's Commission is not presently an existing entity; and, at any rate, 4) MacDonald-Douglas would not go through Boeing to discuss counter proposals with the Department of Defense.

In my ignorance, I must have not followed the proper procedures in accessing myself and the committee to Mr. Peska. I think these attempts on my part to free and equal access to government are probably the truest, most reflective examples of what we are hearing from many women statewide who have needs and no avenue through which they can be address.

I would most appreciate it if you will arrange an appointment for me with Mr Peska upon his return.

I, too, am looking forward to meeting you.

Since May 31

Sincerely,

Mary L. McClinton
Mary L. McClinton

Attachment

cc: Sen. Jan Faiks

Sen. Jim Duncan

Rep. Ben Grussendorf

Rep. Fran Ulmer

Rep. Bill Hudson

Special Assist. Caren Robinson

STEVE COWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

awc

7/25/88

Dear Mary:

I've been trying to
contact you by phone but
have been unsuccessful.

Please call me
at your convenience to
discuss the matter you
mentioned in your letter.

Best Regards,

Steve

(WHILE YOU WERE AWAY)

FOR <u>Red</u>	DATE <u>1/13</u>	TIME <u>920</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P.M.
M <u>Mary McClinton</u>			
OF <u>P O Box 391, Douglas, AK 99824</u>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONED
PHONE _____	AREA CODE _____	NUMBER _____	EXTENSION _____
MESSAGE <u>wants you to know she'd</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> RETURNED YOUR CALL
<u>like to see changes to HB56 (woman's</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CALL
<u>Comm) and will show up Tues</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> WILL CALL AGAIN
<u>to testify.</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> CAME TO SEE YOU
SIGNED _____	AS		<input type="checkbox"/> WANTS TO SEE YOU

TOPS FORM 4002

(WHILE YOU WERE AWAY)

FOR <u>Ann</u>	DATE <u>1/13/89</u>	TIME <u>12:35</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P.M.
M <u>Betty Kington</u>			
OF _____			<input type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONED
PHONE <u>789-5195</u>	AREA CODE _____	NUMBER _____	EXTENSION _____
MESSAGE <u>HB56 AWC</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> RETURNED YOUR CALL
<u>after 4:00 today</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CALL
<u>N/A 4:35pm</u>			<input type="checkbox"/> WILL CALL AGAIN
SIGNED _____	PK		<input type="checkbox"/> CAME TO SEE YOU
			<input type="checkbox"/> WANTS TO SEE YOU

TOPS FORM 4002

b. Example / Checklist Contact Sheet

LEGISLATIVE

SPONSOR: House State Affairs

TC DATE/DAY: ~~Tues~~ Tues, Jan 17

Pub. Hear Work Ses. Inv. Hear

TIME: 8:30am - 10:30am

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: HB 510

JUNEAU ROOM: Capital 102

SUBJECT: AK Women's Comm.

BRIDGE: _____

OF PORTS: 1

CONTACT: Ann PH: 4931

DATE TAKEN/BY: 1/12/89 / Dan
4:00pm

TELECONFERENCE SITES:

LIO'S

LTC'S

VTS'S

Anchorage
Barrow *
Bethel
Delta Junction *
Dillingham *
Fairbanks
Glennallen *

Homer
Wrangell

See List on
Reverse Side

Juneau

ALL LIO'S

Ketchikan
Kodiak
Kotzebue
Mat-Su added 1/16 4:00
Nome
Petersburg *
Sitka
Soldotna
Valdez *

OTHER SITES WELCOME WITH PRIOR NOTIFICATION

OFFNETS: _____

CHAIRING SITE: Juneau

CHAIRPERSON: Rep. Boucher

[] CONFORMS TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL POLICY 4/85

SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR/CONTACT PERSON

DATE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS



Official Business

COMMITTEE:
HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

DATE:

Subject of meeting:

SIGN-IN

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	REPRESENTING	If testifying, which Bill #?
Alie Borgdoll	5896 Lund Street	780-4578	Individual - opposed	HB 56
Paula Ziegler	Box 22312 JUNEAU	463-3974	AJOC	56
Carol Gray	4410 N. Douglas Hwy JUNEAU	586-6913	self - opposed	4B 56
Sue Miller	P.O. Box 211248 CUKER BAY	784-0479	Justice - opposed	HB 56
Beth Bergstrom	9449 Patricia Rd JUNEAU 99801	9-5195	self	"

NOTES

FOR 1st TERM 9 MEMBERS

3 SERVE 1 YR

3 SERVE 2 YR

3 SERVE 3 YR

AFTER THAT, SERVE 3 YR TERMS

STIPULATED CANT SERVE THE REMAINDER
of a term since controversy
is re-rotation.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

RECAP OF HB 56

Alaska Women's Commission

Received January 9, 1989
from Rules Committee by Request of the Governor

Heard January 17, 1989
Heard January 24, 1989

Committee Substitute adopted January 24, 1989

Passed Out of Committee January 24, 1989
4 Do Pass
1 Do Not Pass
1 No Recommendation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Tuesday, January 24, 1989
HB56: Alaska Women's Commission

- Item 1:** HB56 By the Rules Committee by Request of the Governor
- Item 2:** Governor's Transmittal Letter
- Item 3:** Fiscal Note
- Item 4:** Article 12. Alaska Women's Commission
- Item 5:** Alaska Women's Commission
FY 84 - FY 86 Accomplishments
- Item 6:** House Research Request 87.324
Women's Commission in Other States
- Item 7:** Letter from Bethel to Senator Paul Fisher (in support of HB4, 1988)
- Item 8:** Written Testimony Regarding HB 56
- Item 9:** Minutes of January 17, 1989
House Committee on State Affairs
First Hearing in Committee
- Item 10:** Committee Substitute HB 56 (SA)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(5)

Date Referred: January 9, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS: FINANCE

Date of Committee Action: _____

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee recommends that:

HOUSE BILL NO. 56 [ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION]
"An Act establishing the Alaska Women's Commission as a permanent commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

be replaced with CS HB 56 (SA) the same title
 a new title

have attached amendment(s)

- 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
- zero fiscal note
- zero with analysis

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

- fiscal note(s) published:
- zero fiscal notes(s) published:
1/9/89 Gov. Office/DOA

SIGNING ~~DO~~ PASS:

David Couley

Sam M. Williams

Chas. S. Spohn

W. B. Fisher

SIGNING OTHER THAN DO PASS:
(Do Not Pass, No Recommendation, Amend)
Fiscal note inaccurate

Alyce Hanley - Do Not Pass

Eileen P. MacLean - No Recommendation

W. B. Fisher
Chairman's signature

ADDENDUM #1

STUDY Packet on Alaska Womens' Commission

-) Goals
-) legislation supported
-) Conferences, Seminars, Workshops
-) Studies Conducted
-) T.V., Books, Pamphlets published

Goals of Womens' Commission
Source: Status Reports 1982-1987

1. Conduct and promote political actions on womens' issues:
 - A. needs of Alaska's women
 - B. extend life of commission
 - C. improve government agency services for women

2. Identify economic needs/status of native women
3. comprehensive media campaign-issues pertinent to women
4. Re: Women and Employment ; Monitor and comment on legislation.
Convince legislature to keep adequate data on women
Need for studies
5. Sponsor regional conferences
- * 6. Update information on health care for women *Reproductive Rights*
7. Increase visibility of Commission through projects, leadership.
Conferences
8. Recommend affirmative action goal 42.5% work on Alaska natural gas pipeline.
9. Poll on womens' most pressing issues.
10. Help AKPIRG develop statewide directory of child care facilities.
11. Network with womens' organizations
12. Study on Sex Equity in Education.

Goals from Lisa Rudd's speech on a Historical Perspective:

- * 1. Abortion Regulations: Do hospitals which refuse to perform abortions receive public funds? "Although we've made tremendous strides in Alaska to liberalize abortion laws and make abortion available to women, we must be continuously alert to attempts to turn back this progress...terrorist attacks on abortion clinics
2. Eliminate sex designations in Help Wanted Ads.
- X 3. Get women to run for office. *Did not support women who were pro-life
Example: Rep. Alyce Handley*
4. Eliminate sex discriminatory laws.
- X 5. Eliminate sex stereotyping in Textbooks *Sex roles denied*
6. Tax exemption for child care expenses.
7. Make it possible for single women to get loans.

Legislation supported:

1. Increase Commissions' budget from \$326,700 to \$407,200
- X 2. SB266 Neutral Pronouns in state statutes.
- X 3. SB547 Testimony of Young Victims (sexual offenses) videotaping
4. HB174 Public Assistance Grants - extend to pregnant women and raise AFDC grant amounts.

5. HB210 Shared Custody-of child to both parents if in child's interest.
6. HB287 Displaced Homemaker and Domestic Violence-job counseling, training and placement, health & legal counseling & financial management and educational services. Perpetrators of domestic violence ordered to get personal or family counseling, restrained from entering vehicles owned or occupied by the victim. Victim definition includes live-in arrangements.
- this program failed*
- * 7. SB386 Displaced homemaker - reduces time person must wait to qualify for program from 7 to 3 years.
- * 8. Comparable worth, then called pay equity, now called state reclassification of wage scales.
- * 9. SJR1 asks U.S. Congress to propose an Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the states for their consideration.
- * 10. Children and Youth, criminal justice, education, employment, equity, health, homemakers, minority and rural women, peace, (disarmament) economics and women in public life.
11. Assignment of Retirement Benefits in Domestic Relations Cases- retirement benefits be considered as assets in divorce settlements.
- * 12. HB493 Changing (discriminatory language) in existing laws.
13. HB496 Change in dissolution and divorce laws -Allowing alimony during divorce proceedings and payment of attorney's fees for the needy spouse, requiring greater judicial review of dissolutions.
14. HB497 Greater judicial review in child custody cases; making both parents liable for a child's actions.
15. HB498 Changing what is currently admissible evidence in sexual assault cases.
16. HB499 changing the inheritance and probate laws to increase spouse's share of an estate from one-third to one-half, and making unpaid child support the first debt to be paid upon death.
- X 17. Eliminating (gender based insurance) *increased womens' premiums*
18. Continuing health insurance for divorced, widowed and dependents
19. Prosecuting the patrons of prostitution.
20. Repealing certain veteran's benefits regarding state housing.
- 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 see next page

Commission's legislative report card

The first session of the 1985 Alaska State Legislature passed, and Gov. Bill Sheffield signed into law, half of the bills endorsed by the Alaska Women's Commission. Of the 12 bills that were part of the Commission's Platform, the House passed seven, the Senate passed six, and Sheffield signed all six into law.

The following chart lists the Commission-backed bills and shows how they fared during the 1985 legislative session.

LEGISLATION	PRIME SPONSOR	HOUSE	SENATE	GOV.
HB 92 - Child and Spousal Support. Strengthens the Child Support Enforcement Agency's ability to collect past due child support payments and allows for Mandatory Income Withholding after payment is in arrears more than one month.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 67 - Hearsay Evidence in Child Sex Cases. Allows hearsay evidence in grand jury proceedings for victims of sexual assault under 10 years of age.	Rep. Randy Phillips	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 147 - Equal Employment Opportunity. Creates a Division of Equal Employment Opportunity within the Office of the Governor.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-7-85
SB 27 - Appropriations. Appropriates funds to the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for training teams on intervention/investigation of physical and sexual assault.	Senator Jan Faiks	Passed	Passed	Signed 6-6-85
SB 29 - Domestic Violence and Sexual Offenses. Changes the definition of Domestic Violence, and makes marital rape a crime.	Senator Jan Faiks	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
SB 172 - Council on DV/SA Sunset. Extends the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault until 6-30-89.	Senate State Affairs	Passed	Passed	Signed 5-29-85
HB 194 - Harrassment. Outlines the punishment for offenses including harrassment on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, etc.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	In Judiciary	No Action	
HB 237 - Pension Reform. Allows the assignment of retirement benefits to satisfy divorce and child support. Spouse becomes automatic beneficiary.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	Passed	In State Affairs	
HB 238 - Retirement Benefits. Changes maternity to parental leave; increases parental leave without pay from 9 to 16 weeks; and, allows employees to purchase back retirement credit while on parental leave.	House Rules for Gov. Sheffield	In Rules	No Action	
HB 262 - Day Care in State Office Buildings. Would create day care centers in state office buildings. <i>increased expense</i>	Rep. Don Clocksin	In Finance	No Action	
SB 92 - Supplemental Benefits. Amends state employee benefit system to create additional benefit options including day care.	Senate Rules for Gov. Sheffield	No Action	In Finance	
SB 165 - Day Care in State Office Buildings. Would facilitate the establishment of day care centers in state office buildings.	Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp	No Action	In Finance	

Conference, Seminars, Workshops

1. 1983: "Making the system work for you."
Participants: Human Rights Commission, League of Women Voters, Women in Crisis Counseling and Assistance Womens' World Banking, Alaska Native Womens' Statewide Organization, Ironworker Union Member
- X 2. 1983: Teleconference on health issues (Need, state-funded health insurance, family planning, sex education, reproductive freedom)
3. "Work and Network": Southeast Alaska's Immediate Future for Women
Train Women for permanent jobs in U.S. Borax mine, Misty Fjords. And, Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project.
Support affirmative action goals for minority, Women hire
4. "Southeast Women's Conference"
5. "Norton Sound Women's Conference"
6. "Kodiak Women's Conference"
- X 7. Feminist Fly-In - N.O.W. chairman stated concerns: ERA, Women's Commission and Child care.
8. Labor Union Workshop with Coalition of Labor Union Women. Why don't women apply for trade apprenticeships in great numbers, why they drop out of these programs at a higher rate than men and why women let men represent their concerns at the bargaining table.
9. Barriers to Employment Conference with Alaska State Advisory Council on Vocational and Career Education - 1 of 17 sponsoring agencies.
10. U.N. Conference on Women, Nairobi, Kenya
- X 11. 1985: "At the Edge of Opportunity: on Women, the Economy and Public Policy. Purpose: economic status of women.
Participants:
Pat Schroeder: "families belong on the feminist frontier because economics is the key to the family's survival."
Betty Friedan: "Change not only female role, but also male role in society....Traditional lifestyle confined each one of us without consideration for our individual needs or aspirations." Pain of being bound in sexual stereotypes...This new man must have choice to say 'no' to the old patterns and search for new values."
Governor Sheffield: "society doesn't recognize economic value of woman in the home or workforce. Need of classification, study of all state positions to see if women are paid less than men for comparable work."

Same as
comparable worth
or
pay equity

Ms. Reuss: Legislative Director of Women's Equity Action League. Asks support for the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985. *largest intrusion of government in private lives ever*

"The act seeks to preserve affirmative action, reproductive choice, survival programs as food stamps, school nutrition, Medicare and Medicaid. "... a man steals 42 cents for every dollar's worth of work we do and we aren't reporting it and no one's in jail!" ... It is a man's issue, and if men don't make it their issue, we are going to stop having children. Not because we want to, but because we can't afford to have them."

Brenda Itta:

"..train the younger people in the intangible values, concentrate on the value of good character

Lisa Rudd:

Now deceased

"Things We Might Want to Act On": Abortion rights, abolishing sex designations in help wanted ads, establishment of a women's commission, getting women to run for public office, eliminating sex discrimination laws elimination of sex stereotypes in textbooks, tax exemptions for child care expenses, helping single women get loans, development of more part-time jobs, increased day care.

Workshops: Emphasis economics: " I learned that to be safe economically, I need to be employable." Letter writing campaigns, networking, "keeping legislators feet to the fire."

Workshop titles:

"Breaking the Poverty Cycle (AFDC and Child Support Enforcement)

"The Importance of Health I and II (reproductive rights, health education for children, finding long term care for dependents. Supports the development of a health curriculum to include values clarification and informed choice making throughout Alaska's schools.

"Insuring our Future: laws of insurance, pensions, retirement systems and current efforts to reform them so that women and children treated equally;

"Alaska Legislative agenda for Women " Sherrie Goll, Suzanne Lombardi, Betty Ramage and Senator Arliss Sturgulewski: Remove marital rape exemption, fund displaced homemaker programs, pension reform, continue council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, day care in state office buildings, child support enforcement, quality education in all programs, k-post secondary, increased funding for day care assistance programs.

"Equal Pay: The Case for Alaska: "That market value not be a justification for pay disparity in jobs otherwise determined to be of comparable worth. That should the current classification study of the state personnel system determine that pay disparity exists in state jobs of comparable worth, the Legislature and Administration quickly implement changes and funding increases to achieve pay equity.

"Education Means a Better Future":-educational equity, Commission support for Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985.

"Rural and Bush Issues: Fund J.O.M., appoint women to boards and commissions, correspondence courses for people in bush.

"Caring for Families While We Work: - Child care #1; funding, training, new child care services as information and referral and centers in all state office buildings. flex time, job sharing and "cafeteria" benefit plans

"Differently-abled: Public Policy and the Handicapped Woman_ Commission consider disability issues a priority as a woman's issue; support concept and funding for a Commission for disabled persons.

* "Public Policy and the Lesbian: How Do We Survive": Support legislation prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, public facility use, child custody and insurance provision for partners. Support public education on lesbian issues. This should include lesbian membership on steering committees, on workshop panels, as keynote speakers and as the subject of educational materials developed by the Commission.

Showed "The Birth Project" a needlework show.

Pioneer and elder women honored: Clothilde Bahovec and Jeanne James.

12. Leadership Seminars, Juneau: "Women in Corrections", (the needs of the family while the parents are in prison, and assistance inmates need to develop economic potential for life outside of prison.
Fairbanks: "Women in Politics"

13. Grants for Regional Conferences:
Huslia, organized by Huslia Headstart Parent Committee
Bethel, Family Spirit Conference
Wasilla, Valley Women's Conference
Sitka, Sitka Women's Council

14. 1/2 day Seminar-Juneau: "Women in Prison: Does the Justice System Work for you?"

Studies Conducted

1. Status of Alaska Native Women
2. 5 month review of state laws to determine extent of sex discrimination.
3. Study Educational Equity -equal opportunity in all course offerings, guidance and counseling, recreational and athletic activities. "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."

T.V./Books/Pamphlets Published

The Alaska Womens' Commission was formed as a result of the writing of Dorothy Jones, the major author of "A Preliminary Study: The Status of Women in Alaska."

1. "Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women: Profiles in Political Change"
2. Service spots media campaign: downplay sex-role stereotyping. Shows people in a variety of positive roles: dual-career long married couple, people discussing women's leadership achievements, rural and urban Native women in a variety of contrasting roles, e.g. government grant writer vs. midwife.
3. Brochures to schools, community groups and individuals encouraging their participation in Women's History Month.
4. Elaine Hultengren's photo exhibit documenting Alaska Women's history from 1945-1965
5. "Women's Legal Rights in Alaska"
6. "Directory of Women's Organizations"
7. "A Sense of History: A Reference guide to Alaska's Women, 1896-1985"
8. Poster - "A Timeline of 'first' accomplishments achieved by Alaska women from 1877-1985."

STEVE COWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

January 9, 1989

The Honorable Sam Cotten
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Cotten:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that reestablishes the Alaska Women's Commission as a permanent commission. The Alaska Women's Commission presently exists as an interim commission under my Administrative Order No. 110, dated June 23, 1988.

Continuation of a permanent women's commission is imperative for a strong Alaska. Only after the barriers of discrimination are removed and the full participation of all Alaskans is realized can this state achieve economic strength and diversity. The Alaska Women's Commission has been an effective advocate in identifying and removing barriers of discrimination facing women.

Except for some housekeeping and minor editorial changes in secs. 1 -- 4, this bill makes no substantive changes to the statutes creating the previous Alaska Women's Commission, AS 44.19.165 -- 44.19.180.

Section 5 of the bill gives the commission an expiration date of June 30, 1993 under AS 44.66.010.

Under Administrative Order No. 110, the interim commission terminates at the end of this legislative session. Section 6 of the bill extends that termination date until June 30, 1989. Section 10 of the bill sets a July 1, 1989 effective date for statutory reestablishment of the Alaska Women's Commission.

Section 7 of the bill authorizes the governor to appoint members of the interim commission to the permanent commission.

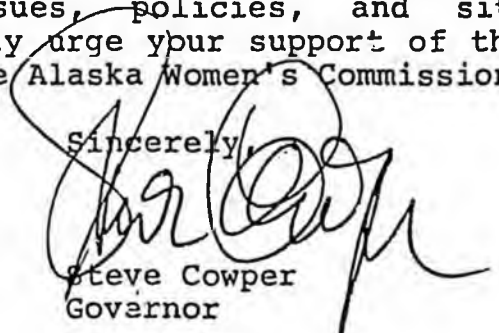
There are many important and crucial issues facing women in Alaska. Disruptive forces threaten women and their families. The following statistics are significant:

- Over half of Alaskan women work outside the home but earn less than two-thirds of what men earn.
- Most Alaska families have no access to parental leave when their children are born or adopted.
- For many Alaskan families, child care is either inadequate or too costly.
- In Anchorage alone it is estimated that at least 3,000 elementary school children are unsupervised after school every day.
- Alaska women's per capita income declines 33 percent after divorce while divorced men's increases 17 percent.
- Most single parent families are headed by women and most families below the poverty level are headed by women.
- In urban Alaska the teen pregnancy rate exceeds the national figure by 13 percent. In rural Alaska it jumps to 70 percent more than the national rate.
- Eight thousand families, including more than 20,000 women and their children, receive AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) in Alaska.

The Alaska Women's Commission has some important challenges for the next five years. These include advocacy for the needs of rural women and homemakers, welfare reform, improving the economic status and employment options of women, implementation of changes that assist working women who have young children, increasing representation of women in policy making positions, and support for better access to health care, counseling, legal representation, and safety.

Since it is the only agency in state government that speaks to government about issues, policies, and situations affecting women, I strongly urge your support of this bill to permanently continue the Alaska Women's Commission.

Sincerely,



Steve Cowper
Governor

FISCAL NOTE

Item 3

REQUEST:

Revision Date: 10/27/88
Title: "An Act establishing the Alaska Women's Commission...."
Sponsor: Rules Committee
Requestor: Governor

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: COMMISSIONS/SPECIAL OFFICES
Components: Alaska Women's Commission

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

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)

Funding for the Women's Commission is contained in the Office of the Governor budget. No additional funding is required.

Prepared by: Mise Michael A. Nizich, Director Phone: 465-3616
Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 12/1/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 12/1/88
Agency: Office of the Governor

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

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(3) assure continued provision of data and information to coastal resource districts to carry out their planning and management functions under the program;

(4) submit annually to the legislature, no later than the 10th day of each regular session, the portion of the coastal management program approved or amended by the council during the preceding year. (§ 3 ch 84 SLA 1977)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.893. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.162. Council staff. The council shall use the staff of the office of coastal management within the office of management and budget in discharging its powers and duties. The coordinator of the office of coastal management, under the direction of the council co-chair who is selected from among the members designated in AS 44.19.155(a)(2), may contract with or employ personnel or consultants the coordinator considers necessary to carry out the powers and duties of the council. (§ 3 ch 84 SLA 1977; am § 24 ch 63 SLA 1983)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.894. Renumbered in 1980.

Effect of amendments. — The 1983 amendment in the first sentence substituted "use" for "utilize" and substituted "office of management and budget" for "division of policy development and planning," and in the second sentence substituted "of coastal management . . . in AS 44.19.155(a)(2)" for ", with the concurrence of the council" and substituted "the coordinator" for "he."

Article 12. Alaska Women's Commission.

Section	Section
165. Creation of commission	170. Compensation
166. Composition	171. Purpose
167. Appointment	175. Powers and duties
168. Meetings	180. Annual report
169. Terms of office	

Revisor's notes. — In 1980, the sections of this chapter were extensively renumbered. For derivations of current sections and current disposition of former sections consult the parallel reference table at the beginning of this title and the Table of Sections Amended, Etc. in binder no. 8.

Editor's notes. — Section 4, ch. 52, SLA 1983, provides: "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. 44.19.165. Creation of commission. There is created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Women's Commission. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978; am § 1 ch 52 SLA 1983)

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Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.956. Renumbered in 1980.
Effect of amendments. — The 1983 amendment changed the name of the commission from the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women to the Alaska Women's Commission.

Sec. 44.19.166. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.957. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.167. Appointment. (a) The members shall be appointed on a nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory basis by the governor within 60 days of October 6, 1978. 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.

(b) The commission shall elect one of its members as chairperson and may select other commission officers as it considers necessary. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978,

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.958. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.168. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.959. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.169. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.961. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.170. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.962. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.171. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.963. Renumbered in 1980.

Sec. 44.19.173. [Repealed, § 1 ch 63 SLA 1975.]

Sec. 44.19.175. 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 sources for implementation of any program necessary or desirable for carrying out the general purposes of the commission;
- (13) encourage the development of regional and municipal women's councils or commissions. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978; am § 2 ch 52 SLA 1983)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.964. Renumbered in 1980.

Effect of amendments. — The 1983 amendment added paragraph 13.

Sec. 44.19.180. 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. (§ 1 ch 120 SLA 1978)

Revisor's notes. — Formerly AS 44.19.966. Renumbered in 1980.

— 44.19.210 (Local Affairs Agency) was repealed by § 10, ch. 200, SLA 1972.

Editor's notes. — Former AS 44.19.180

Article 13. Yukon-Taiya Commission.

Section	Section
181. Yukon-Taiya Commission established	185. Administration
182. Duties of the commission	186. Acceptance of grants and other aid
183. Composition of commission	187. Expenditures
184. Term of membership	188. Reports

Revisor's notes. — In 1980, the sections of this chapter were extensively renumbered. For derivations of current sections and current disposition of former sections, consult the parallel reference table at the beginning of this title and the Table of Sections Amended, Etc. in binder no. 8.

Editor's notes. — Former AS 44.19.181 — 44.19.189 (Alaska Council on Science and Technology) was repealed by E.O. No. 46 (1980). For current provisions, see AS 44.21.241 — 44.21.255.

Alaska Women's Commission

FY 84 - FY 86
Accomplishments

RESEARCHCopies Distributed

"Economic Status of Alaska Native Women"	3,000
"Alaska Women a Databook"	2,000
"A Review of Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination"	1,000
"Sex Equity Education: The Implementation of Chapter 18" (in progress)	
"Equal Employment Opportunity Report"	100

LEGISLATION

HB 237 Pension Reform
 HB 238 Parental Leave
 HB 496 Divorce and Dissolution
 HB 497 Child Custody
 HB 498 Sexual Assault
 HB 499 Inheritance and Probate

ADVOCACY

Women's Councils - Juneau, Sitka, Anchorage
 (Fairbanks, Wasilla and Barrow in progress)

Initiated a group health insurance policy
 for former spouses and widows of state
 employees.

Recommended implementation of an expanded
 register for women in ranges 18 and above
 in State government.

Developed recommendations for increasing
 the recruitment and hiring of Alaska Native
 women.

EDUCATION (approximately 2500 women participants) COMMUNITIES

"Women, The Economy and Public Policy"	
A Statewide Women's Conference	Anchorage
4 Regional Conferences	Huslia, Wasilla Bethel, Sitka
5 Seminars-	
Sex Equity in Education	Wasilla
Women in Prisons	Juneau
Women in Public Life	Fairbanks
Women in Labor Unions	Anchorage

International Women's Conference:
Report from Nairobi
30 television and radio PSA's
featuring Alaskan women

Anchorage
Statewide
distribution

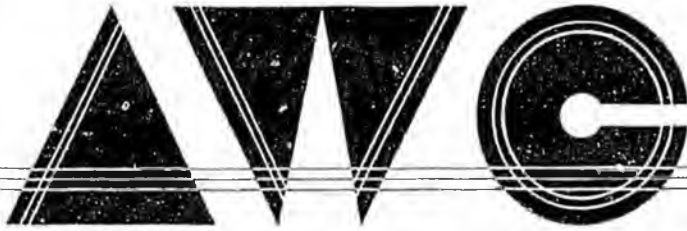
PUBLICATIONS

Copies Distributed

Legal Rights Handbook	10,000
Directory of Women's Organizations	5,000
A Sense of History: A Reference Guide	3,000
Names, Notes and Quotes: A Profile of Alaskan Women	11,000
Fact Sheets: Insurance, Pensions, Education, Politics	4,000
Posters	8,000

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Over the past two years the Commission has
been contacted by 2804 women who have re-
quested assistance.



FAMILY EQUITY AT ISSUE: A Study of the Economic Consequences of Divorce on Women and Children

During the 1970's social reformers sought to ease the acrimony of divorce and create more fairness and equity for the families involved. "No fault" divorce reform was introduced in many states including Alaska. In addition, Alaska developed a dissolution procedure that allows people to file without the expense of an attorney. Unfortunately, many of these changes have had unintended economic results for women. It now appears that women and children are suffering major financial inequities as a direct result of some of the changes in divorce law and procedure.

The most striking documentation of the "downward mobility" of women and children created by "no fault" divorce was in the state of California. Because of the seriousness of the findings there, in 1986 the Alaska

Women's Commission undertook a study to determine if Alaskan women and children were suffering the same effects.

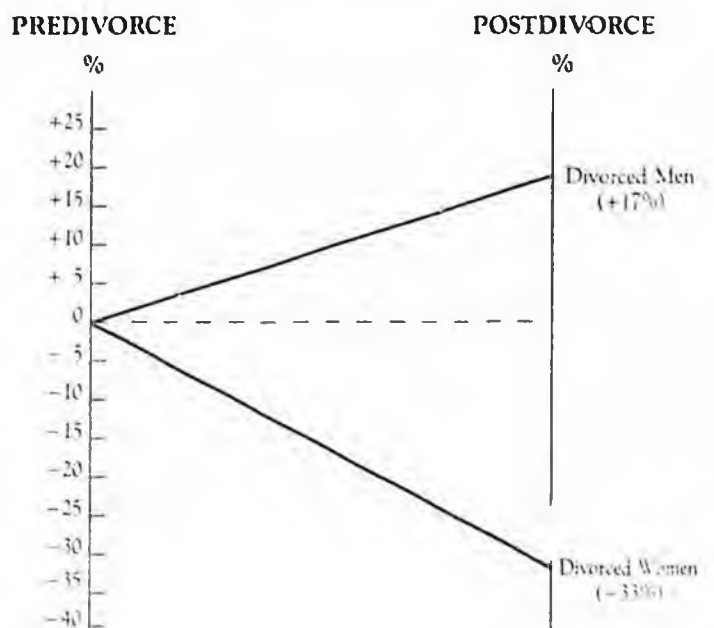
The study of divorce is important because so many people are affected by it. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63 percent compared to 46 percent nationally. More than 11,000 people are affected each year, 3,000 of them children. Even though the two-decade increase in the divorce rate seems to have peaked, each year thousands of Alaskan families are affected by divorce.

The study site chosen was Anchorage, where more than half of the state's divorces occur. A statistically valid sample drawn from all divorce and dissolution cases occurring in a one-year period was analyzed.

GENERAL FINDINGS:

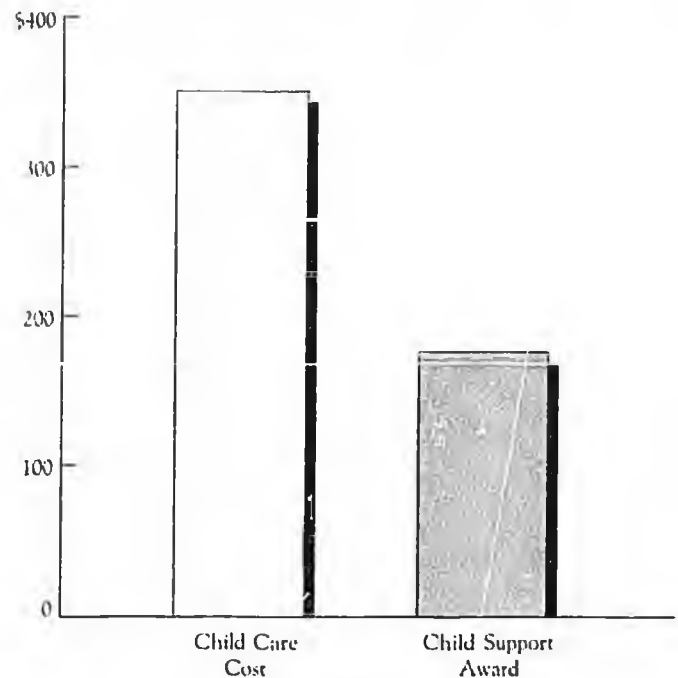
- In Alaska, divorce has substantially different economic consequences for women and men.
- Divorced women and their children experienced a 33 percent decline in per capita income resulting in a radical downward shift of their standard of living (see Figure 1). The greatest relative deprivation was experienced by women and children of middle and upper middle class families.
- Divorced men, however, experienced an improvement in their standard of living as a result of a 17 percent rise in their per capita incomes (see Figure 1).
- In many marriages the couple's major investments were in the education and career of the primary wage earner. Yet the division of marital property often excluded career assets. Disregarding this property allows the major wage earner, usually the husband, to keep what are often the most valuable assets of the marriage.

FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PER CAPITA INCOME OF DIVORCED MEN AND WOMEN



- Fifty-four percent of divorcing men had pensions compared to 33 percent of divorcing women. The median value of the husband's pension was worth more than 3 times that of the wife's (\$27,500 and \$7,500 respectively). Yet, only 20 percent of the couples in the study divided pensions.
- Other types of career assets such as life insurance, paid leave, professional licenses, medical and dental insurance were rarely included in the division of property, even though they were acquired during the marriage.
- Award of the family home was influenced by the presence of children. In 74 percent of the cases, the home was given to the parent having physical custody. Fathers with physical custody almost always got the home (93 percent) while mothers with custody were awarded the family home only 68 percent of the time.
- Among the families who moved following divorce were accounts of children traumatized by the dislocation. New schools and neighborhoods increased the disruption already generated from economic and emotional distress.
- In the absence of children, husbands were awarded the family home and mortgage more frequently (60 percent) than wives (40 percent).
- Alimony was awarded in only 10 percent of the divorces surveyed. For the few who receive it, this "safety net" appears to be an illusion. Awards usually lasted for only one year and provided an average of only \$500 a month, despite the fact that most who received it had no job, no other income or were of an age which makes it difficult to find paid work.
- Divorced mothers are the primary caretakers of children. Sole custody was awarded to mothers in 58 percent of the cases, while fathers received it in 18 percent of the cases. Joint custody was awarded 19 percent of the time.
- Child support was awarded in 80 percent of the divorces where minor children were present. However, the average amount per child was \$191. This barely meets half the monthly cost of child care in Anchorage today (see Figure 2). This figure also falls below the standard used to determine eligibility for welfare.
- Cost of living increments were included in only 23 percent of the child support awards. Without these adjustments, the purchasing power of the support award continually declines because of inflation and the increased costs associated with older children.
- Only 22 percent of child support awards were written beyond the age of majority although financial burdens such as education continue for several years beyond this point.

FIGURE 2: AVERAGE MONTHLY COST OF CHILD CARE COMPARED TO AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD



- Only 58 percent of the people in the survey received the full amount of child support awarded. This is consistent with statewide data from the Child Support Enforcement Agency.
- Divorced men are rarely required to pay more than 15 percent of their predivorce income to support their children.

IMPACT OF DISSOLUTION:

In Alaska people can end their marriage in two ways. Both are considered "no-fault." One, a divorce, usually involves attorneys' fees and court hearings, with the judge making a final decision in areas where the two parties cannot agree. The other, a dissolution, can be done without attorneys, with minimal expense, and requires that both parties agree about every issue. About two-thirds of all Alaskan couples who end their marriages choose a dissolution.

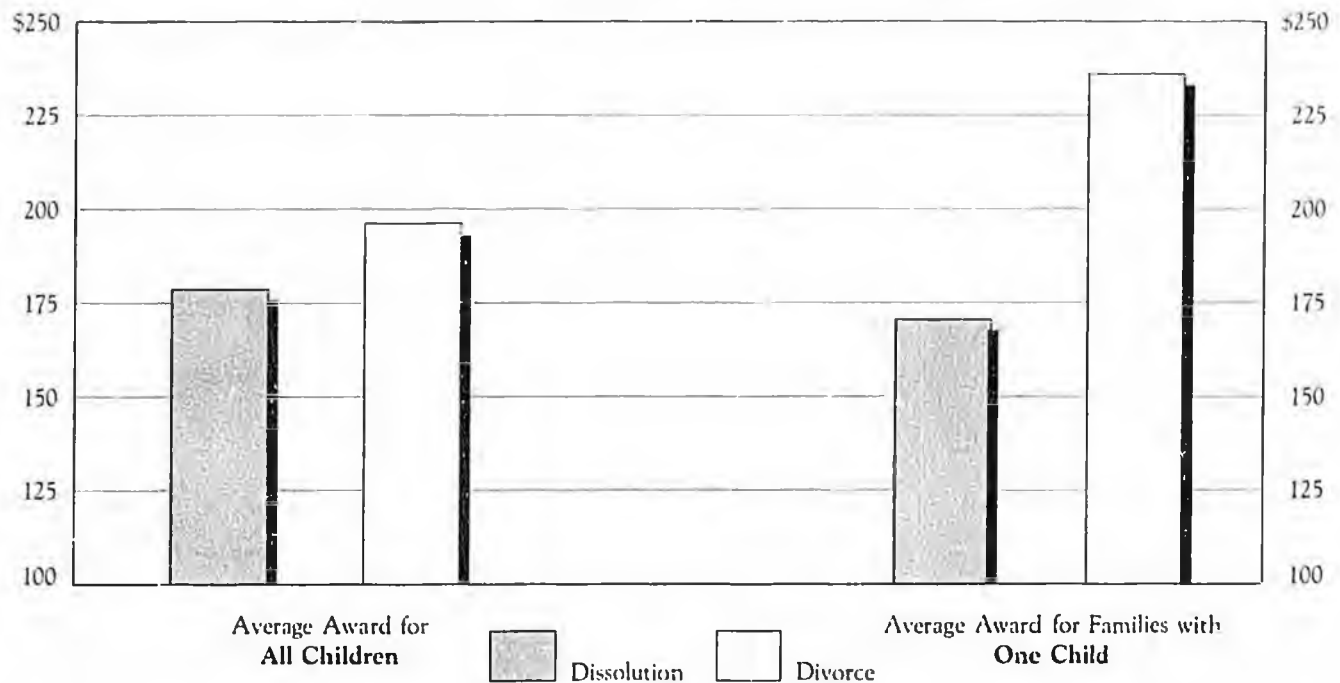
Alaska is one of only 8 states that permit dissolutions. It is also one of the most liberal in its provisions. Most

other states do not permit dissolutions if there are minor children, if the marriage is one of long duration, or if the couple has property. Alaska law places no limitations on the use of dissolutions.

In addition to the study's general findings, it appears that women who choose dissolution suffer even more financial hardship than women who go through a divorce.

- Women who used the dissolution procedure received far less than half of the couple's property. Wives received only 29 percent of the property in dissolutions. Women who used divorce received 50 percent of the marital property.
- Child support awards were lower when the dissolution procedure was used. Particularly hard hit were families with one child where average awards were 27 percent lower than in divorce (see Figure 3).

FIGURE 3: AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ONE CHILD FAMILIES BY LEGAL PROCEDURE



SUMMARY:

The findings of this study together with a growing body of research suggest that the current legal system of divorce creates economic hardships for women and children instead of providing greater family equity. Inadequate and poorly enforced child support awards, the near absence of spousal support, and unequal division of marital property are creating a new class of poor.

Divorced women and their children face a precipitous drop in family income. Some face certain impoverishment. Women who choose the dissolution procedure suffer even more financial hardship than those who go through a divorce.

The Alaska Women's Commission was created to ensure equity for women in Alaska. The Commission's current legislative platform attempts to correct many of the inequities that occur under existing divorce laws. The findings of the Commission's study support these efforts.

The report was written by Barbara Baker, research analyst for the Alaska Women's Commission. For a copy of the full report or for more information about the Commission's legislative advocacy, research efforts and educational services, please contact the Commission office at 3601 "C" Street, Suite 742, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 or call 561-4227.

RESOURCES:

Community resources exist to assist people who are considering divorce. The following is a list of some of the agencies who provide legal assistance or counseling.

Legal Assistance:

Alaska Legal Services — Provides legal assistance to low income people. It also screens applicants for the Pro Bono Program which provides free legal assistance to low income people. "Do It Yourself" (Pro Se) Divorce Clinics are also conducted by Alaska Legal Services in some communities. Legal Services is located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, Unalaska.

Dispute Resolution Services, Fairbanks

Counseling and Support:

Women's Resource Centers are located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Cordova, Fairbanks, Homer, Kenai/Soldotna, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome and Wasilla.

Men's Support Network, Anchorage

Father's Rights Group, Fairbanks

RELATED RESEARCH ON DIVORCE:

Lenore Weitzman, *The Divorce Revolution: The Unexpected Social and Economic Consequences for Women and Children in America* (New York: The Free Press, 1986).

Heather Wishik, "Economics of Divorce: An Exploratory Study," *Family Law Quarterly*, Vol. 20, No. 1, Spring 1986.

California Senate Task Force on Family Equity (Sacramento, State of California, 1987).

S. Hoffman and T. Holmes, "Husbands, Wives, and Divorce," *Five Thousand American Families — Patterns of Economic Progress* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, 1976).

William Goods, *After Divorce* (New York: The Free Press, 1956).



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

Members of Commission:

Kris Chatfield, chair
Anchorage
Joy Green-Armstrong, vice chair
Anchorage
Loretta Bullard
Nome
Elizabeth (Pat) Kennedy, Anchorage
Mary Pete, Bethel
Betty Ramage, Anchorage
Wendy Redman, Fairbanks
Paula Ziegler, Juneau

Executive Director:

Christine Callahan

Research Analyst

Barbara Baker

State of Alaska

Steve Cowper, Governor
Stephen McAlpine, Lt. Governor

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 691
Anchorage, AK

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Highlights...

In Alaska Women's Commission History

1977 - *The Status of Women in Alaska* identified numerous problems confronting women in Alaska and recommended the formation of a women's commission to implement the recommendations contained in the study.

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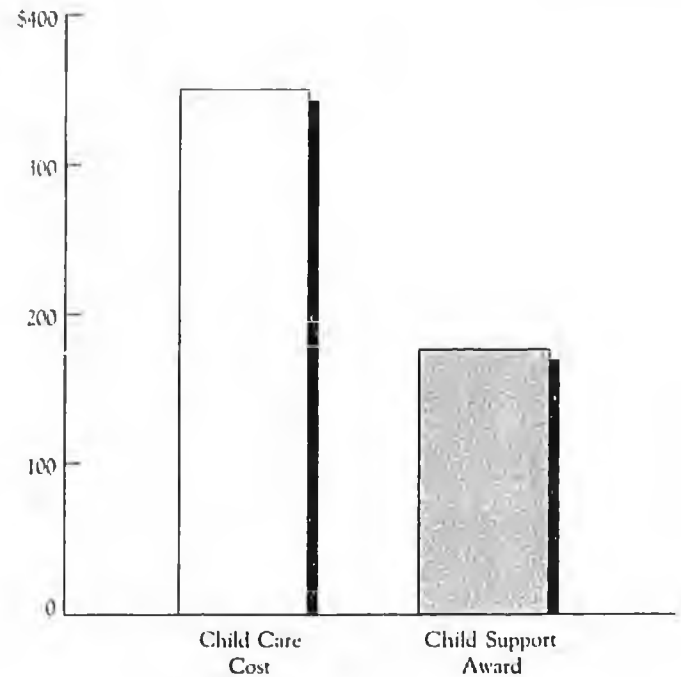
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FAMILY EQUITY AT ISSUE: A Study of the Economic Consequences of Divorce on Women and Children

During the 1970's social reformers sought to ease the acrimony of divorce and create more fairness and equity for the families involved. "No fault" divorce reform was introduced in many states including Alaska. In addition, Alaska developed a dissolution procedure that allows people to file without the expense of an attorney. Unfortunately, many of these changes have had unintended economic results for women. It now appears that women and children are suffering major financial inequities as a direct result of some of the changes in divorce law and procedure.

The most striking documentation of the "downward mobility" of women and children created by "no fault" divorce was in the state of California. Because of the seriousness of the findings there, in 1986 the Alaska

Women's Commission undertook a study to determine if Alaskan women and children were suffering the same effects.

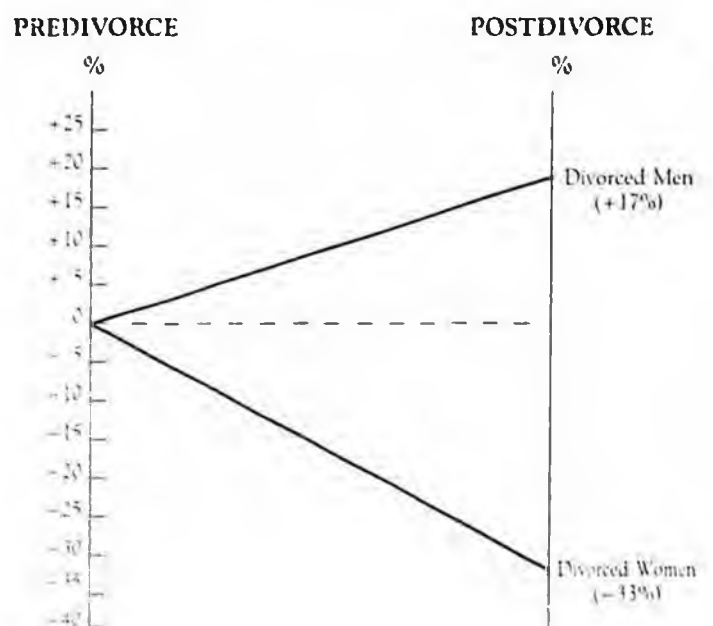
The study of divorce is important because so many people are affected by it. The divorce rate in Alaska is 63 percent compared to 46 percent nationally. More than 11,000 people are affected each year, 3,000 of them children. Even though the two-decade increase in the divorce rate seems to have peaked, each year thousands of Alaskan families are affected by divorce.

The study site chosen was Anchorage, where more than half of the state's divorces occur. A statistically valid sample drawn from all divorce and dissolution cases occurring in a one-year period was analyzed.

GENERAL FINDINGS:

- In Alaska, divorce has substantially different economic consequences for women and men.
- Divorced women and their children experienced a 33 percent decline in per capita income resulting in a radical downward shift of their standard of living (see Figure 1). The greatest relative deprivation was experienced by women and children of middle and upper middle class families.
- Divorced men, however, experienced an improvement in their standard of living as a result of a 17 percent rise in their per capita incomes (see Figure 1).
- In many marriages the couple's major investments were in the education and career of the primary wage earner. Yet the division of marital property often excluded career assets. Disregarding this property allows the major wage earner, usually the husband, to keep what are often the most valuable assets of the marriage.

FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PER CAPITA INCOME OF DIVORCED MEN AND WOMEN



RESOURCES:

Community resources exist to assist people who are considering divorce. The following is a list of some of the agencies who provide legal assistance or counseling.

Legal Assistance:

Alaska Legal Services — Provides legal assistance to low income people. It also screens applicants for the Pro Bono Program which provides free legal assistance to low income people. "Do It Yourself" (Pro Se) Divorce Clinics are also conducted by Alaska Legal Services in some communities. Legal Services is located in Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, Unalaska.

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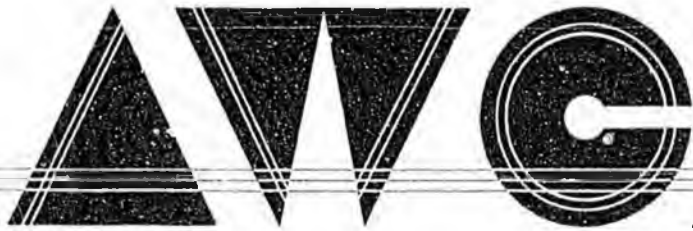
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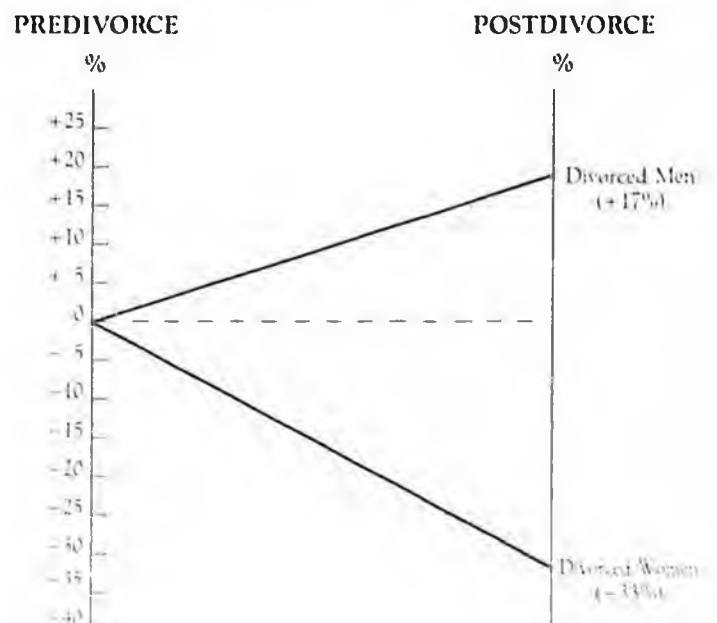
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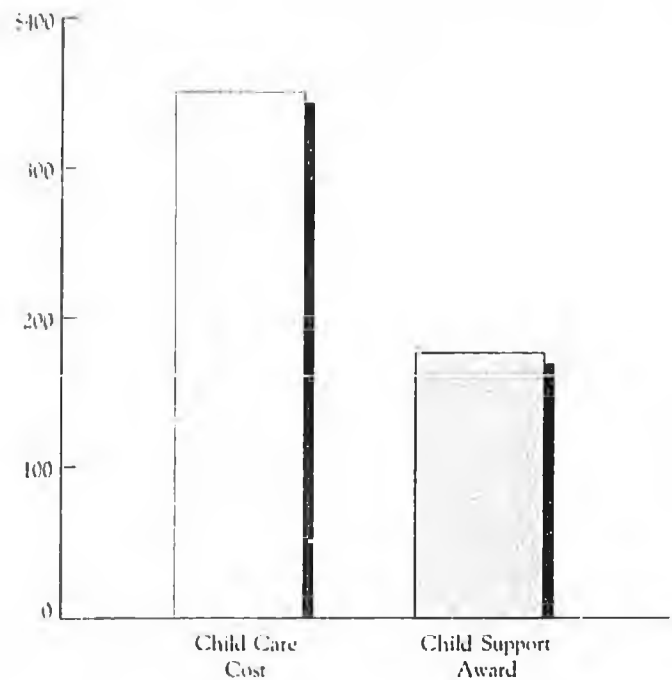
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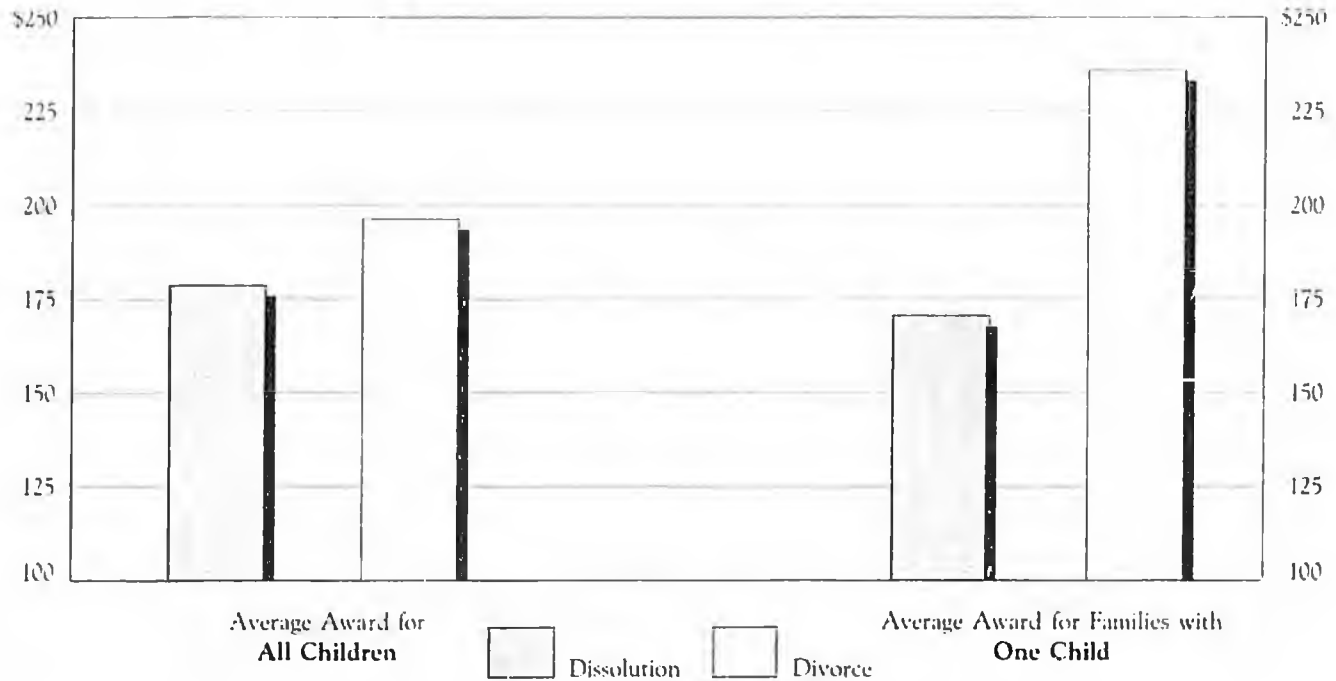
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other states do not permit dissolutions if there are minor children, if the marriage is one of long duration, or if the couple has property. Alaska law places no limitations on the use of dissolutions.

In addition to the study's general findings, it appears that women who choose dissolution suffer even more financial hardship than women who go through a divorce.

- Women who used the dissolution procedure received far less than half of the couple's property. Wives received only 29 percent of the property in dissolutions. Women who used divorce received 50 percent of the marital property.
- Child support awards were lower when the dissolution procedure was used. Particularly hard hit were families with one child where average awards were 27 percent lower than in divorce (see Figure 3).

FIGURE 3: AVERAGE MONTHLY CHILD SUPPORT AWARD FOR ALL CHILDREN AND ONE CHILD FAMILIES BY LEGAL PROCEDURE



SUMMARY:

The findings of this study together with a growing body of research suggest that the current legal system of divorce creates economic hardships for women and children instead of providing greater family equity. Inadequate and poorly enforced child support awards, the near absence of spousal support, and unequal division of marital property are creating a new class of poor.

Divorced women and their children face a precipitous drop in family income. Some face certain impoverishment. Women who choose the dissolution procedure suffer even more financial hardship than those who go through a divorce.

The Alaska Women's Commission was created to ensure equity for women in Alaska. The Commission's current legislative platform attempts to correct many of the inequities that occur under existing divorce laws. The findings of the Commission's study support these efforts.

The report was written by Barbara Baker, research analyst for the Alaska Women's Commission. For a copy of the full report or for more information about the Commission's legislative advocacy, research efforts and educational services, please contact the Commission office at 3601 "C" Street, Suite 742, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 or call 561-4227.

More Highlights...



"Communicating" woodcut print used with permission of Polly Lee.

the implementation of sex equity in education law.

1982 - Commission is appointed to the Equity Coordinating Council for Alaska to assist school districts with implementation of new sex equity law.

1982 - Co-sponsors "Women and Alcohol" Conference with the state Office on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

1982 - Sponsors seminar on "Women in the Political Process" in Kodiak.

1982 - Commission forms Health Task Force to define women's health needs. A statewide teleconference is held on the issue and Commission acts upon recommendations.

1982 - Commission makes recommendations concerning 40 pieces of legislation pending before Alaska State Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

1982 - Alaska Legislature and the governor proclaim March, Women's History Month.

1982 - Commission co-sponsors conference with U.S. Women's Bureau on "Women in Apprenticeship."

1982 - A regional conference in Barrow is sponsored by the Commission.

1982 - Commission releases *Five Years Later*, a status report on the recommendations contained in *A Preliminary Study: The Status of Women in Alaska, 1977*.

1982 - SB63, a bill to permanently establish the Alaska Women's Commission, passes the legislature and is signed into law by the governor. Senators V. Fisher, Rodey and Sturgulewski sponsor bill.

1982 - Commission sponsors a statewide women's conference "Alaska's Women: Determining Our Futures". Attendance reaches nearly 1,000 people from all over Alaska.

1982 - Commission develops media campaign on sex role stereotyping which airs on television throughout the state.

1982 - Assists the Department of Education in drafting regulations for



1983 - Three posters, targeted at school children encouraging them to explore all of their talents and interests, are produced by the Commission and sent to schools statewide.

1983 - Commission publishes brochure for Women's History Month that suggests activities and projects suitable for classroom setting. Brochures are sent to schools statewide.

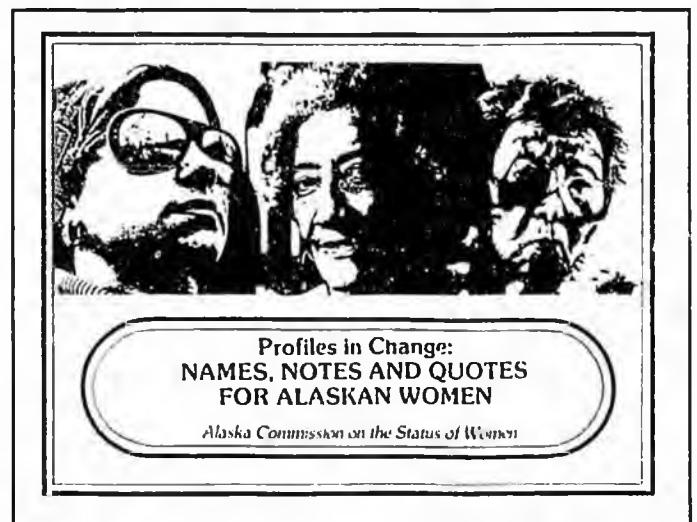
1983 - A comprehensive study on the *Economic Status of Alaska Native Women* is conducted and published by the Commission.

1983 - Public service announcements regarding non-traditional employment opportunities, fetal alcohol syndrome and non-sexist language are produced by the Commission and aired on statewide television.

1983 - Six conferences and seminars are sponsored by the Commission; in Fairbanks "Making the System Work for You"; in Juneau, "Southeast Alaska Women's Leadership Conference"; in Ketchikan "Work and Network: Southeast Alaska's Immediate Future for Women"; in Anchorage "The Future of Alaska-Protecting Human Resources as Industry Grows"; in Kodiak "Women as Managers and Decision Makers," in Anchorage "Pay Equity/Comparable Worth."

1983 - Commission reviews and critiques pilot edition of the Alaska History textbook.

1983 - Profiles of 60 Alaskan women who have contributed to the state's economic, social and political development are published by the Commission in *Profiles in Change - Names, Notes and Quotes for Alaskan Women*.



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1984 - "Barriers to Employment Conference" is co-sponsored by the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Written Biographies of 20 women in Alaska history are distributed by the Commission to statewide media for use during Women's History Month.

1984 - Commission sponsors "Labor Union Workshop" in Anchorage and publishes results of the conference.

1984 - A statewide *Directory of Women's Organizations* is released by the Commission.

1984 - *Alaska Women: A Databook*, a profile of Alaska Women based upon the 1980 census, is published by the Commission.

1984 - A revised edition of *Women's Legal Rights in Alaska* is published by the Commission. Over 5,000 copies distributed since its second release.

1984 - Commission co-sponsors and helps publish *Child Care Directories* for Anchorage, Juneau/Ketchikan and Fairbanks.

1984 - Local Women's Councils are established in Anchorage and Sitka with the assistance of the Alaska Women's Commission.

1984 - Commission supports ten bills in the legislature, five signed into law.

1984 - Workshop on "American Women: Three Decades of Change" is co-sponsored by the Commission with the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the state Dept. of Labor.

1984 - Commission conducts study on pension reform within the public employees retirement system and submits recommendations for legislative changes. Changes are adopted in 1985.



1984 - Native Women's Task Force convened by Commission to address employment issues within state government.

1984 - Commission testifies before legislative committee on improving women's economic conditions through expansion of business loans targeted at women owned businesses.

1984-86 - Commission serves on Sex Equity Advisory Committee of Anchorage School District.

1985 - Commission completes *Review of the Alaska Statutes for Sex Discrimination* which identifies over 80 discriminatory laws.

1985 - As a result of the Alaska Women's Commission's efforts, former spouses and widows of State employees are able to purchase group health insurance at a comparable price at no expense to the State.

1985 - Commission works with the Department of Administration to increase recruitment and hiring of Native women.

1985 - Commission publishes *A Sense of History*, the first annotated bibliography of books, articles, audio-visual aids and photo displays about Alaska Women. Distributed to schools, libraries and all social studies teachers in the state.

1985 - Commission establishes third local women's council in Juneau.

1985 - Commission holds statewide women's conference in Anchorage on the economic status of women. "At the Edge of Opportunity" brought together more than 700 people from more than 30 communities.

1985 - A workshop on the United Nations Conference for Women is sponsored by the Commission and held in Anchorage.

1985 - A seminar on Equal Educational Opportunities for Girls is sponsored by the Commission in Wasilla.



Photo by Sabra McCracken

More Highlights . . .

1985 - Alaska Women's Commission organizes Legislative Alliance for Women Statewide (LAWS), a coalition of 15 statewide women's organizations whose purpose is to analyze and take positions on legislation, monitor budget and policy decisions which have direct impact on women's lives.



1985-1986 - On behalf of the Commission, seven bills are introduced by the Governor which have a significant economic impact on women. Three of the bills pass.

1986 - Commission works with state government to initiate an expanded register to increase the hiring of women in ranges 18 and above.

1986 - Court system and the Commission work together to revise forms for marital dissolutions so that lay people can more easily understand their rights and obligations.



1986 - Commission evaluates implementation of Alaska's sex equity in education law, Chapter 18. Results are published in *Commitment or Complacency: An Assessment of Sex Equity in Alaska's Educational Institutions*.

1986 - Four hundred rural women in attendance at four regional Commission sponsored conferences in Bethel, Huslia, Sitka, Wasilla. A report is published summarizing the events and recommendations.

1986 - Two leadership seminars are conducted by the Commission. Held in Juneau, the seminar "Women in Prison" provides policy makers with an overview of issues surrounding the Alaskan female prison population. In Fairbanks, "Making a Difference: A Primer for Women in Public Life" provides training session for women considering running for public office. A handbook for political involvement is issued following seminar and is mailed to 1700 women.

1986 - Commission produces 30 public service announcements for television and radio profiling Alaskan women and their accomplishments. Profiles play throughout the state on commercial and public radio and television during March, Women's History Month.

1986 - Women's history timeline poster is produced by the Commission and sent to all schools, libraries and to every social studies teacher in the state.

1986 - Commission member serves on state Commission on Child Support Enforcement, providing governor with findings and recommendations to make child support more uniform and equitable.

1987 - Commission co-sponsors Female Minority Leadership Conference with Anchorage School District. Commission member serves as program chair.

1987 - Commission targets efforts to improve family equity. Conducts research on the economic impact of divorce on women and children. At the request of the Commission, legislation is again introduced by the Governor to ensure that career assets are considered marital property and to provide for heightened judicial scrutiny of dissolution cases.

1987 - Commission sponsors seminars in Anchorage and Juneau on the state Human Services Budget and the impacts of cuts on women and children. Legislators, policy makers, providers and advocates participate.

1987 - March, Women's History Month, is again commemorated with Commission-produced television and radio profiles aired statewide throughout the month.

1987 - Services to rural women are highlight of Commission-sponsored seminar in Bethel.

1987 - Legal Rights for Women, a day-long conference with a broad spectrum of workshops, is produced in Anchorage by Commission. Nearly 125 people participate.

1987 - HB4 and SB89, companion bills to extend the Alaska Women's Commission to 1991, are introduced. HB4 is sponsored by Representatives Davis, Koponen, Ulmer, Ellis, Brown and Donley. SB89 is sponsored by the Governor.

STATUS REPORT is published by the Alaska Women's Commission. The Commission was established in 1978 to improve the status of Alaska women through research and advocacy. Its members are appointed by the Governor to staggered five-year terms. Commission members serve on a voluntary basis and at the pleasure of the Governor. They include Kris Chatfield, Chair, Joy Green-Armstrong, Vice Chair, Loretta Bullard, Marcia Johnson, Pat Kennedy, Mary Pete, Betty Ramage, Wendy Pedman, and Paula Ziegler.

For further information about the Commission, contact us at 3601 'C' St., Suite 722, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 561-4227. Christine Callahan, Executive Director, Barbara Baker, newsletter editor.

ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION
LONG RANGE PLANNING

PROBLEM/ISSUE PRESENT STATUS	IDEAL STATUS	LONG RANGE OBJECTIVE
<u>Employment</u>		
Pay Equity Women earn approximately 62% of male earnings.	100% comparable worth.	Update research, advocate implementation, continue education.
Affirmative Action Losing ground, Office of E.E.O. & Human Rights involved with enforcement.	Employment for percent of population who are qualified.	Education. Advocacy to locate qualified persons. Research on affirmative action in private sector.
Parental Leave Available up to nine weeks unpaid in State employment. Sporadic in private sector.	Parental leave available for women and men.	Advocate for parental leave legislation. Education for private sector.
Employment Practices in Private Sector Women under-represented in management and non-traditional jobs.	Employment equity.	Education. Assist women to obtain management and non-traditional jobs.
Unavailability of Part-Time, Flexible Work Lack policy, nothing uniform.	A policy in public and private sector that permits job sharing.	Research and education.
<u>Watch Dog</u>		
Title IX Underfunded and poorly monitored according to Commission study.	Sex Equity in education. State funding for monitoring and program development.	Establish a formal relationship with Boards of Education & Regents. Request status report from each board.
Court System Inequitable sentencing for women. Inequitable employment of women in court related jobs.	Equity in judicial process for litigants and agents of court.	Research required.
Administrative Review of Regulations and Policies	Gender neutral in language and impact.	Address specific areas of regulations where the potential impact to women is the greatest.
Welfare System Pending reforms. Present system promotes single families and dependence on government.	System that takes care of people's needs but doesn't foster dependency.	Advocate welfare system that empowers women.
Gender Balance on Boards & Commissions	Equal representation on all municipal and state boards.	Solicit women to serve on boards and commissions. Legislation requiring equal representation.
<u>Health</u>		
Fertility Insurance Coverage Presently no coverage.	Insurance coverage.	Review legislation and advocate change.

Health Care (Cont.)

Midwifery

Law passed, but no regulations developed for licensing, no insurance.

Develop regulations that allow the practice and the ability to be covered by insurance.

Research and advocate.

Health Care

Inadequate health care for many women, particularly older women.

Adequate health care for all.

Research and advocate for implementation.

Education

Legal Rights Handbook
Out of print.

Revised and printed.

Revise and print. Add health rights sections. Develop Public Service Announcements on legal rights.

Alienation of Homemakers

Segment of homemakers who feel alienated.

Positive recognition of homemakers.

Develop brochure that includes supportive resources and brings positive message about choices.

Education of Younger Women on Equality Issues

Lack of understanding of women's history.

Educated and aware.

Classroom, school papers, sex equity and curriculum development.

Gender Stereotyping

Stereotyping continues.

Elimination of stereotyping.

Develop Public Service Announcements and brochure.

Lack of Political Representation

Unequal political representation.

Equal representation.

Legislation on gender balance. Redistribution of "Making a Difference".

Assertiveness & Empowerment

High rate of violence in relationships. Rural women have no access to training in self esteem.

Breaking cycle of violence, gaining self esteem, assertiveness.

Coordinate with Board of Education, nterim Commission on Children and Youth, Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Council and State Office of Alcohol and Drug Addiction.

Economic Equity

Equity in Divorce/Dissolution
Pending bill.

Passage of bill.

Passage of bill and education through video and brochure.

Feminization of Poverty
(See Welfare Reform
Administrative Review
Pay Equity)

Displaced Homemakers

Lack of services. Lack of data on homemakers.

Comprehensive program of services.

Research and advocacy.

Rural Women

Data Base

No data base.

Data base.

Research. Develop a standardized survey that volunteers conduct. Decennial census.

Isolation

Lack of access to needed services. Lack of jobs.

Access to training, services, job opportunities.

Regional training and conferences. Work with women and regional corporations to advocate change.

Item 6



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
RESEARCH AG

P. O. Box 7, State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100
Mail Stop 3100
(907) 465-3991

July 20, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Mike Davis
ATTN: Marilyn Heiman
FROM: Gretchen Keiser *G. Keiser*
Legislative Analyst
RE: Women's Commissions in Other States
Research Request 87.324

You asked us to gather information on women's commissions in other states. Specifically, you were interested in the commissions' purposes and funding. We conducted a survey by letter and received responses from 15 states (of the approximately 38 with active commissions) and the District of Columbia. We also contacted the National Association of Commissions for Women and received some useful data on several more states.

Table 1 summarizes the responses we received from women's commissions throughout the country. For each of the 23 commissions, we present the following information: name, year established, current/recent funding (level and source), number of staff, purpose, objectives and activities. We also include the same information for the Alaska Women's Commission for comparison. Many of the commissions have been in existence since the mid-1960s - early 1970s.

Funding for the commissions varies considerably from the "shoestring budgets" of Idaho, Oregon and Wyoming to the \$585,000 - \$670,000 budgets of California, New York and North Carolina. Annual budgets for commissions listed in Table 1 average about \$223,500. In virtually all cases, the state general fund provides 95 - 100 percent of the commissions' funding, with private donations, publication charges, and federal grants providing the balance. Most respondents indicated that their statutes or guidelines allow the commission to charge for publications, speaking engagements, etc. but that they generally have only minimal fees in place.

Commissions for which we have information average 4.5 staff. If we exclude Puerto Rico's Commission (with a large staff of 21), the average drops to 3.5 staff. Staffing may include: a director, one to several research assistants, and clerical support.

Representative Davis
July 20, 1987
Page 2

Finally, Table 1 summarizes the general purposes, objectives and activities of women's commissions throughout the country. Most commissions act as advocates for women in the legal, economic, social, and political arenas. Many conduct research on a broad range of issues and then actively disseminate the information to policy makers and the public. Reviewing statutes and regulations as well as suggesting legislative remedies are important activities identified by several commissions. Also, commission-sponsored educational conferences/workshops/seminars are commonplace activities in most states. Several commissions indicated that they provide a "networking" function for women's groups statewide and also maintain a "talent bank" of women to recommend for public appointments.

I hope this information is useful. I have attached the annual reports and other information received from several of the state women's commissions as sources of further information. Please contact us if we can answer any questions.

Attachments

TABLE 1

STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSIONS: RESULTS OF HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY SURVEY

STATE	COMMISSION	YEAR ESTABLISHED	FUNDING	STAFFING	PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES/ACTIVITIES
Alaska	Alaska Women's Commission	1978	FY 88: \$196,800 (96% State funds)	3	Improve the status of women in Alaska; conduct research and disseminate information; analyze laws & regulations; recommend legislative and administrative actions; encourage development of regional and municipal councils.
California	Commission on the Status of Women	1965	FY 88: \$679,000 (100% State funds)	10.5	Work to eliminate inequities which affect women; conduct studies and forums; act as info center; monitor legislation, laws and regulations; provide technical assistance to groups.
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Commission for Women	1967	FY 88: \$274,000 (100% DC funds)	8	Advocate for improved economic status of women through legislative initiatives, community forums, testimony and educational conferences.
Idaho	Idaho Commission on Women's Programs	1965	FY 88: Minimal (No state funds since 1981)	0	Encourage women's participation in social, political and economic processes; conduct studies; provide information; encourage educational programs.
Maine	Maine Commission for Women	1964	Unknown (100% state funds)	Unknown	Advocate for women through the development, implementation and evaluation of public policy; educate policy makers and the public; research issues; promote increases participation of women in government and public roles; conduct conferences.
Maryland	Maryland Commission for Women	1965	FY 87: \$169,295 (100% state funds)	5	Identify/research issues & recommend solutions; develop statewide network; act as info clearinghouse & outreach center; hold conferences/special programs; recommend women for public appointments.
Minnesota	Commission on Economic Status of Women	1976	1986 & 87 biennium: \$225,100 (100% state funds)	2.1 (FTE)	Gather info (surveys & statistics) on economic status of women and advises legislature through hearings, reports, and task forces; also provides information to the public.

TABLE 1 (Continued)

STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSIONS: RESULTS OF HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY SURVEY

STATE	COMMISSION	YEAR ESTABLISHED	FUNDING	STAFFING	PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES/ACTIVITIES
New Hampshire	Commission on the Status of Women	1969	FY 87: \$25,176 (90-95% state funds)	1	Encourage revision of statutes and advocate legislation; promote skills through workshops & information referrals; secure recognition of women's accomplishments; network; gather data.
New York	New York State Division for Women	1983	FY 87: \$630,000 (100% state funds)	Unknown	Advocate for women on broad range of issues; advise governor; monitor/develop legislation; collect & disseminate data on job opportunities; recommend women for appointments; develop/implement new programs to improve services to women; network.
Oregon	Oregon Women's Commission	1964	1987 & 88 biennium: \$119,000 (76% state funds)	1	Advocate legal, economic, social & political progress for women; participate in studies; develop legislation.
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Commission for Women	1972	FY 87: \$175,000 (100% state funds)	5	Work to ensure equal opportunity and treatment for women; study issues & recommend solutions; monitor legislation; act as an information clearinghouse and governor's liaison with women's groups; sponsor seminars/programs; provide citizen referrals.
South Carolina	South Carolina Commission of Women	1970	FY 86; \$64,500 (100% state funds)	2	Broaden scope of equity for women; monitor/advocate legislation; study issues and disseminate information; co-sponsor conferences; recommend women for appointments; network with women's groups.
Texas	Governor's Commission for Women	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Promote equal legal, economic, political, educational and social opportunity for women; research/address issues; recommend gubernatorial action; recommend women for appointments; recognize women's accomplishments; disseminate information.
Vermont	Governor's Commission on Women	1964	FY 88; \$105,346 (95% state funds plus: \$295,174 for rape/abuse grants)	3	Advocate for legal, economic, political and social status of women; conduct studies and publish reports; monitor legislation; act as an information clearinghouse; liaison to governor; recommend women for appointments; hold educational conferences/workshops.
Virginia	Virginia Council on the Status of Women	1970	Current biennium: \$251,724 (72% state funds)	2	Identify ways women can reach full potential; collect and disseminate information; advise governor, assembly and state agencies; conduct conferences and research projects.

TABLE 1 (Continued)

STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSIONS: RESULTS OF HOUSE RESEARCH AGENCY SURVEY

STATE	COMMISSION	YEAR ESTABLISHED	FUNDING	STAFFING	PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES/ACTIVITIES
West Virginia	West Virginia Women's Commission	1977	Unknown	Unknown	Promote education/training for women; recommends methods to overcome discrimination; conduct studies/surveys; disseminate information; advise human rights commission; secure recognition for women.
Wyoming	Wyoming Commission for Women	1965	FY 88: \$60,500 (99% state funds)	1.5	Focus on legal rights, education opportunities, home, and employment of women; sponsor special projects; information clearinghouse; monitor/advise governor & legislature; disseminate information coordinate/network with women's groups statewide.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMISSIONS FOR WOMEN					MAJOR ACTIVITIES
Delaware	Delaware Commission for Women	-	FY 87: \$97,700 (100% state funds)	-	Conduct legislative roundtable; hold women's conference; collect data on school-age children; recognize Delaware women.
Iowa	Iowa Commission on the Status of Women	-	FY 87: \$104,950 (100% state funds) Plus: \$158,750 federal funds for abuse grants	2.8	Information/referral; develop statewide computerized database on issues; conference on women and constitution; conduct computer workshop for older women; establish legislative priorities; publish "Women and the Law".
New Mexico	New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women	-	FY 87: \$233,550 (100% state funds)	6.5	Advocate legislation; conduct numerous conferences on jobs, pay equity, business, parenting, career development; female offender program; television shows and video.
North Carolina	North Carolina Council on the Status of Women	-	FY 87: \$586,000 (100% state funds; includes domestic violence grants	-	Sponsored numerous educational programs; increased local networking; honored 75 NC women; published guidelines for svcs providers of child sexual assault victims.
Puerto Rico	Commission for Women's Affairs	-	FY 87: \$435,000 (100% Territorial funds)	21	Provide training for enforcement officers regarding battered women; conduct workshops on sexual harassment; conduct educational fair; analyze & testify on legislation.
Wisconsin	Wisconsin's Women's Council	-	FY 87: \$111,000 (100% state funds)	2.5	Publish "Women & the Law"; public education on women's issues; demonstration projects for adolescent girls; women's health conference.

To: Senator Paul Fisher, Chairman
Senate Health and Social Services Committee

This letter is in support of House Bill 4, to fully support the Alaska Women's Commission through 1991. It is opposition to Senate Bill 488 and Senate Resolution 27.

The work of the Alaska Women's Commission is far from finished. At a minimum there is a need to:

Complete the family equity research project and to extend that research to rural areas. --

initiate research on teen pregnancy. *Ⓟ*

Initiate research on causes and prevention for domestic violence and sexual assault.

Explore options for rural women, particularly those who are attempting to change life situations as victims, including further academic training and basic skills for living education.

Develop a program for minority female leadership, with leadership conferences through out rural Alaska.

We applaud the private sector accomplishments of groups such as Alaska Coalition for Women and Concerned Women of America. But, you as a senator and as chairman of a powerful committee must realize that those private sector accomplishments effect individuals and small groups with a common interest and concern. They do not have the facility to address nor a concern for issues facing all of the women in the state. Further, you must remember that a significant portion of the state of Alaska, the "bush", has very little access to the type of private enterprise which could support an in-depth research, education, and advocacy effort such as that provided by the Alaska Women's Commission.

Finally Senator Fisher, many people are interested in the future of House Bill 4. If its outcome is postponed much longer, it will be harder to assure the continuation of the Alaska Women's Commission. we urge you to hasten its presentation on the senate floor.

Sincerely,

Alex Morris
W. Lane Carpenter
Vernadelle Bates
Emily Kobuk
Cheryl Hunter
Agnes Gregory
[Signature]

Egyptian Simpson - Sugar
Shari Clayton *Robert Fisher*
Karen McIntyre *Sharon Higgins*
Teddy Wintreatesen *Bernadette Rankin*
Sharon Rydman *Rosemary Potts*
Maxine Beamer *Mary Morgan*
Sophie Barnes *Eve P. Alton*
[Signature]

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Robt Morris
 Michael Groupp
 Michelle Kwan
 Edith W. Power
 Gertrude M. Bailey
 Joyce M. Petersen
 Kathy Collins
 May Wills Wasserman
 Muriel W. Moss
 Judy Wasserski
 Mary C. Whitaker
 Ina R. Gunde
 Evelyn Persgard
 Sue C. Hare
 Mary Bainton

The Fortna
 Tracy Santamora
 Anna Phillips
 April Sorensen
 Pauline Egoak

COPY TO: EACH MEMBER SENATE HESS COMMITTEE
 EACH MEMBER WOMEN'S COMMISSION
 TUNDRA DRUMS
