

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 1989-1990 8672
6095 HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

499

Representative Lyman Hoffman
Representative Ron Larson
Page 12
March 27, 1989

(AS 16.05.407(e)); provisions relating to the duty of big game transporters to report violations of certain state law (AS 16.05.786); and the requirement for registration of big game hunting base camps, cabins, and lodges (AS 16.05.787).

Section 17 of the bill provides for the repeal of certain amendments to AS 08.54 and AS 16.05 that are scheduled to take effect on July 1, 1989.

Section 18 of the bill provides that the power of the Big Game Commercial Services Board to develop a resource based management system for allocating access to big game hunting opportunities among guide-outfitters under AS 08.54.310-(b)(1) does not take effect until the earlier of January 15, 1990 or the date of submission of a report on this subject by the Task Force on Guiding and Game.

Section 19 of the bill provides that the remainder of the bill takes effect immediately

GU:kb
wkk3/035

March 17, 1989

HOUSE BILL NO. 228 by Hoffman, entitled:

"An Act relating to identification cards required of fishermen."

was read the first time and referred to the Resources Committee.

March 31, 1989

The Resources Committee has considered:

HOUSE BILL NO. 228

"An Act relating to identification cards required of fishermen."

and recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute:

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 228 (Resources)

"An Act relating to identification cards required of fishermen; and providing for an effective date."

Recommending do pass (7): Davidson (Co-chairman), Foster, Navarre, Sharp, M. Davis, Menard, Jacko

A zero fiscal note with analysis by the Department of Public Safety was published March 31, 1989.

HB 228 was referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION, HB 228

March 29, 1989, Resources

Chairman Davidson stated that HB 228 would be heard next. BOB HERRON, Legislative Aide to Representative Hoffman, sponsor of HB 228, explained that the bill was introduced because it was difficult for fishermen to obtain photo ID cards in rural areas and it was unfair to require it. He added that the Department of Public Safety supports the bill and there is a zero fiscal note. He requested that the committee include an effective date so that it would be applicable to the upcoming fishing season.

Representative Davis MOVED to provide an immediate effective date to HB 228. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so moved.

Representative Davis MOVED to adopt CSHB 228(RES). There being NO OBJECTION, it was so moved.

Representative Menard MOVED to Report Out of Committee CSHB 228(RES), with INDIVIDUAL RECOMMENDATIONS. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so moved.

CSHB 228(RES) was Reported Out of Committee with a zero fiscal note, and provided a DO PASS RECOMMENDATION.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Identification cards required
of fishermen
Sponsor: Representative Hoffman
Requestor: Representative Hoffman

Agency Affected: Public Safety
BRU: Fish & Wildlife Protection
Component: Enforcement

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (Inflation not included)

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

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill requires the Department of Public Safety to "designate" those non-governmental organizations authorized to issue ID cards which can be used as identification by fishermen selling fish under the requirements of AS 16.10.267. It is believed that the additional duties imposed by this bill can be performed by present staff.

Prepared by: Colonel Jack W. Jordan, Director
Division: Fish & Wildlife Protection
Approved by Commissioner: Arthur English
Agency: Department of Public Safety

Phone: 269-5509
Date: 3/22/89
Date: 3/24/89

BILL NO: HB 228

DATE: March 24, 1989

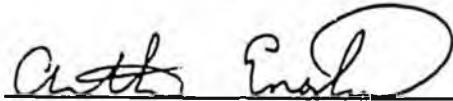
TITLE: Identification cards
required of fishermen

CONTACT: Colonel Jack Jordan
Director
Fish & Wildlife Protection
269-5509

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY

Present AS 16.10.267(a)(2) requires a fisherman selling fish to possess an identification card issued by a state or federal agency and showing a photograph of the fisherman. It is often difficult for residents of rural areas to obtain photo-bearing identification cards. The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) issues driver's licenses in a few of the larger towns, but that is the only state or federal agency providing that service. A villager who desires to fish commercially generally has to travel to a larger "hub" community to obtain the required photo identification. This bill would amend AS 16.10.267(a)(2) to allow the Department of Public Safety to "designate" other organizations (such as a native regional corporation or a non-profit agency) that could issue photo ID cards that would satisfy the requirements of the statute.

The Department supports this bill.



Arthur English
Commissioner

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU ALASKA 99811
907 465 3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1989

SUBJECT: Sectional summary of HB 228; An Act
relating to identification cards required
of fishermen

TO: Representative Lyman Hoffman
Co-chair, House Finance Committee

FROM: George Utermohle *GU*
Legislative Counsel

This memorandum is a sectional summary of HB 228, as requested by Robert Herron of your staff.

A summary or analysis of a bill is not an authoritative interpretation of the bill. The bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1 of the bill amends AS 16.10.267(a) to allow a fisherman to use an identification card issued by organizations designated by the Department of Public Safety as proof of identity at the time of sale of fish.

GU:gc
WKG8/041

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska
Department of Law

TO: Arthur English
Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

DATE: March 6, 1989

FILE NO: 63-89-0296

TEL. NO: 465-3428

SUBJECT: Photo ID Cards
A.S. 16.10.267(a)(2)

MAR 7 1989

MAR 7 1989

FROM: Laurie H. Otto
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

You have asked whether photo identification cards issued by the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), a non-profit corporation, are sufficient to meet the statutory requirement set out in A.S. 16.20.267(a)(2). The short answer to your question is no; a card issued by a non-profit corporate entity does not meet the requirement of the statute.

Under AS 16.10.267(a)(2), a fisherman selling fish must possess "an identification card that has been issued to the fisherman by a state or federal agency and that bears a photograph of the fisherman." The language of the statute is clear and unambiguous; an identification card must be issued by either a state or federal agency to meet the statutory requirement. Since AVCP is neither a state or federal agency, the tribal enrollment cards issued by AVCP are not legally sufficient identification.

In order to address the problem faced by rural villagers in obtaining the required identification, a change in statute is required.

cc: ✓ The Honorable Lyman Hoffman
The Honorable John Binkley
The Honorable Al Adams
The Honorable Kay Wallis
John P. Jones

LHO:me-20

February 5, 1989

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) amended, by the Finance Committee, entitled:

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the Finance Committee.

February 23, 1989

The Finance Committee has considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) amended

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute:

CSSB 8(Fin)am

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance)
(same title)

Recommending do pass (3): Brown, Phillips, Wallis

No recommendation (5): Larson (Co-chairman), Rieger, Barnes, Swackhammer, Shultz

Other recommendations (2): Ulmer, Koponen

A zero fiscal note with analysis by the House Finance Committee was published February 23, 1989.

CSSB 8(Fin)am was referred to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar.

March 8, 1989

The Rules Committee has considered:

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) amended

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute:

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Rules)
(same title)

Recommending do pass (4): Grussendorf (Chairman), Cotten, Davidson, Donley

Recommending do not pass (2): Taylor, Martin

A previous zero fiscal note with analysis by the House Finance Committee, published February 23, 1989, applies to HCS CSSB 8(Rls).

CSSB 8(Fin)am was returned to the Rules Committee for placement on the calendar.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Establishing the Alaska
Women's Commission.
Sponsor: Senator Fahrenkamp
Requestor: House Finance

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

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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)

The proposed funding for the Women's Commission is included in the Office of the Governor's FY 90 budget request. See attached budget detail.

Prepared by: House Finance Committee Phone: 465-3727
Division: Co-Chairman Ron Larson Date: 2/7/89
Co-Chairman Lyman Hoffman
Approved by Commissioner: _____ Date: _____
Agency: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

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

07-01-20-07-00 (0-01-01510-0005)

STATE OF ALASKA -- COMPONENT BUDGET SUMMARY

SALSFRMA 09:57 1/05/89

AGENCY: OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CATEGORY: ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PROGRAM: COMMISSION/SPECIAL OFFICES
SUB-PROGRAM: ALASKA WOMENS COMMISSION

LEG. FIN.

EXPENDITURES & FUNDING	FISCAL YEAR 1990												
	(01) FY85 ACT	(02) FY89 CC	(03) COL 03	(24) FY89 ATH	(25) FY90BASE	(26) FY90ADJB	(27) FY90 AGY	(28) FY90 GOV	(09) HOUSE	(10) SENATE	(11) C. C.	(12) BILLS	(13) LEG.REC.
01 PERS. SERV.	153.8	163.4		163.4	168.2	163.2	163.2	163.2					
02 TRAVEL	14.7	29.2		29.2	29.2	28.7	28.7	28.7					
03 CONTRACTUAL	21.6	69.7		69.7	69.7	37.7	73.7	73.7					
04 COMMODITIES	2.5	3.5		3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5					
05 EQUIPMENT	12.6												
06 LANDS/BLDGS													
07 GRANTS, CLMS													
08 MISC.		-37.5		-37.5	-37.5								
MM TOTAL EXPEND	205.2	228.3		228.3	233.1	233.1	269.1	269.1					
09 I-A TRANSFER		2.0		2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0					
1004 GEN FUND	195.6	217.1		217.1	221.9	221.9	221.9	221.9					
1005 GF/PRGM							36.0	36.0					
1007 I/A RCPYS	9.6	11.2		11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2					
15 FULL TIME	3.0	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0					
16 PART TIME													
17 TEMPORARY	1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0					
18 STAFF MONTHS	32.0	32.0		32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0					



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Committee on Rules

P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone:
(907) 465-3764
465-3765

MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Ben Grussendorf
Chairman
House Rules Committee

From: Doug Rickey *[Signature]*
Special Assistant
House Rules Committee

Date: March 6, 1989

Subject: Senate Bill No. 8
"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

HCS CSSB 8 (Rules) differs from HCS CSSB 8 (Finance) in the following ways:

(All page and line references refer to the Finance CS.)

1. Page 1, lines 14 & 15: deletes "person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child"; adds the word "homemaker".
2. Page 1, line 21: adds the words "and status".
3. Page 2, lines 1 - 10: deletes section two. (All sections renumbered accordingly).
4. Page 2, lines 25 & 26: deletes the sentence "A person may not serve more than six consecutive years".
5. Page 3, line 18: deletes the word "fully".

January 9, 1989

SENATE BILL NO. 8 by Senators Fahrenkamp, Sturgulewski, Eliason, Duncan, Uehling, Szymanski, Rodey, Zharoff, Kelly, Pcurchot, Adams, Kerttula and Frank, entitled:

SB 8 cont'd

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs Committee and the Finance Committee.

January 19, 1989

The State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 8 (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) and recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (State Affairs)

Senator Pourchot, Chair, and Senator Kelly signed "do pass". Senators Adams and Faiks signed "no recommendation".

Zero fiscal note published today from Office of the Governor, Division of Administrative Services.

SENATE BILL NO. 8 was referred to the Finance Committee.

January 19, 1989

Senator Binkley moved and asked unanimous consent that the publication notice be waived on SENATE BILL NO. 8 (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) for the Finance Committee meeting at 9:00 a.m. on January 23. Without objection, it was so ordered.

January 30, 1989

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 8 (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) and a majority of the committee recommended it be replaced with

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance)

SB 8 cont'd

and do pass with a Letter of Intent. The report was signed by Senators Binkley and Uehling, Co-Chairs, and concurred in by Senators Zharoff, Duncan, Pearce and Frank. Senator Fischer signed "do not pass without additional amendments."

Letter of Intent
for

CSSB 8 (Finance)

The Senate respectfully requests the Governor to make appointments to the Alaska Women's Commission on a nonpartisan basis; with consideration to

geographical representation; and with due consideration to recommendations from various sources having an interest in women's issues. Previous zero fiscal note published 1/19/89 from Office of the Governor, Division of Administrative Services, accompanied the committee substitute. SENATE BILL NO. 8 was referred to the Rules Committee.

January 31, 1989

The Rules Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 8 (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) and a majority of the committee recommended calendar. The report was signed by Senator Skurgulewski, Chair, and concurred in by Senators Rodey, Eliason and Kelly. SENATE BILL NO. 8 is on today's calendar.

January 31, 1989

SENATE BILL NO. 8 (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) was read the second time.

SB 8 cont'd

Senator Uehling moved and asked unanimous consent that the Finance Committee Substitute offered on page 238 be adopted. Without objection, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) was adopted.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) was read the second time. Senator Coghill offered Amendment No. 1:

Page 1, lines 13-14:

Delete: "At least one member shall be"

Insert:

" The members shall include an unmarried woman who has no children, an unmarried woman who has a child, a woman who is 60 years of age or older, a woman who has a disability, a married woman, a woman employed outside the home, a nonwhite woman, a woman who receives aid under AS 47.25.310-47.25.420 (aid to families with dependent children), and a woman who is [AT LEAST ONE MEMBER SHALL BE]"

Page 1, line 21: After: ";"

Insert: " and "

Page 1, lines 23-24: Delete: "; and
(3) minority and low-income representation"

Insert: "[; AND

(3) MINORITY AND LOW-INCOME REPRESENTATION]"

Page 1, after line 24:

Insert a new bill section to read:

"*Sec. 2. AS 44.19.167 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) No more than three seats on the commission may be held by persons who served on

the commission before July 1, 1989. Except for the representative of the attorney general's office who serves ex officio, the governor may not appoint to the commission a person who is

- (1) a state employee;
- (2) an employee of a legislator; or
- (3) the parent, sibling, spouse, or child of the governor or of a legislator."

Renumber sections accordingly.

Page 2, lines 12-24: Delete all material.

Insert new bill sections to read:

"*Sec. 5. AS 44.19.171 is repealed and reenacted to read:

Sec. 44.19.171. PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to improve the welfare of the women in the state by serving as a referral service for information and education that will inform women about resources available in federal, state, local, and private agencies and through individuals to help them meet their needs. The commission shall also compile existing information and identify areas where further research on needs of women is necessary. The commission may not assume an advocacy position on issues of concern to women, but shall provide information on all aspects of an issue in a way that will allow women to make their own informed decisions.

*Sec. 6. AS 44.19.180 is amended to read:

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. The report [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."

Renumber accordingly.

Page 2, after line 27: Insert a new bill section to read:

"*Sec. 8. AS 44.19.175(3), 44.19.175(4), 44.19.175(5), 44.19.175(6), and 44.19.175(7) are repealed."

Renumber accordingly.

Page 3, line 10: Delete: "6"

Insert: "9"

Page 3, lines 13 and 15: Delete: "6 and 8"

Insert: "9 and 11"

Senator Coghill moved for the adoption of Amendment No. 1. Senators Fahrenkamp and Rodey objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 1 be adopted?"

The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 8 FIN AM 1

Yeas: 6 Coghill, Faiks, Fischer, Halford,

Nays: 14 Jones, Kelly
Adams, Binkley, Duncan, Eliason,
Fahrenkamp, Frank, Kerttula,
Pearce, Pourchot, Rodey,
Sturgulewski, Szymanski, Uehling,
Zharoff

and so, Amendment No. 1 failed.

Senator Fischer offered Amendment No. 2:

Page 1, line 11: Delete: "[NONPARTISAN AND]"

Page 1, line 13: After: "residents of the state."

Insert: " The governor shall appoint at least two members of each of the two political parties whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes in the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected. The appointees from each of these two parties shall be chosen from a list of names to be submitted by the central committee of each party. "

Senator Fischer moved for the adoption of Amendment No. 2.

Senator Fahrenkamp objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 2 be adopted?"

The roll was taken with the following result:

CS SB 8 (FIN) AM 2

Yeas: 11 Coghill, Faiks, Fischer, Frank,
Halford, Jones, Kelly, Kerttula,
Pearce, Sturgulewski, Uehling

Nays: 9 Adams, Binkley, Duncan, Eliason,
Fahrenkamp, Pourchot, Rodey,
Szymanski, Zharoff

and so, Amendment No. 2 was adopted.

Senator Halford moved and asked unanimous consent that CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am be considered engrossed, advanced to third reading and placed on final passage. Without objection, it was so ordered.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 8 FIN AM 3RD

Yeas: 17 Adams, Binkley, Duncan, Eliason,
Fahrenkamp, Frank, Halford, Jones,
Kelly, Kerttula, Pearce, Pourchot,
Rodey, Sturgulewski, Szymanski,
Uehling, Zharoff

Nays: 3 Coghill, Faiks, Fischer

and so, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am passed the Senate.

Senator Halford moved and asked unanimous consent that the vote on the passage of the bill be considered the vote on the effective date clauses. Without objection, it was so

ordered.

Senator Szymanski gave notice of reconsideration.

February 1, 1989

Senator Faiks requested that the reconsideration on CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) be taken up.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am was before the Senate on reconsideration.

Senator Fischer moved and asked unanimous consent that CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am be held one legislative day. Without objection, the bill will appear on tomorrow's calendar in third reading on reconsideration.

February 2, 1989

Senator Sturglewski moved and asked unanimous consent that CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) be placed at the bottom of today's calendar. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Halford moved and asked unanimous consent that CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am be taken up at this time. Without objection, it was so ordered.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) which had been held one day was before the Senate on reconsideration.

Senator Fahrenkamp called the Senate, then withdrew the call.

Senator Fischer offered Amendment No. 3:

Page 1, line 6: Title Amendment

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; directing the governor to appoint at least two members of each of the two political parties from a list of names to be submitted by the central committee of each party whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes in the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected; and providing for an effective date."

Senator Fischer moved for the adoption of Amendment No. 3.

Senators Fahrenkamp and Szymanski objected.

Senator Faiks called the Senate.

Senator Halford moved and asked unanimous consent that CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am and pending amendments be

held until tomorrow's calendar. Without objection, it was so ordered and the bill will appear on the February 3 calendar in third reading on reconsideration.

February 3, 1989

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) was before the Senate on reconsideration. Fiscal note published today from the Senate Finance Committee.

Amendment No. 3 offered by Senator Fischer (page 281) was pending before the Senate.

Senator Fischer moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 3 be withdrawn. Without objection, Amendment No. 3 was withdrawn.

Senator Adams moved and asked unanimous consent that the Senate return to second reading for the purpose of a specific amendment. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Adams offered Amendment No. 4:

Amend Section 7(b) to read:

The Alaska Women's Commission reestablished by this Act is a continuation of the Interim Women's Commission [WITH RESPECT TO ALL RIGHTS, ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND OTHER MATTERS NOT] except as otherwise specifically addressed by this Act.

Senator Adams moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 4 be adopted. Without objection, Amendment No. 4 was adopted.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am was automatically in third reading.

Senator Fischer offered Amendment No. 5:

Page 1, line 6: Title Amendment

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; directing the governor to appoint at least two members of each of the two political parties from a list of names to be submitted by each party whose candidate for governor received the highest number of votes in the most recent preceding general election at which a governor was elected; and providing for an effective date."

Senator Fischer moved that Amendment No. 5 be adopted. Senator Fahrenkamp objected.

The question being: "Shall Amendment No. 5 be adopted?"

The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 8 FIN AM AM 5

Yeas:	7	Coghill, Eliason, Faiks, Fischer, Halford, Jones, Kelly
Nays:	13	Adams, Binkley, Duncan, Fahrenkamp, Frank, Kerttula, Pearce, Pourchot, Rodey, Sturgulewski, Szymanski, Uehling,

Zharoff

and so, Amendment No. 5 failed.

The question to be reconsidered is: "Shall CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CSSB 8 FIN AM 3RD

Yeas: 17 Adams, Binkley, Duncan, Eliason,
Fahrenkamp, Frank, Halford, Jones,
Kelly, Kerttula, Pearce, Pourchot,
Rodey, Sturgulewski, Szymanski,
Uehling, Zharoff

Nays: 3 Coghill, Faiks, Fischer

and so, CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am passed the Senate on reconsideration.

Senator Halford moved and unanimous consent that the vote on the passage of the bill be considered the vote on the effective date clauses. Without objection, it was so ordered.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am was referred to the Secretary for engrossment.

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am (An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date) was engrossed, signed by the President and Secretary and transmitted to the House for consideration.

SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION:

January 16, 1989, State Affairs

Chairman Pourchot introduced SB 8, extending the Alaska Women's Commission, as the next order of business. Senator Fahrenkamp, Sponsor of SB 8, stated that the continuation of the Alaska Women's Commission is imperative to a strong Alaska. The Commission has been an effective advocate to identifying and removing barriers facing women. Over half of Alaska women's workforce work outside the home, but earn less than two-thirds of what men earn. Most Alaskan families have no access to parental leave, and for many, childcare is either inadequate or too costly. In Anchorage alone, it's estimated that at least 3000 elementary children are unsupervised after school every day. Following divorce, Alaska women's per capita income declines 33%, while that of divorced men increases 17%. Most single-parent families and those below poverty level are headed by women. In urban Alaska, the teen pregnancy rate exceeds the national figures by 13%, while in rural Alaska it jumps to 70% more.

The Commission has provided valuable research and has helped to educate people on the problems of women. Some of the organizations that support the Commission are the Alaska Bar Association; the First Congressional Christian Women's Scholarship; the Soroptimists International Club; the Mayors of the Matsu Borough, the Borough of Fairbanks, Bethel, and Kenai; the League of Women Voters, and many others. Young Alaskans, either male or female, should grow up confident and strong, knowing they can be anything they want to be, without any attitude of defeat due to gender. It's the Commission's task to improve the status of women. This job will not be done until women's wages are equal to men's for the same job, adequate childcare is available at reasonable cost, and our teenage pregnancy rate is no longer 13% higher than the national average.

The challenges for the next five years include welfare reform, improving the economic status and employment options for women, implementation of changes to the system for working women who have young children, increasing representation of women in political and policy decisions, and support for access to better healthcare, counseling, legal representation, and safety. The Commission is the only agency in State government that speaks to government about issues, policies, and situations effecting women. Senator Fahrenkamp urged strong support for SB 8, and the continuation of the Alaska Women's Commission. Senator Sturgulewski, co-sponsor of SB 8, also urged strong support for the Alaska Women's Commission.

Number 317

Paula Ziegler, Chair of the Alaska Women's Commission, agreed with the overview by Senator Fahrenkamp, and reiterated the mandate of the Commission to improve the social, political, legal, and economic status of women in

Alaska. Conditions in schools, in the work place, and in our courts of law are areas where government does need to be involved. The funding for the Commission is well spent, considering the constituency is half the State of Alaska. Someone's perception of what is the Alaska Women's Commission could also be used in conjunction with other commissions. Unless you have a direct need to be involved with the commission, it tends to be an unknown. A lot of time has been spent at meetings pinpointing the Commission's responsibilities and where to improve. The Commission feels they are to speak about, not for the women in Alaska to policy makers. There are ten members on the commission: nine female, and one male; two are natives. The average age is 40. Nine work outside the home, eight are parents, and five are divorced. With the Alaska ratio of 60 to 40, women to men, the commission could use more men, and perhaps another native. Sixty-five percent of the Alaska women work outside the home, and women with children are the norm in the Alaska work place. Sixty-three percent of the Alaska population is divorced. The Commission's focus is on women, not targeted groups of women. In order to keep addressing the changes necessary, the Commission needs to be re-established.

Number 472

Ruth Lister, Executive Director of the Alaska Women's Commission, reiterated that the three main goals of the Commission are research, advocacy, and education. The overall economic decline in Alaska is seriously impacting women. More than 20,000 women and children in Alaska receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children. To effect change, the Commission, based on their research and the needs voiced by women across the State, proposes and supports changes in legislation, regulation, and public policy, and funding in programs which assist women in achieving equality. Ruth Lister previously ran a program for domestic violence and sexual assault in Fairbanks, and prior to that a large day-care center. The number of women achieving management and well paid technical jobs are few. Thousands more in the State are barely able to feed themselves and their children. The Commission feels that by assisting women to enter and re-enter the workforce, and to work in a wider variety of jobs, they can improve their economic status and employment options. Critical issues facing women are better access to healthcare, counseling, and legal representation of personal safety. By improving the status of women in Alaska, we will benefit all Alaskans, strengthening the family, the community, and the economy.

Senator Faiks asked for the national average of women and children receiving AFDC compared to the 20,000 or roughly 4% in Alaska.

Ruth Lister will look up the national average.

Number 546

Vicky Borrego, representing the League of Women Voters,

urged support of SB 8.

Number 561

Sue Miller, working with large groups of women throughout the State, has been monitoring the Commission since its inception ten years ago, to assess whether or not the Commission has been fulfilling its responsibilities. She understands the purposes of the Commission are research, advocacy, and information. The research has been very good on the status of women, however some of the minute details have been inaccurate and yet have been promoted. The research that is presented needs to be accurate and fully documented if it is to be acted upon. For advocacy, the issues the Commission deals with are very important to women, but not all women agree with the position the Commission has taken. As far as information dissemination, there seems to be a shortcoming. Conferences seem to be attended only by a chosen few, and bulletins and newsletters go to only politically active people. Initially, the Commission did a fine job, but over time, their advocacy for large government and higher taxes have personally become philosophically different. Dissatisfaction of the Commission stems from the lack of representation of all women by the Commission, not the Commission itself. As a result, a task force on women was formed to request an alternate proposal be presented by the Governor, by which all the women in Alaska could be represented by this Commission. However, the task force was never allowed to bring their request forward.

Tape Two, Side B

Number 001

Sue Miller continued by suggesting the following changes to SB 8: On line 11, it states that members are to be appointed on a nonpartisan basis, and non-discriminatory basis by the Governor. It's hard by appointment to be impartial. Instead a special board of legislators should make this appointment. In line 13, it says at least one member should be a homemaker who is not otherwise employed. To be fair, it should also state that one person be a single parent, one person be a retired senior citizen, one person represent the nuclear family, etc. resulting in nine groups of people represented, with the director as the tenth. On page two, line five, members are appointed for five year terms. No commission or legislator should be allowed a five-year term. This term should be greatly reduced. Lines 14 and 15 call for further research to improve the status of women in the state. There has been enough research and discovering of the status. Tangible help should be provided at this stage, and could be, based on the new proposal suggested. On lines 19 - 22, recommendations made, include, but are not limited to education, homemaking, civil and legal rights, and labor and employment. If the Commission were more of a resource organization that gave tangible help to women, any area in which women have needs would apply. Lines 24 - 26, if

understood correctly, would mean the interim commission would go until next June, and the new commission would go until 1993.

Chairman Pourchot interjected, stating he understood the interim commission would sunset at the same time the new commission would begin. Page 3 of SB 8 gives interlocking effective dates relating to different sections of the bill. But even with staggered terms, this does not mean the same people are going to be appointed.

Sue Miller continued on page 3, line 2, stating that by Governor's appointment, the same people who are unsatisfactory to the rest of the women are the same people who are going to be on the Commission forever and ever. The Women's Commission should become a forum, implementing the ideas in the alternate proposal.

Chairman Pourchot added that appointments would be made by the Governor, and that the terms would be staggered to avoid a block of people being appointed every five years. Senator Faiks made reference to a poll done on the Kenai Peninsula which asked for approval or disapproval of Senator Fischer's stand on the Commission, merging it into a Human Rights Commission. Seventy percent approved, twenty-three percent disapproved, and seven percent were undecided.

Senator Uehling commented that five-year terms did seem to be a long period of time, as other commissions all seemed to be three years.

Senator Faiks agreed, stating APOC is five years, and the Board of Regents is eight years, but the average commission is three years.

Sue Miller asked the committee to hold the bill over to allow further recommendations and amendments.

Senator Fahrenkamp asked for a copy of all the suggested amendments.

Number 842

Ann Skoe, Legislative Chair, Juneau-Douglas Branch of the Alaska Division of the American Association of University Women, stated the re-establishment of the Alaska Women's Commission is their number one priority. The Commission is a valuable research and advocacy agency and is necessary for the good of Alaska's women.

Senator Kelly, clarified AS 39.05.055(7) for the committee, as referenced on page 3, Line 2 of SB 8.

Number 898

Sherrie Goll, representing the Alaska Women's Lobby, urged support of the Alaska Women's Commission. The past Commission has been the only office in government that has specifically set about trying to influence and shape public policy as it effects women.

Chairman Pourchot asked for her opinion on shortening the term of office from five to three years.

Sherrie Goll was unaware the members served five-year terms. Having seen new appointees over the last four years, she was under the impression the terms were already

staggered.

Senator Kelly further clarified the terms of office, stating there was no provision for five-year terms, and that none of the current staggered terms would stay in effect and would start all over again as of July 1 of this year.

Senator Uehling felt those who gave testimony last year stressed the importance of the Commission getting input from women all across the State. A change of guard puts the board more in touch with what is going on.

Senator Faiks requested a list of all the commissions and boards and what their terms of office are.

Number 955

James Fisher was next to testify, and urged passage of SB 8 to extend the Women's Commission in substantially its present structure. Eighty percent of the families no longer fit the traditional family pattern of husband and non-working wife with children. Without some reasonable accurate information on the status of American families, it will be harder to prepare following generations to assume their responsibilities.

Number 992

Louise Howenter felt there's a new mainstream of women emerging, who more or less want to speak for themselves. As a certified welder, she was discriminated against because of her gender, but with the help of the Human Rights Commission she was able to file and win a court case. The Alaska Women's Commission, in her eyes, seems to be a duplication of services, and she would like any funding, instead, to go to children's services.

Number 1079

Pat Marlin was unaware of the Commission until last year. She feels the work they've done has been good, but they do not represent all women. With the economic downturn of the State, the Commission should direct more attention to the basic needs of the people, less to research and study. Senator Uehling wanted to know if a wider base of needs had been established by the Commission to date, based on last year's testimony.

Pat Marlin, as a past co-director of the Alaska Coalition of Women, said they formed a task force that did define a broader base of needs, but there had not been any working relationship with the Women's Commission.

Number 1177

Jim Ayers, representing Kidpac, felt the Women's Commission has become an important step to what's happening to the family in Alaska, and the children of those families. The Women's Commission represents an opportunity for women to get support to go forward. He felt the Commission could probably do a better job of working with people with philosophical differences. Kidpac supports the Women's Commission.

Number 1249

Senator Fahrenkamp clarified for the record that there is

no legal conflict between the terms designated on pages 2 and 3: one deals with the initial appointments, and the other with ongoing staggered terms.

Number 1267

Ruth Lister stated that the Commission plans to expand its outreach program to all women in Alaska, to broaden the Commission's view, and try to represent everyone more fairly.

Tape Two, Side A

Number 001

Chairman Pourchot asked if anyone had any changes.

Senator Kelly suggested a change in terms from five to a staggered three-year term, and possibly one reappointment.

Senator Uehling seconded the shortened term, but felt any appointments to the Commission should stay with the Governor, and not a designated Legislative committee.

Chairman Pourchot requested the committee hold SB 8 until Wednesday, and in the meantime put together a CS that addresses the length and staggering of terms.

Senator Faiks asked to see what Sue Miller's task force put together, before the meeting Wednesday.

Chairman Pourchot concurred and requested any amendments be given to the committee for distribution.

Senator Kelly asked for the criteria Sue Miller's task force suggested for the Commission's makeup.

Senator Faiks also requested the political affiliation of the current Commissioners.

Senator Fahrenkamp wanted to know if, prior to the next meeting, someone could give her an example of how the housewife or homemaker had been neglected by the Commission.

January 18, 1989, State Affairs

The first order of business was the continued deliberation of SB 8, held over from the January 16 meeting. It was the intent of the chair not to take additional testimony on this bill, but to discuss the CS prepared since the last meeting. The only change from the original bill was in Section 3 (page 2, line 5), reducing the term of office from five to three years.

Senator Fahrenkamp, Sponsor, stated the CS met with her approval and support.

Senator Pourchot asked for comments from the committee, or a motion to move. No motion was made, and the bill was put on hold.

January 18, 1989

The last order of business was to reintroduce SB 8, and ask that any amendments from the public be given to the committee at this time.

Number 177

Mary McClinton offered amendments to SB 8 as follows:

Section 1 (a), Line 14, delete: homemaker who is not otherwise employed - insert: single woman; single parent;

senior citizen woman; handicapped woman; female married to a male; homemaker not otherwise employed; and minority woman.

Subsection a (1), Line 20, delete: status - insert: welfare.

Subsection a (3): delete.

Subsection (b), insert: In order to assure an independent status, the governor shall not appoint any member that has a close association with a member of the Administration or Legislature.

Section 2, insert: all meetings of the Commission shall receive public notice and be subject to the open meetings law.

Section 3, Line 5, delete: five - insert: two.

Section 4, delete: Lines 11 thru 22 - insert: The purpose of the Commission is to improve the welfare of the women in the state by providing a resource referral service of information and education that will inform women of resources available in federal, state, local and private agencies and through individuals to help them meet their needs. The Commission shall also correlate already available information and identify areas where further research on needs of women is necessary. At no time would the Commission assume an advocacy position on issues of concern to women, but instead would provide information on both sides of the issue so women can make their own informed decision.

Section 7, insert: Membership on the Commission shall not consist of more than 1/3 members who have served on the Commission prior to July 1, 1989.

Senator Pourchot questioned the nonadvocacy position in the amendments, when one goal of the commission is to be an advocate for women.

Mary McClinton felt the Commission should be an advocate of situations, not of ideology and objectives and philosophy. The Commission should give options and a freedom of choice. Senator Faiks questioned the use of the word advocacy when it does not exist in Section 4 of the original bill. Perhaps the political climate of the board is what's questionable.

Mary McClinton agreed, stating the board as she sees it is a political action group.

Senator Faiks felt the Section 4 amendment could possibly be addressed by changing the composition of the board, and getting different kinds of interest groups represented on the board, who may not now be represented.

Mary McClinton agreed.

Senator Kelly made a motion to adopt the amendment to Section 2, the insertion to read: "All meetings of the Commission shall receive public notice and be subject to the open meetings law."

Senator Pourchot asked for some discussion of the motion. It is his understanding that all Boards and Commissions are Dsubject to the open meeting law.

Senator Adams asked on a point of order if the amendments were to be taken as a whole or divided.

Senator Pourchot stated his intent was to take the amendments separately as desired by the members.

Ruth Lister responded to Senator Kelly's motion, stating the Commission is subject to the open meetings law, and they do receive testimony at the meetings which are advertised for that purpose.

Senator Kelly asked Mary McClinton if this statement satisfied her amendment. Receiving a positive response, he withdrew his motion.

Ruth Lister commented further that the Commission tries to get a geographic representation in conjunction with minority women. If you start categorizing groups, there are so many and you would probably have to expand the Board to try to accommodate them. She will make a personal commitment to listen to all women in the future.

Senator Faiks then went down the list to see how many of the present Commissioners matched the amended list. The list was close. She further commented the Board makeup isn't necessarily a problem of Republicans and Democrats, but a liberal and conservative philosophy. The problems raised last year seem to mainly consist of the Commission reaching out, and communicating with everyone.

Senator Adams had a question on the term of office.

Senator Pourchot responded saying the CS already recommended a change from 5 to 3.

Senator Faiks asked how the Commission felt toward deleting "status" and inserting "welfare" in Subsection 1(a), line 20.

Ruth Lister responded stating she would rather keep "status", but did not truly understand the difference between the two words.

Senator Kelly read the definitions of each word from the dictionary.

Senator Faiks made a motion to insert both words into the text of the bill. Hearing no objection, the motion was so ordered by the Chairman.

Senator Faiks asked if the Commission would have any objections to the Section 7 amendment.

Ruth Lister felt there were some committed members on the Commission, and that the appointments were made by the Governor with considerable thought.

Senator Kelly stated he agreed with the Section 7 amendment in theory, but had already made a commitment to the prime sponsor not to support it.

Senator Pourchot stated he had made no commitment, but felt with the three new appointees from last year, along with the other dedicated, hardworking people in place, the present Board was OK.

Senator Faiks responded stating the votes were not in place for the amendments on Section 4 or 7, but that two were basically adopted: the length of terms and the welfare.

Senator Kelly interjected, stating all meetings would be

public meetings. Ruth Lister agreed. Senator Faiks then commented it would be difficult, if not impossible, to enforce the amendment to Subsection (b) on the Governor appointees.

Senator Kelly made a motion to adopt the Committee Substitute of SB 8, as amended with individual recommendations. Hearing no objections, so moved by the Chairman.

January 27, 1989, Finance

An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date.

Co-chairman Uehling directed that SB 8 be brought on for discussion and noted a teleconference link to Anchorage. Co-chairman Binkley advised of a question regarding commission involvement in the abortion issue. RUTH LISTER, Executive Director, Alaska Women's Commission, spoke from Anchorage, advising that the commission has not taken a public stand on the issue. PAULA ZIEGLER, Chairperson, Alaska Women's Commission, came before committee. She explained that in the three years she has served on the commission, the issue of abortion (reproductive rights, freedom of choice, etc.) has not been on the agenda in any form.

As background information, Mrs. Ziegler advised that approximately eight years ago the commission took a public stand on the issue of access to public funding as it related to a ballot proposition dealing with Medicaid funding for abortions. None of the commission members at that time now sit on the commission. The stand taken by the commission was based on the premise that since abortion is a legal surgical procedure in Alaska, it would be unfair to allow access to those who could afford it while denying access to those who could not. The access issue related to health care. Mrs. Ziegler acknowledged that the issue of abortion may, in the past, have come up as a health care issue at a workshop, conference, or seminar. The commission, however, has not taken a stand one way or the other. Co-chairman Binkley voiced his view that the issue of abortion is more than "just a woman's health care issue." He further voiced concern that the commission not become an advocacy agency for the pro choice position. Mrs. Ziegler explained that the issue was not on the commission agenda under its long range plan. She voiced her view that the commission was not the correct forum for debating the issue.

Senator Fischer noted the following comments from a "historical perspective" speech by Lisa Rudd:

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

He then asked if the foregoing represented a personal opinion or the philosophy of the commission. Mrs. Ziegler explained that she did not know within what context the foregoing remarks might have been made. She advised that while Mrs. Rudd was

instrumental in establishment of the commission, she never served as a member.

Senator Fischer next spoke to the commission stand on lesbian issues, asking if it had taken a position on or sponsored a workshop dealing with alternate lifestyles. Mrs. Ziegler answered that during her term on the commission, sexual orientation had not been an agenda item. She further advised that if the commission were to deal with the issue, it would do so "strictly in economic terms (job discrimination, equal access, protection of the law, etc.). In response to a further inquiry from Senator Fischer, Mrs. Ziegler agreed to review records of past activities to determine whether the issue had been before the commission. Senator Fischer restated earlier concern expressed by the Task Force on Women's Issues over use of public commission funds for advocacy efforts directed to the abortion issue and lesbianism. The Senator requested that commission members meet with representatives of the task force in an attempt to better represent the interests of all women.

Senator Fischer further noted lack of social security coverage for women who choose to remain at home rather than work outside. He stated that a woman should not be penalized for staying home, and suggested that the commission undertake advocacy in this area.

Senator Fischer next posed questions concerning the contemplated \$30.0 in funding for the women's conference, asking if an agenda had been developed. Ruth Lister answered negatively. She advised that private funding would have to be generated to match the original \$30.0 in general funds. She further noted her understanding that the general funds for the conference had subsequently been removed from the Governor's budget, but that authority to seek private funding remained. (It was later determined that the \$30.0 in general funds remained within the Governor's budget.)

Ms. Lister explained that the only increase in the commission budget covers across-the-board health insurance benefits impacting all state employees.

Discussion followed regarding a planned video project. Ms. Lister explained that the commission hopes to obtain private funding for a video to assist those seeking a divorce or dissolution of marriage. Brief discussion followed concerning other budget items such as the women's hall of fame and calendar of events. Senator Fischer complimented Ms. Lister for making use of state teleconference facilities as an alternative to travel to Juneau.

Senator Fischer next requested information regarding contracts let by the commission, including whether or not award was made through the standard bid process.

Senator Fischer suggested that reductions in commission expenditures should be made in light of the downturn in revenues. The national trend is to abolish rather than add such commissions. On a per capita basis, the commission in Alaska is the most expensive. Senator Fischer explained that he was not opposed to the commission, but that he had merely sought, in the past, to reduce it by one staff position. He noted a past audit

which indicated that while the commission should not cease to exist, professional staff should be deleted. Senator Fischer stressed that if the commission is reinstated, it should endeavor to represent the interests of all women.

Senator Pearce MOVED for adoption of CSSB 8 (State Affairs). No objection having been raised, CSSB 8 (State Affairs) was ADOPTED. Senator Fischer distributed and MOVED for adoption of AMENDMENT NO. 1:

CSFB 8 (State Affairs)

Page 2, Line 10:

After the words "as original appointments" add a new sentence to read: A person may not serve more than two consecutive terms or parts c terms.

End SFC-89, #3, Side 1

Begin SFC-89, #3, Side 2

Discussion followed concerning problems that might arise when an individual is appointed to fill the remaining term after a member resigns or fails to serve the entire three years. Senator Fischer explained that the purpose of the amendment is to ensure rotation and allow greater opportunity to serve. Senator Duncan suggested that the amendment be reworded to preclude service for more than two consecutive full terms. Senator Zharoff suggested that service be limited to six years.

Co-chairman Uehling noted that the proposed amendment embodies the exact language set forth in the House version of the bill. Senator Duncan inquired regarding the commission stand on the proposed amendment. Paula Ziegler advised that the commission does not object to reduction of the length of term. She further spoke to rotation over the past three years, and advised that situations created by early resignation would probably "take care of themselves." She voiced support for limitation of service to two consecutive full terms. Language in the current amendment relating to "parts of terms" is unclear.

Senator Frank inquired regarding turn over on the commission.

Mrs. Ziegler explained that the current term is five years. The average length that commissioners find they can serve is "between three and four years." Historically, approximately two-thirds of those appointed to the commission served the entire term. At present, two of the nine members have served close to the full five years. There has thus been a fair amount of rotation over time.

Discussion followed regarding staggered terms of service and the limiting impact of the proposed amendment.

Senator Frank MOVED to amend Amendment No. 1 as follows:

A person may not serve more than six consecutive years.

Senator Pearce OBJECTED for the purpose of comment. She expressed her belief that the committee was attempting to change the composition of the commission from liberal to traditionally conservative membership and suggested that if that was the intent, the Governor should be advised either verbally or via letter of intent. Senator Pearce then REMOVED her OBJECTION. In the absence of further objection, the amendment to Amendment No. 1 was ADOPTED. No objection to Senator Fischer's original motion for adoption of Amendment No. 1 having been raised, the

motion CARRIED, and Amendment No. 1 was ADOPTED AS AMENDED.
Senator Fischer then offered Amendment No. 2:

CSSB 8 (State Affairs)

Page 1, Line 11: Delete the words "nonpartisan and"

Page 1, Line 13: After "residents of the state." add a new sentence to read:

At lease 2 members shall be registered Republicans; at least 2 members shall be registered Democrats, and at least one member shall be a homemaker who is not otherwise employed.

Senator Fischer then MOVED for adoption of Amendment No. 2. Co-chairman Binkley OBJECTED. Senator Fischer explained that the commission was intended to be nonpartisan. Membership should be balanced in accordance with voter registration statistics. He noted that no republicans currently serve on the commission, and expressed concern that the commission had become a political action committee. He then MOVED to WITHDRAW Amendment No. 2 from consideration.

Discussion followed concerning the nonpartisan nature of boards and commissions. Senator Frank stressed need for balance, advising that the commission should present a forum for the concerns of women statewide and represent a consensus of those views.

Senator Fischer suggested that a letter of intent instructing the Governor to achieve a balance on the commission accompany the bill. Senator Frank voiced support for intent language requesting that boards and commissions represent "the population at large." Senator Duncan voiced need to have intent language before committee prior to acting upon it.

Discussion followed regarding appointments to boards and commissions. Co-chairman Binkley voiced his understanding that appointment of individuals whose philosophy matches that of the Governor is part of the political process. Senator Fischer stressed that the Alaska Women's Commission is the only commission with a membership problem. Women have complained about that. A letter of intent would bring the problem to the attention of the Governor.

Senator Zharoff voiced need to ensure regional and minority representation on the commission and suggested that appropriate language be included within committee intent. Senator Fischer concurred, but also advised of his understanding that current representation is equitably distributed. Inequities here are not as apparent as is the partisan nature of the commission.

Senator Duncan MOVED that the adopted amendment be incorporated with a Finance Committee Substitute and that CSSB 8 (Finance) be adopted by committee. Senator Fischer OBJECTED. He explained that he withdrew Amendment No. 2 in anticipation of adoption of a letter of intent. Senator Duncan again voiced reluctance to act on intent in the absence of the text of the letter, and he suggested that Senator Fischer offer intent on the floor of the Senate when the bill is scheduled for a vote. Senator Fischer advised that public testimony regarding the bill had been presented to committee rather than the Senate as a whole. He

stressed that the committee is thus the proper forum for amendment and attachment of intent. Senator Frank voiced support for a letter of intent, and Co-chairman Binkley voiced support for holding the bill for preparation of intent for committee review.

Co-chairman Uehling directed that Senator Fischer and Senator Frank draft intent language for presentation to committee at 1:00 p.m. CSSB 8 (Finance) was thus HELD in committee until the afternoon meeting.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION:

February 7, 1989, Finance

SENATE BILL 8

"Relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

Co-Chairman Larson introduced the two bills before the committee. He explained that the interim commission was created by the administration last June, when the commission terminated. Under HB 56 and SB 8, he continued, the re-established commission would sunset on June 30, 1993 unless extended. Both bills would extend the life of the interim commission until June 30, 1989. Both bills provide for appointment of members by the governor, he noted, without discrimination, although all members must be residents and at least one member must be a homemaker. He said that the Senate-passed version of the bill requires that the governor appoint at least two members of each political party whose candidates for governor received the most votes at the most recent gubernatorial election. He explained that these members would be selected from lists prepared by the respective parties.

Co-Chairman Larson explained that the Senate and House both had changed the term of office of commission members from five to three years. He added that the House State Affairs version of the bill requires that members may not serve more than two consecutive terms or parts of terms; the Senate version requires that members may not serve more than six consecutive years. Both versions of the bill would allow for the Governor

to appoint the members of the Interim Women's Commission who are serving on June 30, 1989 to the Women's Commission with terms beginning on that date, Co-Chairman Larson continued.

The Senate amended Section 7, part B to insure that any liabilities of the Interim Women's Commission would not transfer to the newly established commission, Co-Chairman Larson continued. He explained that such liabilities would be paid through the Governor's Contingency Fund.

Co-Chairman Larson stated that the meeting would be teleconferenced to Anchorage.

Representative Barnes stated that she had prepared amendments to SB 8 in response to requests from Juneau constituents. She distributed copies of her amendments to members (attachment 3).

Co-Chairman Larson told the committee that he intended to take testimony regarding both SB 8 and HB 56. At the conclusion of the meeting, he said, he would ask the committee to recommend the vehicle for the committee. He stated that he suggests SB 8 as the vehicle.

Representative Brown noted that she also planned to offer an amendment to SB 8. She distributed copies of the amendment as well.

Representative Barnes asked why HB 56 was taken up by the Finance Committee, when traditionally a bill transmitted from one body to another arrives first, that bill is considered first. Co-Chairman Larson explained that SB 8 was not before the committee when the public hearing was arranged. In order to schedule SB 8 early on, HB 56 was scheduled instead, he said. Because they deal with the same subject matter, he clarified, SB 8 could be heard without a five-day notification period.

SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, BILL SPONSOR, thanked committee members for their early hearing of the bill. She said that through the passage of the bill through the Senate, she had heard extensive testimony and several suggested amendments. She noted that the commission is effective in identifying problems affecting women.

Referring to the amendment to the Senate Finance regarding the partisanship of Women's Commission members, Senator Fahrenkamp noted that the legislature had required only one other group's membership to be determined by political parties. That group, she said, was APOG, "and that makes sense." She stated that she objected to the Senate Finance amendment.

Although Senator Fahrenkamp prefers the original version of SB 8, she added, she "can live with" the Senate Finance Committee version. She said that she was disappointed in the amendments that were attached on the floor of the Senate. She encouraged committee members to look favorably on continuing the commission.

RUTH LISTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION (via teleconference from Anchorage), spoke in favor of extending the Alaska Women's Commission. She submitted her testimony in writing (attachment 4).

Ms. Lister stated that she supports changing the terms of commission members from five to three year. However, she said, she opposes making the commission a partisan commission because this sets an undesirable precedent for other boards and commissions. Women's equity is not a partisan issue, she explained. She added that both Democrats and Republicans have served on the commission; dissension on controversial issues has not fallen along party lines, however, she said.

Ms. Lister explained that the three main functions of the commission are research, advocacy, and education. She cited examples of previous accomplishments of the commission, including a study of pension equity which led to a bill that passed the legislature. This bill required a spouse's signature if he/she was not the beneficiary of a State worker.

The commission has long advocated quality, affordable child care, Ms. Lister stated.

Ms. Lister noted that the commission studied educational equity, revealing a clear need for attitudinal and curricular changes to assist women and minorities in becoming leaders.

Ms. Lister explained that the Alaska Women's Commission has actively supported women who are victims of divorce, rape, or child sexual. She stated that the commission had documented domestic violence in Alaska, advocated the formation of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, participated in regional workshops for shelters, and produced the Legal Rights Handbook used in Alaskan shelters.

Ms. Lister agreed that the needs of all Alaskan women must be heard. She said that she understands how difficult it can be for some women to testify in public. She suggested that smaller public forums might more effectively promote communication between women with diverse concerns.

Co-Chairman Larson asked about the staff of the Women's Commission. Ms. Lister explained that, in its Anchorage office, three people are employed by the Women's Commission. She said that an additional half-time position is funded by the Older Alaskans Commission.

The Commission itself consists of nine members, Ms. Lister elaborated. She stated that future goals of the commission include the revision and reprinting of the Legal Rights Handbook and other projects outlined in materials included in committee members' packets.

Representative Schultz asked Ms. Lister to send explicit statistics regarding the dropout rate because he thought her facts were incorrect. He commented that, when it comes to divorce, "it takes two to tango" and that many men as well as women need counseling in recovering from divorce.

Representative Rieger asked Ms. Lister to explain the "constituent meetings" component of the budget detail included with the bill's fiscal note. She answered that these meetings represent conferences and other public forums where women can discuss their needs.

Representative Larson asked Ms. Lister to elaborate on a proposed statewide conference planned for this year. He wondered if the \$30.0 request for general funds related to this conference. She stated that this money would come from program receipts, contingent on additional private funds.

Representative Lemman commented that many constituents have complained that the commission doesn't represent all women. He asked how Ms. Lister would make the commission more responsive to a broader cross-section of Alaskan women. She answered that she believes the governor should attempt to choose members from as many geographic regions as possible.

SUE MILLER, retired teacher, author, and 33-year resident of Alaska, spoke in favor of amendments to SB 8 on behalf of herself and Mary McClinton, head of the Task Force for Advocates for Women. She submitted her testimony in writing (attachment 5).

Ms. Miller stated that, when she had read the preliminary Study of the Status of Women in Alaska ten years ago, she became angry, realizing that the Women's Commission was to implement the recommendations of this report. She explained that this report had recommended that the legislature appropriate funds "in order to provide financial assistance for abortion costs for women without the necessary means." She noted that the report did not mention the option of helping pregnant women to keep and provide for their babies. She also suggested that the commission might have investigated establishing a statewide adoption center.

Ms. Miller explained that she had discovered that the commission advocated other controversial causes, including the ERA, the Civil Rights Restoration Act, and comparable worth. She said that she had continued her investigation and distributed her findings statewide. As word spread, she said, "the opposition to this one-sided commission became so immense, it was sunsetted last year."

When the Governor was preparing to form the Interim Women's Commission, Ms. Miller continued, a group of women interested in changing the structure of the commission formed the "Task Force for Advocates for Women." That group developed a proposal "that would have provided information as to options for women and the freedom of choice for them to select the option that would benefit them the most." However, Ms. Miller explained, the group was unable to meet with the Governor before he appointed the interim commission.

Ms. Miller stated that, if there must be an Alaska Women's Commission, "we need to have amendments to the bill ...that will make it responsive to and representative of more women."

Ms. Miller discussed the amendments proposed by Representative Barnes, explaining that Mary McClinton, Chair, Task Force for Advocates for Women, was originally to have addressed these amendments. Referring to Representative Barnes' amendment #1 (attachment 4), she emphasized that the commission should include various categories of women and that individual members could meet several of the categories at once.

Ms. Miller said that the group supports the amendment added to SB 8 on the Senate floor, stipulating that the commission include at least two members appointed from lists submitted by the central committees of the two leading political parties. This would promote an ideological balance on the commission, she said, and would allow women not previously selected to be considered. Ms. Miller's testimony included further specifications for membership on the committee.

Ms. Miller told the committee that her group supports the amendment changing the terms from five to three years, and not more than six consecutive years. She added that the task force supports the purpose of research and advocacy for the commission. The group also supports an amendment requiring that no more than three seats on the commission can be held by commission members who served before July 1, 1989, she added.

Ms. Miller stated that "this bill is in violation of statute because it carries no fiscal note." She elaborated that, because the old commission sunsetted and the new commission is to be established with a new purpose, "it must be treated as new legislation."

In conclusion, Ms. Miller urged committee members to consider the suggested amendments.

KATIE HURLEY, (via teleconference from Anchorage) read written testimony from LEILA WISE, CHAIR, ALASKA WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS, stating that the Alaska Women's Political Caucus

supports the re-establishment and continuation of the Alaska Women's Commission. Ms. Wise's testimony reiterated the responsibilities of the commission and listed its contributions to the women of Alaska, including its research on the status of homemakers, the economic effects of divorce, pension reform, and women's history. The commission has assisted in establishing women's commissions throughout the state and, through legislation, it has helped to alleviate problems concerning a lack of sex equity in the schools, she added. Other commission-assisted legislation relates to divorce and dissolution reform, pension reform, domestic violence, child support enforcement, and day-care assistance, she stated.

The commission sponsored conferences and workshops that educated thousands of Alaskans, Ms. Hurley continued from Ms. Wise's written testimony. She said that the commission has worked to fulfill its statutory mandate and that much work remains for the commission related to divorce and dissolution, child care, families, domestic violence, and sex equity. She said that women have still not achieved social, economic, and political equity. However, she said, "with the assistance of the Alaska Women's Commission, we have taken large steps on the path to equity."

Concluding Ms. Wise's remarks, Ms. Hurley pointed out that the Alaska Women's Commission had included Jean Van Dorman, and Barbara Shoeman, both Republicans. She noted that, in the past, many Republican women had served on the commission, although none are on the committee presently. She stated that the amendment stipulating the commission's partisan makeup is unnecessary for that reason.

Ms. Hurley stated that the conference report quoted by Ms. Miller was not a position or report of the Women's Commission. It was, instead, a report of what had happened at one conference. The subject matter presented at many conferences held by the commission was determined by the public, she added. The Women's Commission-sponsored conferences addressed a broad spectrum of subjects, including families and children, Ms. Hurley added.

Ms. Hurley referred to POMs received by legislators, that she considered misinformed. She emphasized that the Women's Commission does not advise women regarding abortion. The role of the commission, she said, is to refer women to sources of accurate information. She stated that she had served as executive director of the commission for three years and that she had never received a call regarding abortion. The Women's Resource Center, she added, deals with clients and the Women's Commission deals with issues and provides referrals to the

ROSEMARY VAN DER LAAN, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, ALASKA DIVISION (via teleconference from Anchorage), spoke in favor of continuing the Alaska Women's Commission. She submitted written testimony as well (attachment 6).

Ms. van der Laan reviewed the accomplishments of the commission. She stated that recently the commission published Family Equity at Issue on a very limited budget.

Ms. van der Laan urged the committee not to eliminate or deeply reduce programs that benefit "those who can least afford to defend themselves." She said that the commission "offers practical solutions in hard times" to "all of the women of Alaska." She stated that inequities in Alaska still need to be rectified and that the Alaska Women's Commission is essential in that work. She spoke against merging the Women's Commission with the ASCHR. "For relatively little money, the commission provides a great deal of help to many Alaskan women," she said. The continuation of the Commission, she concluded, is the first legislative priority of her organization.

JOYCE RIVERS, VICE CHAIR, ANCHORAGE WOMEN'S COMMISSION (via teleconference from Anchorage), spoke in favor of extending the life of the Alaska Women's Commission. She said that her group deals with local women's issues. She urged women who feel disenfranchised from the commission to come back with their concerns and to focus on the commission's actual accomplishments. She said that Ms. Miller's description did not sound like the Alaska Women's Commission.

Ms. Rivers commended the Women's Commission's reports on sex equity in education and on the economic consequences of divorce. She pointed out that the feminization of poverty is real. She urged the committee to examine the commission's accomplishments and to allow it to continue this work.

BEATRICE HALKETT, PRESIDENT, NATIVE WOMEN OF ALASKA (via teleconference from Anchorage) spoke in favor of continuing the Alaska Women's Commission. She explained that, in the commission's first status report, Native women's concerns were omitted. Her organization convinced the commission to produce another status report, she said. Since that time, the commission has worked to address the concerns of Alaskan rural women identified in the report. The commission has assisted rural women in organizing conferences and in networking with other organizations, she added.

ALICE BERGDOLL, Alaskan resident since birth, spoke in favor of SB 8 with Representative Barnes' amendments. She presented the committee with petitions bearing 120 names collected in the past week. The petitions, she said, support SB 8 with amendments offered "to truly represent all women, rather than

being a state lobbying group for one point of view." The petitions were circulated after offering private citizens the opportunity to read, hear, and understand about SB 8 and its amendments, she explained.

Ms. Bergdoll requested that the petitions be distributed to the Juneau legislators and to the members of the committee.

Ms. Bergdoll commented that she had not noticed the commission studying separation, although they've studied divorce and dissolution. She said that some women who are separated actually desire reconciliation with their spouses. She said that, because separation is illegal in Alaska, these women are unprotected and their needs should be addressed.

The Juneau Women's Council has been inactive since May, Ms. Bergdoll stated, noting that she was a member of the council. The Sitka Women's Council is also inactive, she said.

JAN FOSTER (via teleconference from Anchorage), mother and long-time Alaskan, spoke in favor of extending the Alaska Women's Commission. She said that she is a board member of the Girl Scouts, a PTA member, and a soccer mom as well. She said that the commission is important to her for the work it is doing for the future of her children.

Before the commission was created, Ms. Foster stated, it became apparent that no advocate existed for the concerns of women in the state. She stated that the commission has addressed these concerns, producing fine work. She stated that this work has been beleaguered by undeserved accusations.

Ms. Foster said that she had collected data as she conducted research for volunteer grant writing. The commission was able to provide her with the figures on women and girls that she sought in this work. The Department of Labor, on the other hand, was not able to give her that information.

Ms. Foster said that the commission has done "a great deal of good in this state with a very small budget." It has relied on volunteers and outside resources to accomplish its work, she explained. She urged the committee to disregard emotional testimony and to seek information about the commission's actual accomplishments. She concluded that there is still a good deal of work to be done and she encouraged the committee to support and fund the Women's Commission.

Co-Chairman Larson thanked Ms. Foster. He stated that the teleconference and hearing would continue on February 8, 1989.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

February 8, 1989, Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 8

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date."

Co-Chairman Larson told the members that these bills were held over from a previous meeting.

CECILIA WATSON, told the committee that she was not a member of any of the women's groups that support and work with the Women's Commission. She said that she believed a body such as the Commission was properly suited to carry out the functions of research and education.

(Tape change HFC 89-18, Side Two)

Ms. Watson mentioned that she was an obstetrics nurse and that she has seen the effects of liberal divorce laws which have serious implications on the health of the women and children who live at poverty levels. She noted that the implication that the Commission supported the pro-choice faction of the abortion issue was not justified. She said that she supports the Women's Commission and the passage of the bill.

Co-Chairman Larson asked what Ms. Watson might choose if given the choice between day-care assistance, foster care, sexual assault centers, or the Women's Commission. Ms. Watson said that it was a difficult question in that it was a choice between dealing with the roots of the problem and the end results.

PAULA ZIEGLER, CHAIR, ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION, told the members that there are ten members of the Commission, and that the testimony on the bill was beginning to center on the personalities involved. She gave a brief self-description. Ms. Ziegler said she was proud of her Alaskan heritage, and proud of the Commission. She said that over the last several years it has become apparent that they have many more supporters and detractors than they knew of, and that they have learned from this.

Ms. Ziegler said that several points have been made that the Commission deals with controversial issues. She said that the Commission supported the civil rights amendment. As elected officials she said she believed it her obligation to uphold the state constitution which contains such an amendment.

Ms. Ziegler discussed the amendments offered to SB 8. She said that the Commission opposes the amendment relating to choosing representation from political parties. She noted that the amendment would "chip away" at the strong executive principle. Ms. Ziegler discussed the fact that there have been Republican members of the Commission.

Ms. Ziegler said that half of the present members on the Commission are people that "manage a household that includes their spouse and at least one child" and that she would prefer to leave the language regarding this definition as it is in the bill. She said that she preferred to keep the word "status" in the third amendment. She said that the amendment concerning changes in categories for membership should also apply to other commissions. She said it was not necessary to spell out the marital status of the members because the Commission currently encompasses a wide spectrum. Ms. Ziegler opposed the remaining amendments. She said that the amendment relating to soliciting ideas and information from a variety of people is what the Commission has always tried to do.

Representative Wallis commented on the Legislative Audit report which recommended that the full-time staff support be eliminated and that staff support could be provided on an "as-needed" basis from the staff of the Office of the Governor in Anchorage. Representative Wallis said that there are many women's groups with goals similar to the Commission in the state.

Ms. Ziegler said that she would find it difficult to cope with a lack of staff and that the members of the Commission are unpaid and have other jobs. Sharing staff with other groups would be uncertain, she said.

Representative Wallis asked what the Commission has done for rural women in the state. Ms. Ziegler responded that a status report on rural women was done approximately six years ago. More recently, at a meeting in Bethel which was held two years ago, the Commission met with the community leaders who were involved in shelter programs, and they did a workshop on self-esteem, she said. Mary Pete, one of the Commissioners from that area gave a presentation, she added. Most recently, Ms. Ziegler said, the Executive Director flew to Barrow and met with a group who were organizing a women's commission for that area.

Representative Wallis commented that the needs for hands-on help in rural areas such as VPSO's, and health service employees are a higher priority than the Commission. She noted that the Commission has not demonstrated any budgetary restraint during this fiscal crisis. Representative Wallis concluded that basic needs of health and safety must come before other desires for things such as the Commission. Ms. Ziegler responded that she didn't think the choices need to be between the health and safety needs and the Women's Commission. She said that there are other places to choose.

Representative Barnes said that approximately ten years ago the Women's Commission was lobbying against the veteran's preference for housing. Over the last few years with the opposition to the Commission increasing, Representative Barnes indicated that public opinion for the Commission is largely opposed. Representative Barnes said that the Commission should be looking at ways to bring the women of the state together rather than dividing them. She said that the amendments which Ms. Ziegler had testified in opposition to represent a way to begin to bring the differing factions of women together.

Ms. Ziegler said that in her time on the Commission they have not lobbied against any veteran's preference bills. She said that she would imagine that it may have related to the fact that women who served in the armed forces were not adequately recognized. As to Representative Barnes point concerning the divisiveness, Ms. Ziegler said that when groups are divided everyone has to move. She said that points that the Commission is not willing to compromise on are the basic matters of equity and non-discrimination based on gender.

Representative Barnes directed Ms. Ziegler's attention back to the amendments, and said that she was appalled that the Commission has not gone out of its way to reach out to all women in the state, and instead has testified against the amendments which would have helped move the groups together. She said that she recognizes some of the work that the Commission has done has been good.

Representative Shultz commented on matriarchal societies existing in the state. There was discussion concerning matriarchal and matrilineal societies.

Representative Shultz said that there is a strong need for men to have support groups and that it seems like everything is geared to helping women. He said that the system has gone too far overboard for women and that there are numerous women's related state programs. He asked what the Commission does that the department don't do. Ms. Ziegler said that the Commission makes sure that the departments do what they are supposed to do. She said that their role is not to duplicate services.

Representative Ulmer said that she would introduce legislation to establish a Men's Commission as soon as the majority of the House and Senate as well as the Governor and the majority of the judges in the state are female.

Representative Swackhammer asked if Ms. Ziegler could give him an idea of the breakdown of opinion on the Commission regarding their positions on the abortion issue, as much of the divisiveness has seemed to center on this issue. Ms. Ziegler said that the members of the Commission have not discussed their personal opinions on the issue. She said she was not willing to make any assumptions on other people's views, especially on a topic like that one. She explained that she believes the reason the misunderstanding had arose was because abortion is a legal procedure in the state and access to abortion should be equal. She said that the Commission took a public stand in the 70's in favor of the ballot proposition which said that if you are too poor to afford the legal procedure, then you should be entitled to Medicaid funding. She said that the subject has not come up since then in formal context.

Co-Chairman Larson asked if there are any men on the Commission. Ms. Ziegler responded that there are and there have been men on the Commission in the past.

In response to comments by Co-Chairman Larson relating to the salaries of the director and staff of the Commission, Ms. Ziegler said that the salaries were not "out of whack" considering similar Executive Director's salaries in state agencies.

(Tape change HFC 89-19, Side One)

Co-Chairman Larson said that with the new element of the declining budget situation, the state must determine what it can afford, and it must decide if it can continue to afford the boards and commissions which have been established in the past.

Representative Rieger referenced the administrative order which extended the termination date of the Commission last year, and asked why the bill requires retroactivity. Ms. Ziegler said that the retroactivity relates to the fact that an administrative order applies from one legislative adjournment to another. She deferred the further details of the question to the Attorney General's office.

SHARI GOLL, REPRESENTING THE ALASKA WOMEN'S LOBBY, said that the Lobby is in support of the Women's Commission. She said that she would set aside her comments regarding the contributions of the Commission to discuss instead the amendments. Ms. Goll said that the amendments which have been offered have been rejected in every Committee. The statute recognizes that the governor should find a person who is a homemaker to sit on the Commission, and that this is an adequate description. Ms. Goll referred to the remaining amendments and explained her opposition to them.

Ms. Goll commented on the amendment regarding the removal of the nonpartisan nature of the Commission by replacing it with the language similar to the APOC statute. She said that the Commission has been criticized for being overly political. She concluded that the women who sit on the Commission share an ideology and philosophy that is in support of continued progress for women, an end to discrimination, and removing barriers that block the way to equal opportunity.

Co-Chairman Larson asked if the Women's Commission receives any private funding. Ms. Goll said that she was not with the Commission, but believed that the statute allows the Commission to receive federal grants.

Co-Chairman Larson said that the hearing on the bills would be continued the following week, due to time constraints.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

SENATE BILL 8

"Relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; e.d."

HOUSE BILL 56

"Establishing the Alaska Women's Commission as a permanent commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; e.d."

Co-Chairman Larson noted that Ruth Lister would be on line in Anchorage via teleconference for the discussion of SB 8 and HB 56. He explained his intent to finish the public hearing process before adjourning the day's meeting. At that time, he said, he would ask for a motion from the committee to use SB 8 as the vehicle for the continuation of the Women's Commission. He stated that he would like to complete the committee's action on the bill on the following Wednesday, February 22. At that time, he said, the committee would consider all proposed amendments and move the bill from committee.

CAROL GRAY, full-time homemaker and thirty-year Alaskan, expressed concerns regarding the role of the Women's Commission. (Ms. Gray's written testimony is included as attachment 2.) She stated that the commission had advocated a number of controversial solutions to the problems of women in the state.

Ms. Gray explained that day care is a problem for which several solutions are possible. She noted that government funding for day care in public buildings may or may not be a viable solution, depending on one's assumptions about "the necessity of middle-class women to be in the work force."

Ms. Gray stated that she opposes the Civil Rights Restoration Act as an intrusion into Americans' private lives. She said that the Alaska Women's Commission had endorsed that act.

Ms. Gray said she opposes the ERA because it "does not provide for the type of protections and benefits women deserve." She added that the commission had supported the ERA.

Ms. Gray noted that issues to be considered by the Alaska Women's Commission this year can be solved in various ways. She suggested that advocacy for different solutions should be paid for by those supporting those viewpoints. She stated that it is not enough to come to a workshop and express an opinion.

Ms. Gray questioned several conclusions and statistics derived from Women's Commission research. She stated that "perhaps attention and funds should be directed at enforcing existing Alaskan laws."

Ms. Gray told the committee that, because the Women's Commission does not counsel for abortion that does not mean that the commission does not advocate for abortion. She explained that "the Equal Rights Act - abortion connection has

been acknowledged for years by legal counsel on both sides of the issue." She asked the committee if members intend to support a commission that advocates positions about which women are so divided.

Referring to a suggestion that geographical representation will balance the composition of the commission, Ms. Gray expressed doubts. She questioned the statement that the commission is not political, noting that it has exerted an "active, effective influence on public policy."

Ms. Gray noted that groups asking for special attention often bring about a pervasive kind of discrimination in public policy. She wondered if "making women's issues a matter of public policy by establishing the Alaska Women's Commission will actually do more harm than good in helping the economic status of women in Alaska."

Responding to a question from Representative Phillips regarding how much the executive director of the Alaska Women's Commission should be paid, Ms. Gray stated that the director's salary should be related to what is produced by the commission.

Co-Chairman Larson noted that the committee is presently examining the operation of commissions in order to establish a fair system of compensation for the staff of commissions. Through HB 100, he said, the legislature will be able to fairly address compensation for all commissions.

JAMES E. FISHER, "long term observer and participant in Alaskan society," spoke in favor of extending the Women's Commission. (Mr. Fisher's testimony is included as attachment 3.) He stated that, because so many women must now work outside of the home, an agency such as the Women's Commission is imperative. In modern families, he added, most women do not fit the traditional role of "housewife." He stated that most men do not understand women's needs, and that many women who work and care for families alone do not have the time or energy to communicate their needs. He said that research on Alaskan families is necessary in order to "prepare ...succeeding generations to assume their responsibilities." The Women's Commission, he concluded, provides understanding of the "social pressures affecting more than half of our population."

Representative Barnes asked about the male member of the commission.

RUTH LISTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA WOMEN'S COMMISSION, answered via teleconference from Anchorage. She said that Merritt Helfferich is the male member of the commission.

Tape change: 89-21, Side 1

Representative Barnes asked Mr. Fisher if he was familiar with the amendments to SB 8. He answered that he had not followed the bill's amendments and he hesitated to address those specifics.

Representative Rieger asked what percentage of the time child custody is awarded to women and what percentage to men, in divorce cases. Mr. Fisher said that he did not know, but he would refer to the Women's Commission for such information.

Referring to remarks made earlier by Representative Ulmer and by Mr. Fisher, Representative Shultz asked why half of the leadership positions in the state and federal government should be made up of women. Mr. Fisher answered that no one knows at this point what kinds of changes society would experience if women participated more in all of society's activities.

Representative Barnes asked if Mr. Fisher thinks that men are so biased that they are incapable of making decisions affecting women. Mr. Fisher said that many people are biased and some try to overcome those biases while others don't.

Representative Barnes said that she doesn't make decisions based on bias and she doesn't think men do so either. She asked Mr. Fisher if the Women's Commission can change people's biases.

Mr. Fisher said that he does not expect the Women's Commission to change people's behavior but he believes that the commission can help people to understand some of the impacts on men and women in today's society. He stated that such awareness can lead to reasonable solutions to problems.

SUE MILLER, TASK FORCE FOR ADVOCATES FOR WOMEN, stated that she wanted to clarify the Women's Commission's stance on abortion. She referred to various sources of information indicating that the Women's Commission had supported a pro-choice position. (Ms. Miller's written testimony is included as attachment 4.)

Ms. Miller noted that Paula Ziegler had stated that the commission had lobbied pro-choice on a ballot issue ten years ago. She added that the "Preliminary Status of Women" study had indicated a need for expanded family planning and abortion. This study was the basis of the implementation of the Women's Commission, Ms. Miller said.

Ms. Miller mentioned a pamphlet available from the commission called "Abortion Facts" and status reports 1982-1987 describing workshops on reproductive rights and health. She quoted other organizations, including the Alaska Women's Lobby, Business and Professional Women, and the AAUW regarding their positions on abortion. She stated that "health care"

and "reproductive rights" are synonymous with a pro-abortion position.

Ms. Miller said that some women are concerned that teen pregnancies and health care are priority agenda items for the commission.

Regarding the ERA, Ms. Miller said, the Women's Commission "might do research as to why women in the state are dissatisfied with this concept and how it might be remedied." She stated that "women nationally have repudiated (the ERA) and many statewide women say (it) is impacting them adversely."

Ms. Miller objected to testimony that appointing commission members from lists submitted by political parties would detract from the governmental keystone of a strong executive. She said that because commission members and supporters oppose "pursuing the recommendations of as many groups as possible," that "is an admission ... that only one ideology is being represented on the commission." She said that it is necessary to provide a way in which women from different points of view might be considered for appointment to the commission.

Ms. Miller thanked committee members for allowing witnesses time to express their concerns.

Representative Brown asked Ms. Miller to clarify references to Women's Commission "networking affiliates." Representative Brown pointed out that the BPW, the Alaska Women's Lobby, the Alaska Women's Political Caucus, and the AAUW, whose comments and articles on abortion were included in members' packets were not affiliated with the Women's Commission.

Ms. Miller explained that, in including these comments and articles, she meant to emphasize the existence of several Alaskan groups that already address women's issues.

Representative Brown pointed out that, because those groups support the same goals does not necessarily mean that they are affiliated with the Women's Commission.

She referred to "clean-up amendments" re-numbering sections of the bill, on page 3 of Representative Barnes' amendments to SB 8. She stated that she did not understand the purpose of those amendments. Ms. Miller answered that Legal Research had added this portion of the amendments.

Representative Koponen asked about the partisanship designation of the Senate Finance amendment to SB 8. Ms. Miller stated that she supported those amendments.

Representative Koponen noted that the majority of Alaskans do not belong to the two major parties. Ms. Miller responded

that other sections of the amendments would require the Governor to consider recommendations from churches, civic groups, and other organizations, allowing nonpartisan voters to participate in the commission.

Representative Koponen told Ms. Miller that a number of his nonpartisan constituents consider the partisan designation to be a "plot" by the major parties to dominate the commission.

AMELIA ENDORFF addressed the committee in support of a "moratorium" on the Women's Commission. She discussed the 4-H Toy Drive, which she supervises each winter, and the poverty she and her assistants have observed through the distribution of the toys. She stated that Alaska's social programs are suffering and the money from the Women's Commission should be dedicated to those programs. She told the committee that she supports delivering immediate care such as food, clothing, fuel, and medical help for needy pregnant women and single parent families. She urged the committee to fund day care assistance and other necessary services and to hold funding for the Women's Commission.

Representative Shultz noted that the budget for Health and Social Services had increased about 37% since 1980. He said that the legislature has funded social programs in the state of Alaska, but that money has gone to bureaucratic kingdom-building, rather than to the needy people it was meant to help. He said that agency regulators have impeded their staffs from providing assistance.

Ms. Endorff stated that, in her experience, confidentiality laws have prevented the 4-H toys from reaching needy children a number of times.

SHERRIE GOLL, ALASKA WOMEN'S LOBBY, in response to previous questions about support by rural people for the commission, pointed out written testimony sent to Senator Fisher last April (attachment 5), by 42 Bethel residents. In excerpts read by Ms. Goll, these men and women supported continuing the Women's Commission. They spoke in favor of the commission completing the family equity research project. They hoped that the commission would also "initiate research on teen pregnancy...domestic violence and sexual assault." They said that the commission needed to "explore options for rural women...including further academic training and basic skills for living education," and to promote minority female leadership in rural Alaska.

The letter noted that Alaskan villagers have "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."

Representative Shultz asked if the people who had written the letter had been informed of recent amendments to SB 8. Ms. Goll answered that the letter was written last April and that the authors were probably not aware of the proposed changes.

MARY McCLINTON, 31-year Democrat and a Juneau resident, stated that she had provided input to the preparation of Representative Barnes' amendments. She said that she supports those amendments. (Ms. McClinton's testimony is included as attachment 6.)

She said that the representatives of the Alaska Women's Commission had made conflicting statements. While voicing a commitment to represent all women, she explained, the commission has tried to prevent a significant number of women from expressing a "need for a change in the language of the present legislation." She said that the amendments would make the commission more responsive to the needs of women.

Ms. McClinton said that Women's Commission representatives have stated a desire to meet with Task Force members, but not about making the bill more inclusive. She added that they don't really want to talk until after the bill has passed. She said that, once the bill becomes law, there will be no way to change it and that the Task Force intends to change it now through legal channels.

If the Women's Commission and the Governor are committed to hearing all women's viewpoints, Ms. McClinton wondered why the Task Force had spent so much time trying to be heard. She distributed a letter to Representative Boucher documenting the Task Force's attempts to meet with the Governor (attachment 7).

Representative Barnes MOVED that the committee use SB 8 as the vehicle for consideration by the committee on Wednesday, February 22, 1989. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

BETTY BENGTON, mother of four and a 6 1/2 year Juneau resident, spoke in opposition to the existence of the Women's Commission. She stated that she is frustrated with the fact that the state has spent \$2.0 million on research and advocacy through the commission because it duplicates other effort. She cited examples of such research.

Ms. Bengton said that the zero fiscal note accompanying SB 8 is deceptive. She stated that the last Women's Commission sunsetted last summer and that the Interim Commission created at that time is a new body. If something starts all over again, she said, legislation creating it should be attached to a listing of the actual costs of the program.

(Tape change: 89-21, Side 2)

February 22, 1989, Finance

SENATE BILL 8

"An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; e.d."

Co-Chairman Larson stated that the committee would take action on the amended Senate Finance committee substitute for SB 8 at the present meeting. Ruth Lister, Executive Director of the Women's Commission, would be on line via teleconference, he told the committee, to answer any questions from the committee.

Representative Koponen stated that he had received fifty-one public opinion messages in favor of SB 8 without amendments and one against it in any form.

Representative Barnes added that most of the POMs she had received were opposed to the bill without amendments, but, with amendments, more were supportive.

Representative Barnes MOVED that the committee adopt amendment #1, which she had proposed on February 7, 1989 (attachment 1). She referred committee members' questions to Sue Miller and Mary McClinton of the Task Force for Advocates for Women.

Representative Ulmer asked about the amendments limiting the commission's membership (Sec. 2. AS 44.19.167: "the governor may not appoint to the commission a person who is:

- (1) a state employee;
- (2) an employee of a legislator; or
- (3) the parent, sibling, spouse, or child of the governor or of a legislator."

Representative Barnes answered that the Women's Commission had included legislators' family members in the past. She stated that including legislators' family members on a commission that is meant to represent one group of people is a self-perpetuating practice.

Representative Ulmer asked why this sort of limitation would not apply to other commissions such as the Older Alaskans Commission.

Representative Barnes responded that no other commissions included members of legislators' families. She said that people would probably object, if that were the case, because legislators are meant to represent all of the people rather than self-perpetuating through family members on commissions.

Representative Ulmer asked about the substitution for "homemaker" on page 1, line 19: "person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child." She wondered what would happen if the member's spouse died or a child went away to school.

Representative Barnes said that she assumed that this definition would apply to a member at the time of appointment.

Representative Ulmer stated her preference for the current definition of homemaker, "not otherwise employed," because it would apply to a broader group of people.

Representative Barnes expressed the belief that the additional categories of people spelled out in her amendment and in the original bill would allow representation of a broad cross-section of the population.

Representative Koponen commented on Representative Barnes' reference to legislators' family members serving on boards and commissions. He said that his wife is a member of the Prison Industries Board and that she, a "woman of strong and independent mind," would not necessarily agree with or represent his point of view in her participation on the board. He stated his opposition to that limitation.

Co-Chairman Larson reminded the committee of the policy regarding amendments. He told members that a quorum for passing an amendment is six votes when ten members are present and at no time will less than five votes suffice for an amendment to pass.

Representative Brown MOVED to amend amendment # 1, striking all language except the insertion to follow "research" on page 2, line 22 of the bill (attachment 1, page 2), ", by serving as a referral service for information and education that will help women avail themselves of existing resources to meet their needs."

Representative Barnes OBJECTED to the amendment to the amendment.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to amend amendment #1.

IN FAVOR: Ulmer, Brown, Koponen, Larson
OPPOSED: Swackhammer, Wallis, Barnes, Phillips, Rieger, Shultz

The motion to amend the amendment FAILED, 6 - 4.

Representative Barnes MOVED the question on Representative Barnes' original amendment. A roll call vote was taken.

IN FAVOR: Wallis, Barnes, Phillips, Rieger, Shultz, Swackhammer, Larson
OPPOSED: Ulmer, Brown, Koponen

The amendment PASSED, 7 - 3.

Representative Brown distributed copies of amendment #2 (attachment #2) for the committee's consideration, in lieu of the amendment she had submitted on 2/7/89. She MOVED that the committee adopt amendment #2, noting that it differed from her original amendment in that it reinserts the language "nonpartisan and" on page 1, line 11 of the version of the bill adopted by the Senate.

Representative Brown stated that her amendment would require the appointment of commission members to be made by the Governor on a nonpartisan basis, rather than as amended by the Senate Finance Committee. In the amended Senate Finance version of the bill, she reminded the committee, at least four members of the commission would be selected by the Governor from lists submitted by the central committees of the two major parties.

Representative Phillips asked what would ensure the involvement of nonpartisans on the commission. Representative Brown answered that there would be no guarantee of nonpartisan participation, but that the appointments would be based on interest, qualifications, and contributions, rather than on candidates' political parties.

Representative Ulmer stated that the terms of the commission's members would be staggered, so that members would overlap with new appointees. She said that this would enable successive governors to appoint new members from other parties to the commission. She said that the statutes require no other board or commission to specify partisanship for appointment to the commission. She said that the partisanship requirement would make this commission different from all others except the APOC, which deals with political issues. She added that, if the legislature adopts the partisanship requirement, they might need to consider the same requirement for other commissions and boards.

Representative Koponan stated that the amended Senate version not only requires partisan appointments; it also requires approval by the central committee of each party. He reiterated that his district includes a large concentration of members of the "other two major parties." He said that he couldn't support legislation that would automatically appoint Democrats and Republicans but not other parties. Over 50% of Alaskans have registered as nonpartisans or independents, he added, and all Alaskans should have the right to serve on the Women's Commission.

Representative Barnes pointed out that the Women's Commission is unlike other commissions in that it represents the women of Alaska. She said that the commission should include the broadest perspective possible. She added that, if all commission members belong to one political party, the commission would not represent a broad cross-section of Alaskan women. She said that the Women's Commission in the past has been so controversial because it has shown a bias in its deliberation. She said that she supported the amended Senate version of SB 8.

Co-Chairman Larson called the question. A roll call vote was taken on Representative Brown's amendment #2.

IN FAVOR: Brown, Koponen, Phillips, Swackhammer, Ulmer,
Larson
OPPOSED: Wallis, Barnes, Rieger, Shultz

The amendment PASSED, 6 - 4.

Representative Barnes MOVED to incorporate the two adopted amendments to House Committee Substitute for the Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 8 (Finance) amended and to report the bill out of committee with individual recommendations and a zero fiscal note by the House Finance Committee. There being NO OBJECTIONS, it was so ordered.

HCS CSSB 8 (Finance) was reported out of committee with no recommendations and a zero fiscal note by the House Finance Committee dated 2/7/89.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

March 7, 1989, Rules

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 8 (Finance) am; "An Act relating to the Alaska Women's Commission; extending the termination date of the Interim Women's Commission; and providing for an effective date." security services on the second floor.

Chairman Grussendorf asked members to refer to copies of HCS CS SB 8 (FIN) and work draft HCS CS SB 8 (RUL) and use the Finance committee substitute as the working copy. He compared the House Finance committee substitute to the Senate-passed bill, then explained the differences between the House Finance version and the House Rules version. On HCS CS SB 8 (FIN), page 1, lines 14 & 15: delete "person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child"; add the word "homemaker". Chairman Grussendorf then referred to a letter he received March 6, 1989 from Sandra Henricks, Chairperson of the Alaska Human Rights Commission, he then gave each member a copy of the letter. He said the letter states that the commission concurs with using the word "homemaker" as opposed to the Finance version's "a person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child" because the commission believes that particular wording violates the concept of human rights law in Alaska. Referring back to the Finance CS, page 1, line 21: add the words "and status". Page 1, lines 26 through 29 remains in the Rules CS as is in the Finance CS. Page 2, lines 1-10: delete section two. Page 2, lines 25 & 26: delete the sentence "A person may not serve more than six consecutive years". Page 3, line 18: delete the word "fully".

Number 182

Speaker Cotten moved and asked unanimous consent for the adoption of HCS CSSB 8 (RULES).

Number 187

Rep. Martin objected to the move to adopt the Rules CS and suggested further discussion on considering Finance committee amendments.

Number 198

Chairman Grussendorf asked Rep. Martin if he planned to prepare amendments for consideration on the floor.

Number 200

Rep. Martin replied that he wanted discussion on amendments in the Rules committee. He then asked for clarification on the dates of termination of the Women's Commission in the House versions of the bill. Reps. Cotten and Davidson explained the dates being identical in both versions and also in the Senate-passed version.

Rep. Martin further questioned the Interim Commission's extension date in sec. 7 of both House versions and the retroactive clause of sec. 9 which pertains to sec. 7. Chairman Grussendorf suggested the dates could be amended on the floor if so desired.

Number 289

Rep. Taylor asked the chair whether the Rules CS would be moved today. Chairman Grussendorf replied that it was the intention to move it today. Further discussion followed on the process of getting a committee substitute to the floor for debate and action.

Chairman Grussendorf explained the desire to produce a CS which is a compromise between the original version and the House Finance committee version. Rep. Davidson continued discussion on the differences between the two House committee versions.

Number 360

Rep. Martin suggested secs. 4 and 5 of the bill contain persons whom are well-represented on other state commissions and should not be prioritized on the Women's commission.

Number 375

Chairman Grussendorf clarified secs. 4 and 5 as being amendments proposed in the Finance committee which request the Governor to give consideration to persons representing certain groups when making commission appointments as opposed to requiring certain group representation.

Number 414

Chairman Grussendorf asked if there were objections to adoption of the HCS CSSB 8 (RULES), there were objections and so the roll call vote was (4) yeas, (2) nays. Voting yeas were Reps. Davidson, Cotten, Donley and Grussendorf. Voting nay were Reps. Martin and Taylor. And so HCS CS SB 8 (Rules) was adopted.

Number 423

Rep. Martin expressed his support for the adoption of the House Finance CS. Chairman Grussendorf replied that the Rules committee had already adopted its version of the bill but the opportunity to support another version would be available on the floor.

Number 433

Rep. Taylor moved amendment number one; page 1, line 14, delete "homemaker"; add "person who manages a household that includes the person's spouse and at least one child". Brief discussion followed.

Number 478

Chairman Grussendorf requested a roll call vote on amendment number one offered by Rep. Taylor. There were (2) in favor, Reps. Taylor and Martin, and so amendment number one failed adoption.

Number 496

Rep. Goll questioned whether Rep. Martin would offer amendments to delete sections 1, 4 and 5. Rep. Martin replied that he would wait for the floor session on the bill.

Number 504

Rep. Taylor offered amendment number two; page 2, lines 1-10; insert original section from the Finance CS.

Chairman Grussendorf requested a roll call on amendment number two offered by Rep. Taylor. There were (2) in favor, Reps. Taylor and Martin, and (4) opposed, Reps. Grussendorf, Davidson, Donley and Cotten. Amendment two failed adoption.

Number 510

Rep. Taylor offered amendment number three; page 2, lines 25 & 26, insert sentence "A person may not serve more than six consecutive years". Rep. Taylor expressed his support for more of a turnover on the commission.

Chairman Grussendorf requested a roll call on amendment number three offered by Rep. Taylor. There were (3) in favor, Reps. Taylor, Davidson and Martin, and (3) opposed, Reps. Grussendorf, Donley and Cotten. Amendment three failed adoption.

Number 529

Rep. Martin moved amendment four; page 3, line 20, delete section 9.

Number 535

Chairman Grussendorf offered to meet with Rep. Martin to work together on the date discrepancies before the bill moves to the floor.

Number 539

Rep. Cotten said that after speaking with the sponsor's staff regarding sec. 9 of the Rules CS, it was his understanding that Interim Commission currently will terminate at the end of the current session but sec. 7 extends the termination date to June 30, 1989 and sec. 9 make sec. 7 retroactive to the adjournment date of this session. Although appearing awkward, Rep. Cotten stated the two sections accomplish what they were intended to accomplish.

Number 548


Rep. Martin withdrew amendment four.

Number 550

Rep. Davidson moved to pass HCS CS SB 8 (Rules) out with individual recommendations. So ordered. Signing do pass: (4) Reps. Grussendorf (Chairman), Cotten, Davidson and Donley. Signing do not pass: (2) Reps. Taylor and Martin.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

DISTRIBUTED by Minority Caucus

1 Dennis, Please
file w/ Women's Commission
data.


Women's Commission Meeting
March 13, 14, 15, 1989
Rm. 375 Diamond Ct. Bldg.

Notes of Meetings - follow agenda

Monday, March 13, 1989

11:00 a.m. roll call

Joy Armstrong, Pat Kennedy not present

approval of minutes - see women's commission
packet

Agenda Review

Evalene will substitute for Pat Kennedy. Evalene is one
of staff members of Womens' Commission from Anchorage
Refer to packet "Schedule of Meetings With Legislators"

Since Pat Kennedy not available Paula Ziegler said, "I
will do Randy Phillips. The Business and Professional Women
are having a breakfast at which he is attending in the
morning and I'll see him there. Other times I have to work.

Ruth Lister: Perhaps the 9:45 appointment with Senator
Kelly maybe should not be me.

Paula. Perhaps Susan Smalley can do Swackhammer alone.
6 of you have 9:30's. We put Ct. Rule 90.3 under executive
director's report. 11:00 Pat Kennedy will take the lead in
talking.

Report from the chair-Paula Ziglar

At an informal meeting in December we decided a gift
for Barbara Baker who is no longer commissioner should be
\$50.00.

As for my activities on the interim commission they have
been limited to testifying. We appeared at 5 hearings.
Ruth did a lot more by phone. I communicated with Marie
Darlin of AARP and Federally Employed Women who has contact
with the community. I coordinated and tracked legislation.
Several legislative appointments have occurred as well.

Budget Discussion

Legal rights handbook paid out of personal services.
DOE education equity conference in April. If I can pay part
of the trip with my per diem. I will find out how Portland
Oregon and Washington will handle welfare reform, displaced
homemaker.

Federally employed women-would run off many copies

Networking

National agenda

Loretta distributed to shelters, legal offices, womens' resource centers, health clinics. Sent calendar to all health aides in the state to serve on task forces. 1 health nurse, 19 years.

DOE put \$2000 into womens' calendar. How we got that is ... Controversy on Director's Salary change 21 to 28. There has been complaint of my salary for only supervising 2 people.

Paula everyone should be aware-we don't set step or range

Merrit: So we could say you only get 62% of what the rest of directors who are male get? Your salary is not out of line, at bottom of line. Used to be 3rd from bottom. \$36,000 are program receipts. You have to write in. We're on bottom of list for OAC as like it to go to Older Alaskans.

Our budget didn't include OAC as it is a line item in the budget. Since AWC receives private funding, we need a place in the budget to reflect that, so that such can go right to the commission.

Evelyn: We would like to publish papers on women. Some papers Nora Dannhauser has already finished and wish we could offer to co-author with her but we probably can't since she has already finished a Mid-wife story, Biographies of women. Unfortunately she's finished them. These stories can involve others in work of commission

Napoleon: If we're to recognize the work women have always done is valuable, Roles of tradition women, kinds of jobs connected with things they did traditionally, working with people, children etc. What things chronicle family/personal history, community development, what work of women has been the glue? Who's a contact in Bethel?

Carol Gray (from audience) If we need to recognize the work woman have always done is valuable, then what changes are we trying to make? Will these changes devalue the traditional role?

Evelyn: "Our public record of what is important to us seems to be quite different from the things we value and record for our private lives. Women are the glue that holds our families and communities together. I've noticed that traditional women do the same things in different cultures."

Ruth: 2/3rds of women end up in divorce and dissolution.

Report from Sheila Gotterher, Boards and Commissions.

I am the liason between the commissions and Governor's office which is responsible for appointments. You all ^{direct} ~~are~~ ^{Comm} invited to the reception at the Governor's mansion sponsored ^{only} by the Business and Professional Women. Governor Cowper supports the Women's Commission and supports the Rules Version.

Overview: There are over 130 boards and commissions which includes some task forces the Governor makes appointments to. I need your help in making recommendations. Are you all on our mailing list to receive vacancies? especially we'd like your help to locate minorities and women. There are over 1100 people on these commissions the Governor appoints. In addition he appoints Judicial seats.

Makes appointments
Self perpetuating since
their recommendations
carry more weight.

Paula Zigler: Do we have a breakdown by gender and ethnic of commission membership? Women have been increasing membership over the years. The AAUW managed to get a bill passed in Nebraska which required 50% of people on boards and commissions be women.

Sheila: Our computers are getting up and can get you a breakdown on ethnic background. The EEO has a questionnaire from which we can get the information.

Ruth Lister: Have you given consideration to womens' groups? How did this process work so that they feel they'd be represented?

Sheila: The present bill says we'll give consideration to recommendations from various groups, but we get few recommendations. We appreciate recommendations from boards and commissios. But increasingly we're soliciting recommendations, resumes with endorsements. We say resumes and endorsements are all public information. You may request a complete mailing list as possible. We acknowledge all letters and endorsements. It is very useful information. When Governor Cowper first took office we were faced with three resignations. We sent out over 250 letters to organizations. If you are interested in finding out who has applied or receiving copies of their resumes and endorsements, it is open information.

If they recommend
verbally can Governor
then solicit so resumes
not available to public?

Paula: Are huge amounts of applications for appointment received or is there apathy?

Sheila: there is a lot of interest- we also seek out persons. As now we are seeking one person, preferably a woman on the Boards of Veternarian examiners

Merrit: There have been charges that the Womens' Commission is not representative of the women in the state. would you say the public is not taking advantage of opportunities available to be board member? How much public input is

there on recommendations- would you say that with so many applications the public has greater opportunity to be involved in this commission?

Sheila: I can find out-it kind of falls in the middle. Yes, I would think so since it has a higher profile.

Linda Freed: We have a new veterernarian, woman in Kodiak, I will give you her name.

Sheila: The Governor also strives for geographical balance.

Betty Ramage: Do you have a list of openings on other boards?

Sheila: The teachers' Retirement Board has 5 members, and we need a retired teacher presently receiving benefits.

Betty: Is the Governor looking for new people?

Sheila: The Governor's policy is, he seeks new blood, but he also doesn't rule out reappointments if a person is doing an exemplary job.

*Questionable process?
Guards all commissions
responses from public's
scrutiny. Whatever
they say about you not
public. No wonder
lay, mainstream women
can't get on.*

Also I should tell you some information is not public. If we receive applications, it is, but if we solicit information, its not public. 40 boards demand financial disclosure. Some demand----- Yes, there is an increase in request, especially regarding who's on the list and we're asked what information we can give people on those applicants.

Ruth: How much lead time do you need to receive resumes before the terms are up?

Sheila: About a month. Although that's not completely successful. However, all applicants must be registered voters before the last general election. Does anyone on the commission or the audience wish to have a request for any of this information? Sheila then left a group of request forms.

Paula: Please be sure to remember the BPW legislative fly-in which they are having the same time we are here. It will be at the Baranof from noon to 1:30. Sherrie Goll will be speaking.

Ruth Lister's comments -Director's Report

I have been working on names and addresses of members etc. I have been studying wage/benefits of child care centers. Article in the Anchorage News February 25, 1989 (see attached) sums up our position on child care. There is a turnover in child care providers

Talked to Hispanic support group. They sponsor women to attend the Image conference. Perhaps we could also. Worked on proposed FY 90 activities -it will be useful to use in talking to legislators We need to insert CT. rule 90.3 under Director's Report We'll reconvene at 1:30 and have an informal verbal discussion of Commissioners related activities since we've last met.

* Regarding SB8: if when its on the floor, some amendments are put in it, would next go to the Senate Conference Committee. I will need some guidance from the commission. Also I need guidance on HB195.

12:00 noon BPW lunch-Baranof Hotel

Sherrie Goll, lobbyist for Alaska Womens' Lobby was the principal speaker.

The AWL supports child care, tobacco tax bills, SB8... In many cases the bills we support are the same as yours

As you know, Womens' Commission had a difficult time last year. This year passed SB8 early in the Senate. Amendments to the bill were accepted in House Finance. House Rules removed those amendments. Rules committee tried to consider the type of bill that would go to conference, so they tried to change the bill so that the amendments would pass a conference committee. It will not happen without this version. The Rules version is still a compromise bill as it has many of the amendments. The finance version of the bill requires commission to replace most of the women with new members. It would be hard to maintain continuity. We're happy with Rules version and want your support. We think amendments will be offered on the floor. If the bills are close, the Senate will concur, otherwise it will go to conference committee.

We support HB66. There is not much long range planning if can take back hire and lay off.....

We support Family Leave. This bill provides security for families who need leave to adopt, or seriously ill people. More like federal. most pro-family legislation this year. Person should not have to choose between the family and the dog. Number of people is 15 an employer can hire before impacted by this bill. 84% of employers have less than 15, but 84% would be covered in government agencies.

We support HB70-pharmaceuticals on the list. 100% Federal funds, 50% monies giving back. We're paying 100% general funds, so 50% back. For people too poor to make it, a medicaid option to capture medicaid funds is there.

*networking affiliate:
see attached RPW
agenda*

*interesting reasoning
presented. Not wholly
truthful. Rules version
not a compromise. Finance
& Senate versions are*

*See our justifications
as to why this statement
is incorrect.*

*Our position is anti-family
& business, others
positions not mentioned.
Education or propaganda?
So someone else should
also pay for our dogs?*

Council on Domestic Violence has been signed and that is good news.

Extension of violent crimes commission to 3rd and 4th class violation passed House and Senate State Affairs.

SB86 child custody-domestic violence.

Preemancipation for minors HB177 has the same target group as runaways....

There is a Resolution to support the ABC childcare bill called HJR24. It would increase Headstart and other child care can be improved. It is widely supported by Congress. one legislator is trying to amend it, but will be checked.

Divorce and Dissolution bill will protect minor children and....Max Gruenberg is a lawyer and sits down with the womens' commission to make sure it is right.

Part of network

Childrens' caucus meets at lunch time. It would be very useful to support our recommendation and keep childrens' services from being cut.

Affirmative action and hiring of minorities and women. EEO is saying they have it in place.

The legislature shredded the job classification study.

Right to Bear arms-we will be able to overturn the bill based on constitutional grounds based on what has been done in other states so we're not concerned. After all, we don't want guns in schoolyards.

SB175 by Binkley-warns pregnant women of defects on unborn of use of alcohol.

Some Women present at the luncheon:

Patty Gardner -
 Kathryn Krueger, Treasurer
 Madelyn McKinney, Past President
 Dr. Joan Klutz-Republican Central Committee Member,
 Fairbanks
 Connie Munroe-Juneau activist
 Lucille Santos
 Barbara Paddock-Petersburg.
 Linda Freed-wc
 Wendy Redman-wc
 Other New Commission Members

Other Business at the Luncheon

Linda Freed announced that Kodiak wants a chapter of BPW
 Sherrie Goll was presented an award for legislative information

Speech from Dr. Patricia Clark, BPW legislative affairs liason

I will go over the strategic plan in your legislative bill folder. We will discuss pages 2 and 3. Pick up your folder if you don't have, one in the AJ room.

Be sure to read the bills through and have your arguments down when you lobby.

Then look at the committees. If your legislator is on one of those lobby them. Get your friends to do so. Do your homework. The time for public hearing for womens' commission is 3:00 p.m. Sign up ahead of time to get heard. I'll testify between 12 and 1:30p.m.

We got out a copy of priorities of womens' commission. We listed activities. Look through and find your thing. Look for underlying principle. School drop-outs are my thing, and teen age pregnancies. My feeling is provide what they need to get through school, not sit in some non-productive place.

Some bills have 2 xx's on the womens' commission sheet of fy 90 activities. Those are the first priorities for you lobbying.

There will be a Democratic caucus in the a.m. to hash out strategy. Someone will try to put in amendments. You are a constituent too, so you need to be heard.

On the womens' commission: the legislators have had lots of negative correspondence who I know are from very far, far, very ultra, ultra, ultra conservative women and you know what that means. Their mail is 7 to 1 against. Need to do our job for the commission. You don't have to be a BPW member. Talk to those women who aren't. Send P.O.M.'s that you want SB8 the way it came out of house rules.

said with dramatic flair. Some liberal women we represent who object to their lobbying will love this.

I love this one that came out of the Senate "to keep it from being political we want the political ones!" (laughter) Talk to aides and staff and be at the reception at 5:00p.m. at the Governor's mansion and afterwards a board meeting.

Resumption of Womens' Commission Meeting
Follow First Day's Agenda under 1:30 p.m., titled Commissioners' Reports

Merrit Helferich: my activities since appointment have mostly been lobbying

Susan Smalley: we had a retreat using Womens' Commissions' book, "Profiles in Change" We sent lots of P.O.M.'s to support SB8

Loretta Bullard: General lobbying-lots of P.O.M.'s

Linda Freed: Lobbying, lot's of P.O.M.s

Ziglar: Lobbying, attending hearings

Wendy Redman: Working with womens' lobby group, Fairbanks. I am very big on early childhood programs, intervention, Headstart. Cited research that says kids who began in Headstart, by high school their scores are better than other kids.

Rebecca Napoleon: I met with a group of mostly home/women, trying to form a council in support of what's available to them. Met and promoted womens' commission. Gave them an overview of the commission so they'd have a better understanding of our goals and objectives. I'm interested in education of youth, ruralcap/headstart. Self esteem, dealing with substance abuse is our program. Want to set up a local commission, with students, teachers etc., a whole perspective of equity issue including state and federal regulations. Involved in working with youth. Part time/voluntary. Setting up commission meetings with youth/adults/elders. not feminist type but equality, how to relate to people and relationships. What is good about myself and others. I've seen changes, trying to do with inequities. Amoc has womens' shelter. Everything new. Feel better about ourselves. Have called legislature in support of SBB-need in rural areas. Many women are not aware of our own personal rights and equal rights. I was involved in teleconferences/ Governor's Interim Commission of Children and Youth. They need awareness of self/environment.

Linda Freed. I called Vice chancellor of Academic Affairs of UAJ composed of mixed groups of women and men. Tying academics at the University level to options of vocational education and academic programs. Day care providers programs. Children are a real focus.

Wendy: I have data on school performance that shows a correlation between strong parent and local involvement-very high correlation and teacher feedback.

Loretta: Tried Headstart/ trying to get prenatal comprehensive child development program. The Bush is very much for this. We're looking at need for parenting education in rural areas. 3 generations of kids have been sent out and now we need these curricular areas in the Bush.

W. Hensley of Netzebue- is trying to get parents to talk to kids.

Ruth: Annual report and calendar

Conflicts with Dr. Raymond Moore's research/Hewlett Institute says after 3rd grade no distinguishable difference except in extremely disadvantaged children

better than what

What social change are you advocating? Confused?

We didn't do much for womens' history month. Need suggestions for next year. Need lead time to do something substantial.

The Legislative Alliance for women statewide sends out to people in writing saying these are our priorities. Put us down for Bill #. Statewide they wrote to all womens' groups. Send in information. We try to stay on mailing list of 300 groups-but its too expensive for us to send information to all. To certain womens' organizations and L.I.C.'s is where we send information.

Not to all groups? No wonder grassroots women; not part of network can't find out what's going on.

Work on Data book update.

Do we still have an agreement with _____. What kinds of info do you want us to pull out? Family size, marital status? Same data element as in 1st report. Can pull data from unemployment, 1990 census. Talked to them, wanted new questions asked, but not possible.

Duplication of Services

Wendy: what is the length of time to get comprehensive data.
Ruth: 1-3 years.
Linda: need aggregates on state level.
Ruth: feedback on changes is time consuming.

2:30 legislative briefing and position papers

Evelyn Tucker-Jan. 23. I've been working on the files of the commission-its history. On sex equity/divorce and dissolution. Wrestling with computer. Handbook, art on conference. finding existing groups to work on papers. Nora Dannhauser does credible research for paper. Joy Armstrong works with community in Fairview. Legal rights handbook. We need to find a lawyer to do the review/contract or donate. otherwise it will cost \$80.00 an hour.

We wanted to be visible on education equity conference. Wendy did an introductory talk at the conference and the calendar was done in time. Educators statewide attended. Presented it before the bilingual/bicultural conference during mid deep freeze. In everyone's packet was the report of who we were. The report showed that teachers' are treating girls differently than boys, boys are on a different track than girls. Remedial work is aimed more at boys than girls. The new DOE curriculum material, (new) is encouraging. Training teachers' attitudes on SEXISM/Racism. On the National level, reinterpretation of ___ grants. Women, minority equity in schools. University professors' attitudes toward women/men. My daughter in her research at UAF found that males are asked to respond to questions 4-1 to girls.

Wendy:

Program on equal education rights. WEEA is the only federal program for equity, women of color and disabled. Difficult

to compete for funds. Wendy will help. Linda take back to Kodiak.

Marrit to Napoleon: why don't you send copies of tapes to Rasmussen library?

Loretta: We have 650 oral history tapes from Nome would be great for minority papers.

* Bills -discussion of SB8

Question asked: Did Ruth ask Rules to formulate this CS or did Committee itself formulate.

Answer: Ruth asked Rules Committee to formulate this Bill

Betty: we should support it. (SB8) There are 3 dates in the bill. Some take effect July 1st.

Loretta: Section on pg 3. Governor chooses staggered terms. Is that Discontinued? We can't serve longer than 6 years?

Answer: Depends on final wording. There are aberrations and exceptions in this bill. Currently 6 year thing not in this version.

Question: Some other amendments are back in. Ruth, what is back in?

Wendy: The Rules Committee substitute was a compromise. What is the purpose of this amendment (state employees) People just don't like us?

Paula: Are you thinking of amendments that might be introduced that we haven't thought of?

Definition of homemaker changed. need to ensure I vote on Commission represents nuclear family.

Wendy: these amendments are not the women's commissions. How can they say we are not homemakers, what if children are grown. It could be critical to try to find someone who is not a homemaker. Human Rights commission said a definition of homemaker with one child and spouse would be discrimination against a homemaker.

Intentional diversion from real reason??

On exclusion of state employees- are they saying we're different from other people? the two political parties amendment-so should commission members be selected on the basis of their best judgement? Are commission members a reflection of the electorate? ←

Passing on Confused reasoning?

The Divorce and Dissolution bill HB195 to House Judiciary needs strong support in the Senate.

Wendy: This is our bill. Reason we introduced was to get Judicial Review there especially where children's rights are involved. To Ruth. Your paper in par. under Sec 5 which draft position on HB 195-switch #s 2 +3 on pg 5. ;

Betty Ramage: We need a legislative committee to back Ruth up so we can call. The bill doesn't address alimony. Does address their career assets. Courts are so negative on spousal maintenance.

Adapted. Wendy's emphasis not Rurks.

Wendy: We can make divorce harder to get.

*womens push for equality
took away protection
of courts.*

Betty: fault divorce gave women bargaining power. No-fault divorce took away that power. Children are the ones most hurt. I am strongly for alimony. Not off courts' books, but they are reluctant to award it - they don't like it.

Public comment-4:00 p.m.

Marie Darlin- Women's Initiative spokesperson, AARP, Commission on ageing.

In your legal rights handbook, don't forget senior centers 75% of them. Census 1990, will be critical on economic situation of seniors/divorced/ widowed. Thought they would share a retirement, but aren't. Having to sign a waiver lets them know what they are entitled to.

Senior Citizen Survey/ male female will get good information on women. got a 76% response. Went to Seattle Conference. National Womens' agenda is continuation of Houston Womens' Conference. Janna Varrate was there too. F.E.W. AAUW very involved in womens' agenda. Election is our main concern. Will publish a report and send it to the commission.

A woman told me that State medical only covers her as long as her spouse lives because she married him after he retired. Do like Federal government does-says can't without----

Marilyn George, Petersburg: BPW Court appointed referee on divorce. No fault changed things so it is important who gets custody of the child.

Senior nutrition council. Had to close one of centers and are going to have to close another. They provide information on health insurance program. We get information from any Federal personnel.

Sue E. Miller- I am coming today in all sincerity to try to explain to you that there is a perception out there of women who feel a hostility toward your agenda, and why you are having problems with P.O.M.'s running 2-1 and 7-1 to some legislators against the womens' commission.

You remember, Paula, 2 years ago at your meeting, Virginia Collins, Rick Halford and Fran Ulmer came to your meeting. Fran told you you had a problem out there, a real problem and you needed to reach out to those people and try to accommodate them. To this date, not one of those women, including myself have ever had a phone call.

Paula: Yes, I remember that, and Fran Ulmer did say that.

These women have tried to register their complaints, and to do so have attended conferences, some meetings, and nearly

every hearing for the past many years. These kinds of women are not always aware of other means of registering complaints. But you mentioned that no one had ever complained to you, and yet several women from Juneau went to the Sitka Conference some years back and were present when the Womens' Commission tried to get a resolution out of that conference in support of comparable worth (now pay equity) and a resolution in support of continuation of the commission. You could not get the votes during the conference, and so took a vote after the conference at a dress up dinner at which spouses and friends were invited.

A minority report of that meeting was written by a group of women regarding the irregular voting procedure used to obtain the result. Please remember that again I am trying to translate to you what I have been told by them what are some of the reasons that the commission has a perception of non-representation and hostility toward some groups of women.

When one of those women testified in the legislature and stated that she was speaking on her own behalf, but wanted the legislatures to know she had knowledge of womens' councils because she was a member of the local council, but speaking for herself, a local woman, verbally attacked her in public for people remaining in the testifying room to hear. *Carla Timpono* ~~She~~ stated that this woman had no right to say she was on the council, even though this woman carefully stated she was speaking for herself. As a result of this incident, Ms. McKenzie, then President of AAUW, wrote the city borough of Juneau a letter and asked for the censure if not the removal of this woman. That left a taste in the mouths of all who heard that there was no opportunity for freedom of speech or dissent as far as the networking affiliates of the commission were concerned. However, the president of the local council did apologized for the verbal attack of this woman.

Networking affiliate ←

Other individuals from other groups that have a perception that you don't represent them include the following: first, the pro-life groups, due to your support of abortion in the past. They feel that women need information on adoption to balance the information available from you on abortion.

Wendy: I don't think the AWC has ever taken a position on abortion. We supported ballot proposition #6 that had to do with access to poor women for medical aid for abortion. This was an equity issue.

Sounds like support of abortion to us, call it what you like

Sue: Here, I will read it from your own Status Reports and other material that was in testimony before House Finance. (I did so) (see attached) what I am saying, is you should give women seeking information on pregnancy crisis center and adoption centers that information. The point is balance.

Another group is the displaced homemaker. That program which you had listed originally is a failed program that has not been emphasized in past years. Some homemakers feel you do not support them.

Betty: we lost funding for this program.

Wendy: no one can say we don't support the displaced homemaker.

Sue: the proof is that it is said that you did not write grants for training monies for this group that feels you should have expended energies in this direction.

Wendy: they are absolutely wrong, we fought long and hard for funds for this group and we couldn't get them.

Sue: Regardless, Wendy, this is the perception that there was a lack of emphasis in this area. May I again relate to you that I do not even know much about this program, I am simply trying to relate to you the PERCEPTION of these various peoples we are talking about standing in opposition to the commission.

Sue: Another group of which you offended some individuals is when you lobbied against Veteran's Preference Rights. Some of these women define "peace" as when they are willing to put their arms round their country and people and protect them, willing to lay down their lives for them, and they didn't appreciate this effort.

Wendy: That completely is misunderstood-did we? we didn't lobby against, you mean in areas of housing,....?

Sue: Wendy let, me continue, I am sincerely trying to tell you whether you agree with them or not, what is the Perception the public has of your positions against their positions.

Another group is the small and large businesses that women run where you are lobbying for parental leave. The poorer woman cannot afford to take off 3, 6 or 9 weeks unpaid leave..

Not the point

Wendy: that's ridiculous. Who in the world wouldn't be for the woman/ or man to be able to stay home and take care of their child.

Sue: All right, another reason is that there are hidden and not hidden costs to such leave. The employer has to pay as has recently been advertised, up to \$450.00 a month for health benefits alone, if you add retirement, hiring of someone to replace them, you add the cost of the product to the consumer, which impacts the family...

Wendy: Well, all right if you're going to talk economics...

Sue: Wendy, you and I could have a dialogue all day, but you have to understand, I am trying very hard to get you to listen to the ideas of those women I and the Task Force represent, who are trying to tell you they disagree with your positions.

Wendy: You just tell them to phone me on parental leave or any of these issues then and I will inform them.

Sue: what is your number?

Wendy: gave phone # 457-5805

Some Commission men took these statements, told some legislators I said they were anti-it.

Another group that feels that you have discriminated against their positions are some Christian women who have very high morals and principles..

the word "some" was carefully said

and they are immune

Merrit Hellferich interrupted: So, conversely you are calling us immoral and saying only Christian women have high morals and standards?

"my position is not hostile, but tenacious."

Sue: Merrit, please, understand me and do not get your back up. I am very carefully trying to get you to listen that these women do not know your morals, they are saying because of the commissions past support of abortion, lesbianism..

Wendy: Oh, lesbianism, that's ridiculous. Lesbian women are on us constantly because we don't advocate for their positions, they are always on to us for representation...
We take our positions from National positions....

no wonder we can't get in local/statewide real concerns

Sue: the commission co-sponsored workshops ..I have a copy of your 1992 Conference report in which you devoted a large portion of that conference to their position. You mailed out 6000 copies of these materials, and these women have access to your history. This workshop raises the perception that the Alaska Womens' Commission supports viewpoints that are reprehensible to them. "some Christian women feel you have positions that are antagonistic to their points of view."

*Techniques:
Attack
obtain your info
Ignore
Divert*

Now you can understand why it is very difficult for the lay woman to have any desire to come and try to explain to you why they are dissatisfied with your representation. It is very intimidating to try to explain and be misunderstood and attacked.

Patronizing

Paula: well, you're right, it is difficult and we know how difficult it must have been for you and we appreciate your coming, I know it must have been hard for you.

Sue: Well, I can see you are getting anxious to attend the cocktail party at the Governor's mansion, and I did want to tell you not only the problem of perception that this commission has, but I had hoped to have time to get in to the amendments and discuss reasons why women want the finance version, because even with that, it will not ensure them representation.

- * Ruth Lister: well, if you will provide us names and addresses of your group, we will communicate with them.

Everyone got up and walked out. I went to the table and picked up a gold invitation, thinking it was to the cocktail party, but later realized it was a invitation from BPW to the legislative fly-in breakfast.

I then followed them over to the cocktail party at which the Governor, Representative Fran Ulmer, Zawacki, Hudson, Taylor, Hanley, Larson, and others were present with BPW members, Susan Clark and Women Commission members. None of the visiting audience had been offered an invitation to attend.

Day 2

Refer to Agenda, Tuesday, March 14, 1989-noon

Teleconference

Petersburg: Evie White: I am opposed to Womens' Commission, if the commission is to exist, I want limit to the length of time a commissioner serves on this board, and I want women to have an opportunity to submit their resumes to their political party so they will have an opportunity for representation. I am opposed to the commission for the following reasons: it is opposed to the Christian lifestyle and you display a high intolerance to us. Due to my opposition I have been met with intimidation and rudeness. There is always a Business and Professional Women's groups to represent these kinds of women, but we cannot find representation by your group. Thus, your name, Womens' commission is a misnomer.

network

(Miss Mary?) I represent AAUW, 30 men/women professional and non-employed volunteers. The Womens' commission is the only state agency that speaks for all women. I support HB 56 and SB8. My first priority of 7(11?) items I support of the proposals of FY90-. education, legal rights advocacy, divorce/dissolution, increase women participation on boards and commissions, rural programs, teen age pregnancy recommendations to address need and advocacy for increased minority hire.

Fairbanks: Morgan Jackson: I am 15 years a single woman. This is an important issue. I oppose the commission and there are 7 others here who also oppose it. Women have many diversified philosophies on other FY 90 activities. But what matters is that this is a state funded lobbying group. I oppose this group.

Network. Pres. of local N.O.W., local Women's Council Children's Commission

Juneau: Carla Timpane: Brief update. By administrative order, children and youth commission formed May 15th. She continued on with a long explanation of this commissions activities and their support of womens' commission advocacy re teen pregnancies. She was interrupted when a woman stood up and said " I thought each speaker was limited to 3 minutes. And I object to this speaker spending our less than 1 hour for teleconference on the mission and purpose of another commission."

Paula: the activities of the childrens' commission are an important part of this commission to be learned about and it is proper for her to report. It will just take a little longer.

What is your solution? CJC says Health Clinics in schools.

Carla continued: permanent commission children /youth, teen pregnancy/parenting. Want to prevent it altogether, receive pre-natal care/ child care, transportation to stay in school. Impacts racism/sexism. Level self esteem. Childrens' commission meets March 21, 12 and noon.

network

Juneau: Pat Clark: BPW strongly represented. We support SB8. We appreciate the networking done by the commission and lobby.

Yes, some

I don't see how it could be said the commission doesn't represent women. They have statewide conferences. I don't know how any woman could be against womens' health. homemakers or personal safety. I've made my own priority. Womens' health is #1. #2 is the Legal rights handbook, research, learning of causes, teen age pregnancies, advocacy and core issues of welfare reform, positive options of AFDC. Try to help women get out of welfare, increased availability of part time work, Parental leave, even for women who want to stay home.

Define

Flat subjects Deceptive If represent all should be accountable to all not just each other Reflecting Gov's viewpoint on agenda?

Sitka: Coke Oinas: I am a supporter of the Task Force for Advocates for Women. The commission is supposed to be by and for us, not pitting women against women and being anti us. We cannot judge you by what you are going to do, but can only judge you by your past actions. Your past has not been one of unity in political views. If women are half of the population, then at least half of those, 75,000, oppose the commission One specific example: At our conference in Sitka, 40 (men?) were present pushing for Governor Sheffield You also came with specific legislation for which you wanted support. Those of us in opposition were not given the "Right Hand of Fellowship" so to speak.

in response to Wendy's request for specifics

Shultz's concern
re: men.

Matsu: Steve Strube: I am a single father. You are using state funds for one sex. I've initiated a (class action suit?) against the womens' commission. why isn't there a mens commission, Discrimination occurs to men also, not just a woman's issue. At this point he asked Ruth Lister: " Did child support conference invite you to come or did you have to fight your way to get asked to go?"

X Ruth: I made that request. I asked them if they would like my representation.

Anchorage: Glennie Rollz; I understand from a legislator's letter that this commission never invited a nationally known conservative speaker to speak at any of their conventions or meetings. Your support of the ABC bill clearly shows you cater to women in the workplace. We have full time wives and mothers who need support by tax credit type bills.

Their support of this resolution not in writing that I can find, only in head nods at meetings extremely evasive of support in public.

Wendy:...

Petersburg: Judy Sheppard. I oppose funding this commission. It is not necessary. Their issues are handled by others.

Kept using this word - funny-ha

Fairbanks: Joy Shier I am "diabolically" opposed. I am not supported by this commission and there are two others who were with me who had to leave due to previous commitments who also stand opposed to this commission.

network.

Juneau: Mary Lou Knickerbocker: I work with Christie Lonie and we represent Church Women United nationwide. We have developed a commendable 5 year program on children and women in poverty. We encourage the commission in its advocacy for better access for the poor in health, child care, health insurance. No public private input on issues affecting lives.

Duplication verified as "Pay Equity Coalition"

Sitka: Shirley Demmert: I am 16 years in Alaska. There are 350 womens' organizations listed in the Commissions booklet on womens' organizations. Needs of women are handled by those organizations. We don't need and can't afford this commission

Matsu: Judy Bryan. I am 29 a full time student with 40 hours. I resent funds for blatant discriminatory use of funds only on womens' issues. These should be privately funded.

Anchorage: Sharon Rhodes: 7 year resident. I am appalled that to define a traditional homemaker to ensure that voice on the commission would be said by the Human Rights commission to "threaten the rights..." (quote from Human Rights letter). This is what I call discrimination. To ensure the representation of the homemaker as defined in the amendments is constitutional. I challenge you also at your

next conference to have a nationally known speaker for conservative women such as Beverly LeHaye. CWA represents 500,000 women nationally and 1000 women in the state. They are interested in seeing the family restored, laws to protect the unborn, religious freedoms and a strong defense of our country.

Fairbanks: Jane Zerbe: I am the head of educational counseling for professional women, a group dealing with womens' problems in counseling women. I do not believe the womens' commission is representative. I do not agree with its stated purpose. It is controversial. Make concerns and recommendations related to women. How can a state funded position choose sides?

Skipped Juneau
(3 waiting here to testify)

Sitka: Ruth McKenzie: Thanks you Ms. Farenkamp for this teleconference. I appreciate it and want it to continue.

Matsu: Edna DeVries: You know, the commission has not represented us. Who has spoken? N.O.W. has. Why do you take your concerns from this organization rather than CWA which has 2 to 3 times as many women? Beverly LeHaye has been here twice and 1st vice president twice also. Why haven't they been invited to speak?

Bonnie Jack: I'm a Republican. I support the commission. I don't agree with everything the commission does, I don't even agree with my husband. I support a combination of rules/finance version of the bill. A homemaker has always been defined. I agree with limited terms. Compromise and keep it.

Senate and
Finance version was the
Compromise

Carol Gray: I believe there is confusion as to the purpose of this teleconference. Is it to address the agenda of the commission? because there are no legislators here. If you wish to tell your legislator how you feel you need to contact them. I'd like to have this opportunity to express my viewpoint on something specific that I disagree with. You indicated support of the ABC resolution. I am all for helping women in poverty, but by tax credit. There are many bills that speak to this philosophy. Debate on these issues is not taking place. I would like to see you limit your research and education which is done by so many other agencies. Lobbying is a major part of your time which could be better spent helping women. I think you should have better advertising. You can't know the difficulty I had trying to find the time of this commission meeting. I would have had to call Anchorage to find that out, and could not find it out locally. There is a Perception out there that yours is the only way. I would like to ask you a specific question since it has been stated that specifics are requested. The ERA abortion connection has been well established by legal counsel on both sides of the issue on the National Level. Are you as a commission or individuals

Teleconference
advertised as co-sponsored
by Ms. Farenkamp,
Subject: AWE Callers
in confused. Thought
they were talking to
legislators.

Specifics
addressed

going to advocate for the ERA? (There was no answer, although Carol asked it three times) Finally Paula said:

Not an answer to her question

Well, we haven't discussed it. Since we already have ERA in our state constitution it hasn't been a matter that we've brought to our attention, so I can't answer that question.

Homer: Carol Hammock. I represent the Katchemak Family Planning. We are interested in teen age pregnancies. Youth need to receive sexually transmitted disease education....I support the commission in its efforts.

How is Commission going to help her. New baby clothes?

Natasha Calvin: I support and 7 others with me support the commission. I was born and raised in Alaska, an abused wife, 3 kids raised. I help women take charge of their lives. I did it without any assistance. I don't want to hear about powerlessness. I don't need used baby clothes. The commission shines lights. I want status kept.

Covered by other groups

Betty says = rights sounds like concerns for DV

Kodiak: Patricia Meyer I am a 14 year secretary. The commission has gathered facts on the status of women in the workforce, treatment of women in the court system. The status of women is proved. Now sponsor financial equity, divorce, child support. New standards of child custody have a ways to go. Bill HB 167 domestic violence, child neglect, history of violence, any allegation, Domestic violence, child abuse/neglect, history of higher level scrutiny, investigate trained professional addict studies in child sex abuse. Thorough investigation places for resource, crisis/private counsels/ private individuals including hearsay knowledge. Must be immediately put in counseling with professionals. There should be required custody to non abusive parents. Education and professional experience need additional studies.

Paula had said in previous hearings we doesn't provide services so where will she go?

Nome: Kathy Foster : childrens' group, victims of domestic violence need continued funding. 3800 people in Nome. Need to provide service to child, provide services to women, children.

Sitka: Mary Jo McNally: Look at all spending issues. Wait before committing to choose to fund until all issues looked at. Drug abuse, domestic violence, day care, public education all have higher priority. Do not make any rash decisions. Look at every area. I do not support the womens' commission.

Homer: Carol Schwartz: I favor broad representation on the commission. I favor having a student member who would represent the female on the high school level on the commission, improve their status. It would be a learning opportunity and ensure input from future adult women. Ensure support for education programs. I support programs for displaced homemakers, financial aid for college work study

programs, books. Basic health care/needs research for self-sufficiency.

Petersburg: Alan Funta- I am 24 years old, opposed to womens' commission and 5 other ladies here are also opposed. It is liberal. There is a strong group of conservative women not being represented. It is controversial. If I was represented I wouldn't have to be here testifying against it.

Wendy: What is it specifically we do that you don't like?

Alana: I don't like your support of abortion, lesbianism your solutions for child care etc.

Wendy: Who told you these things?

Alana: I read your reports.

Wendy: What is your address? I'll send you our list of FY90 proposed activities.

Alana: P.O. Box 855, Petersburg

Anchorage: I represent S.T.A.R.R. I have lived here since 1978. I support a clean SB8. I support substance abuse recovery, drop out problems, efforts in teen age pregnancies. I want the commission to determine needs and make recommendations.

Fairbanks: Donna Henry: I am 7 years in Alaska, 21, a wife and work for Crisis Pregnancy Center. I oppose the commission. It is a lobbying group. I am utterly opposed to SB8.

Fairbanks: Linda Hay: I own and operate a woman owned business. I do not support the state funding a lobbying group. I am opposed to SB8. The only version I could support is the finance version.

Anchorage: Mary Maynard: I am a conservative Republican. I don't agree with all the commission does. I have been here 28 years. Commission represents many women, homemakers to seroptomists. When we gain equal status with men and truly share equality, there will be no need for commission. There are two more here for the commission.

Matsu: Katie Hurley: Myself, daughter and other women support the commission, future program for FY90, need to work on Teen Age Pregnancies, and Mini Title IX. *Family planning- Abortion connects.*

Agenda, Tuesday March 14, after teleconference
Long Term Plan to Develop strategies to Goals

*Wendy's approach to
Women objectionable,
Argumentative, putting
people on spot. Not
Sense of listening /
learning.*

Subject: Pay Equity-updating data book

Evelyn: Information on workplace document. Data Book, look for alternative ways to collect information. Arco has good studies. Get hands on information to share.

There is a study in Harvard Business Review. Shows hidden costs of not having parental leave.

Parental Leave is a long term kind of thing.

*I heard oral history
Self-esteem concerns
from Bush more often*

Wendy: Pay equity is our priority. There is a state report which came up with compromises. Legally the state is liable on any pay equity as have already made public disparity in pay. Thus, the state is ripe for a lawsuit as the state has already made public the disparity. I'd like to look into what's happening with that legislation. If it covered just state employees... I don't understand why they can't see that it will cost them millions of dollars to be sued. If only way to get equitable pay would be to sue state, then perhaps thats what groups of women should do.

Suggesting?

Paula: They have no interest in what we say. But this issue is not going away. That's why we put it at the top, as no one else did.

Ruth: what other ways could we proceed if we're not going to get the legislation? Why didn't it work?

Wendy- plus job groupings. P.A.'s, male nurses make more than female nurses. It was never clear where APEA was. Also the cost. It costs more to discriminate against women than be anti-men.

What a conclusion!

Evelyn: So shall we just monitor for now?

Loretta: Maybe we should distribute material on pay equity in our communities, and let women work outside of the commission to teach women about it. Right now there is no awareness of this issue by women. I talked to Anne Parish of Anchorage to discuss the need and 2 lawyers. Ex.: An average man made \$8,000 more than a woman.

*Will all women hear
All sides, or just
Certain women, 1 side*

Affirmative Action

Paula: We could support coordination with Human Rights and E.E.O and include in there things we do "Keeping in mind we're not the same kind of groups". Ruth had calls from women who haven't had help.

*Comment must have *
been for our ears -
suggestion to combine
AWC + HR*

Merrit: Kinds of problems include ways women evaluated, affect their ability to rise in the job. There are problems in Fish and Game, D.O.T, where there is a lack of women minorities, women have difficulty in being hired.

Napoleon: we're discriminated against-manipulated. You lose your self-esteem, self-worth. Feel outnumbered. Ways of handling it: need inner type of spirit. You don't understand until you've experienced it. Positiveness has always worked. People in the villages are intimidated by everything outside the village.

Ruth: Example: We are interviewed by 6 males. Contract work.

Comparable worth
Comparing dissimilar
jobs.

Evelyn: unreasonable demands creates problems with productivity. It is a new thing for some people to compare jobs on the basis of education, responsibility, example, comparing a nurse's and driver's job. We need to make women aware of the subtlety of discrimination against them.

Rebecca: Tied this comment in with teen suicide. What hope is there for us who can't get out, we're not trained and we're discriminated against, so go back to the village.

Discussion
went from
economic
issue
↓
Comparative
worth
↓
teen suicide
↓
village
problem
↓
races

How?

Evelyn: We need to realize the strong parallel between sexism and racism. We need to try different approaches. Kids are tired of consciousness raising. Rebecca: We engage in role playing. It helps women see how they talk to women differently than men.

Loretta: What kind of criteria are there for being classed as minority businesses. Some men just placed businesses in their wife's name.

Duplication. call SBA

Evelyn: its difficult to get certified in minority owned businesses. Women have difficulty with Federal government, DOT lets major federal contracts. Difficulty in trying to get on. We have a pamphlet on women owned business. Most of our calls are regarding: small business and divorce/dissolution. Have lots of places to refer them to.

People have stereotyped ideas of feminists. New approaches to education are needed. Why we talk about discrimination and discrimination in the workplace is because it is a novel idea to compare jobs on basis of education responsibility etc. All they think of is women who burn bras. We need to enlighten our youngsters. Research on different ways at looking at jobs-sophistication. How do you respond on sex and race? Younger women think the battle is won.

Napoleon: suicides, hopelessness, nothing being done. Non-discrimination has to be in all levels. Not ready to get out of village. something missing.

discredited?

Evelyn: Women from never think of all things she could count on because she's white. There are strong parallels between sexism and racism. Kids are not listening to consciousness raising anymore.

Paula: do you have a context in mind?

Evelyn-how tradition women's roles have changed what are people doing now? We have an elder's conference AFN and we can help them become alert, make them aware. We also made them aware at bilingual/bicultural conference.

AAUW what about gender bias in the courtroom?

90.3

Ruth: 90.3 will aid the courts in making determination for child support. I had input into it. General guidelines and gross income/IRS 20% to 27% figures from National studies. Provided credit non custodial, 20 days or longer so now have to pay support during that time. How they arrived at that figure? They used different stages for the amount of time they had the child. Set up exceptions. They said, How much does the average family spend on alcohol and cigarette? They determined \$40.00 a month was average, so support for child was determined from that thinking. Then there were modifications. Some reasons people don't pay support are due to the Boom /bust employment, Irregular incomes...

Ruth: I'm attending meetings. Need guidance. What do you think of 90.3 as law instead of being a court rule? We found out you had to have it to be in compliance. A guideline not procedural rule that needs 2/35.

Why don't they want this as legislation? network

No, we do not want it as legislation due to....Nancy Gruessert alerts us if legislator wants to introduce it. Uehling does. No, if it had been written in bill form we'd have gotten an alert through child support services. (Sackett thinks men are not awarded custody so that's why they don't pay support, so discriminatory). If you're looking at non-custodial parent making \$50,000 devoting \$500.00 a month to child is no different that if the child is at home. If talking of needs, every kid should get welfare. Your need as a child includes what their home environment is-that home environment creates the need.

Basic needs are defined: love, food, water, shelter -but level of luxury?

Could Pat (Kennedy)help you draft a letter in reply?

Pat Kennedy called and reported on 90.3 Then stated I'll ask if anyone in the Department of Law wants to be the designee. I have sent in my letter of resignation. Your Anchorage office did get one of those memos.

Paula: I'm sure no one else will want to be the designee.

Report on welfare reform-John Tabor-see agenda

Notes not taken as John's research presented all necessary information.

Loretta: asked John re: Is the person who receives AFDC able to send their child to a non-licensed day care provider and give that provider the AFDC funds allocated for babysitting?

Pay attention

John: In the Welfare Reform Act whether a person on AFDC is able to pay a non-licensed person or not is a question for the State to decide. Licensing under this reform will be up to state.

If Carol hadn't pressed, would a meeting have occurred in violation open meetings?

At close of meeting: Ruth Lister was talking in a low voice to commissioners at table about some kind of meeting at 7:00 p.m. that night. Discussion was continuing, when Carol Gray, a member of the Task Force for Advocates for Women stepped outside to compliment Mr. Tabor on his talk. When she returned, the commission was still discussing something about 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. in low tones. Carol asked: I think I heard you mention something about a meeting at 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. I would very much like to participate with you in all your meetings, so if you could just let me know when it is, I'd like to be there.

Ruth: oh, we were just discussing a possible time.

Carol: well, when is your next meeting going to be?

Ruth: at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Carol: Well, I thought you said 7:00 or 8:00 tonight.

After some discussion between Merrit, Susan and Ruth about when they could get together,

Ruth said: oh, well we might as well go now, down to the Westmark in 10 minutes to discuss the testimony from the teleconference.

Carol then informed me later that such a meeting was going to take place, and perhaps I would also like to attend.

When was this discussion held since not here or at meeting?

Carol was 20 minutes later at the Westmark and went in to the restroom. Susan Smalley, one of the commissioners followed her in, and in an agitated manner stated that they were no longer going to have that meeting as they had called the legislative council and been advised that that would be in violation of the open meetings act. Also that they could not even meet in groups of three without advertising the meeting. Carol went home.

At 6:40 p.m. I appeared at the Westmark since I was unaware that the meeting on the testimony was not taking place. When I arrived at the table, no one spoke except Merrit Helferich who questioned, "Won't you sit down?"

Why wasn't Betty
Wendy- old members
at dinner?

I did and Ruth Lister said to me: Did you want to talk to me?

Sue: I understood that you were going to talk about the testimony, and since much of it dealt with the perception people across the state have of this commission, I felt I could be of help in evaluating it.

Paula: we're not going to discuss it as it would be in violation of the open meetings act.

Ruth: would you like to talk to me?

Sue: I have already spoken to you. Mary McClinton is the head of the Task Force for Advocates for Women, and she has an appointment with you at 1:00 p.m. tomorrow, so she will speak for these women. I'll just sit here and get to know you better.

Ruth ate her chowder quickly and left. I visited with Paula regarding her personal studies and my life in Valdez. I left around 8:00 p.m. while the rest of the commission minus Ruth, Wendy, Betty Ramage, Susan Galley stayed.

Day 2

Meeting began at 11:15. For the second day Betty Ramage was not present. Wendy Redman was present for discussion of bills and left.

Paula: One of our favorite papers is sex equity in the schools. We share a common goal regarding sex equity in schools with the D.O.E. and our speaker today, Darby Anderson.

Darby Anderson of D.O.E.: A position of Annie Calkins paid partly by Title IV funds in D.O.E. 14 out of 15 districts in compliance. She listed the areas. Only 100% compliance is acceptable. We are considering consequences of non-compliance including withdrawal of state funds, this concept being approved by William Demmert. This withdrawal of funds will help provide incentives to comply.

network

Competing needs in FY90 budget prevents monies going to get compliance. Your role as women's commission in obtaining these funds will be helpful. At bilingual conference, teachers training in health, physical education and ---- was stressed. The DOE now has modules on women in American History, Foreign Language, computers, etc. We have request for videos for practicums, for in-services. We have 6000 members in our networks, including librarians, world languages etc so will have more sex equity trainers. We are seeking grants for sexism/racism training.

If teachers trained in this as part of basic curriculum is no permission required from parents? Parents unaware of kits and contents of modules?

Who says this is -
Sex + race?

A previous 1/2 hour
phone meeting was held
Also face to face letter
Senate hearing meeting

If Betty represents
"Homemaker" why was
She absent 2 days?
Where was this voice
on commission - why
Wendy in and out?
Did state funds pay
transportation/perdiem
for partial attendance?

The 4th equity conference was Jan/Feb. Ruth was there. Wendy gave a good introductory speech. 150 there in spite of bad weather. Theme was recommitment to sex equity.

Have lots of resources for womens' history month, black women, women in fine arts. We have equity resources and materials available to districts. Look over and see what you want to add. modules are available on loan. Kits available for grades 4-6, pamphlets: "women hold up 1/2, the sky" etc.

Will be a conference in Portland by Northwest labs called Equity '89. 6 teachers will be sent. We want to strengthen our relationship with womens' commission, share with you the numbers of districts in compliance, and help us obtain staff support of this concept. John on our side helps keep things moving. Could use budgetary help.

Paula: why is sex equity being in compliance in rural areas instead of cities and only one in S.E. in compliance?

Darby: staff problem. However, now that we have gotten sex equity to be included as basic education instead of supplemental it will be much easier.

* Linda Freed: Does this affect private schools?

Darby: no

Darby also the costs of program, costs for piloting research, we can integrate. Bilingual is now included in basic education definition and that makes a statement.

What is basic? Is public aware?

Evelyn: How can we tie in womens' issues to each of the conferences? Have every child attend licensed pre-school? Lots of correlation between that and commission.

What does this mean?

Darby: We can help child in school make better choices and they will have a more equitable future.

Forget oral history - your positions are parental leave + divorce/dissolution. Can't you remember?

Loretta: oral history. We need more development in that area. In Nome we have a rotating library. Obtain state and private funds. Trying to get funding for curriculum, and presently we borrow from all others. Need comprehensive curriculum for sex equity.

Discussion of FY00 activities- see agenda

Ruth: Can we fund one person to attend the Image Conference? There is \$150.00 in budget to send. Conference will include workshops on English as a second language, consciousness raising, esteem building, women of color.

Why? Public Perception?

Merrit: It is not good to send women to conferences. I ask the motion be withdrawn.

Linda: We need a policy regarding sending anyone to conferences. It should not be decided on a case by case basis.

Think SB8 CS be used to trade?

Discussion ensued regarding dates for June Meeting in Nome. It will be held for 2 days. Important to have it late in May, Tuesday and Wednesday, perhaps the 16th or 17th, or may be moved later if session is longer-important to have this meeting after the legislative session.

Discussion of Parental Leave:

Marie Darlin: How many can afford parental leave? Do we have statistics from other states?

yes, 32% of women returned to work in 8 weeks.

Marie: immediate reactions of legislators is important so need to tell them statistics on how many people will take advantage of this leave.

Discussion of Ruth's Position Paper on Parental Leave in Agenda Packet.

Don't children have need of their lives or just 18 weeks?

Ruth: Over 60% of women in Alaska asking because of economic reasons we need to consider this bill important to children of Alaska. We shouldn't even consider the Governor's concerns on this bill. (Ruth's remark re what Governor's concerns were: that it might be used by labor unions as a collective bargaining tool. Wendy: If talking about you leave state. It doesn't matter to the Private employee. Conversely lose productivity. I won't feel strongly re..

Merrit: Is there cause shown between job growth and leave laws? In your paper paragraph---, 2nd page job growth in business that has less than 50 employees show that states with parental leave law have economic growth.. This statement doesn't prove that just leave laws cause economic growth.

With salary of 71,000 + 2 priority bills, parental leave/divorce she left her back-up behind?

Ruth: I didn't bring any backup papers with me. I left them in Anchorage. However, there is no causal reason proved but the implication is there.

Imputes a reason? Who says implication is there?

Merrit. On you sentence that States with environmental growth continued to show job growth, can you add sentence re: business environments tied together. Implies lives up 41%.

Paula-quality-any other reasons? Business climate

Ruth: 18 weeks men. If go to 50 employees....

*When products cost
the family more due
to employer costs,
does that help family
of children?*

Linda: anything that will help children

Ruth: contracts with businesses. You address their specific problems with this bill. Opposition is from the unknown. So if employers know a few of the advantages, they will have loyal long term employees. So you want crossed out "productivity of infants in day care and 51% of women under age...?"

Susan: This position paper our plan? Arco has a parental leave plan, Unical doesn't. Do you want us to take this position paper to our communities and organizations and get reactions and feedback?

X Wendy Redman left at 2:45 p.m.

*Carol had to
interrupt and
keep on interrupting
as audience
participation not
encouraged.*

Carol Gray from audience: How and when does the women's commission formulate your position on an issue like child care?

We put out information packets once a month. I have an idea the commission is not predisposed to a position, but it takes a position toward packet.

Ruth: well, I just don't want to put forward my position.

Linda: I value your opinion, so good for us to know.

Evelyn. I can do a third column on this page entitled "long term planning"-see agenda, which would include information item, action item.

Carol: from audience: When are you going to discuss the results of the teleconference and since this is the long term planning Meeting according to your agenda, I'd like to know if you're going to make a decision regarding the National level ERA at this meeting?

Paula: There is no time to discuss what we heard. This Juneau meeting is always loose because people are dropping in and out. We are seldom able to make long term decisions. Regarding the teleconference, I had to make a decision whether to listen to as many people as we could or debate. I chose to listen to as many as we could. How we have their names and addresses and we can respond to that.

Carol: Again, I'm asking you to make a decision, long term. Are you going to make a position on the ABC bill or ERA?

Merrit: Maybe we should have another teleconference.

Paula: Trouble is the budget. We can as a group publish, or we can try to get a legislator to sponsor one so we don't have to pay..

Merrit: so public wouldn't get to talk? Just listen?
You mean where we could talk to each other?

Paula: We need to grapple with scholarships. What are your priorities? We don't have separate ones. What we're doing now is the result of our spring meeting.

Evelyn: In our 1988 annual report we did a long term plan. It was adopted. I assume you'll pick....

Carol: I specifically want to know if you support of ERA on a national level?

Paula may not ever be discussed. We already have a state ERA

Linda: perhaps we should send agendas of our meetings, or you could call the office.

Carol: I specifically want to know if you will support S1R1 and H1R1 the number of the Federal bills supporting ERA.

Paula: we're not prepared to do it. I don't think we're going to take a position on these bills at least at this meeting.

Informal agreement to this statement by nodding of heads.

Susan: It would be too cumbersome: we can't leap up....

Carol: when did you decide to support parental leave and divorce and dissolution bills?

So if you weren't aware 4 years ago, tough

We decided 4 years ago to support these 2 bills.

Carol: what I'm getting at is the process. How do you work, and when can the lay persons have input to the process?

Paula: 4 or 5 years ago we made the decision on pay disparity in divorce law. Used the National disparity report. Commission adopted it at meeting. The Research was adopted. The Anchorage report published on family equity. Bar Association and others worked on it. Prepared a divorce report. Then we went to the Governor and said this is our report and asked him to sponsor. Had draft legislation prepared. Betty and Chris Callahan met with Judicial and divorce masters.

Carol: Issue is lack of representation. Where does time and place go for public participation. I understand its a...

Paula: During public comment. Adopting as priority item is public.

Carol: But there is only 1 hour scheduled on the agenda, so for three meetings, there is only 3 hours scheduled and each in different communities?

Paula: We don't have time or budget to allow for too much public comment.

Carol: But Wendy Redman said we need to make pay equity a priority, but how do you view this as a priority when you limit how you came to that decision?

Did you know it was going to be priority? were you solicited because they were aware of your position?

Linda: I knew when I became a commissioner, the commission's position on pay equity.

Where we go with pay equity, we will try to determine the status of the bill from the Department of administration. Will be an agenda item. Currently no bill now.

Carol: is there any time when we can participate? If you're coming to develop a position as your own position, where is our time for debate?

Paula: We tend to work through women's groups.

Carol: But the homemaker generally is not a member of those groups.

Paula: if you don't like our viewpoint, then, the answer is to elect another Governor.

Good answer

Meeting adjourned

Carol to Napoleon after the meeting: How do you view yourself? Since you are appointed by the Governor, do you view yourself as an extension of the Governor as regards his viewpoint, or do you represent the women in your district?

then why couldn't you get self-esteem etc. addressed?

Napoleon: I view myself as representing the women from my district.

January 24, 1989

Representative Boucher and members of the State Affairs Committee, I apologize for not appearing personally this morning to testify on behalf of HB 56. The time conflicts with my getting my son off to school. I trust my written testimony will suffice.

Let me tell you something about myself. I am married; my husband and I will celebrate 19 years together this summer. I am the mother of two boys, ages 6 and 3. I am currently a full-time mother and homemaker as well as a part-time church secretary. I have been at home with my boys fulltime for several years, but before that I worked fulltime outside the home. I have been both a consumer and a provider of childcare services. Staying home with my children was something I chose to do, but it is a choice not without significant financial implications.

I want to let you know that I, like many women today, have been on both sides and in the middle of the career/motherhood condundrum. The choices are not easy, for those of us who have the luxury of choice. However, many women have no such choice. They are single heads of households, responsible for the survival of themselves and their children and, in some cases, aging parents. The Alaska Women's Commission has always been supportive of all women, whatever our choices or situations.

Divorce and poverty are facts of life, as are pregnancy, desertion, abuse, loss of employment and/or promotional opportunities due to pregnancy, lack of childcare options--the list goes on. Unfortunately, the Alaska Women's Commission seems at times to be accused of causing or perpetuating the very social ills it is working to address reminiscent of the fate awaiting ancient lands of bad tidings.

That women and children continue to make up a growing majority of those

living below the poverty line is not a pleasant idea, but it is a reality that all of us must face. The solution to this and other problems is not to blame the Alaska Women's Commission for bringing them to our attention. The only reasonable response is to support the Commission in its work.

The Alaska Women's Commission is the voice of Alaska women--native and non; married, divorced, single; career women, homemakers, students; women with and without children--in all our variety with all our differences and similarities, no matter what choices we have made in our lives or in what circumstances we find ourselves. I urge you to continue to support this important voice for the women of our state by supporting HB 56.

Thank you.

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