

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1995-1996 8672

8565 HOUSE HEALTH EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

intense, is not quite so fierce as if Alaskans were applying as out-of-state students to other medical schools. There is one WAMI position for every 4-6 applicants from Alaska. And because WAMI students receive a subsidy from the state, amounting to approximately \$40,000 per year per student, Alaskans can afford to go to medical school. Even so, WAMI students emerge from medical school and subsequent residency training in family medicine or other specialty with debts averaging \$60,000, but with some in debt over \$100,000.

In summary, without WAMI, Alaskans from only the richest families would be able to attend medical school. Even then, because of furious competition for enrollment, few would gain admission anywhere. And many of these would not return to Alaska, for it is well established that physicians tend to settle in places at or near to the place where they are trained. Alaska WAMI graduates have strong predilection to return to Alaska both because this is their home and because their training began here. Now that family practice residency training is scheduled to start here, attraction to practice in Alaska will be even stronger.

Without WAMI, recruitment of physicians to our cities, towns and rural areas would be difficult, for few young doctors would have had advance exposure to Alaska or know about the needs of the bush.

There are other advantages to WAMI. The teachers who conduct first year classes here for our medical students at UAA are funded by WAMI, but they also teach other UAA students. This amounts to at least 2 FTE faculty positions gratis to UAA. Moreover, the faculty of UW gives its time and advice unstintingly both to WAMI and to Alaska generally without extra charges to WAMI. Many travel to Alaska to share their knowledge and skill and to conduct medical research. For example, one area currently under investigation is telemedicine. UW is a leader in developing this promising modality. It has among other features the possibility of greatly reducing transportation costs for medical care. Without the close collegial tie between Alaska and UW through WAMI, UW's interest in Alaska would likely be far less. Finally, the high standards of the University of Washington School of Medicine and the entire UW Medical

Center and allied institutions are in truth the standards of medicine for Alaska, whether for family practice, cardiology, renal dialysis, cancer therapy, preventive medicine or a host of other areas of medical care.

WAMI has brought us a medical school, so to speak, without our paying for it - at least not paying for it in full. It has been a glory of American medical education for twenty-five years. We are fortunate to be a part of it.

Attachment 3

GRADUATES FROM OTHER WAMI STATES PRACTICING IN ALASKA

Alvarez, Rene MD	Homer
Brennan, Ronald MD	Anchorage
Brooke, Cynthia MD	Palmer
Clark, Christine MD	Anchorage
Doty, Barbara MD	Wasilla
Dull, Scott MD	Anchorage
Echo, Barbara MD	Fairbanks
Fernau, Walt MD	Fairbanks
Firth, Ronald MD	Bagley River
Herman, Daniel MD	Bethel
Hornbein, Lynn	Anchorage
Gross, Monica MD	Juneau
Jones, Lindy MD	Juneau
Kokesh, John MD	Anchorage
Lemagiz, Susan MD	Palmer
Linfield, Jana	Juneau
Lowney, Stephen MD	Ketchikan
Parr, Patrice MD	Anchorage
Slyter, Thomas MD	Eielson AFB
Swanson, David MD	Anchorage
Wagoner, Nell MD	Juneau
Winkle, R Keith MD	Anchorage
Zafren, Ken MD	Anchorage

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. HB 471

1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 2/21/96

Department Affected: Revenue

Title: An Act entitled Repay Graduate Education Aid

BRU: Alaska Student Aid Corporation

Component: WAMI Medical Education

Sponsor: (H)HES

Requester: (H)HES

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2115

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES	14.6	14.9	15.1	15.8	16.1	16.4
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	10.0					
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	24.6	14.9	15.1	15.8	16.1	16.4

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES						
--------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	24.6	14.9	15.1	15.8	16.1	16.4
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
Other						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY96) impact: \$ -0-

ANALYSIS: This bill allows the State to be reimbursed by students for funds sent to the institution on their behalf, if they decide not to return to Alaska. A student entering into the WAMI or WICHE program in September of 1996, would be expected to begin reimbursing the state in 2004. A student who graduates and returns to the state is eligible for forgiveness based on the length of time working and living in Alaska. In order to maintain the variety of services that come to Alaska as a result of the WAMI and WICHE partnerships, continued general fund support is necessary to pay compact dues and front-end support fees. The costs referenced above are associated with the initial programming and testing for future tracking of interest, deferments, and eligibility for forgiveness for up to 100 students each year. Due to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation indenture, corporate receipts can not be used for this purpose.

Prepared by: Gillian R. Hays, Legislative Liaison Phone: 465-6718

Division: Alaska Student Aid Corporation Date: 2/21/96

Approved by Executive Director: [Signature] Diane Barrans

Agency: Revenue Date: 2-21-96

HB

474

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB474

Revision Date: 03/01/96
Title: Violations of Municipal Ordinances

Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services
BRU: Family and Youth Services
Component: DFYS Central Office

Sponsor: Representative Toohy
Requestor: House (CRA)

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 259
See also (SN#): _____

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGES IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other (please specify)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$0.0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Recent information provided by federal staff indicates that there will be no loss of funds due to the detention of minors on contempt of court orders resulting from a minor's failure to pay a fine.

There is already some impact on overcrowded youth facilities because of the waiver of smoking and alcohol consumption by minors because district judges are issuing bench warrants when minors fail to appear for court on those charges. However, we are not able to gauge the financial impact of increasing the numbers and kinds of offenses for which arrests and detention on such bench warrants will result in part because we don't know what municipal ordinances already exist or may result from this legislation.

In addition, this 0 fiscal note is based on the assumption that minors who have been ordered to serve time in detention on contempt charges will wait until a bed is available rather than adding to the overcrowding.

Prepared by: L. Diane Worley, Director
Division: Family & Youth Services
Approved by Commissioner: Karen Perdue, Commissioner
Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Phone: 465-3191
Date: 03/01/96
Date: 3/5/96

PREPARER ZERO FISCAL NOTE - H&SS/FAMILY & LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
YOUTH SERVICES/DYFS CENTRAL OFF, tive Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HB 474

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: Municipal ordinances and regulations BRU: Alaska State Troopers
 Component: Detachments
 Sponsor: Representative Toohev
 Requestor: H. CRA COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0799

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

OPERATING	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
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-
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

Estimate of current year (FY 96) impact: \$ _____

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 will not have a fiscal impact on the Division of Alaska State Troopers.

Prepared By: Lt. Dan Lowden Phone: 465-5505
 Division: Alaska State Troopers Date: March 5, 1996
 Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte* Date: 3/5/96
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Department of Public Safety

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HB 474

Revision Date: 2/29/96 Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
 Title: An Act relating to violations of municipal ordinances and regulations; and amending... BRU: none
 Component: none
 Sponsor: Rep. Toohy
 Requestor: House C&RA Committee COMPONENT SERIAL NO. _____

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

	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
OPERATING						
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES () Revenue Code						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GE Match						
1004 GE						
1005 GE/Program Receipts						
1006 GE/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY 95) impact: \$ none

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Remond Henderson *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708
 Position: Director, Div of Administrative Services Date: 2/29/96
 Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]* Date: 2/29/96
 Agency: Mike Irwin, Dept. of Community & Reg. Affairs

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For further distribution information call the Governor's Legislative Office

ZERO FISCAL NOTE - COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS

(7)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred to Committee: March 8, 1996

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary

Date of Committee Action: 3/12/96

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

HB 474

HOUSE BILL NO. 474

VIOLATIONS OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES & REGS

"An Act relating to violations of municipal ordinances and regulations; and amending the definition of the jurisdiction of the superior court and the Department of Health and Social Services over delinquent minors to add a further exclusion from that jurisdiction for a minor's violation of a municipal ordinance or regulation that is punishable as an infraction or violation, and making a related technical amendment to that jurisdictional definition."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute [] the same title [] a new title

[] additional referral to _____ Committee [] attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)

[] fiscal note(s) _____ [] fiscal note(s) _____

[] zero fiscal note(s) _____ (3) [] zero fiscal note(s) H+SS, C+RA, OPS

Table with columns: SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS, DP, DNP, NR, AM. Contains handwritten signatures and checkmarks.

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE [Signature]



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPRESENTATIVE CYNTHIA TOOHEY
DISTRICT 13

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 474

"An Act relating to violations of municipal ordinances and regulations; and amending the definition of the jurisdiction of the superior court and the Department of Health and Social Services over delinquent minors to add a further exclusion from that jurisdiction for a minor's violation of a municipal ordinance or regulation that is punishable as an infraction or violation, and making a related technical amendment to that jurisdictional definition"

We hear more and more frequently about the need to improve the juvenile justice system in Alaska. Due to the increased number of serious offenses by juveniles, some of the less serious violations and infractions, in reality, offer no consequences. That is the wrong message to send to a juvenile offender.

According to the Anchorage Police Department, juvenile offenders have become increasingly dangerous and increasingly blatant regarding their offenses with the knowledge that the system can do very little to them.

House Bill 474 would expand the jurisdiction of a municipality to allow the municipality to respond to a violation or infraction of an ordinance or regulation. For violations of ordinances or infractions which are punishable by only a fine, juveniles would be treated as adults.

The expansion of jurisdiction would enable juveniles to realize there are consequences to all wrongful acts. This realization may help to prevent juveniles from progressing to more serious offenses.

Your support would be appreciated.

INTERIM ADDRESS: 716 West 4th Avenue, Suite 330, Anchorage, 99501-2133

SPONSOR STATEMENT

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

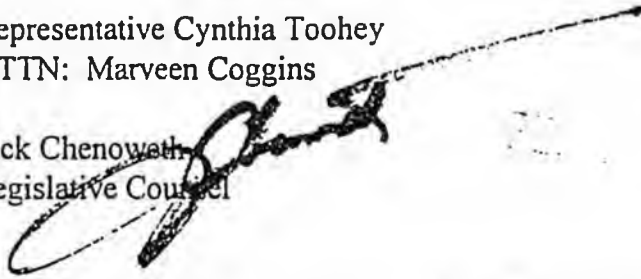
MEMORANDUM

February 10, 1996

SUBJECT: House Bill 474, relating to violations of municipal ordinance and regulations -- sectional analysis (Work Order No. 9-LS1555\C)

TO: Representative Cynthia Toohey
ATTN: Marveen Coggins

FROM: Jack Chenoweth
Legislative Counsel



1996

House Bill 474 was prepared in response to a request from the Municipality of Anchorage to amend state law relating to disposition of offenses involving minors. The premises for the changes--prosecution of minors for certain offenses in the same manner as adults--necessitates a broader treatment than what may have originally been intended.

The bill is best explained back-to-front.

Bill section 3: Usually under state law, when a minor is charged with violation of a criminal offense under state or municipal law, the minor is not prosecuted but the matter is addressed and disposed of under statutes applicable to juvenile offenders. AS 47.10.010(b) lists a set of exceptions to this treatment, declaring that for the offenses there listed, the minor will be charged, prosecuted, and sentenced in the same manner as an adult. This bill section expands that list to include violations of ordinances and regulations of municipalities for which the punishment for the violation is only payment of a fine and imposition of no other penalty. The insertion, in the bill section, on lines 18 and 19 of page 2 is a conforming change.

Bill section 2: This section amends the provision of the Municipal Code, AS 29, in which is set out the authority of municipalities to regulate conduct and enforce its enactments. This section attempts to differentiate circumstances under which one may be charged with violation of an ordinance without imposing a corresponding obligation on the municipality to provide for a jury trial or, in proper circumstances, court-appointed legal counsel. The distinction is drawn on the basis of whether the municipality's enactment qualifies or does not qualify as a "minor offense"; if a minor offense, then trial on the violation need not involve a jury nor is there an obligation for the court to appoint legal counsel. The characteristics of a "minor offense" are identified in a District Court Criminal Rule, Rule 8. The amendment made by this bill section thus identifies the characteristics of a minor offense; if the municipality's enactment meets those characteristics, the matter may be

Representative Cynthia Johey

February 10, 1996

Page 2

disposed of as a minor offense under the applicable court rule; if it does not, then arguably the defendant is entitled to trial by jury and, if applicable, court appointed counsel.

Bill section 1: Under the state's Code of Criminal Procedure, AS 12, generally the criminal laws of the state applicable to misdemeanors are applicable also to violations and infractions. See AS 12.80.040. However, there are exceptions, identified by cross-reference appearing in AS 12.80.040. This bill section adds the additional provisions of bill section 2 to the cross-referenced exceptions. The intent is to make the point that, as an exception to the state laws otherwise applicable to violations and infractions, when a municipality punishes an ordinance as a violation or infraction and the punishment qualifies the conduct's treatment as a minor offense, the exceptions from required jury trial and court appointed counsel apply.

JBC:lmb

96-038.lmb

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Allow municipalities to respond to less serious juvenile behavior by expanding its jurisdiction to include the ability to subject juvenile offenders to civil infractions and/or mediation

Early intervention has been proven an effective means of changing young people's attitudes and behaviors. Because the current juvenile justice system is overwhelmed with serious offenses and offenders, many offenders who begin with lower level or less dangerous conduct receive no meaningful consequences until they graduate to the higher level.

According to the 1994 Anchorage Police Department Annual Report, juvenile arrests have increased 66% since 1990. Juvenile offenders have become increasingly dangerous and increasingly blatant regarding their offenses in the knowledge that the system can do very little to them.

Recognizing this situation, the Municipality of Anchorage would like the ability to respond to less serious juvenile behavior by expanding its jurisdiction to include the ability to subject juvenile offenders to civil infractions and/or mediation. This will allow the juvenile justice system to focus on the more serious criminal activity while assuring that juvenile offenders of less serious offenses receive more immediate consequences for their actions.

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 190650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4433

FEB 14 1996

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

February 9, 1996

Representative Cynthia Toohey
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: H. B. 474

Dear Representative Toohey:

Thank you for sponsoring H. B. 474, regarding the jurisdiction of municipalities over certain juvenile infractions.

This bill offers an important reform to the way in which juvenile criminal activity is addressed.

Attached is an issue summary supporting the need for the proposed change.

Thank you again for sponsoring this legislation. If we can offer further information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Rogers".

Tim Rogers
Legislative Program Coordinator



Anchorage Star of the North
Chamber of Commerce

February 28, 1996

Members: House Community & Regional Affairs Committee
Al Austerman & Ivan Ivan - Co-Chairs
Fax: 1-907-465-4589

Dear Committee Members:

The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Crime Prevention Committee has worked with the Municipality of Anchorage on a criminal justice package. The chamber has passed Resolution 95/96-5 supporting the Municipality's efforts on criminal justice reform.

It is our understanding that HB 474 and HB 475 address part of the criminal justice reform package. We would like to encourage passage of both bills.

We appreciate the spirit of cooperation between the Legislature and the Municipality. The chamber applauds your work on reducing crime. Please let us know if the chamber can be of any assistance.

Again, we encourage the passage of HB 474 and HB 475. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol Heyman
President

cc: Representative Cynthia Toohey
Bob Bailey, chair, Anchorage Chamber Crime Prevention Committee

HB

480

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: February 9, 1996

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/12/96

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

HB 480

HOUSE BILL NO. 480

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

"An Act relating to physician assistants, including the treatment of their services under group health insurance policies."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute CS HB 480 (HES) [] the same title [x] a new title

[] additional referral to _____ Committee

[] attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)

[] fiscal note(s) _____

[] fiscal note(s) _____

[x] zero fiscal note(s) CED, H+SS

[] zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>John L. Davis</i>			✓	
<i>John K. Kelly</i>			✓	
<i>Car Bunde</i>	✓			
<i>John Kelly</i>	✓			
<i>William Robertson</i>	✓		✓	
<i>Tom Bunde</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Car Bunde*

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 480(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES THERRIAULT, Kelly

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to physician assistants."

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

3 * Section 1. AS 08.64.107 is amended to read:

4 Sec 08.64.107. REGULATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND
5 INTENSIVE CARE PARAMEDICS. The board shall adopt regulations regarding the
6 licensure [REGISTRATION] of physician assistants and registration of mobile
7 intensive care paramedics, and the medical services that they may perform, including
8 the

- 9 (1) [THE] educational and other qualifications; [,]
-
- 10 (2) [THE] application and registration procedures; [,]
-
- 11 (3) [THE] scope of activities authorized; [,] and
-
- 12 (4) [THE] responsibilities of the supervising or training physician.

13 * Sec. 2. AS 18.08.089(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) A mobile intensive care paramedic or physician assistant registered or
15 licensed under AS 08.64.107 or an emergency medical technician certified under this

1 chapter may make a determination and pronouncement of death of a person under the
2 following circumstances:

3 (1) the paramedic or emergency medical technician is an active member
4 of an emergency medical service certified under this chapter;

5 (2) neither a physician licensed under AS 08.64 nor a physician exempt
6 from licensure under AS 08.64 is immediately available for consultation by radio or
7 telephone communications;

8 (3) the paramedic, physician assistant, or emergency medical technician
9 has determined, based on acceptable medical standards, that the person has sustained
10 irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions.

11 * Sec. 3. AS 18.15.310(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) The withdrawal of blood for a test under AS 18.15.300 - 18.15.320 shall
13 be performed in a medically approved manner. Only a physician or physician
14 assistant licensed under AS 08.64, [PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT REGISTERED
15 UNDER AS 08.64,] registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or certified emergency
16 medical technician may withdraw blood specimens for the purposes of AS 18.15.300 -
17 18.15.320.

Alaska State Legislature

REPRESENTATIVE
GENE THERRIAULT
P.O. Box 55326
North Pole, Alaska 99705
(907) 488-0862

House District 33



While in Juneau
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
(907) 465-4797

House Representatives

House Bill 480

"An Act relating to physician assistants, including the treatment of their services under group health insurance policies."

Sponsor:

Representative Gene Therriault

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gene Therriault".

Sponsor Statement

This legislation is intended to clarify the process that is currently in place for granting physician assistants the authority to practice in the state, and to prohibit unfair insurance discrimination against physician assistants.

The bill would change current language in AS 08.64.107, dealing with the regulations for physician assistants, from "The board shall adopt regulations regarding the registration of physician assistants . . ." to "The board shall adopt regulations regarding the licensure of physician assistants. . ." This would more accurately reflect the actual requirements a physician assistant must meet before he or she can practice in the state under AS 08.64.170. Under AS 08.64.170, a physician assistant must be licensed to practice medicine under the supervision of a licensed physician. Because state regulations require this credentialed process that is in essence licensure, references in state statute should be changed to more accurately reflect the high standards that must be met to practice as a physician assistant in Alaska.

In addition, this bill would prohibit unfair discrimination against physician assistants under group health insurance policies. It states that if an insurance policy covers the type of services that a physician assistant is licensed to perform, then the policy must cover those services when they are performed by a physician assistant, and may not discriminate against physician assistants by excluding their services, while covering other providers who perform the same services.

Sectional Analysis

House Bill 480, "An Act relating to physicians assistants, including the treatment of their services under group health insurance policies."

- Section 1** Changes current language in AS 08.64.107 regarding regulations for physician's assistants from "The board shall adopt regulations regarding the registration of physician assistants. . ." to "The board shall adopt regulations regarding the licensure of physician assistants . . ."
- Section 2** Makes amendments necessary for consistency with changes in Section 1.
- Section 3** Makes amendments necessary for consistency with changes in Section 1.
- Section 4** Provides that if an insurance policy covers the type of services that a physician assistant is licensed to perform, then the policy must cover those services when they are performed by a physician assistant and may not discriminate against physician assistants by excluding their services, while covering other providers who perform the same services.

VIA FACSIMILE

January 31, 1996

Rep. Gene Therriault
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

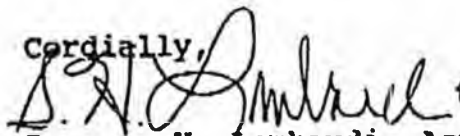
Dear Rep. Therriault:

As Acting Chair of the State Medical Board I write to express support for the Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants request for a change to the AS 08.64.107. At issue is a discrepancy in the language which, according to the Department of Law can only be remedied by a statutory change.

The details of this change are outlined in the January 29, 1996 letter to you from Ms. Jeanne Clark, President of the Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants. At the last meeting of the State Medical Board, on November 30, 1995, the Board moved, without objection, to support this change in the wording of AS 08.64.107 from "registration" to "licensure".

Please feel free to contact either myself or our Executive Director, Leslie Haywood if you need further support or information.

Cordially,



Suzanne H. Lombardi, Acting Chair
State Medical Board

ALASKA ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Date: January 29, 1996

From: Jeanne Clark, PA-C
President AkAPA

To: Rep. Gene Therriault
State Capital
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Therriault,

This letter is a follow up to my request last week on the Interior teleconference for sponsorship of legislation. I did discuss the issues with your aide, Sara Fisher today.

On behalf of my organization, with the support of the Medical Board, I am asking for legislation to change Alaska statute **AS 08.64.107. Regulation of physician assistants**. The section deals with adoption of regulations and registration for physician assistants. Under this statute PAs are registered but then under statute **AS 08.64.170** physician assistants are licensed to practice medicine under the supervision of a licensed physician.

The Medical Board regulation 12 AAC 40.400 Physician Assistant registration does follow the statute in registration of PAs. But what is required to be "registered" is really a credentialed process, in essence, licensure.

The Medical Board requested that the Division of Occupational Licensure research this issue with the Department of Law to determine if regulatory changes alone could clarify the language. But their ruling was that it had to be a statute change.

I have enclosed a copy of the current statutes and regulations regarding PA registration. Also included is a review paper from the American Academy of Physician Assistants explaining and comparing licensure and registration.

The reason for requesting the change in wording of the statute is to clarify the current process of granting PAs authority to practice in the state. Physicians and nurses are "licensed" to practice and the language regarding PA should reflect the high standards that have to be met to practice as a physician assistant in Alaska.

Many areas of health law refer to "licensed practitioners". Adopting a licensure system makes it easier to include PAs in relevant provider language. Some managed care companies will restrict covered services to those provided by "licensed providers". Even though it can be argued that our current system of registration is equivalent to licensure, this nomenclature discrepancy can create problems.

Some laws and policies restrict the ordering of tests or therapies to "licensed providers". There are many routine health care tasks that PAs are delegated to order. Some agencies will not accept if the PA is not licensed.

Many states are recognizing the changes in the health care system, and changing to licensure for PAs. Currently, PAs are licensed in 20 states, certified in 21, and registered in 9. The legislatures of Wisconsin, Nebraska and South Dakota will consider PA licensure bills this session.

The timing to get this legislation passed this session is that December will be the next biannual registration process. We would like to have the language clarified to be effective for that process.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please call me if you have any additional questions and to let me know of your decision. I have ask our lobbyist, Jack Heesch to call to meet with you to answer any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Clark, PA-C

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 480

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act relating to physician assistants, including
the treatment of their services under group health ins. policies
 Sponsor: Rep. Theriault
 Requestor: House HESS

Department: Commerce and Economic Development
 BRU: Occupational Licensing
 Component: Operations

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1844

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES						
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 General Fund						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other 1091 Designated PR						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 98) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB 480 amends AS 08.64 to reference "licensure" of physician assistants and "registration" of mobile intensive care paramedics. New funds are not required to implement this bill.

Prepared by: Jennifer Strickler, Administrative Officer
 Division: Occupational Licensing
 Approved by Commissioner: William L. Hensley
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Phone: 465-2144
 Date: March 4, 1996
 Date: 3/4/96

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STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. Hb 480

Revision Date: 02/28/96 Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services
 Title: An Act relating to Physician Assistants BRU: State Health Services
 Component: Maternal, Child, & Family Hlth
 Sponsor: Representative Therriault COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 290
 Requestor: House HESS See also (SN#): _____

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGES IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please specify)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH
 Division: Public Health
 Approved by Com: Karen Perdue, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Phone: 465-3090
 Date: 02/28/96
 Date: 2/28/96

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 480

Revision Date: _____
Title: Physician Assistants

Department: Commerce and Economic Development
BRU: Insurance
Component: Operations

Sponsor: Rep. Theriault
Requestor: H HESS Committee

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. _____ #354

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES						
--------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 General Fund						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 96) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Joan Brown, Administrative Officer *[Signature]* Phone: 465-2597
 Division: Insurance Date: 2/13/96
 Approved by Commissioner: William L. Hensley *[Signature]* Date: 2-13-96
 Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

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AETNA Health Plans
P.O. Box 21645
Seattle, WA 98111

*JACK -
I have a
total of 5 of
these
mixed JAF/
State
employees*

January 11, 1995

Orthopaedic Triage of Fairbanks
1919 Lathrop St., #202
Fairbanks, AK 99701

re: 
State of Alaska

SSN: 468-40-3118

Dear Mr. Weber:

We have reviewed your letter of November 28, 1994, regarding the treatment that you performed for Robert Boutang.

Based on the information provided, we will not be able to pay benefits for your claims. Our reason for this determination is based on your credentials. The State of Alaska Group Medical Plan does not consider a physician's assistant a payable provider.

In order to receive reimbursement for your services you would need to be employed by a medical doctor, and the payment would then be made to that doctor under his tax identification number.

We are sorry our determination could not be more favorable. If you have any other questions, please contact this office at the address shown above or call 1-800-426-3211.

Sincerely,

Joanna Williams
Customer Service Representative
Seattle Claim Department
Aetna Life Insurance Company

cc: R. Boutang



4300 B Street, Suite 205
Anchorage, AK 99503-2781
907-561-0011

November 9, 1994

Karolyn Bowyer
1679 Taroka Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Plan Sponsor: University of Alaska
Employee : [REDACTED]
SSN : [REDACTED]
Dependent : Jeffrey

Dear Karolyn:

We are writing in response to your request for written notification of the denial on Jeffrey's claim, date of service September 12, 1994, in the amount of \$132 dollars.

These expenses are not covered because this provider, M. Weber, P.A., is not recognized under the plan definition of a physician.

The charges in question are being billed directly by M. Weber, P.A., and a physician assistant billing on his own behalf is not covered.

Sincerely,

Sandra Kent

Sandra Kent
Anchorage Member Services
Aetna Health Insurance Company



August 16, 1994

*AAPA
REIMBURSEMENT
ISSUE*

Healy Clinic
248 Parks Hwy
Usibellispur Rd.
Healy, AK 99743-0062

Re:

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your inquiry regarding our denial of services provided by John Winklmann, P.A.

As stated in the 1994 brochure, covered providers are: "A licensed doctor of medicine (M.D.) or a licensed doctor of osteopathy (D.O.). Other covered providers who may render services without the supervision of an M.D. but for which the Plan provides benefits include a chiropractor, nurse midwife, nurse anesthetist, dentist, optometrist, qualified clinical social worker, qualified clinical psychologist, podiatrist, speech, physical and occupational therapist, nurse practitioner/clinical specialist and nursing school administered clinic. For purposes of this FEHB brochure, the term "doctor" includes all of these providers when the services are performed within the scope of their license or certification. Within States designated as medically underserved areas, any licensed medical practitioner is covered. For 1994, the States designated as medically underserved are: Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, West Virginia and Wyoming."

According to the information submitted, John Winklmann has a degree in Physician Assistant which does not fall within the guidelines of a covered provider. The services rendered by John Winklmann were correctly denied.

Our brochure also states if the member does not agree with this benefit determination, the member is entitled to a review of the claim by the Office of Personnel Management. The brochure provides specific

instructions on claim appeal.

If you have any questions, please contact our office.

**EXPLANATION OF NOTES THAT
WERE SENT TO THE CLAIMANT**

METLIFE PROVIDES FASTER, MORE EFFICIENT CLAIM PROCESSING FOR ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED CLAIMS. THEREFORE WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUBMIT CLAIMS ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH NEIC. FOR CLAIMS THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED ON PAPER, THE USE OF SCANNABLE CLAIM FORMS FACILITATES MORE EFFICIENT CLAIM PROCESSING.

- 160 - The charges for services performed on this date have been combined and benefits have been determined based on the primary procedure.
- 250 - This provider of service is not considered eligible under your group medical plan. Therefore, this expense is being declined according to the plan provisions.

NOTE:

THE GROUP-NO, CLAIM-NO AND PATIENT'S NAME SHOULD BE FURNISHED WHEN REFERENCING A PARTICULAR CLAIM. IF THERE IS A NEED TO RETURN A PAYMENT ON A SPECIFIC CLAIM, A PERSONAL CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF THAT PAYMENT SHOULD ACCOMPANY YOUR INQUIRY. TO EXPEDITE FUTURE CLAIMS, PLEASE ALWAYS PROVIDE THE INSURED'S NAME, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, EMPLOYER NAME, GROUP NUMBER AND PATIENT NAME.

PROVIDER ADDRESS:

THIS CLAIM WAS PROCESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF YOUR EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN.

IN THE EVENT A CLAIM HAS BEEN DENIED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, YOU CAN REQUEST A REVIEW OF YOUR CLAIM. THIS REQUEST FOR REVIEW SHOULD BE SENT TO GROUP CLAIMS REVIEW AT THE ADDRESS OF THE METROPOLITAN OFFICE WHICH PROCESSED THE CLAIM, WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE NOTICE OF DENIAL OF THE CLAIM. WHEN REQUESTING A REVIEW, PLEASE STATE THE REASON YOU BELIEVE THE CLAIM WAS IMPROPERLY DENIED AND SUBMIT ANY DATA, QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE.

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE EVALUATED AND YOU WILL BE INFORMED OF THE DECISION IN A TIMELY MANNER.



SUMMARY STATEMENT OF BENEFITS



P.O. BOX 5001
ROLLING MEADOWS IL 60008

PROVIDER NAME: RICHARD J BURGER MD
PROVIDER I.D. #: 820089715
DATE OF STATEMENT: FEB 14, 1995
GROUP #: 0038800

SEND INQUIRIES TO ABOVE ADDRESS
OR CALL (800) 323-8520

SEARS GROUP MEDICAL PLAN

PAGE 1 OF 1

Employee Name Employee I.D. # Claim #	Patient's Name Patient Acct # Provider I.D. Assoc. or Disp #	Date(s) of Service	CPT Code OR Service	Total Expenses	Expenses Excluded	Notes (see over)	Copay- Deduct Amount	Benefit Paid
8013050751-99	CLARKE 101837	01/12/95	17100	101.00	101.00	268		
			TOTALS	101.00	101.00			.00
					PATIENT RESPONSIBILITY----			> 101.00
8013050751-99	CLARKE 101837	01/12/95	38415	.00	.00	186		
			TOTALS	.00	.00			.00
8013050751-99	CLARKE 101837	01/12/95	80018	39.30	39.30	268		
			TOTALS	39.30	39.30			.00
					PATIENT RESPONSIBILITY----			> 39.30
PLEASE SEE BACK FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTRONIC CLAIM SUBMISSION.							PAGE TOTAL	.00
							GRAND TOTAL	.00

* PAYMENT AMOUNT IS REDUCED BY COINSURANCE AMOUNTS, OTHER INSURANCE BENEFITS, MEDICARE BENEFITS, AND/OR BENEFITS PAID TO EMPLOYEE.
** WITHHOLD AMOUNT.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS, NOTES, AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE CLAIM SUBMISSION PROCESS.

LBN4F1 NY 8/93

SEARS GROUP MEDICAL PLAN - 0038800
METROPOLITAN LIFE INS. CO.
P.O. BOX 5001
ROLLING MEADOWS IL 60008

RICHARD J BURGER MD
2009 COWLES ST
FAIRBANKS AK 99701

JUST A LITTLE SUMMARY OF MY CALLS RE THIS ISSUE

Per Catherine Reardon-Occupational licensing

She said that "registered" to "licensed" is just a semantic change. The process for qualification is identical. (YOU MIGHT ASK HER FOR THE RECORD, IF THIS WILL IN ANY WAY AFFECT HOW A P.A. PRACTICES, WOULD P.A.'S STILL HAVE TO PRACTICE UNDER A PHYSICIAN?)

Re: Blue Cross federal issue:

According to yesterday's conversation with PA and Jack, the example of an insurer not paying was Blue Cross (the subcontractor) and the federal employee program. Under the national plan, they do not pay for PA services. According to Jody Ellis (#206-670-5657) at BC office, they are working with the federal Office of Personnel Management to create an amendment to cover PA's in Alaska. BC plans to cover PA's as soon as the amendment is made. They are working on it in D.C. this week. I have attempted to contact Joe Orange (#202-942-1298) with the Office of Personnel Management to get more details, but he has not returned my message.

T/C with Rod Wilson:

Has concerns about Section 4 of bill. He said there is lively debate about what a P.A. should bill for services he or she renders versus what a physician bills for the same service. Argument for having a P.A. bill the same as the physician is that the physician assumes more risk by having a P.A. work for the physician and service costs should be the same. Others argue that a P.A. should bill for a lesser amount than a physician because a P.A. has far less training than a physician.

T/C with Leslie Haywood, Executive Secretary of the State Medical Board:

Leslie said the Board has not taken a position on the entire bill; just the registered/licensed portion.

Upon questioning her, she informed me that there is no limit on the number of P.A.'s a physician can sponsor. Some collaborative plans in place may have up to 12 P.A.'s.

Conclusions drawn from the rest of the conversation with Leslie:

Neither physicians nor P.A.'s are required to carry malpractice insurance by law. Liability may ultimately lie with the collaborating physician. There are a great variety of ways in which P.A.'s practice in Alaska. There is at least one P.A. who owns a clinic and has a business

license and employs a physician. Emergency room physicians sponsor many P.A.'s in remote locations. There is a Native corporation which employs both physicians and P.A.'s.

The big question is: Are patients paying for services they, in fact, are receiving? If one goes to see a physician and sees a P.A. instead, but is billed for the same amount as if he or she had seen the physician, is that right? Should the billing amount for seeing a P.A. be less than it would be if the patient saw a physician?

Are we headed in the direction of having one physician at a facility...or even at a different location and having numerous P.A.'s available. Patients end up seeing P.A.'s, but paying as if they had received the services of a physician? This issue has not been clarified, but there are some P.A.'s billing the same price as that of a physician.

MAR 12 1996 REG

MP

ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF

■ KING COVE ■ SAND POINT ■ AKUTAN ■ COLD BAY ■ FALSE PASS ■ NELSON LAGOON

March 8, 1996

The Honorable Cynthia Toohey
Representative
Alaska State Legislature
Room 104
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Rep. Toohey:

We are writing in support of House Bill 480 which is being referred to the Health, Education and Social Services Committee for review. The passing of this bill will allow physician assistants to provide services for which they have been trained.

Changing the designation of physician assistants from registered to licensed and including their services under group health insurance would enable the Aleutians East Borough to make use of the services of Margaret Eubank, whom the Borough has sponsored through her training years and who recently received her license as a Certified Physicians' Assistant. Margaret has always intended to come back to Sand Point and provide P.A. services in her home town and this, of course, was the intention of the Borough sponsorship. Margaret would be able to assume her position as a Certified P.A. in Sand Point under HB 480 and allow her to bill for services which are covered by group insurance policies. This would be a tremendous help to rural health care in Alaska.

We respectfully request your support in passing this very important house bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Juettner
Administrator

CLERK/PLANNER
P.O. BOX 349
SAND POINT, ALASKA 99661
(907) 383-2699
(907) 383-3496 FAX

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR
1600 A STREET, SUITE 103
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-5146
(907) 274-7555
(907) 276-7569 FAX

FINANCE DIRECTOR
P.O. BOX 49
KING COVE, ALASKA 99612
(907) 497-2588
(907) 497-2386 FAX

Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

HB 480: Reimbursement

HB 480 adds physician assistants to the "nondiscrimination" statute for group health insurance policies. This statute does not affect in any way the reimbursement rates paid to any provider group. A question about this bill has been raised in a committee hearing regarding differential reimbursement rates based on the providers training and education level. AS 21.36.090 paragraph (d) includes the following "provider" groups: physician, dentist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor, nurse midwife, advanced nurse practitioner, naturopath, physical therapist, occupational therapist, psychologist, psychological associate, licensed clinical social worker or certified direct-entry midwife. Several of these groups of providers provide overlapping services including the following:

- Psychiatrists, psychologists, psychological associates, licensed clinical social workers
- Orthopedic physicians, chiropractors, osteopaths, physical therapists
- Obstetrics/gynecology physicians, nurse midwives, certified direct-entry midwives
- Family practice and internal medicine physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants
- Ophthalmologists, optometrists

A discussion of differential reimbursement rates for these provider groups based on differing educational requirements should of necessity be applied to all of the above groups which provide overlapping services. We feel that such a discussion would be lively and interesting. However, our belief is that the best solution is to continue to allow insurance reimbursement rates to be established by market conditions.

Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

HB 480

The Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants is requesting your support for HB 480. This bill changes PA registration to licensure, adds PAs to the "nondiscrimination" clause under group health insurance policies, and simply corrects two other statutes that refer to "registered" PAs by changing the designation to licensed, specifically regarding the drawing of blood and the pronouncement of death.

Section 1. The change from registration to licensure is supported by the Alaska State Medical Board and is considered by them to be only a semantic change. It does not change in any way our collaborative relationship with physicians. Our reason for requesting this change is that some federal employee insurance carriers have denied reimbursement for medical services provided by PAs in Alaska because PAs are not licensed in Alaska.

Section 4. Our request to be added to the "nondiscrimination" statute is an attempt to ensure that insurance carriers continue to reimburse for services provided by PAs. It does not require insurance companies to reimburse PAs directly, that is not the intention of this language. It also does not affect in any way the reimbursement rate paid to any provider covered under the statute. That remains a matter between the carrier, the provider, and the patient. It simply adds us to the list of provider classes whom the Alaska State Legislature has determined should not be denied reimbursement as a group. It does not in any way require insurance companies to contract with any individual PA, or group of PAs.

This bill does not in any substantive way change the way PAs currently practice in Alaska. We simply want to be sure PAs remain a viable provider group in Alaska by ensuring that group health insurance carriers continue to reimburse for our services. We would appreciate your support of HB 480.

John Riley
Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee

HB

503

Revision Date: 3/11/96 Dept. Affected: Revenue
 Title: Contribution from PFD's to Non-profits BRU: Permanent Fund Dividend Division
 Component: Permanent Fund Dividend Division
 Sponsor: Representative Bunde
 Requestor: HESS COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 981

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02
PERSONAL SERVICES	129.4	133.9	138.6	143.5	148.5	153.7
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	146.7	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4
SUPPLIES	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
EQUIPMENT	8.0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	235.6	244.8	249.5	254.4	259.4	264.6
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other Dividend Fund	285.6	244.8	249.5	254.4	259.4	264.6
TOTAL	285.6	244.8	249.5	254.4	259.4	264.6

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost \$ 0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	3	3	3	3	3	3
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

(See Attached Analysis)

Prepared by: Nanci A. Jones, Director Phone: 465-2323
 Division: Permanent Fund Dividend Date: 3/11/96
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 3/11/96
 Agency: Department of Revenue

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DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND DIVISION

HB 503 FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

This bill would require the PFD Division to create and administer a contribution check-off program whereby applicants eligible to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend check could choose to contribute part or all of their check to a pre-registered non-profit corporation.

Assumptions

1. The Department of Commerce has 4,397 non-profit corporations currently registered with them. We do not know what percentage of these corporations would qualify as charitable organizations, or how many are no longer doing business in the state. Our best guess is that approximately 50% of these corporations would be eligible for this program and therefore base some calculations on 2,198 corporations participating.
2. The division will create a petition form in which the non-profit corporations will request to have their name appear on a list of eligible non-profit corporations in the dividend booklet. Additionally, in the second and future years, a certification form will be needed to substitute for the initial petition form if the non-profit has not dissolved and wishes to continue to receive contributions.
3. One Accounting Clerk III position will be needed to collect and process petition forms, including verifying non-profit status and registered eligibility to collect contributions via the Department of Law. This position would also receive and process the certification forms. (\$36.8 annual salary w/benefits; 3.5% annual increase each year)

A Data Entry Clerk I will be needed to enter and verify the applicant names received with each petition. We estimate this will include entering a minimum of 21,980,000 names if the estimated 2,198 non-profit groups currently registered with the State turn in the required 10,000 names per petition. (\$30.8 annual salary w/benefits; 3.5% increase each year)

An additional Analyst Programmer IV will be responsible for programming the mainframe computer to match prior year eligible applicants with the names submitted with each petition. Programming will also be needed to allow all or part of an applicant's PFD check to go to the pre-selected non-profit corporations. The order of the non-profits listed in the PFD booklet must be changed each year which will trigger a change in the programming to match the designated contribution with the correct non-profit corporation. (\$61.8 annual salary w/benefits; 3.5% increase each year)

4. Contractual services include items for postage to mail petition forms and certification requests for additional information to the non-profit corporations, and creation and duplication of the forms to initiate the program. (\$2.2 annually)

There will be added postage costs for the additional weight of the PFD booklet due to the added pages listing the 2,198 non-profit corporations. (\$17.5 annually)

Computer chargeback costs will be high in the first year of initial programming. Maintenance costs will be much less in subsequent years estimated at 50% of initial costs. (\$75.0 1st year; \$37.5 thereafter)

The data entry system, currently on the Wang system, must be programmed to process the names entered from the petitions. We currently have a contractor do our programming. (\$7.5 annually)

The cost of printing one double sided page of the dividend booklet is \$8.9. Based on the printing area of one page, it will take five double sided pages to list an estimated 2,198 non-profit corporations. The annual cost of printing the booklet will increase. (\$44.5)

5. Supplies include consumable items of pens, pencils, and paper used in the normal course of business. (\$1.5 annually)
6. A personal computer for the Accounting Clerk and Analyst Programmer will be needed for this program. (\$8,000 one time costs)



REPRESENTATIVE CON BUNDE
CO-CHAIR HEALTH, EDUCATION
& SOCIAL SERVICES
VICE-CHAIR RULES

Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives

DURING SESSION:
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 108
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182
1 (907) 465-4843

DURING INTERIM:
716 WEST 4th AVENUE
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2133
1 (907) 258-8168

SPONSOR STATEMENT
House Bill 503

**"An Act relating to contributions from permanent
fund dividends."**

There are over 4,000 nonprofit organizations in Alaska. Many need help with fundraising. House Bill 503 will allow nonprofit organizations with a petition of at least 10,000 permanent fund dividend eligible signatures to be added to the contribution check off list contained in the permanent fund dividend application. This bill gives Alaskans the opportunity to make a donation of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, or the total amount of the applicant's dividend to a nonprofit organization of their choice and enables that organization to generate funds to help support them during the upcoming year.

House Bill 503 also allows nonprofit organizations to continue to appear, in random order, on the check off list yearly by providing proof of existence to the Department of Revenue.

Finally, House Bill 503 stipulates that a nonprofit organization that has been convicted of a state or federal crime may not appear on the contribution list. This final component may help discourage groups from illegal behavior.

I urge your support of House Bill 503.

OFFICERS

Kevin Fischer
President
APRIA HEALTHCARE

Norvin Morrow
President-Elect
ARCO Alaska, Inc.

James L. Vander Voort
Past-President
Schering-Plough

Shari Boyd
Secretary
Jack White Real Estate

David M. Richards
Treasurer
Anchorage Sand & Gravel

George Stewart, MD
ALA Rep. Delegate
ATS President
Internal Medicine Assoc.

DIRECTORS

Linda Boggs
Market Sense

Terry Clark, MD
Alaska Native Medical Ctr.

Patricia Foster
Peninsula Home Healthcare

Bruce Graham
Pfizer Labs

Joyce Miles
Norton Sound Health Corp.

John Petraitis
Univ. of Alaska Anchorage

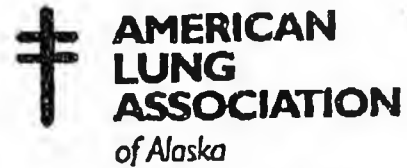
Dave Pfeifer
Valley Hospital

Shirley Han Spencer, MD
Seldovia

Thad Woodard, MD
Thad Woodard & Assoc.

1057 West Firweed Lane, Ste 201
Anchorage, AK 99503-1736
(907) 276-LUNG (5864)
Fax (907) 263-2090
Statewide: 1-(800) LUNG-USA

**When You Can't Breathe,
Nothing Else Matters**



March 11, 1996

Representative Con Bunde
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Bunde:

This letter is written in support of House Bill No. 503. Supporting the non-profit sector of Alaska through a contribution check-off on the Permanent Fund Application will benefit all Alaskans.

Supporting the non-profit sector through the addition of a Permanent Fund contribution check-off, gives each citizen an opportunity to personally make a difference in the world. Each dollar from the Permanent Fund Dividend directed towards the work of non-profit organizations will have a positive impact on the quality of life here in Alaska. When a non-profit organization is able to achieve its mission we all win.

In closing, I quote Leo Tolstoy, who said, "The sole meaning of life is to serve humanity". A legislator and a public servant, you understand the meaning of this quote perhaps better than anyone. Your efforts to further the work and missions of all non-profits through the introduction of this bill is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Jeff Leschensky
Executive Director



March 11, 1996

Special Olympics
Alaska

Representative Con Bunde
State Capital, Rm 108
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Rep. Bunde,

Special Olympics Alaska is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to providing sports training and competition to Alaskans with mental retardation. While the physical rewards of athletic training and competition are numerous and well documented, these Alaskans also benefit mentally, spiritually, and socially.

It is estimated that there are nearly ten thousand eligible athletes in Alaska. Our program has been able to serve only about five percent, or 500 athletes. This is due to lack of public awareness and volunteers, and an inadequate funding base. In 1995, Special Olympics lost state funding which resulted in further erosion of our ability to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.

At the present time Special Olympics Alaska is seeking partnerships with businesses, schools, and other agencies supporting our overall philosophy and mission. We emphasize the value which will return to each community as all members become involved as meaningful citizens. In the interim, Special Olympics Alaska needs financial support from the State of Alaska to ensure our success.

We support HB 503, Contributions From PFD's To Nonprofits and commend you for your efforts. Financial support is critical to the future of our statewide programs.

Sincerely,

Jim Balamaci
Executive Director

C O V E R**S H E E T****FAX**

To: Tiffany, Rep. Bunde's Office
Fax #: (907) 465-3871
Subject: HB 503
Date: March 11, 1996
Pages: 2, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Tiffany,
Attached please find letter of support for HB503

From the desk of...

Jim Maley
Executive Director
Alaska Children's Services, Inc.
4500 Abbott Road
Anchorage, AK 99507

(907) 348-2101
Fax (907) 348-2748



ALASKA
CHILDREN'S
SERVICES

March 11, 1996

Representative Con Bunde
House of Representatives
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska

RE: House Bill 503

Dear Representative Bunde:

Thank you for informing me of the your introduction of the above-mentioned bill. As I understand it this legislation will permit Alaskan residents to contribute a portion of their Permanent Fund dividend to non-profit organizations who have completed certain requirements to be listed in the Permanent Fund application.

While I have no idea what the impact of this legislation would have, it is certainly an innovative and creative way to assist non-profits in fundraising efforts. Alaska Children's Services is supportive of House Bill 503 and we appreciate your consideration of the difficulties organizations are facing with the reductions in support from various sources.

As I mentioned to your aide on the phone, I am concerned that many needy and worthwhile organizations will be unable to take advantage of this opportunity due to the requirement of 10,000 signatures on a petition place their name on the application. I also recognize that without some type of restriction, the list could become burdensome. I do not have an alternative to suggest.

I have notified the seventeen members of the Alaska Association of Homes for Children of HB503. On Wednesday, March 13, I will be hosting the thirty-eight organizations who are recipients of United Way funding in Anchorage. I will distribute HB503 to those attending and ask that they provide input to you directly.

Thank you for your interest in non-profit corporations.

Sincerely,

Jim Maley,
Executive Director

4600 Abbott Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507-4314 • (907) 346-2101 • Fax (907) 346-2748



ACS is a Christian member of American Baptist Churches • USA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, United Methodist Church, and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). A United Way agency ACS is Accredited by the United Way National Council of Accredited Organizations.

A m e n d m e n t

To: HB 503

By: Rep. Bunde

Delete all language on page 1, line 14, after the word "receive," to the end of page 2, line 2.

Insert on page 1, line 14, after the word "receive," "all contributions are void and the applicant will receive the full amount of the dividend."

APRN

VOICES OF ALASKA

Alaska Public Radio Network ★ 810 East Ninth Avenue ★ Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3826
Phone (907) 277-2776 ★ Fax (907) 263-7450

March 13, 1996

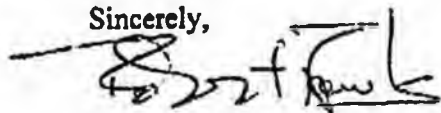
Representative Con Bunde
Alaska State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Bunde:

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN) in support of House Bill 503. I believe this bill can be an important step for valuable statewide service providers to replace critical operating funds that have been eliminated from the state budget in recent years. Balancing the State of Alaska's budget is crucial to the future of the state. However, simply cutting the budget will only destroy valuable services and throw away significant state investment in facilities and infrastructure. It is critical that a long term plan be developed, and new legislation such as HB 503 be implemented to give service providers the tools to continue serving Alaskans.

As you know, state support to public radio has decreased significantly over the past few years, and people such as myself have been struggling to find ways to protect this unique and valuable service. It has taken over 25 years, and tens of millions of dollars in state, federal and private funds to build Alaska's public radio system. Today, Alaska's public radio system is the finest in the country, bringing valuable news and often life-saving information to virtually every community, village, fishing boat and fish camp in Alaska. This incredible statewide information highway is in great jeopardy, in large part due to cuts in state support. It is encouraging to see legislative leaders such as yourself exploring new ways to protect public radio and the other important services that are valued by Alaskans in both urban and rural Alaska.

Sincerely,



Robert Rawls
President

KSKA-FM Anchorage • KRUA-FM Anchorage • Koahnic Broadcast Corp. • KBRW-AM Barrow • KYUK-AM Bethel • KCUK-FM Chevak
KDIG-AM Dillingham • KUAC-FM Fairbanks • KZPA-AM Ft. Yukon • KIYU-AM Galena • KHNS-FM Haines • KBB1-AM Homer
KTOO-FM Juneau • KCZP-FM Kenai/Soldotna • KRND-FM Ketchikan • KMXT-FM Kodiak • KOTZ-AM Kotzebue
K8KO-AM McGrath • KNOM-AM Nome • KFSK-FM Petersburg • XSDP-AM Sand Point • XSRD-FM Seward • KCAW-FM Sitka
KUHB-FM St. Paul • KTNA-FM Talkeetna • KNSA-AM Unalakleet • XIAL-AM Unalaska • K6TK-FM Wrangell



245 W Fifth Ave., Ste 22
P.O. Box 102059
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
907-274-1572
FAX 272-3148

March 13, 1996

Representative Con Bundy
Alaska House of Representatives
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Bundy:

I am writing in support of HB 503 which will give the residents of Alaska the opportunity to financially support the nonprofit organization of their choice. I am pleased that you have taken the initiative on this issue which suffered a rather sudden death a few years ago. In this era of declining revenues for charities and not-for-profit organizations, I see this as a painless way for many people to have the capacity to be generous.

I strongly suggest, however, that the petition of 10,000 signatures be revisited. I believe for smaller, little known organizations that are doing good works, 10,000, or even 5,000 signatures is unreasonable. There certainly is another avenue for qualification that could become part of this bill. At this time, I am not prepared to suggest an alternative, but it wouldn't be too hard to come up with one.

I would be happy to discuss this further with you or someone from your office. Thank you for pursuing this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sharon Richards'.

Sharon Richards
Executive Director

CoastAlaska

**KCAW-FM, Sitka • KFSK-FM, Petersburg • KHNS-FM, Haines • KRBD-FM, Ketchikan
KSTK-FM, Wrangell • KTOO-FM, Juneau**

Angoon • Auke Bay • Coffman Cove • Craig • Douglas • Edna Bay • Elfin Cove • Excursion Inlet • Fairweather Grounds • Gustavus
Haines • Hollis • Hoonah • Hydaburg • Icy Strait • Juneau • Kake • Kasaan • Ketchikan • Klawock • Klukwan • Kupreanoff • Metlakatla
Pelican • Petersburg • Point Baker • Port Alexander • Rocky Pass • Skagway • Saxman • Sitka • Sumner Strait • Tenakee Springs
Thom's Place • Thome Bay • Wrangell • Yakutat

March 14, 1996

Representative Con Bunde
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Bunde:

I am writing to support House Bill 503 (Contributions from PFD's to Non-profits). I believe a permanent fund dividend check off would benefit Alaska Public Broadcasting and many other non-profit organizations. CoastAlaska is the regional collaboration of six public radio stations.

I particularly support the need for organizations to qualify for the check-off. While some organizations may have difficulty getting 10,000 signatures, this requirement shows the public support for that organization and the whole system of check offs.

The Legislature and Congress have given public broadcasting and other non-profits a clear message: find other ways of raising money. This program is a good way to do so. Individual Alaskans can choose to send their dividend money to their favorite charity. Only organizations with broad support can qualify and only the individual can decide which organizations to support.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you move HB 503 through the Legislature.

Respectfully,



Jon Newstrom
Coordinator

P.O. Box 22596 • Juneau, AK 99802-2596
800 631-4250 (Toll Free) • 907 463-6411 (Direct Line) • 907 586-3612 (Fax)
CoastAlask@aol.com (E-Mail)

HB

506

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: February 12, 1996

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Finance

Date of Committee Action: 3/26/96

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

HB 506

HOUSE BILL NO. 506

UNIVERSITY FIRE FIGHTING PROGRAM

"An Act relating to establishment of a fire fighting and safety training program by the University of Alaska."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee

attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): _____ (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: _____ (Dept/Date)

fiscal note(s) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) University

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Car Beude*

MIKE NAVARRE
REPRESENTATIVE



DURING SESSION
STATE CAPITOL, RM. 521
JUNEAU, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-3779

DISTRICT 9

MAY TO DECEMBER
145 MAIN ST. LOOP KENAI, AK 99611
(OLD KENAI COURTHOUSE)
(907) 283-7223

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR STATEMENT

DATE: March 8, 1996

TO: Representative Cynthia Toohy & Representative Con Bunde
Co-Chairs of Health Education & Social Services

FROM: Representative Mike Navarre, G. Davis, Phillips *Gail*

SUBJECT: House Bill 506, An Act relating to the establishment of a fire training and safety training program by the University of Alaska.

.....

House Bill 506 is a measure that enables the University of Alaska to establish and locate a fire training and safety training institute on the Kenai Peninsula. The institute will have instructional facilities, an administrative office and an information office.

Close to thirty years ago the Kenai Peninsula fire training program originated from the Cook Inlet Supervisors Fire Training School. The University of Alaska developed and operated several training sites throughout the state until 1988, when environmental concerns forced a redesign and reappraisal of fire training services for industry. In 1980 the fire training program adopted a name change and a more sophisticated and diverse program of instruction. The name adopted was the Mining and Petroleum Training Service (MAPTS).

The program was started to fill a need for local and statewide fire training necessary for fulfilling the national certification requirements. Over the years MAPTS has evolved into a world class training facility which, in addition to its training curriculum, it can design, develop and deliver customized programs for a client.

This legislation will provide a certain amount of autonomy for MAPTS which means more control of the receipts generated, which in turn ensures the program will stay on the cutting edge of fire and mining safety training programs. The recognition of the program enables the program administrator to have more impact in the direction and operation of MAPTS.



Mining And Petroleum Training Service
University of Alaska Anchorage
The College of Career and Vocational Education

MAPTS provides mandatory, regulatory and site specific training and development statewide throughout Alaska, the lower 48, the Caribbean and the Russian Far East with the mission of providing timely, professional and cost-effective training and development services to business, industry, and government.

During the past 16 years, MAPTS has concentrated on mandatory training programs and worker certification in Industrial Fire Brigade Training, Hydrogen Sulfide Safety & Response, Oil Spill Response Training, Hazardous Materials and Emergency Response, Hazardous Waste Operator Training, Health & Safety for Oilfield Workers, Asbestos Abatement Worker programs, Asbestos Awareness Training, Hazard Communications, Rig Safety Orientation, Well Control Certification, Respiratory Protection, Mine Safety and Health Training, Surface and Underground Mine Rescue, Helicopter Safety & Survival, Explosives and Blasting, Alaska Outdoor Survival, and Cold Weather/Cold Water Survival.

In addition, MAPTS designs, develops and delivers site specific training according to the special needs of the client. Utilizing the resources of the University of Alaska, State Vocational-Technical Centers and various international training organizations, desired training courses and programs can be rapidly developed and delivered in the most cost-effective manner possible. MAPTS was recently designated as the sole provider of site specific PSM training for companies contracted to ARCO Cook Inlet and Kuparuk operations.

The Kenai fire training facility is designed to eliminate the need for burn permits and ventilation factors. It produces no objectionable smoke or discharges and provides for a maximum degree of safety and realism. The facility operates under strict NFPA curriculum standards for Incipient, Exterior and Interior fire fighters. The final detail required is the completion and installation of the interior burn prop to allow the full advanced interior certification. The facility has two fire trucks and ample extinguishers, fixed stream devices and PPE to implement the full NFPA curriculum.

Fire training is conducted according to individual company requirements typically with a mix of employer instructors and local Kenai fire department assistance and backup. Each company selects the portions of the NFPA curriculum applicable to their facility and has the ability to determine the evolutions required and therefore the cost of the training.

During FY96, MAPTS expects to train between 5000 and 6000 Alaskan workers.

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. HB 506

Revision Date:
Title: An Act relating to establishment of a fire fighting and safety
program by the University of Alaska
Sponsor: Reps. Navarre, G. Davis, Phillips
Requestor:

Department Affected: **University of Alaska**
BRU: **UAA**
Component: **Anchorage Campus**

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 753

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY97	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE FD SOURCE						
--------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 FEDERAL FUNDS						
1003 GF MATCH						
1004 GENERAL FUND						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
OTHER						
TOTAL FUNDING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:						
FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill establishes an institute on the Kenai Peninsula for fire fighting and safety training, and allows the institute to charge fees for the services it provides. This function and authority already exists as an budget component of the Anchorage Campus, and as such there are no incremental costs associated with this bill. To the extent possible, this program is self-supporting. FY95 actual costs of the existing programs were \$817.0, of which \$293.5 came from the general fund and \$523.5 from university receipts and other non-GF sources. The FY96 budget for the program includes \$312.3 in general funds and \$2,097.8 in non-general fund authority.

Prepared by: Marylou Burton *MB*
Division: Statewide Budget Office

Phone: 463-3086
Date: 3/21/96

Approved by: Marylou Burton, Director
Agency: Statewide Budget Office

Date: 3/21/96

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HESS
committee name

committee on HA 506 dated 2-12-96
bill/subject

I fully support House Bill 506
and urge the HESS Committee to
pass this bill.

Signed: Dolbe Kenesicla
Testifier

Representing (Optional)
155 Smithway, Soldotna, AK 99669
Address
907-262-2588
Phone No.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the HES
 committee name
 committee on HB 506, dated 3-21-96
 bill/subject

I fully support the passage
 of HB 506.

Please contact me if you need
 further discussion.

Signed: Scott Walden
 Testifier
Kenai
 Representing (Optional)
105 S. Willow Kenai AK 99601
 Address
907-283-7666
 Phone No.

HB

512

(7)

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Referred to Committee: February 12, 1996

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary

Date of Committee Action: 3/19/96

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

HB 512

HOUSE BILL NO. 512

ENGLISH AS THE COMMON LANGUAGE

"An Act establishing English as the common language and related to the use of English in public records and at public meetings of state agencies."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute CS HB 512 (HES) [] the same title [x] a new title

[] additional referral to _____ Committee
[] attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)
[] fiscal note(s) _____ [] fiscal note(s) _____

[] zero fiscal note(s) All Depts [] zero fiscal note(s) _____

Table with columns: SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS, DP, DNP, NR, AM. Contains handwritten signatures and checkmarks.

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE [Signature]



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

PLEASE ENTER INTO THE RECORD MY TESTIMONY TO THE HHES
COMMITTEE NAME

COMMITTEE ON HB 512 DATED 3-5-96
BILL/SUBJECT

I do not support this bill, it does nothing for anyone. It is a waste of tax payers money to start making changes such as this. It sounds like this bill is invading on our rights. This bill invades on the languages already spoken here. This bill is getting against the first languages here in Alaska, there should be respect for that is here. Also the state of AK does not have follow what other states are doing, we are a state + can make decisions that is good for the people of AK not copying what happens anywhere else.

SIGNED Deed Beed
TESTIFIER

SELF
REPRESENTING (OPTIONAL)

SR 224 Chistochina AK 99586
ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER

9-LS1700\G ✓
Cook
3/11/96

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 512()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KOTT, Barnes, Green

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing English as the official language and related to the use of
2 English in public records and at public meetings of state agencies."

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

4 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

5 (1) this state has been enriched by its diversity, and the government should
6 always take steps to promote the dignity of all the heritages that form our society;

7 (2) Native people were the first to establish a richness and variety of languages
8 in this state;

9 (3) many languages are used in this state, and language has the power to unite
10 people of differing backgrounds and heritages;

11 (4) English as the nation's single shared language is the one language that
12 crosses all ethnic, racial, cultural, and religious lines and allows diverse Americans to share
13 their various backgrounds; and

14 (5) the use of an official language as the language of public record in no way

1 infringes upon the rights of people to exercise the use of a primary language of their choice
2 for private conduct, or for speaking in public buildings or other public or private places.

3 * Sec. 2. AS 01.10 is amended by adding new sections to read:

4 ARTICLE 5. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.

5 Sec. 01.10.200. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE ESTABLISHED. (a) The official
6 language of the state is English. Meetings of a state agency that are open to the public
7 shall be conducted in English. Except during a public meeting, this section does not
8 prohibit an officer or employee of a state agency from orally using a language other
9 than English in the scope of employment. Written records of a state agency, including
10 records accepted by a state agency for recording or filing, must be in English.

11 (b) A municipality may, by ordinance or resolution, elect not to be subject to
12 (a) of this section. A municipal school district or regional educational attendance area
13 may, by vote of the school board, elect not to be subject to (a) of this section.

14 Sec. 01.10.210. EXEMPTIONS. (a) AS 01.10.200 does not apply

- 15 (1) to instruction in a language other than English;
16 (2) to instruction designed to aid a student with limited English
17 proficiency;
18 (3) to bilingual education or activities if the education or activities are
19 authorized under state or federal law;
20 (4) to the international promotion of commerce, tourism, and sporting
21 events;
22 (5) when the public safety or health or an emergency requires the use
23 of a language other than English;
24 (6) to an individual providing testimony or making a statement to a
25 state agency if the individual is not an officer or employee of a state agency and if the
26 testimony or statement is translated into English and included in the records of the
27 agency.

28 (b) A person may not be denied employment by a state agency based solely
29 on that individual's lack of facility in a language other than English, except when
30 facility in another language is a bona fide job qualification required to fulfill a function
31 listed in (a) of this section.

1
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Sec. 01.10.220. REGULATION OF PRIVATE LANGUAGE PROHIBITED.
AS 01.10.200 may not be construed in a way that infringes on the rights of people to use languages other than English in private activities. A state agency may not restrict the use of languages other than English in private activities.

Sec. 01.10.230. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION. A person may bring an action against a state agency to enforce AS 01.10.200 - 01.10.220.

Sec. 01.10.240. DEFINITION. In AS 01.10.200 - 01.10.240, "state agency" means an entity of the state or a political subdivision of the state including a board or commission, the University of Alaska, a public authority or corporation of the state, a municipality, a school district, or other governmental unit of the state or a political subdivision of the state.

9-LS1700F ✓

Cook

3/5/96

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 512()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KOTT, Barnes

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing English as the official language and related to the use of
2 English in public records and at public meetings of state agencies."

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

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5 (1) this state has been enriched by its diversity, and the government should
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17 (4) to the international promotion of commerce, tourism, and sporting
18 events;

19 (5) when the public safety or health or an emergency requires the use
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6 commission, the University of Alaska, a public authority or corporation, a municipality,
7 a school district, or other governmental unit of the state or a political subdivision of
8 the state.

FAX COVER SHEET

Date March 5, 1996

Number of Pages 2
(Including Cover Sheet)

House HESS Committee:

Cynthia Toohey 465-2137

TO: Con Bunde 465-3871

Mr./Ms. Gary Davis 465-3835

Al Vezey 465-3258

Of: Norman Rokeberg 465-2040

Tom Brice 465-2294

Fax #: Caren Robinson 465-6790

FROM: **Edwin T. Gonion**
Superintendent

Lower Yukon School District
P.O. Box 32089
Mountain Village, AK 99632
FAX #: (907) 591-2196

Special Instructions

Please Reply

Confidential

URGENT

For Your Information

MESSAGE

Enclosed: Ed Gonion letter dated March 5, 1996
to be read before your meeting at
10 am today.

**If not received correctly, please
call (907) 591-2411**



Lower Yukon School District
P. O. Box 32089
Mountain Village, Alaska 99632

Edwin T. Gonion, Superintendent

Ph: (907) 591-2411
Fax: (907) 591-2449

LOWER YUKON SCHOOL DISTRICT • P.O. BOX 32089 • MOUNTAIN VILLAGE, ALASKA 99632 • (907) 591-2411 • Edwin T. Gonion, Superintendent

ALASKAN ENJOYER HOOPER BAY NOTLEK MARSHALL MTN VILLAGE PILOT STATION PITCAS PT. RUSSIAN MISSION SCAMMON BAY SHELDON PT.

March 5, 1996

House HESS Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Committee Members

The Lower Yukon School District is opposed to HB 512, which would require that only English be spoken at state meetings.

In a region where Yupik is the primary language of many individuals and where English is taught in the schools as the language that students need to learn and know in order to participate fully in the American social, economic and governmental system, there is absolutely no valid purpose for this legislation.

It will not accomplish anything that is not already being accomplished. Rather, the bill is divisive and insulting to many, many outstanding American citizens.

Sincerely,

Edwin T. Gonion
Edwin T. Gonion
Superintendent

Alaska State Legislature House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

LABOR & COMMERCE, CHAIRMAN
MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS
RESOURCES
INTERNATIONAL TRADE / TOURISM
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



INTERIM:
10926 EAGLE RIVER ROAD, SUITE 141
EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577
PHONE (907) 694-8944
FAX 694-8949

SESSION:
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, AK 99801-1182
PHONE (907) 485-3777
FAX (907) 485-2819

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 512: English Use With Public Meetings & Documents

English is the nation's single shared language that crosses all ethnic, racial, cultural, and religious lines, and allows diverse Americans to share their various backgrounds. This bill would simply make official what is already common practice in the State of Alaska, which is the use of English in public meetings and with public documents or records. Public documents include such things as birth, death, marriage, and divorce certificates, as well as records of all public meetings. The bill's intent is not to change any practices already occurring in the State; it is to simply give official recognition to what is already being done.

The bill applies only to state agencies. This includes all State Departments, boards and commissions, the University of Alaska, public corporations, municipalities, and school districts. The bill does not apply to private corporations, or to statewide or local native groups, or to federal agencies or to local groups or agencies not a part of state government. It does not apply to private citizens or private groups or activities.

Aside from making a simple statement that English is the official language of state documents, records, and meetings, it then proceeds to a list of the exceptions that are allowed. The bill is not meant to apply to language classes or curricula in schools or universities, or to bilingual programs authorized under federal law, or to tourism promotion, or if public safety or health issues are involved, or if legal testimony is needed from a non-English speaker.

The bill further provides assurances that it in no way infringes on the rights of people to use English in private activities, they can sue the state on this issue, they cannot be denied employment on the basis of lack of facility in a language other than English, and finally, it allows the state officers and employees to use a language other than English in the scope of their duties.



Representative Pete Kott

SPONSOR STATEMENT



LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

130 Seward Street, Suite 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2105

MEMORANDUM

February 14, 1996

SUBJECT: English as the common language (Work Order No. 9-LS1700)

TO: Representative Pete Kott
Attn: Roger

FROM: Tamara Brandt Cook
Director *TBC*

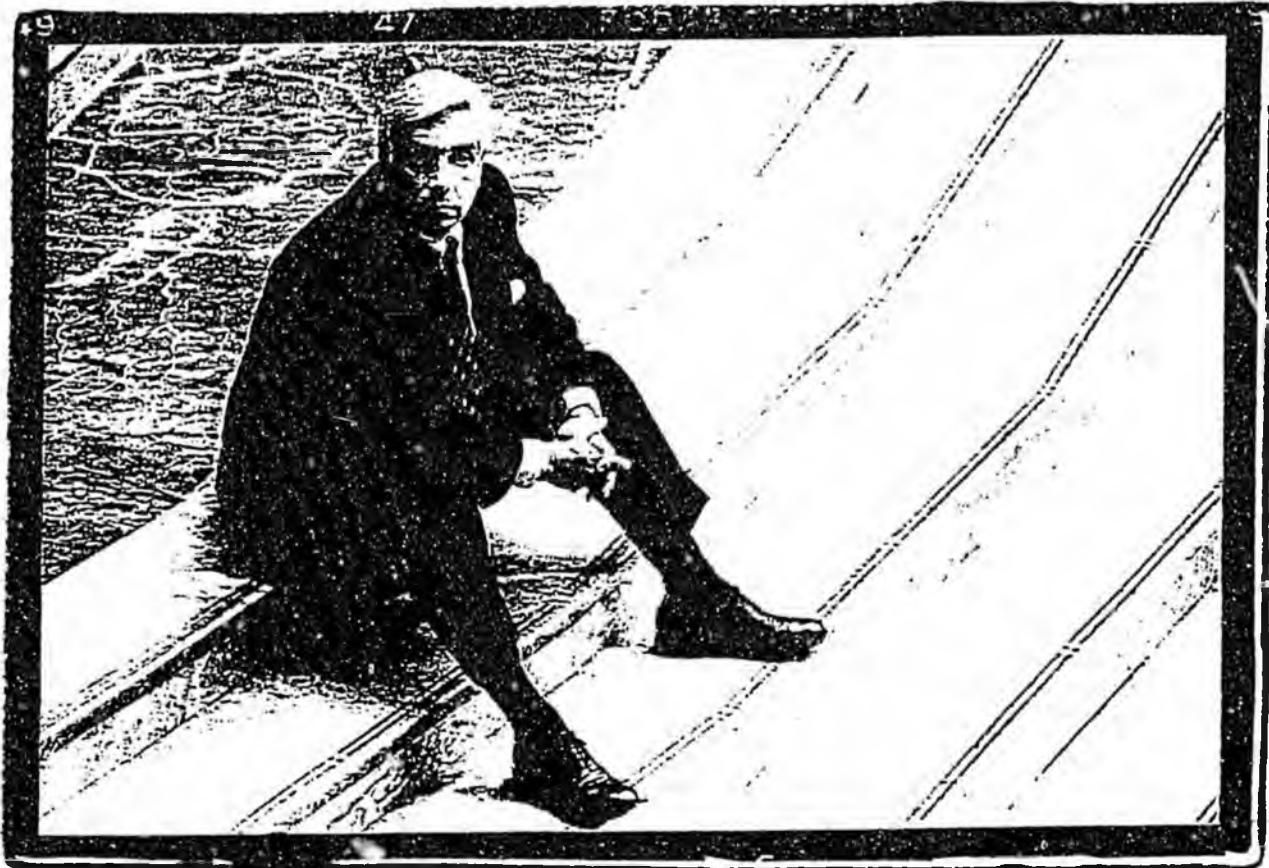
Here is the sectional summary you requested.

Section 1. Legislative findings.

Section 2. Establishes English as the common language of the state. English is required to be used for public meetings of state agencies and for agency records. Exemptions to the requirement that English be used are listed. A person may not be denied employment by a state agency based on lack of facility in a language other than English, unless facility in another language is required to fulfill one of the exempted functions. A state agency may not restrict use of other languages in private activities. A person may bring an action against a state agency to enforce requirements of this Act. "State agency" is defined.

TBC:pl
96-053.plm

"Immigrants Want And Need To Learn English. It's Time Politicians Got The Message."



*Mauro E. Muñoz, Architect
Chairman/CEO, U.S. English
Immigrant*

"**M**ultilingual ballots. U.S. citizenship ceremonies in foreign languages. Drivers' license tests in dozens of different languages. Bilingual education programs that fail to teach children English language proficiency.

"Programs invented by politicians and implemented by bureaucrats, all designed to help immigrants assimilate into American culture. In reality, they do just the opposite. They keep immigrants linguistically isolated. And they seriously limit an individual's earning potential.

"My native language is Spanish, yet I know the value of learning the language of this country. I am Chairman of U.S. ENGLISH. With over 600,000 members nationwide — we are the largest, non-partisan, non-profit organization committed to making sure government — at all levels — not waste money and energy providing services in foreign languages when money could be better spent simply teaching new immigrants English.

"We're supporting a bill in Congress which would make English the official language of government. Of course, common sense applications such as emergency services and foreign language teaching would be exempted. This bill would in no way restrict an individual's use of any language.

"Around the nation we're at the forefront of legislation on a state by state level. To date, 19 states have passed official language bills. We have a lot of work ahead of us and we can't do it without your help. It's time for you to speak up in a language politicians and bureaucrats can't ignore."

To join our grassroots movement, or to find out more, call 1-800 U S E N G L I S H (1 800-875-6454). Or write: Dept T10, 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006



THE LANGUAGE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY™

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



Facts & Issues

What is Official English? —

Official English is the use of English as the language of government—the language of public record, public business, the Constitution, the governing body and the courts. Official English means that the official, public business of governing is conducted in English.

Under official common language legislation, rules, decisions and laws for the record are conveyed in English. Official English laws do not legislate the use of English outside of government. They do not interfere with the teaching of other languages, nor do they affect bilingual education.

Official English has nothing to do with the language of the home, church, community center, private enterprise or with the conversation between two neighbors over the back fence. **Official English is the language of public business, not private business.** It does not pertain to religious services or texts. Names of cities, streets, monuments and buildings that are in other languages do not change under official common language laws. Restaurant menus are not affected; nor is entertainment such as music concerts, movies, plays and art exhibits.

Official English legislation makes allowances for the use of other languages as necessary. Private conversations between government employees may be spoken in other languages. Emergency services and safety information would also be available in other languages. A non-English speaking defendant may have a translator in court, but the trial would be conducted in English.

The idea of a nation having an official language is accepted worldwide. Roughly half of the world's nations have made a provision for official language. For example, Spanish is the official language of Venezuela, which means laws are written in Spanish, courts function in Spanish and government is conducted in Spanish. By adopting an official language, Venezuela declares that it is important to know Spanish in Venezuela.

Because state governments now operate in English, official English laws change very little about the way the states conduct public business. These laws, however, ensure a precise language of communication for governing. By making English our language of government, we reaffirm our belief that a common language promotes unity and serves as a bridge for understanding in our diverse society.

Stable government unifies a nation. Efficient communication among the branches of government and the people enables stability amid diversity. Official language provides a precise, unequivocal form of communication in a society where many languages are spoken.



Facts & Issues

Common Questions About Official English —

1. **Isn't English already the official language of the United States?**
No. English is our common language only by custom, not by law.
2. **After 200 years without an official language, why do we need one?**
As the United States increases its commitment to cultural diversity, a commitment to the common bond of English becomes more and more essential to maintaining clear, precise communication. Our government must take the lead in providing this impetus for the American people to join together and move forward as a nation.
3. **What will happen if we declare English as our official language?**
 - Common-sense limits will be set on government's use of multiple languages.
 - Taxpayers will be saved the cost of duplicating all government functions in multiple languages as the focus will be on teaching our common language.
4. **Does official English eliminate emergency health and safety services in other languages?**
No. In regions where significant numbers of people speak a different language, emergency health and safety services will continue to operate in that language as well.
5. **Would official English require private business to operate only in English?**
No. Official English does not require businesses, publications, and television and radio stations to be exclusively in English. The Constitution guarantees freedom of expression—including the right to express oneself in any language. While private business would not be legally required to operate in English, an alternate language would clearly communicate who the business is seeking to serve.
6. **What have other states done about official English?**
In 1812, Louisiana became the first state to recognize English as its official language. Currently 19 states recognize English as official language and several more are considering similar legislation.
7. **Does official English imply that English is better than other languages?**
No. The official English issue is not a question of one language versus another. It is a question of one official language versus *many* languages. Official English recognizes that our government functions best in one language—and that language traditionally has been English.



Facts & Issues

STATE OFFICIAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LAW CITATIONS as of June 1, 1995

Alabama	Ala. Const. Amend. 509	1990
Arizona	Ariz. Const. Art. XXVIII, S. 1	1988
Arkansas	Ark. Stat. Ann. S. 1-4-117	1987
California	Cal. Const. Art. III, S. 6	1986
Colorado	Colo. Const. Art. II, S. 30	1988
Florida	Fla. Const. Art. II, S. 9	1988
Georgia	1986 Ga. Laws 529	1986
Hawaii	Hawaii Const. S. 4	1978
Illinois	Ill. Rev. Stat. Ch. 1, S. 3005	1969
Indiana	Ind. Code. Ch. 10, S. 1	1984
Kentucky	Ky. Rev. Stat. S. 2.013	1984
Louisiana	La. Const. Art. 6, S. 15	1812
Mississippi	Miss. Code. Ann. S. 3-3-31	1987
Montana	Mont. Code Ann. S. 1-1-510	1995
Nebraska	Neb. Const. Art. I, S. 27	1920
New Hampshire	--- not yet codified ---	1995
North Carolina	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ch. 145, S. 11	1987
North Dakota	N.D. Cent. Code S. 54-02-13	1987
South Carolina	S.C. Code Ann. S. 1-1-(606-698)	1987
South Dakota	S.D. Codified Laws S. 1-27-(20-26)	1995
Tennessee	Tenn. Code Ann. S. 4-1-404	1984
Virginia	Va. Code S. 22.1-212.1	1950

CORRECTION

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT(S)
HAVE BEEN REFILMED TO
ASSURE LEGIBILITY OR PAGINATION



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services
Department of Education
State of Alaska

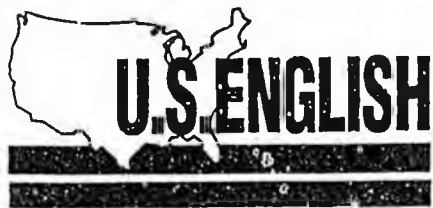


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No. The official English issue is not a question of one language versus another. It is a question of one official language versus *many* languages. Official English recognizes that our government functions best in one language—and that language traditionally has been English.

8. **Does official English imply that there is something wrong with multilingualism?**
No. It is of great personal benefit for individuals to be multilingual; however, it is both inefficient and expensive for the government to be required to function in multiple languages.
9. **Does official English violate the Constitution's guarantee of freedom of speech?**
No. Many courts have upheld the constitutionality of official English laws. However, in 1990, a federal district court found that the Arizona English Language Amendment may violate a government employee's freedom of speech. The decision is being appealed. U.S.ENGLISH's "Language of Government Act" does not affect an individual's right to free speech, but limits the instances where government has to do its business in languages other than English. The act assures that all official government documents will be published in English.
10. **Is official English anti-immigrant?**
No. Official English recognizes English as the tool by which immigrants can have equal access to the educational, economic, and political opportunities available to native and other English speakers in the United States. The purpose of official English is not to obliterate individual identities, but to strengthen our common bond as American citizens. A common language allows for cultural traditions to be communicated and shared across ethnic and cultural barriers.
11. **Does "The Language of Government Act" eliminate bilingual ballots?**
No. This legislation is superseded by federal laws that require certain state and local jurisdictions to supply bilingual ballots. However, U.S.ENGLISH maintains that knowing English is important to be able to fully participate in the democratic process.
12. **Will bilingual education and foreign language instruction be affected by English being designated the language of government?**
No. Foreign language instruction will not be affected in any way. Fostering the learning of foreign languages should be encouraged as a part of any comprehensive education policy. The purpose of bilingual education, that of teaching non-English proficient (NEP) children English, will be strengthened. Official English will provide a clear objective for all bilingual education programs.



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Hawaii	Hawaii Const. S. 4	1978
Illinois	Ill. Rev. Stat. Ch. 1, S. 3005	1969
Indiana	Ind. Code. Ch. 10, S. 1	1984
Kentucky	Ky. Rev. Stat. S. 2.013	1984
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Tennessee	Tenn. Code Ann. S. 4-1-404	1984
Virginia	Va. Code S. 22.1-212.1	1950

9-LS1700F
Cook
2/27/96

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 512()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KOTT, Barnes

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing English as the official language and related to the use of**
2 **English in public records and at public meetings of state agencies."**

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

4 *** Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that**

5 (1) this state has been enriched by its diversity, and the government should
6 always take steps to promote the dignity of all the heritages that form our society;

7 (2) Native people were the first to establish a richness and variety of languages
8 in this state;

9 (3) many languages are used in this state, and language has the power to unite
10 people of differing backgrounds and heritages;

11 (4) English as the nation's single shared language is the one language that
12 crosses all ethnic, racial, cultural, and religious lines and allows diverse Americans to share
13 their various backgrounds; and

14 (5) the use of an official language as the language of public record in no way

1 infringes upon the rights of people to exercise the use of a primary language of their choice
2 for private conduct.

3 * Sec. 2. AS 01.10 is amended by adding new sections to read:

4 ARTICLE 5. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.

5 Sec. 01.10.200. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE ESTABLISHED. The official
6 language of the state is English. Meetings of a state agency that are open to the public
7 shall be conducted in English. Except during a public meeting, this section does not
8 prohibit an officer or employee of a state agency from orally using a language other
9 than English in the scope of employment. Written records of a state agency, including
10 records accepted by a state agency for recording or filing, must be in English.

11 Sec. 01.10.210. EXEMPTIONS. (a) AS 01.10.200 does not apply

12 (1) to instruction in a language other than English;

13 (2) to instruction designed to aid a student with limited English
14 proficiency;

15 (3) to bilingual education or activities if the education or activities are
16 authorized under federal law;

17 (4) to the international promotion of commerce, tourism, and sporting
18 events;

19 (5) when the public safety or health or an emergency requires the use
20 of a language other than English;

21 (6) to an individual providing testimony or making a statement to a
22 state agency if the individual is not an officer or employee of a state agency and if the
23 testimony or statement is translated into English and included in the records of the
24 agency.

25 (b) A person may not be denied employment by a state agency based solely
26 on that individual's lack of facility in a language other than English, except when
27 facility in another language is a bona fide job qualification required to fulfill a function
28 listed in (a) of this section.

29 Sec. 01.10.220. REGULATION OF PRIVATE LANGUAGE PROHIBITED.
30 AS 01.10.200 may not be construed in a way that infringes on the rights of people to
31 use languages other than English in private activities. A state agency may not restrict

1 the use of languages other than English in private activities.

2 Sec. 01.10.230. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION. A person may bring an
3 action against a state agency to enforce AS 01.10.200 - 01.10.220.

4 Sec. 01.10.240. DEFINITION. In AS 01.10.200 - 01.10.240, "state agency"
5 means an entity of the state or a political subdivision of the state including a board or
6 commission, the University of Alaska, a public authority or corporation, a municipality,
7 a school district, or other governmental unit of the state or a political subdivision of
8 the state.

Testimony on HB512

"An Act establishing English as the official language and related to the use of English in public records and at public meetings of state agencies."

to

Members

of

The Alaska State House HESS Committee

by

Reva Shircel

My name is Reva Shircel and I am Director of the Education Department for Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.

I am puzzled by the introduction of this bill at this time. What is the intent? What needs to be fixed by this bill?

The Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc. is committed to the preservation and enhancement of the eleven Athabascan languages within our region. We consider the introduction of HB512 to be premature because we have not had a thorough legislative discussion on the preservation and enhancement of our indigenous languages.

HB512 is inconsistent with what we have tried to do through our linguistic and cultural activities. Last year - during the legislative session - we testified on behalf of SB32 and HB160 - companion bills, introduced by Senator Lincoln and Representative Nicholai, respectively, for our Native Languages to be taught in the schools. With reference to the preservation and enhancement of the Athabascan languages and culture, we receive our direction from the elders who have stated consistently that respect and adherence to traditional culture and values are an important part of the equation which allows Native people within the TCC region to be able to develop and maintain their self-esteem and community identity.

We have also supported HB167, introduced by Representative Nicholai, which supports the mainstreaming of Alaska Native Languages, Culture and History into the school because there is a need for all Alaskans, regardless of who we are and where we come from, to recognize diversity, to promote and preserve cultural heritage, and to insure access to the rich legacy of our American ancestors to all students. A comprehensive program for Alaska Native language and culture, such as is offered in HB167, will encourage those educators and members of the concerned public, both Native and non-Native, to expand curricular offerings in ways that are directly relevant to their students. It will also greatly add to the vision of America as both a diverse and integrated nation.

In closing, we respectfully recommend that HB512 not be enacted until we (all of us) effectively and in relevant terms, support the preservation of our indigenous languages.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBINSON

TO: HB 512

- 1 Page 1, line 1, following "English":
2 Insert "and the languages of Native peoples indigenous to the state"
3 Delete "language"
4 Insert "languages"
- 5 Page 1, line 2:
6 Delete "English"
7 Insert "the common languages"
- 8 Page 1, line 12:
9 Delete "a common language as the language"
10 Insert "common languages as the languages"
- 11 Page 2, line 2:
12 Delete "LANGUAGE"
13 Insert "LANGUAGES"
- 14 Page 2, line 3:
15 Delete "LANGUAGE"
16 Insert "LANGUAGES"
- 17 Page 2, line 4:
18 Delete "language of the state is English"
19 Insert "languages of the state are English and the languages of Native peoples
20 indigenous to the state"

- 1 Page 2, line 5:
- 2 Delete "English"
- 3 Insert "one or more of the common languages"

- 4 Page 2, line 7:
- 5 Delete "English"
- 6 Insert "a common language"

- 7 Page 2, line 8:
- 8 Delete "English"
- 9 Insert "a common language"

- 10 Page 2, line 10:
- 11 Delete "English"
- 12 Insert "a common language"

- 13 Page 2, line 11:
- 14 Delete "English"

- 15 Page 2, line 12, following "proficiency":
- 16 Insert "in a common language"

- 17 Page 2, line 18:
- 18 Delete "English"
- 19 Insert "a common language"

- 20 Page 2, line 21:
- 21 Delete "English"
- 22 Insert "a common language"

- 23 Page 2, line 24:
- 24 Delete "language other than English"

1 Insert "common language"

2 Page 2, line 29:

3 Delete "English"

4 Insert "the common languages"

5 Page 2, line 30:

6 Delete "English"

7 Insert "the common languages"

8 Page 3, line 2, after ", ":

9 Insert

10 "(1) "common language" means English and the languages of Native
11 people indigenous to the state;

12 (2)"