

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 80/2

9128 HOUSE HEALTH EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

"INSTRUCTION No. 21

You are instructed that the Alaska Administrative Code in effect at the time the second wing was added to the Northern Lights Motel required compliance with certain requirements of the 1955 edition of the Uniform Building Code. The requirements of said code, as they concern this case, read as follows:

Sec. 1301 Group H occupancies shall be: Hotels, apartment houses, dormitories, lodging houses

Sec. 1302(b) Group H occupancies—having more than three thousand square feet (3000 sq ft) of floor area above the first floor shall be of not less than one-hour fire-resistant construction throughout."

"INSTRUCTION No. 22

If you find from a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant violated any of the provisions of the law just read to you and that any such violation legally caused the accident in question, you are instructed that the party who has proven this has established a prima facie case that the other party was negligent. This prima facie case of negligence is not conclusive. It may be overcome by the evidence showing that under all the circumstances surrounding the event in question that that party's conduct was excusable or justifiable.

To show that a violation of law was excusable or justifiable, so as to overcome this prima facie case of negligence, in the event you find the defendant violated any of the foregoing provisions of law, such party must convince you, the jury, that any such violation of law resulted from causes or things beyond the control of such party and that he was not negligent.

If, in accordance with these instructions you find that the defendant has violated the law and that any such violation legally caused the accident in question, and you further find that defendant has failed to so excuse or justify such violation of law, then you must find that the defendant was negligent."

Defendant asserts that these instructions were erroneous on a number of grounds. Since the heart of plaintiff's case concerned negligence *per se* and the Uniform Building Code, any error would require reversal.

I.

Incorporation of the Uniform Building Code in Alaska Law

13 AAC § 50.020(a) (1971), in effect at the time of the fire, provided:

"Codes and standards contained in U.B.C. Volumes 1 through 4, AIA Article 11, and NFPA Volume 4 are adopted to regulate area, height, fire resistant construction, maintenance, and number, size, type, location and marking of exits for all occupancies."

13 AAC § 02.400(b) (1959), effective during the period in which the motel was built provided:

"Compliance with the 1955 Edition of the Uniform Building Code of the Pacific Coast Building Officials Conference and all future amendments thereto shall be minimum requirements for height, fire resistant construction, installed fire extinguishing and fire alarm systems, number, size, type and arrangements of exits for all _____ roadhouses, hotels, motor courts, _____ or similar places of assemblage of any capacity."

Defendant contends that 13 AAC § 2.400(b), the predecessor to 13 AAC § 50.020(a), is ineffective for two reasons: (a) the reference to future amendments is an unconstitutional delegation of power to a private, nongovernmental organization, and hence invalidates the entire section; and (b) the Administrative Code did not and does not provide the public with any information on how to obtain copies of the 1955 Uniform Building Code (U.B.C.), or its amendments, and hence is invalid. If the U.B.C. was not properly incorporated into the regulations, defendant contends, it should not have been used to provide a negligence *per se* standard.

[1.2] Defendant argues that it was not permissible to adopt the U.B.C. with "all future amendments thereto" as 13 AAC

NORTHERN LIGHTS MOTEL, INC. v. SWEANEY Alaska 1181

Cite as: Alaska, 561 P.2d 1178

§ 02.400(b) purported to do because this in effect delegates the future lawmaking power of the state to a private organization, the Pacific Coast (now International) Building Officials Conference,³ in violation of the constitutional doctrine of nondelegation to private parties.⁴

One reason for the prohibition against delegation to private groups is that when amendments are adopted by these groups the public does not necessarily receive notice of, or have an opportunity to comment on or criticize the amendments, as it does when they are adopted by the legislature or promulgated under the Alaska Administrative Procedure Act. See AS 44.62.190; AS 44.62.210(a); *Agnew v. Culver City*, 147 Cal. App.2d 144, 304 P.2d 788, 796 (1956).⁵ While the adoption of future amendments has been upheld in certain cases,⁶ we recognize that the due process problem is a serious one.⁷

3. Adopting a code written by a private national organization generally does not raise delegation of authority problems as long as the code, organization and edition are clearly specified, and no attempt is made to adopt future amendments. *Richardson, Building Codes: Reducing Diversity and Facilitating the Amending Process*, 1A Sutherland Statutes and Statutory Construction 549, 555 (4th ed. Sands 1972)

4. The non-delegation doctrine is virtually dead in the federal courts. K. Davis, *Administrative Law Treatise* § 2.17, at 77 (Supp. 1970). State courts, however, adhere to this doctrine, although not uniformly. Compare, e.g., *People v. Barkdale*, 8 Cal.3d 320, 105 Cal.Rptr. 1, 503 P.2d 257, 269-70 (1972), with *Blumenthal v. Board of Medical Examiners*, 57 Cal.2d 225, 19 Cal.Rptr. 501, 368 P.2d 101 (1962) (*Traxler J.*). See other cases discussed in K. Davis, *Administrative Law Treatise*, § 2.11, 2.14, 2.17 (1958 & Supp. 1970).

5. Both the majority and concurring opinions in *Ara Dispatch, Inc. v. City of Anchorage*, 540 P.2d 1024, 1026 n.10, 1027 n.5 (Alaska 1976), reserved the question of the constitutionality of adopting future amendments. However, in *Kingers v. Chapple*, 304 P.2d 831, 836-37 & n.13 (Alaska 1972), we upheld a regulation which incorporated the motorcycle helmet and face-ear quality standards of the United States Standards Institute Safety Code, but indicated that had the Institute been empowered to adopt standards in the future, the provisions would have been invalid.

This does not mean that the jury instructions based on the Uniform Building Code were necessarily invalid. It is undisputed that the only difference in language between the 1955 and 1970 editions of the Code in the relevant sections was that the words "first floor" were changed to "first story" in § 1302(h).

[3] We affirm the trial court's holding that the future amendments clause of the regulation is separable from the rest of the administrative regulation, leaving the 1955 U.B.C. provisions applicable. Because there was no significant change in the U.B.C. provisions as they pertain to this case, it follows that the trial court properly instructed the jury on this issue. This also means that we need not determine the constitutional questions presented.

[4] Defendant also argues that the failure to specify in the regulation where cop-

6. For example, in *United States v. Sharpnack*, 355 U.S. 286, 78 S.Ct. 291, 2 L.Ed.2d 282 (1958), the Supreme Court upheld the 1948 Federal Assimilative Crimes Act, adopting for federal enclaves all criminal laws of the adjoining states, including those to be passed after 1948. The court found a conscious congressional policy to make the criminal law of the enclave conform to that of the adjoining state, and noted that Congress could exclude a new state law if it disapproved of it. *Id.* at 294, 78 S.Ct. 291. See generally Liebmann, "Delegation to Private Parties in American Constitutional Law," 50 Ind. L.J. 620 (1975); Hayes, "Effect of Changes in Legislation Incorporated by Reference," 43 Minn. L. Rev. 89 (1958).

7. Since 1960, administrative agencies have been required to conform their administrative regulations to the drafting manual prepared by the Legislative Affairs Agency, AS 44.62.060(a). The manual states:

"Under presently controlling court decisions, an agency may not adopt by reference a code or set of standards from another state, the federal government, or a private organization and provide that future amendments as they become effective are being adopted also. Of course, when a particular code or set of standards is changed, an agency may adopt the amended version. (Emphasis in original.) Legislative Affairs Agency, Drafting Manual for Administrative Regulations at 12-13 (4th ed. 1971).

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STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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February 27, 1998

The Honorable Pete Kelly
Alaska State House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

RE: House Bill 353 and draft CSHB 353(HES)
[OLS-1395\B], relating to the adoption of future
amendments to material adopted in regulations.

Dear Representative Kelly:

The Department of Health and Social Services has a particular interest in this bill. Nancy Weller of the department has asked me to respond to a request from Bruce Campbell of your staff for a reply to the objection to the bill raised by Legislative Counsel Terri Lauterbach's February 11 memo to House Health, Education and Social Services Committee Chair Con Bunde.

I agree with Terri's observation about the nature of the constitutional issue she has identified and with her assessment that the approach does present "some risk" that the procedure outlined in the bill "may be constitutionally flawed." The approach, as you well recall, is derived from Governor Knowles Senate Bill 155, offered during the 1997 session. As I understand, the administration appreciated the constitutional question that the bill it sponsored might present but thought the approach defensible against a possible due process-based challenge. I don't know of anything that has changed that assessment.

With respect to this measure, the agency is asking that it be allowed to make use of later-adopted standard references that are commonly used in one or another of the health professions or as standard references. The nature of the subject matter suggests that either the public would have had an opportunity to respond to and comment on the material in the later-adopted amendment or that the nature of the material set out in the later-adopted amendment would not elicit public comment that would qualitatively change the agency's determination to use a later-adopted version. Moreover, please appreciate that, in the event that the content of a later-adopted amendment might elicit public comment that could not be expressed to the agency before the agency made the substitution, the interested members of the public would continue to enjoy the right to petition under AS 44.62.220 - 44.62.230 in order to initiate a review of the matter.

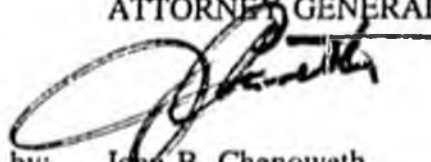
Hon. Pete Kelly
House Bill 353 &
Draft CSHB 353(HES) [OLS-1395/B]

February 27, 1998
Page 2

Under the circumstances, while the due process objection is not insignificant, the approach outlined appears to be one worth considering.

Sincerely,

BRUCE M. BOTELHO
ATTORNEY GENERAL



by: John B. Chenoweth
Assistant Attorney General and
Regulations Attorney

JBC:ng
JCHENOWETHPKELLY LET

cc: Elmer Lindstrom, Special Assistant
Department of Health and Social Services

Alaska State Legislature

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PETER KELLY

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House District 31

House Of Representatives

Sponsor Statement HB 353

Medical regulations by reference

House Bill 353 streamlines the state's adoption of the current version of standardized federal medical codes. The speed and efficiency gained by this bill is important for all health workers who must describe their work in standardized numerical codes, using the latest in federal medical references.

Federal codes are updated annually. Once a federal code is adopted as a state regulation, this bill allows the state to use the latest, updated version of the federal regulation.

The bill applies to:

- 1) International classification of diseases.
- 2) Common procedure coding system.
- 3) National uniform billing data.
- 4) Federal poverty guidelines.
- 5) Indian Health Service encounter rates.
- 6) Current American Medical Association procedural terminology.
- 7) American Psychiatric Association diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.
- 8) HCIA, Inc. length of stay in hospitals, by diagnosis.
- 9) American Society of Anesthesiologists relative value guide.
- 10) U.S. Dept. of Labor consumer price index.
- 11) National Committee for Quality Assurance health plan employer data and information set.
- 12) Practice standards.
- 13) The compendium of animal rabies control.
- 14) Control of communicable diseases manual.
- 15) Standards manual for behavioral health.
- 16) Accreditation manual for mental health.
- 17) Standards for accreditation of managed care organizations.
- 18) Consumer assessment of health plans.
- 19) Resources for optimal care of the injured patient.

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

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January 22, 1998

The Honorable Pete Kelly
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Kelly:

You have asked me to briefly explain the substance of the adoption by reference Legislation that you intend to introduce on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Services.

This bill, if enacted, would allow the department to adopt within its regulations standards set out in federal or state law or regulation, or the specific national standards itemized in subsection (a)(2), without adopting a new regulation every time that these standards are changed. The procedure for notifying the public of adoption of a changed standard would be a notice published in the Alaska Administrative Journal.

The Department of Law, under current law and legal interpretation of the reference standard made through court decisions, require agencies to adopt by reference any material with a specific citation and date. Any time these materials are changed, the state agency must adopt a new regulation adopting the citation change; as the regulation adoption process is so lengthy, it is impossible for a state agency to remain current with standards adopted by reference.

The Medicaid Program is particularly hard hit by the adoption by reference requirement, as we operate like an insurance company and there is an expectation by health care providers that they can do business with us in the same manner as Blue Cross, Aetna or any other insurance company. The health care industry has adopted numerous standardized codes related to billing for services to assure that all providers and payers are "speaking" the same language. All of these standards are updated annually to keep pace with medical practice standards. If the Medicaid Program cannot consistently use current standards, providers will simply cease doing business with us and it will create an access problem for the 90,000 people who depend on Medicaid for health care coverage.

The standards listed in this bill are mostly related to Medicaid; I am attaching a list of the standards with a brief explanation of their use for your reference. None of these standards should be controversial.

The Honorable Pete Kelly
January 22, 1998
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Thank you for your assistance with this important Legislation, and please contact me at any time if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

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

Nancy Weller,
Medical Assistance Administrator

International Classification of Diseases, Clinical Modifications - ICD - this book establishes a numerical code for each clinical diagnosis/disease. These codes are required on all medical claim forms.

Common Procedure Coding System - This system of numerical codes is maintained by the Health Care Financing Administration, and are uniformly used by all insurers. The coding system includes CPT codes and HCFA created codes for special procedures not included in other coding systems.

Specifications for National Uniform Billing Data Elements - Commonly known as revenue codes, this numerical coding system describes the services rendered in hospitals. These codes are required on all medical claim forms for hospital services.

Federal Poverty Guidelines - These guidelines are published annually, adjusted by the consumer price index, and are used to determine program eligibility. Many DHSS programs refer to the federal poverty level in their grants, as grantees are required to have a sliding fee schedule based on income.

Indian Health Service Encounter Rates - these rates are negotiated annually by the Health Care Financing Administration, Office of Management and Budget, and the Indian Health Service to be used as reimbursement for IHS and tribal health facilities by the Medicaid Program.

Current Procedural Terminology for Physicians - CPT - these numerical codes describe each treatment rendered by physicians and other providers. The CPT codes are required on all insurance claim forms and are updated January 1st of every year.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - DSM - Similar to the ICD, this manual contains a system of numerical codes that describes mental disorders for use on claim forms.

Length of Stay in Hospitals by Diagnosis and Operation for the Western Region of the US - LOS These two manuals describe the average length of inpatient hospital admission in the western US. Some percentage of this standard is ordinarily used by an insurer as the limit on length of stay they will reimburse, although LOS can usually be extended if there are complications.

Relative Value Guide - This book creates standards for the administration and billing of anesthesia procedures.

Consumer Price Index - CPI - Used by the federal government and the state to annually update a number of standards for needs based programs.

Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set - HEDIS - These standards are commonly used to evaluate how well providers and plans meet managed care standards of practice.

Practice Standards - practice standards adopted by many national organizations are routinely used in managed care as the purchaser's expectations for patient outcomes that are evaluated with HEDIS.

Compendium of Animal Rabies Control - This publication serves as the basis for animal rabies control programs throughout the United States and facilitates standardization of procedures among jurisdictions. Immunization procedure recommendations are contained in Part 1; all animal rabies vaccines licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and marketed in the US are listed in Part 2; Part 3 details the principles of rabies control.

Control of Communicable Diseases Manual - This manual furnishes public health administrators with a source of reliable information for preparing regulations and legal requirements for the control and management of communicable diseases and for developing programs for the health education of the public.

Standards Manual and Interpretive Guidelines for Behavioral Health, Employment and Community Support Services and for Medical Rehabilitation - The Divisions of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and Alcoholism and Drug Abuse uses these standards for accreditation of psychiatric or substance abuse rehabilitation programs that are grantees of the state.

Accreditation Manual for Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and Other Health Care Facilities - This manual is used by the Divisions of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for accreditation of general psychiatric or substance abuse treatment programs that are grantees of the department.

Standards for Accreditation of Managed Care Organizations, Standards for Accreditation of Managed Behavioral Health Organizations, and Standards for Certification of Credentials Verification Organizations - These accreditation standards will be used by the department for the certification of managed care organizations under contract.

Consumer Assessment of Health Plans - This consumer assessment of managed care is a tool created by the federal government for use with government health care programs required to complete such annual assessments.

Resources for the Optimal Care of the Injured Patient - This national evaluation tool establishes comprehensive guidelines for the care of the injured patient, including standards for different levels of trauma centers. The State of Alaska uses compliance with the standards in the document as one of the qualifications for certification as a trauma center (7 AAC 26.010 - 7 AAC 26.999).

HB

360

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

LABOR & COMMERCE
MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS
OIL & GAS



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SPONSOR STATEMENT

FOR HB 360

This Bill is offered to afford society the ability or option to confine sexually violent predators. A sexually violent predator is a person who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense and who suffers from a mental abnormality or personality disorder that makes the person likely to engage in predatory sexually violent offenses.

A mental abnormality is a condition involving a disposition to commit criminal sexual acts of such a degree that it makes the person a menace to others.

A predatory act is an act directed at a stranger or at a person with whom a relationship has been established or promoted for the primary purpose of victimization.

Sexual offenders lose double-jeopardy fight

By RICHARD CARELLI
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court rejected a double-jeopardy challenge Monday to Megan's Law, the New Jersey measure that requires authorities to tell communities the whereabouts of convicted sex offenders.

The court also turned away a similar attack on the Megan's Law enacted by New York's Legislature a year later.

Although the actions did not directly affect similar

laws adopted in 35 other states, they were welcomed as a major victory for proponents of such measures.

The court, acting without comment in two separate cases, turned away arguments by sex offenders in New Jersey and New York that the respective laws' notification provisions violate their Fifth Amendment protection against being punished twice for the same crime. They ar-

Please see Back Page
MEGAN'S LAW

MEGAN'S LAW: Suit over

Continued from Page A-1

gued that the notification and the public reaction it generates amount to punishment.

"The lawsuit we fought so hard to win is over," exulted New Jersey Attorney General Peter Verniero. "The main challenge to Megan's Law is now concluded."

Community notifications began in New Jersey last month.

Gov. Christie Whitman, in Washington for a governors' conference, pumped her right arm in triumph when told that the law had survived the constitutional challenge.

"This is really a verification of the time we took to get Megan's Law through and put it together," she said. "I'm delighted."

But the issue is not finally decided.

Michael Buncher, a state public defender, said the next federal challenge to Megan's Law will contend that community notification violates personal privacy rights.

"We are claiming that the kind of information that is disseminated ... is ... constitutionally protected, and it should not be disseminated," he said.

The New Jersey law, enacted in 1995, was named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old girl who was raped and murdered in 1994 by a twice-convicted sex offender who lived across the street from her home. Jesse Timmendquans has been sentenced to death for the crime.

Megan's mother, Maureen Kanka, became a successful crusader for similar laws across the nation.

"I've had faith in this law from Day 1," Kanka said after

hearing of the high court's action. "It is the right thing to do and it is such a prevalent problem in this country."

The law calls for notice to schools, day-care centers and youth groups about moderate-risk offenders. For high-risk offenders, the law requires police to go door to door notifying neighborhood residents.

The law also requires sex offenders who have been paroled or released after completing their prison sentences to register with local authorities when moving to a community. That requirement, now the law in all 50 states, was not challenged.

Information about registered sex offenders in Alaska is available from the state Department of Public Safety and also can be accessed on the Internet.

Bills have been introduced in the Alaska Legislature to tighten the registration requirements and to require the state to notify residents when a sex offender lives in their neighborhood.

A group of sex offenders who were convicted before Megan's Law was enacted attacked the law in federal court. They argued that the retroactive application of the notification provisions violated their rights.

Their suit also challenged that part of the law allowing prosecutors to rank sex offenders according to their perceived threat to society.

Lower courts upheld the notification provisions but ruled that sex offenders must be allowed to question the risk classifications prosecutors give them, the key to how much community notice is provided.

METRO

WEDNESDAY, April 2, 1997

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

SECTION B

Pharmacist pleads no contest to sexual-abuse charges

By DANIELLE STANTON
Daily News reporter

A Dillingham pharmacist Tuesday entered a no contest plea to charges of sexually abusing five teenage boys and giving a sixth boy prescription drugs.

After Krack had been facing 60 criminal charges stemming from accusations that he had sexually abused six Dillingham boys. The state offered to drop 51 of those charges in exchange for the no contest plea to seven charges, Krack's attorney, Carmen Gutierrez, said.

Krack agreed to the deal because "he really did not want to cause any further stress or emotional harm to the teenagers involved and to the community of Dillingham," Gutierrez

said. "He believes that this was the right thing to do."

Dillingham Mayor Dave Bouker said people in the Southwest Alaska community will be relieved to hear of Krack's plea.

"I'm sure they'll feel a sense of relief it's finally over and justice will be served," Bouker said Tuesday night.

According to charging documents, the sexual abuse began soon after Krack arrived in Dillingham from New Mexico in 1983 and took a job at the Bristol Bay Area Health Corp.'s Kotzebue Hospital. The most recent incidents of abuse were in January, charging documents said.

Prosecutors initially said Krack exchanged prescription drugs for sexual acts. Gutierrez said Tuesday

that allegation was untrue.

Assistant District Attorney Joe Wrona of Dillingham could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

Krack, 44, faces up to 60 years in prison on the seven charges to which he pleaded no contest. Those charges are three counts of second degree sexual abuse of a minor, two counts of third degree sexual abuse of a minor, one count of giving amphetamines to a minor, and one of possession of amphetamines, Gutierrez said.

His sentencing is scheduled for July 18, she said.

Investigators said they identified nine male victims, mostly ages 13 to 15, since the investigation began in January, Wrona has said.

Six claimed to have been sexually abused by Krack. One of those boys was old enough to have consensual sex, and Krack will not be prosecuted in connection with that youth, Gutierrez said. The other boys claimed Krack gave them prescription drugs but had no sexual contact with him, she said.

Krack remains in Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility, where he was transferred from the Dillingham jail after his Jan. 16 arrest. His bail is \$500,000.

His arrest rocked the Dillingham community of about 3,000, residents said.

"People are feeling pain about it and they'll continue to," Bristol Bay Area Health Corp. spokeswoman Christine DeCourtney said Tuesday.



Peter Krack

Photo: News Service photo

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 Off 4/28/97
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Used Car Dealer in Alaska!



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...Anchorage won't have to
 mph. The speed limit on a stretch of the
 Glenn Highway will get bumped up to 65 mph on May
 1, said Gene Kulawik, director of maintenance and op-
 erations for the state Department of Transportation.
 The affected stretch starts at Muldoon Road and ends
 just south of the George Parks Highway junction near
 Palmer, Kulawik said. New speed signs will be posted
 on May 1. That stretch of the Glenn was designed to
 handle higher speeds, Kulawik said. The state Depart-
 ment of Public Safety conducted hearings on a propos-
 al to increase speed limits last summer. Based on pub-
 lic testimony from those meetings, the state decided to
 go ahead with the change. Rep. Pete Kott, R-Eagle Riv-
 er, said.

Arrested man convicted earlier

An Anchorage man captured by apartment residents as
 he allegedly tried to run off with a 6-year-old boy was
 convicted in 1994 of sexually assaulting a 5-year-old
 girl, court records show. The case against Johnny
 Yates, who is listed on the state's sex offender registry,
 will go before a grand jury by the end of the month, at-
 torneys said Tuesday. Yates, 40, was arrested and
 charged with kidnapping Saturday after Government
 agents chased him down and held him until po-
 lice arrived. He remains in custody at Cook Inlet Pre-
 trial Facility on \$50,000 cash-only bail.

Public input sought to improve river

ANCHORAGE — The Army Corps of Engineers is looking for
 ways to remove sandbars blocking the mouth of the
 Kenai River and to halt erosion along the river's banks.
 The public has until May 2 to give the corps its ideas.
 Suggestions that engineers are considering include dredg-
 ing the river's lower four miles and building a seawall to stop ero-
 sion. The ideas are being discussed, said corps engineer Orson
 Smith, who is supervising an initial \$25,000 study. If
 the work appears feasible, the corps would consider a
 more detailed study that would include biological and ge-
 ological information and measurements of wind and
 wave action. The corps and local government would
 split the cost of that study, estimated at more than
 \$400,000. Smith said he hopes to have a draft report
 finished for the harbor commission by May 7.

Crews try to minimize fire damage

ANCHORAGE — Firefighters continued work Tuesday to
 protect cabins and storage sheds in the path of a brush
 fire that has consumed more than 12,000 acres of
 grassland on southern Kodiak Island. The three fire-
 fighters working on the blaze had to burn brush around
 one more cabin to establish a safety perimeter, and
 then may let the fire burn itself out, said Jim Peterson,
 a state firester. "We're looking at another day out
 there, probably," Peterson said. The fire began last
 week and was nearly contained Friday before winds
 shifted and gave it a second life.

Siblings crash in stolen car

FAIRBANKS — A 12-year-old girl is recovering from
 injuries she suffered in a car accident when her 14-
 year-old brother allegedly stole a car and rolled it on
 the Richardson Highway, the Alaska State Troopers
 said. Neither of the children's names have been re-
 leased. The girl has been hospitalized with critical in-
 juries since the Sunday crash. Troopers said the boy
 suffered injuries to his arms and legs and is in se-

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HEALTH

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 said 16-year-old Josh Ritter, a
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 ing out at the new school.
 "I'm not the only one
 who's having trouble
 with the new schedule,"
 calling
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 of how government cuts



STEPHEN NOWERS / Anchorage Daily News

Santa Claus, also known as Air Force 1st Lt. Chris Boring, catches a snow-machine ride to the community center in Arctic Village on Tuesday after the 517th Airlift Squadron arrived for its annual Christmas visit. About 40 peo-

ple went on the Air Force's annual Arctic Village mission, delivering gifts and supplies to the village and participating in a community potlatch. See story, Page C-2.

Molester of 11-year-old girl agrees to plea

By LIZ RUSKIN
Daily News reporter

An Anchorage man, the relative of an 11-year-old girl who became pregnant, pleaded no contest Wednesday to molesting the girl.

Charles Baptiste, 40, was scheduled to begin trial this week on two counts of child molestation and two counts of attempted child molestation.

Instead, based on the no-contest plea, Superior Court Judge Larry

Card found him guilty of two counts: first-degree child sexual abuse, for having sex with the 11-year-old in August 1996, and the attempted sexual abuse of her 13-year-old sister.

In return for his plea, state prosecutors agreed that he'll be sentenced to no more than eight years in prison. The two remaining charges will be dismissed when he is sentenced, on March 25.

In November of last year, the 11-year-old was taken to a doctor with

symptoms of morning sickness, prosecutor Adrienne Bachman said. The doctor determined that she was 10 weeks pregnant and called the authorities, as the state mandatory reporting law requires of certain professionals who learn of child abuse, Bachman said.

The girl, who had an abortion, told a police investigator that Baptiste started touching her legs and breasts shortly after she turned 9. She said she couldn't remember how

many times he'd had sex with her but said after the last time, in the fall of 1996, he found out she was only 11 not 12 as he had apparently thought. Bachman wrote in the charging document.

"Charles then told (the girl,) short time later, that he would not be touching her again until she was 13, the charging document said.

A paternity test showed Baptiste was the likely cause of the girl's pregnancy, Bachman said.

12-10-91 HDW

METRO

SATURDAY, April 12, 1997 ★

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

SECTION 11

Suspect in girl's attack is sex offender

By DANIELLE STANTON
Daily News reporter

An Anchorage man accused of molesting a 5-year-old girl in a Mountain View laundry room Thursday was recently paroled after serving time for a nearly identical crime five years ago in the same neighborhood.

Charles A. Jacobs Jr., 44, was in Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility without bail Friday night on a charge of felony second-degree sexual abuse of a minor.

Anchorage police obtained a search warrant for Jacobs' apartment on Homer Drive and found a Polaroid camera, several Polaroid photos depicting young girls posing in various stages of nudity, and books of photographs of nude children, according to a charging document filed Friday in District Court. They also found photos taken of two girls near a school that appears to be in Anchorage.

Investigators also removed eight maps of Anchorage. Two of the

pages had marks, pointing to the area of Thursday's alleged attack, an elementary school and several addresses, the charging document said.

Jacobs served four and a half years in prison after he was convicted in 1992 of molesting a 3-year-old girl, according to the charging document. The document said Jacobs lured the 3-year-old into a laundry room of a Mountain View apartment building with the promise of bubble gum.

Jacobs is listed on the state's sexual offender registry. His criminal record also includes convictions for assault in 1992, for contributing to the delinquency of a minor and a drug charge in 1991, and for sexual assault in 1981, the charging document said. It was unclear Friday whether the assaults were against children.

On Thursday, police said, Jacobs lured a 5-year-old girl into a laundry room of a Mountain View apartment complex with dolls and candy.

Police detective Randy Carroll said Jacobs carried three small dolls and LifeSavers and butter scotch candy in a pack tied around his waist. He approached the 5-year-old girl and several other young children playing tag near the girl's home, Carroll said.

Jacobs asked the children what game they were playing, Carroll said. He offered candy in exchange for hugs and then lured the girl into

Please see Page D-2, OFFENDERS

Summer's blooms



Auditing Alaska's regionals

...at 11:30 a.m. (K...), Twin...
lavajos rev up a way and visitors...
off their shoes...
in pallet outside

...like Steberl, manager at KHHI...
Homer, have been...
ers to pledge...
to public radio...
by raising their...
the roar of pro...
what has loosely...
own as the "flight-

...to establish the studio...
which it hopes to have run...
ning by July. This week's Ke...
nal broadcasts have been...
courtesy of KHHI, which...
loaned equipment for a tem...
porary studio, complete with...
folding tables and plastic...
lawn chairs.

Nelson hopes the station...
would reach its goal of...
\$20,000 during this week's...
pledge drive. Listeners have...
been asked to donate \$30 to...
\$365 to become members...
That money will go directly

Kathy Steberl, operations manager...
works a temporary control board Thursday at the new Pickett...
Hill Public Broadcasting building in Kenai. The station has...
been asking for listeners' support since beginning public pro...
gramming while state funding for public radio is in doubt.

into the KDEL-KHHI partner...
ship aimed at keeping public...
radio afloat on the Kenai...
Peninsula.

The two stations operate...
under the banner of Kenai...
Peninsula Public Radio, which...
has an annual budget of...
\$511,000, said Dave Hain-

mock, general manager of...
the fledgling partnership. Lo...
cal support, through pledges...
and underwriting of pro...
grams, takes up 44 percent of...
the budget. The state chips in...
33 percent and federal...
matching grants make up the...
rest.

In Threadgolding's...
has been targeting the small...
est stations so that it can...
continue funding the larger mar...
kets with a shrinking amount...
of money. Rather than see...
both KHHI and KDEL be...
come nothing more than re...
peater stations for public ra...
dio station KSKA in Anchor...
age, the two nonprofit compa...
nies in Homer and Kenai...
have joined forces. The goals...
are to save money by sharing...
a news department and to

radio dial, offering music and...
news that few, if any, com...
mercial stations would air. It...
continues the spirit of service...
launched by the federal gov...
ernment in the late 1960s...
with the creation of the Cor...
poration for Public Broad...
casting.

"There has to be an infor...
mation channel people can...
turn to," he said.

KDEL can be heard at FM...
91.9.

DIT: Natives criticize Halford's plan

(From Page D 1)
for the money and

...he has long argued...
tribes, in agree...
settlement, surren...
der right to govern...
as sovereign peo...
ple. Many Native leaders...
it wasn't the deal...
most groups across...
have been pushing...
for self-government...
villages.

...said he believes the...
behind the resolu...
pair of disgruntled...
shareholders. Robert...
Sen. Jerry Ward, R...

...one of 10 Republi...
cans who co-spon...
sored Halford's resolution. In...
1988, he was elected to

the CIRI board by proxy and...
later lost his seat after an ex...
tensive legal battle.

"Ward is using his public...
office to carry out a private...
vendetta," Marrs charged.

Ward disagreed. His dis...
pute with CIRI was over and...
done with years ago, he said.

"This is Sen. Halford's re...
solution," Ward said.

Rude, who lives in Eagle...
River, wrote a book called...
"An Act of Deception," which...
portrays the 1971 settlement...
act as a failure. Halford dis...
tributed copies of the book to...
the 19 other senators.

Rude, a former CIRI exe...
cutive who has feuded with the...
corporation's management, argues...
that most Natives did not...
realize at the time that...
ANCSA would strip them of...
indigenous hunting and fish-

ing rights and other tribal...
power.

In the meantime, he said, most...
shareholders live in...
poverty.

"The people just aren't...
seeing any benefit from it,"...
he said.

Government audits of the...
kind Halford's resolution...
calls for will expose where...
the money went, Rude said.

But John Rense, chief op...
erating officer of a sub...
sidiary of NANA Regional...
Corp., said the companies al...
ready are audited regularly...
The reports are submitted to...
the state and widely avail...
able, he said.

"This isn't about an audit,"...
Rense said. "This is really...
about stirring up dissension...
among the diverse Native...
groups."

OFFENDER: Suspect has criminal past

(Continued from Page D 1)
a laundry room in a complex...
off South Flower Street about...
6 p.m., police said.

"He was very smooth and...
very good at what he did,"...
Carroll said. "She wasn't...
scared of him."

The charging document...
said tenants across the wall...
way heard noises coming...
from the laundry room and...
went to investigate but the...
door was locked. Seconds lat...
er, Jacobs opened the door...
and the girl, who looked

frightened, ran out, the docu...
ment said. The tenants called...
police.

Jacobs did not attempt to...
run as about 25 tenants gath...
ered around him outside the...
building, asking him who he...
was and why he was in the...
room with the girl, said Low...
ell Morgan, the complex's on...
site manager. Jacobs re...
mained silent as he stood...
wedged into a corner of the...
building, staring at the...
ground until police arrived...
Morgan said.

Morgan said he recently

worked with Jacobs at a Taco...
Bell on Tudor Road.

"He was real quiet," Mor...
gan said. "Only on very rare...
occasions did I hear him say...
anything."

The number of reports of...
child molestation by...
strangers increases in the...
spring as more children play...
outside, Carroll said.

"It's a very typical thing...
you tell kids to stay away...
from," he said. "Stranger...
danger is out there and it hap...
pens."

FUNDING: GOP donations get scrutiny

(Continued from Page D 1)
contributions of a branch of...
the party will be lumped in...
with the statewide party in...
determining when they've...
reached the limit. So the Re...
publican Party takes the po...
sition that each unit of the...
party may contribute up to...
\$1,000 and still comply with

Party's contributions to...
School Board candidates of...
ter the city clerk received a...
written complaint this week...
The city would not disclose...
the name of the letter writer.

The letter of complaint al...
leged the two School Board...
candidates received in-kind

contributions from the Re...
publican Party as well as the...
direct contributions from...
District 10 Republicans. The...
clerk's office received the...
complaint Monday, before...
the mass mailing for the...
three School Board candi...
dates went out.

COHOLICS: Program wants to help

NEWS

Megan Kanka's slaying fit pattern, study shows

Megan Kanka's fatal encounter with Jesse Timmendequas in the shadow of her own home three summers ago is typical of the abduction and murder of children over the last 20 years, according to an extensive analysis of such homicides by Washington state's

attorney general.

The details of her murder — a 7-year-old out looking for a friend is lured away, raped and strangled by a paroled child molester living on the same block — match many of the patterns detected in the three-year study of 562 cases of child abduction and murder in 44 states

Like Megan, 58 percent of the victims were within a quarter-mile of home when their killer accosted them, the study found. And, like Megan, 69 percent were either raped or sexually assaulted before they were slain, most often by a man with a

Please see Page D-5, PATTERN

PATTERN: Study sheds light on child abductors' habits

Continued from Page D-1

history of crimes against children, the study said.

In two-thirds of the cases that were prosecuted, the killer or suspected killer had a legitimate reason to be in the neighborhood. Twenty-nine percent of them lived nearby; 19 percent were visiting a friend, watching an athletic event or engaging in some other social activity; and 18 percent were working or conducting some other sort of business in the area.

The report estimated that, each year, 100 children are murdered after being abducted by a stranger. The figure accounts for about one-half of 1 percent of all murders in the United States, the report said.

Robert Keppel, director of the study and chief criminal investigator in the Washington attorney general's office, said the findings contradicted old law-enforcement assumptions that many child abductions were rooted in extortion and ransom. And, he said, they showed that

children were not immune to abduction close to home.

"It is probably not a good idea to send an unescorted 10-year-old girl to the grocery store to buy a quart of milk," Keppel wrote. "We should tell our children, 'If someone offers a ride, asks for directions or offers treats, turn around and run to a safe place,' and tell their guardians."

He said the study's findings should change the ways such crimes are investigated. Since so many children are abducted near their homes, by kidnapers with reasons to be in the neighborhood, detectives should abandon old habits of focusing on the unusual and concentrate instead on the usual.

"In 37 percent of the cases, we found witnesses who saw the killer with the child but didn't realize it," Keppel said. "Most people don't perceive the danger or that an abduction is going on."

The study, which was conducted for the federal Department of Justice, focused on the kidnapping and mur-

der of children younger than 18 from the late 1970s to mid-1994. Megan Kanka's murder was one of the most recent cases.

Dr. Keppel said the study, issued in mid-May, was the most extensive of child abduction and murder ever undertaken. It analyzed data about the abductor's first contact with the child, the time that elapsed before the child was murdered and how the child's body was hidden.

It also examined the children's backgrounds and the abductors' personal characteristics and motivations. It studied 419 people (98.5 percent of them were men), who were either convicted or charged in the cases. Some of the 419 were involved in more than one of the murders; 35 percent of the murders remained unsolved when the report was issued.

Of the 562 victims, more than 70 percent were white girls. The average age was 11. Nearly 60 percent of them were classified as "victims of opportunity" for men predisposed to predatory violence,

the report said.

"These types of child abduction killers are not typically targeting specific victims for specific reasons (or motives)," the report said, "but, rather, they seem to be more like 'killers-in-waiting' — given the right opportunity coupled with an available child, they are more likely to spring into action."

The report said 53 percent of the 419 people convicted or charged in the killings were strangers to the slain children. The strangers included people who had been seen — but not spoken to — before the killing, Keppel said. Thirty-nine percent of the killers or suspects were the victims' friends or acquaintances.

The average age of the abductors was 27, two-thirds of them were white, 73 percent were single and most had jobs requiring few skills, the report said. Before the murders occurred, 45 percent of the suspects had sexually assaulted a child and 31 percent had either raped or tried to rape a child, the

report said.

Megan Kanka's killer fits many of those characteristics. Timmendequas was convicted in 1979 and 1981 of molesting little girls: He persuaded one to help him look for ducks and he promised the other fireworks.

In 1993, he moved into a house in a suburb of Trenton, N.J., diagonally across from the Kankas. He was single, white and worked mowing lawns at parks and playgrounds.

Timmendequas was sentenced to death.

Washington's attorney general, Christine Gregoire, said the study had two purposes: to help detectives understand and solve such crimes and to heighten parents' awareness of the need for carefully supervising children.

When a child is missing, Keppel said, the police must be notified quickly. The study found that 44 percent of the children were killed within an hour of their abduction and nearly three-quarters within three hours.

SUPREME COURT

Too Dangerous to Set Free?

He's spent his life sexually abusing children. But Leroy Hendricks has served his prison sentence. Can Kansas find a way to keep him off the streets?
 BY JERRY ADLER AND PETER ANNIN

SHOULD LEROY HENDRICKS be set free? There is no question that Hendricks, 62, has done some terrible things and may be capable of doing them again. He has been committing sexual crimes against children as young as 7 for most of his life, dating back to a conviction for exposing himself to two girls when he was just 21. For years he abused his own stepdaughter and stepson, and the last time he was out of jail, back in 1984, he attempted to fondle two 13-year-old boys who had walked into a Wichita, Kans., store where he



A life told in mug shots: Leroy Hendricks has been in and out of jail since the age of 21. 1956: His first arrest, in Wichita, Kans., for exposing himself to two girls. He was fined \$2.90. 1960: Guilty of molesting two boys in Spokane, Wash., he was sentenced to 20 years, but served only two. 1963: Charged with molesting a 7-year-old girl in Seattle, he was committed to a mental hospital as a "sexual psychopath." 1967: He was arrested in Seattle again, charged with molesting a young girl and her brother. 1984: His last arrest, in Wichita, for fondling two teenage boys. 1994: Released from prison, he was committed to a Kansas mental hospital.

worked. At a hearing in 1994, Hendricks admitted that he most likely was still a pedophile. Asked if he could guarantee that he wouldn't molest again, he said simply, "The only way to guarantee that is to die."

So should he be locked up?

He did, after all, serve his full sentence in the case involving the two boys—10 years of a 5-to-20-year term, with mandatory credit for "good behavior." None of his crimes involved violence (although obviously a sexual advance on a young child can have devastating psychological consequences). And he is not delusional. He doesn't hear voices commanding him to commit crimes. He understands that what he did was wrong. He is sexually attracted to children, but he believes, or claims to believe, that he can now manage and control those feelings. That description, by the way, could fit a great many people, most of whom are not now in jail.

The question of whether to free Leroy Hendricks is important enough that the U.S. Supreme Court will decide it, after hearing arguments next week. Hendricks is appealing his detention under Kansas's 1994 Sexual Violent Predator Act, which permits authorities to keep certain sex offenders locked up indefinitely by committing them to a mental hospital after their prison time is up. By a 4-3 vote earlier this year, the Kansas Supreme Court ruled that the law violated the constitutional guarantee of due process. But state Attorney General Carla Stovall, who calls Hendricks "a tremendous menace to the public and a tremendous frustration to the government," is hoping the justices will see it differently. And the court appears eager to grapple with the tricky constitutional questions that arise from the movement to make child abuse a uniquely stigmatizing crime.

Many more such questions will arise in the next few years, as federal legislation takes effect requiring every state to monitor convicted sex offenders and make the information available to their neighbors. A federal judge has already struck down a New York state law mandating the same thing, and that case, too, could well end up before the justices. Only seven states now have laws providing for civil commitment of sex offenders after release from prison. But no fewer than 45 states and territories filed briefs supporting the law that's keeping Leroy Hendricks locked up.

No state wants to be the home of the next Megan Kanka, the 7-year-old New Jersey girl whose murder, allegedly by a paroled sex offender living nearby, touched off the campaign for community-notification laws. Few crimes are as horrifying, as gratuitously evil, as hurting a child for one's own sexual pleasure. Most people, of course, would never think of doing it, but they also have an uneasy appreciation of the intensity of ever-

normal sexual desire. The sheer persistence of some sex offenders—like Christopher Hubbart, a 46-year-old California man who once was arrested for raping a woman the same day he got out of prison—is one of the minor wonders of penology. Hubbart has been locked up under a California law similar to the one in Kansas. "He can't help himself from raping women," says Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney Peter Waite. Earlier this year his incarceration was upheld by a California Superior Court judge, but Hubbart plans another appeal.

THE FUTILITY OF PUNISHMENTS that fall short of total incarceration is brought home with depressing regularity. Most recently this happened in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where a 7-year-old girl and her 11-year-old sister were found strangled last month—in the attic of a 30-year-old man who was under house arrest for a previous conviction on indecent assault. The suspect, Howard Ault, has confessed to the murders. Formally, he has pleaded innocent. His lawyer hopes to mount an insanity defense. Ault's "community control officer" had stopped by just a few hours after the girls had been killed—and noticed nothing amiss.

Still, it is a myth that sexual molestation is a habit impossible to break. According to the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, the reoffense rate for "untreated sex offenders who primarily target children" ranges in various studies from 10 percent to 40 percent, not the "80 percent to 90 percent" that many laypeople assume by extrapolating from the 6 o'clock news. The association has no position for or against civil-commitment laws, but it filed a brief in the Hendricks case, asking the justices to bear in mind two points: that experts can indeed predict which offenders are most likely to get into trouble again, and that at least some sex offenders can be treated. One way to tell who is likely to commit another sexual offense: read him a story about deviant sexual behavior and measure his sexual arousal. The trend in treatment is to focus narrowly on specific deviant acts, avoiding any large psychological issues. "The most important things we do," says association president William Murphy, "are attempt to instill victim empathy and to get the perpetrator to appreciate the consequences of his acts to his family, his friends and himself." To put it another way, acknowledging the futility of knowing why someone is aroused by exposing himself to children, the therapist encourages him to

Keeping Track of Sex Offenders

Under federal law, states are required to keep databases of sex offenders. Beginning next September, states will also have to notify communities of the presence of these criminals. Already, all but 10 states allow the public some access to that information. Seven states have laws to keep offenders in custody after their prison terms are over.



■ Notification

Mandatory release of information to the public at large or to certain groups such as school districts or child-care facilities

▣ Access

Individuals can request information kept on file by law-enforcement officials

■ No access

Public does not have any access to files and is not notified when sex offenders are released from custody

● Civil commitment

States can seek to hold sex offenders in mental institutions after they finish their jail sentences

control the impulse, to modify his fantasies and, at all costs, to stay the hell out of playgrounds. But even Murphy, with 20 years' experience treating sex offenders, admits that these techniques have their limits: "You still have the Polly Klaas type of guy," he says. "I don't know what to do with them; nobody knows what to do with them. When you get to the child sadists and killers—they are too dangerous to let out."

As for Hendricks—well, at least no one can say that the state locked him up capriciously. The Kansas law sets up an elaborate, multistep process for reviewing the cases of sex offenders before their release from prison, involving two separate panels, a judge, psychological evaluations and ultimately a full civil trial. A 12-person jury must unanimously agree that the offender has a "mental abnormality" that makes him "likely to engage" in sexual offenses. Of 618 offenders reviewed since the law began, on-

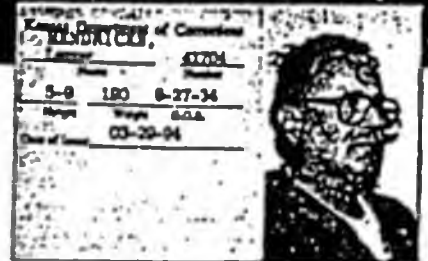
ly nine have been committed. (On the other hand, getting released after committal can entail a comparable process, including finding a mental-health worker willing to put his career on the line if he's wrong; none of the nine has been released yet.) To Hendricks's lawyer, Tom Weilert, all those elaborate safeguards don't change the fact that his client served his term and had every expectation of getting out of prison in 1994—only to find himself back under lock and key for what amounts to the same offense, or for things he never did. "Our criminal-justice system is based on incarcerating people for what they've done—not what they might do in the future," Weilert says.

Weilert acknowledges that if the legislature had passed a law before 1984 putting people like Hendricks away for life, there wouldn't be much he could do about it now. For that matter, under laws then on the books, Hendricks could have been given as much as 45 to 180 years. That's exactly the point, Weilert says: "Apparently, back in 1984 the state didn't see Leroy as a big enough threat to incarcerate him for the rest of his life." No one can say now why he was allowed to plea-bargain his way down to an effective 10-year term. But it's not unusual for district attorneys to offer pleas in child-molestation cases, rather than put children through the trauma of testifying.

Technically, Hendricks's fate may rest on the question of whether a mental abnormality—the standard for incarceration in the Kansas law—is substantively equiv-

Bitter: Stepdaughter Rose Loux, who says she was molested by Hendricks over the course of four years

TOMAS NIEDELMAN; COURTESY DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE, WICHITA, KAN. (LOWER RIGHT)



A committed man: Hendricks in 1994

Making a monster: Hendricks claims his mother dressed him in girls' clothing, including a brassiere, and an older female cousin abused him sexually when he was 5. No excuse, just an explanation.

alent to "mental illness." Hendricks arguably has the former but not the latter, and the distinction matters, according to Harvard Law professor Carol Steiker. Until now, preventive detention was imposed only on people who are both mentally ill and dangerous to themselves or others. This is the John Hinckley standard—someone in the grip of an unmistakable and potentially harmful delusion. "If we permit preventive detention for the 'dangerous,' as opposed to the 'dangerous mentally ill,'" Steiker says, "we're going down a potentially slippery slope that is very broad."

Of course, implicit in Steiker's remarks is the admission that Hendricks may in fact be dangerous. He admitted as much himself, in saying that he couldn't "guarantee" that he'd never attack another child, a remark his lawyer says shows his candor and

his honest effort to come to grips with his inner demons. Which, by the way, may have had their origins in a mother who he claims dressed him in girls' clothing, including a bra, and an older female cousin who he says abused him sexually when he was 5. Not that that excuses what he did to his own stepdaughter, Rose Loux, 33, who says Hendricks molested her twice a week for four years, starting when she was about 9, bribing her with treats and privileges. Asked what punishment she thinks is appropriate for Hendricks, she replies laconically, "Capital punishment."

But she doesn't get to decide. The Supreme Court, standing in for all of society, has that privilege and duty.

Should Leroy Hendricks go free?

With PETER KATEL in Miami and JEANNE GORDON in Los Angeles

providers, family groups and others during which he'll propose to protect kids from indecency with a software fix.

While the details have yet to be worked out, White House staff members hope to talk Website operators into a kind of universal rating system. Combining it with software browsers used to access much of the Net, parents could in theory set their own comfort level and filter out the naughty bits. "If we are to make the Internet a powerful resource for learning, we must give parents and teachers the tools they need to make the Internet safe for children," Clinton said last week. "With the right technology and rating systems, we can help ensure that our children don't end up in the red-light districts of cyberspace."

Good luck. Software filters and online ratings systems have been around since before the CDA was born, and they've always been beset with problems. Recently, for instance, when Microsoft began backing a ratings standard known as RSACI and started including the filter as part of its browser, Internet Explorer, the company quickly found that the "solution" could keep large numbers of viewers away from its news site, MSNBC. Microsoft quietly removed the rating. The problem should have been foreseen. News, after all, frequently covers violent adult-oriented subjects, which puts many news stories into the same verboten range as porn. While RSACI officials have proposed offering a news exemption, it's hard to see how that could work. Readers of the sex-oriented newspaper *Screw*, for instance, might well consider it just as newsworthy as the *New York Times*.

Still, the First Amendment notwithstanding, many Americans feel that parents have a legitimate right to protect their kids from inappropriate material. "You can't connect every high school in America to the Net unless there's some way to ensure that kids won't see what they're not supposed to," says Lawrence Lessig, a Harvard Law School professor and author of an essay, "Reading the Constitution in Cyberspace," that was cited repeatedly by Justice O'Connor in a minority opinion. "It can't be the case that Congress has no power to regulate here."

It can be the case, however, that Congress's power is largely symbolic. Even if the government figures out a constitutional way to impose limited censorship online, these rules can apply only within the U.S.—and the Internet is international. If parents want to control what their children see, they'll probably have to resort to an old-fashioned, low-tech solution: they'll have to supervise their kids' time online.

—Reported by John F. Dickerson/
Washington and Noah Robischon/New York

Throwing Away the Key

The Supreme Court allows states to keep "sexual predators" locked up beyond their terms in prison

LEROY HENDRICKS HAD DONE HIS TIME. In August 1994, after serving 10 years for taking "indecent liberties" with two 13-year-old boys, Hendricks walked out of prison in Hutchinson, Kans.—and was almost immediately transported to the Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility, where he has been locked up ever since. Under a 1994 state law called the Sexually Violent Predator Act, a judge ordered Hendricks confined indefinitely after ruling that his "mental abnormality"

criminals for what they have done, not for what they might do. Only those deemed dangerous and insane are locked away to protect themselves and society from their potential actions. Hendricks' lawyers argued that the "mental abnormality" clause in the Kansas statute created too low and too vague a standard for committing a person and so was a violation of due process. They also claimed that the law subjected Hendricks to double jeopardy and that it violated the Constitution's ex post facto

clause, which forbids the enactment of new laws that extend punishment for past crimes.

The court was not convinced. Writing for the majority, Clarence Thomas asserted that the Kansas law's standard for what constitutes a dangerous mental illness was as strict as the standards in many laws the court has long upheld. Thomas further concluded that since the Kansas law was a version of these well-established "civil commitment" statutes, Hendricks' confinement could not be considered "punishment"—because punishment, in constitutional terms, arises from criminal proceedings, not civil ones.

Many legal experts are worried that the decision will allow states to lock up all sorts of people. "Today we're dealing with sexual predators," says Steven Shapiro, the legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union. "Who is it tomorrow that we're going to label

as abnormal and potentially dangerous?" The dissenting Justices, however, agreed with Thomas that Kansas' criteria for committing someone were valid. Their objection, as expressed by Stephen Breyer in the minority opinion, was that Hendricks has received virtually no treatment even though the law requires it. To Breyer, the state's failure to live up to its promise makes Hendricks' confinement look a lot like punishment.

Six states have sexual-predator laws; similar statutes being considered in at least 30 others are likely to be enacted swiftly. To mark their days to freedom, people like Hendricks are going to need new calendars.

—By James Collins. Reported by Andrea Sobush/New York and Tim Miller/Lawrence

An excerpt from the majority opinion by Justice Clarence Thomas:

"It cannot be said that the involuntary civil confinement of a limited subclass of dangerous persons is contrary to our understanding of ordered liberty."



"POSTER BOY FOR PEDOPHILES": Mug shots from Hendricks' first arrest in 1956 and his last in 1984.



made him likely to attack again. Hendricks challenged the constitutionality of that law, but last week, in a 5-to-4 decision, the Supreme Court upheld it.

Hendricks is just the kind of fiend the Kansas legislature had in mind when it passed the Predator Act. His 1984 molestation conviction was his fifth in almost 30 years. The only sure way to make him stop molesting children, he has admitted, would be to kill him. "He's really a poster boy for pedophiles," says Wichita district attorney Nola Foulston. "Sometimes he was a carnival worker. He would ingratiate himself with single mothers by taking their children out for ice cream. The mothers would think, 'What a nice man.'"

The American justice system punishes

From the Legal Information Institute and Project Hermes

[Other parts of the opinion, WordPerfect versions, and related documents]

(Bench Opinion)

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SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Syllabus

KANSAS v. HENDRICKS

certiorari to the supreme court of kansas

No. 95-1649. Argued December 10, 1996 -- Decided June 23, 1997

[n.]

Kansas' Sexually Violent Predator Act establishes procedures for the civil commitment of persons who, due to a "mental abnormality" or a "personality disorder," are likely to engage in "predatory acts of sexual violence." Kansas filed a petition under the Act in state court to commit respondent (and cross petitioner) Hendricks, who had a long history of sexually molesting children and was scheduled for release from prison. The court reserved ruling on Hendricks' challenge to the Act's constitutionality, but granted his request for a jury trial. After Hendricks testified that he agreed with the state physician's diagnosis that he suffers from pedophilia and is not cured and that he continues to harbor sexual desires for children that he cannot control when he gets "stressed out," the jury determined that he was a sexually violent predator. Finding that pedophilia qualifies as a mental abnormality under the Act, the court ordered him committed. On appeal, the State Supreme Court invalidated the Act on the ground that the precommitment condition of a "mental abnormality" did not satisfy what it perceived to be the "substantive" due process requirement that involuntary civil commitment must be predicated on a "mental illness" finding. It did not address Hendricks' *ex post-facto* and double jeopardy claims.

Held:

1. The Act's definition of "mental abnormality" satisfies "substantive" due process requirements. An individual's constitutionally protected liberty interest in avoiding physical restraint may be overridden even in the civil context. *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11, 26. This Court has consistently upheld involuntary commitment statutes that detain people who are unable to control their behavior and thereby pose a danger to the public health and safety, provided the confinement takes place pursuant to proper procedures and evidentiary standards. *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S. 71, 80. The Act unambiguously requires a precommitment finding of dangerousness either to one's self or to others, and links that finding to a determination that the person suffers from a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder." Generally, this Court has sustained a commitment statute if it couples proof of dangerousness with proof of some additional factor, such as a "mental illness" or "mental abnormality," see, e.g., *Heller v. Doe*, 509 U.S. 312, 314-315, for these additional requirements serve to limit confinement to those who suffer from a volitional impairment rendering them dangerous beyond their control. The Act sets

forth comparable criteria with its precommitment requirement of "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder." Contrary to Hendricks' argument, this Court has never required States to adopt any particular nomenclature in drafting civil commitment statutes and leaves to the States the task of defining terms of a medical nature that have legal significance. Cf. *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354, 365, n. 13. The legislature is therefore not required to use the specific term "mental illness" and is free to adopt any similar term. Pp. 8-13.

2. The Act does not violate the Constitution's double jeopardy prohibition or its ban on *ex post-facto* lawmaking. Pp. 13-24.

(a) The Act does not establish criminal proceedings, and involuntary confinement under it is not punishment. The categorization of a particular proceeding as civil or criminal is a question of statutory construction. *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364, 368. Nothing on the face of the Act suggests that the Kansas Legislature sought to create anything other than a civil commitment scheme. That manifest intent will be rejected only if Hendricks provides the clearest proof that the scheme is so punitive in purpose or effect as to negate Kansas' intention to deem it civil. *United States v. Ward*, 448 U.S. 242, 248-249. He has failed to satisfy this heavy burden. Commitment under the Act does not implicate either of the two primary objectives of criminal punishment: retribution or deterrence. Its purpose is not retributive: It does not affix culpability for prior criminal conduct, but uses such conduct solely for evidentiary purposes; it does not make criminal conviction a prerequisite for commitment; and it lacks a scienter requirement, an important element in distinguishing criminal and civil statutes. Nor can the Act be said to act as a deterrent, since persons with a mental abnormality or personality disorder are unlikely to be deterred by the threat of confinement. The conditions surrounding confinement--essentially the same as conditions for any civilly committed patient--do not suggest a punitive purpose. Although the commitment scheme here involves an affirmative restraint, such restraint of the dangerously mentally ill has been historically regarded as a legitimate nonpunitive objective. Cf. *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 747. The confinement's potentially indefinite duration is linked, not to any punitive objective, but to the purpose of holding a person until his mental abnormality no longer causes him to be a threat to others. He is thus permitted immediate release upon a showing that he is no longer dangerous, and the longest he can be detained pursuant to a single judicial proceeding is one year. The State's use of procedural safeguards applicable in criminal trials does not itself turn the proceedings into criminal prosecutions. *Allen, supra*, at 372. Finally, the Act is not necessarily punitive if it fails to offer treatment where treatment for a condition is not possible, or if treatment, though possible, is merely an ancillary, rather than an overriding, state concern. The conclusion that the Act is nonpunitive removes an essential prerequisite for both Hendricks' double jeopardy and *ex post-facto* claims. Pp. 13-21.

(b) Hendricks' confinement does not amount to a second prosecution and punishment for the offense for which he was convicted. Because the Act is civil in nature, its commitment proceedings do not constitute a second prosecution. Cf. *Jones, supra*. As this commitment is not tantamount to punishment, the detention does not violate the Double Jeopardy Clause, even though it follows a prison term. *Baxstrom v. Herold*, 383 U.S. 107. Hendricks' argument that, even if the Act survives the "multiple punishments" test, it fails the "same elements" test of *Blockburger v. United States*, 284 U.S. 299, is rejected, since that test does not apply outside of the successive prosecution context. Pp. 22-23.

(c) Hendricks' *ex post-facto* claim is similarly flawed. The *Ex Post-Facto* Clause pertains exclusively to penal statutes. *California Dept. of Corrections v. Morales*, 514 U.S. 499, 505. Since the Act is not punishment, its application does not raise *ex post-facto* concerns. Moreover, the Act clearly does not have retroactive effect. It does not criminalize conduct legal before its enactment or deprive Hendricks of any defense that was available to him at the time of his crimes. Pp. 23-24.

259 Kan. 246, 912 P. 2d 129, reversed.

Thomas, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which Rehnquist, C. J., and O'Connor, Scalia, and Kennedy, JJ., joined. Kennedy, J., filed a concurring opinion. Breyer, J., filed a dissenting opinion, in which Stevens and Souter, JJ., joined, and in which Ginsburg, J., joined as to Parts II and III.

Notes

* Together with No. 95-9075, *Hendricks v. Kansas*, also on certiorari to the same court.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Nos. 95-1649 and 95-9075

KANSAS, PETITIONER 95-1649 v. LEROY HENDRICKS LEROY HENDRICKS, PETITIONER 95-9075

on writs of certiorari to the supreme court

of kansas

[June 23, 1997]

Justice Thomas delivered the opinion of the Court.

In 1994, Kansas enacted the Sexually Violent Predator Act, which establishes procedures for the civil commitment of persons who, due to a "mental abnormality" or a "personality disorder," are likely to engage in "predatory acts of sexual violence." Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a01 *et seq.* (1994). The State invoked the Act for the first time to commit Leroy Hendricks, an inmate who had a long history of sexually molesting children, and who was scheduled for release from prison shortly after the Act became law. Hendricks challenged his commitment on, *inter alia*, "substantive" due process, double jeopardy, and *ex post-facto* grounds. The Kansas Supreme Court invalidated the Act, holding that its pre-commitment condition of a "mental abnormality" did not satisfy what the court perceived to be the "substantive" due process requirement that involuntary civil commitment must be

predicated on a finding of "mental illness." *In re Hendricks*, 259 Kan. 246, 261, 912 P. 2d 129, 138 (1996). The State of Kansas petitioned for certiorari. Hendricks subsequently filed a cross petition in which he reasserted his federal double jeopardy and *ex post-facto* claims. We granted certiorari on both the petition and the cross petition, 518 U. S. ___ (1996), and now reverse the judgment below.

The Kansas Legislature enacted the Sexually Violent Predator Act (Act) in 1994 to grapple with the problem of managing repeat sexual offenders. [n.1] Although Kansas already had a statute addressing the involuntary commitment of those defined as "mentally ill," the legislature determined that existing civil commitment procedures were inadequate to confront the risks presented by "sexually violent predators." In the Act's preamble, the legislature explained:

"[A] small but extremely dangerous group of sexually violent predators exist who do not have a mental disease or defect that renders them appropriate for involuntary treatment pursuant to the [general involuntary civil commitment statute] In contrast to persons appropriate for civil commitment under the [general involuntary civil commitment statute], sexually violent predators generally have anti social personality features which are unamenable to existing mental illness treatment modalities and those features render them likely to engage in sexually violent behavior. The legislature further finds that sexually violent predators' likelihood of engaging in repeat acts of predatory sexual violence is high. The existing involuntary commitment procedure . . . is inadequate to address the risk these sexually violent predators pose to society. The legislature further finds that the prognosis for rehabilitating sexually violent predators in a prison setting is poor, the treatment needs of this population are very long term and the treatment modalities for this population are very different than the traditional treatment modalities for people appropriate for commitment under the [general involuntary civil commitment statute]." Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a01 (1994).

As a result, the Legislature found it necessary to establish "a civil commitment procedure for the long term care and treatment of the sexually violent predator." *Ibid.* The Act defined a "sexually violent predator" as:

"any person who has been convicted of or charged with a sexually violent offense and who suffers from a mental abnormality or personality disorder which makes the person likely to engage in the predatory acts of sexual violence." §59-29a02(a).

A "mental abnormality" was defined, in turn, as a "congenital or acquired condition affecting the emotional or volitional capacity which predisposes the person to commit sexually violent offenses in a degree constituting such person a menace to the health and safety of others." §59-29a02(b).

As originally structured, the Act's civil commitment procedures pertained to: (1) a presently confined person who, like Hendricks, "has been convicted of a sexually violent offense" and is scheduled for release; (2) a person who has been "charged with a sexually violent offense" but has been found incompetent to stand trial; (3) a person who has been found "not guilty by reason of insanity of a sexually violent offense"; and (4) a person found "not guilty" of a sexually violent offense because of a mental disease or defect. § 59-29a03(a), §22-3221 (1995).

The initial version of the Act, as applied to a currently confined person such as Hendricks, was designed to initiate a specific series of procedures. The custodial agency was required to notify the local prosecutor 60 days before the anticipated release of a person who might have met the Act's criteria. §59-29a03. The prosecutor was then obligated, within 45 days, to decide whether to file a petition in state court seeking the person's involuntary commitment. §59-29a04. If such a petition were filed, the court was to determine whether "probable cause" existed to support a finding that the person was a "sexually violent predator" and thus eligible for civil commitment. Upon such a determination, transfer of the individual to a secure facility for professional evaluation would occur. §59-29a05. After that evaluation, a trial would be held to determine beyond a reasonable doubt whether the individual was a sexually violent predator. If that determination were made, the person would then be transferred to the custody of the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services (Secretary) for "control, care and treatment until such time as the person's mental abnormality or personality disorder has so changed that the person is safe to be at large." §59-29a07(a).

In addition to placing the burden of proof upon the State, the Act afforded the individual a number of other procedural safeguards. In the case of an indigent person, the State was required to provide, at public expense, the assistance of counsel and an examination by mental health care professionals. §59-29a06. The individual also received the right to present and cross examine witnesses, and the opportunity to review documentary evidence presented by the State. §59-29a07.

Once an individual was confined, the Act required that "[t]he involuntary detention or commitment . . . shall conform to constitutional requirements for care and treatment." §59-29a09. Confined persons were afforded three different avenues of review: First, the committing court was obligated to conduct an annual review to determine whether continued detention was warranted. §59-29a08. Second, the Secretary was permitted, at any time, to decide that the confined individual's condition had so changed

that release was appropriate, and could then authorize the person to petition for release. §59-29a10. Finally, even without the Secretary's permission, the confined person could at any time file a release petition. §59-29a11. If the court found that the State could no longer satisfy its burden under the initial commitment standard, the individual would be freed from confinement.

In 1984, Hendricks was convicted of taking "indecent liberties" with two 13-year old boys. After serving nearly 10 years of his sentence, he was slated for release to a halfway house. Shortly before his scheduled release, however, the State filed a petition in state court seeking Hendricks' civil confinement as a sexually violent predator. On August 19, 1994, Hendricks appeared before the court with counsel and moved to dismiss the petition on the grounds that the Act violated various federal constitutional provisions. Although the court reserved ruling on the Act's constitutionality, it concluded that there was probable cause to support a finding that Hendricks was a sexually violent predator, and therefore ordered that he be evaluated at the Larned State Security Hospital.

Hendricks subsequently requested a jury trial to determine whether he qualified as a sexually violent predator. During that trial, Hendricks' own testimony revealed a chilling history of repeated child sexual molestation and abuse, beginning in 1955 when he exposed his genitals to two young girls. At that time, he pleaded guilty to indecent exposure. Then, in 1957, he was convicted of lewdness involving a young girl and received a brief jail sentence. In 1960, he molested two young boys while he worked for a carnival. After serving two years in prison for that offense, he was paroled, only to be rearrested for molesting a 7-year old girl. Attempts were made to treat him for his sexual deviance, and in 1965 he was considered "safe to be at large," and was discharged from a state psychiatric hospital. App. 139-144.

Shortly thereafter, however, Hendricks sexually assaulted another young boy and girl--he performed oral sex on the 8-year old girl and fondled the 11-year old boy. He was again imprisoned in 1967, but refused to participate in a sex offender treatment program, and thus remained incarcerated until his parole in 1972. Diagnosed as a pedophile, Hendricks entered into, but then abandoned, a treatment program. He testified that despite having received professional help for his pedophilia, he continued to harbor sexual desires for children. Indeed, soon after his 1972 parole, Hendricks began to abuse his own stepdaughter and stepson. He forced the children to engage in sexual activity with him over a period of approximately four years. Then, as noted above, Hendricks was convicted of "taking indecent liberties" with two adolescent boys after he attempted to fondle them. As a result of that conviction, he was once again imprisoned, and was serving that sentence when he reached his conditional release date in September 1994.

Hendricks admitted that he had repeatedly abused children whenever he was not confined. He explained that when he "get[s] stressed out," he "can't control the urge" to molest children. *Id.*, 172. Although Hendricks recognized that his behavior harms children, and he hoped he would not sexually molest children again, he stated that the only sure way he could keep from sexually abusing children in the future was "to die." *Id.*, at 190. Hendricks readily agreed with the state physician's diagnosis that he suffers from pedophilia and that he is not cured of the condition; indeed, he told the physician that "treatment is bull---." *Id.*, at 153, 190. ^[n2] The jury unanimously found beyond a reasonable doubt that Hendricks was a sexually violent predator. The trial court subsequently determined, as a matter of state law, that pedophilia qualifies as a "mental abnormality" as defined by the Act, and thus ordered Hendricks committed to the Secretary's custody.

Hendricks appealed, claiming, among other things, that application of the Act to him violated the Federal Constitution's Due Process, Double Jeopardy, and *Ex Post Facto* Clauses. The Kansas Supreme Court accepted Hendricks' due process claim. *In re Hendricks*, 259 Kan., at 261, 912 P. 2d, at 138. The court declared that in order to commit a person involuntarily in a civil proceeding, a State is required by "substantive" due process to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the person is both (1) mentally ill, and (2) a danger to himself or to others. *Id.*, at 259, 912 P. 2d, at 137. The court then determined that the Act's definition of "mental abnormality" did not satisfy what it perceived to be this Court's "mental illness" requirement in the civil commitment context. As a result, the court held that "the Act violates Hendricks' substantive due process rights." *Id.*, at 261, 912 P. 2d, at 138.

The majority did not address Hendricks' *ex post-facto* or double jeopardy claims. The dissent, however,

considered each of Hendricks' constitutional arguments and rejected them. *Id.*, at 264-294, 912 P. 2d, 140-156 (Larson, J., dissenting).

Kansas argues that the Act's definition of "mental abnormality" satisfies "substantive" due process requirements. We agree. Although freedom from physical restraint "has always been at the core of the liberty protected by the Due Process Clause from arbitrary governmental action," *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S. 71, 80 (1992), that liberty interest is not absolute. The Court has recognized that an individual's constitutionally protected interest in avoiding physical restraint may be overridden even in the civil context:

"[T]he liberty secured by the Constitution of the United States to every person within its jurisdiction does not import an absolute right in each person to be, at all times and in all circumstances, wholly free from restraint. There are manifold restraints to which every person is necessarily subject for the common good. On any other basis organized society could not exist with safety to its members." *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11, 26 (1905).

Accordingly, States have in certain narrow circumstances provided for the forcible civil detainment of people who are unable to control their behavior and who thereby pose a danger to the public health and safety. See, e.g., 1788 N. Y. Laws, ch. 31 (Feb. 9, 1788) (permitting confinement of the "furiously mad"); see also A. Deutsch, *The Mentally Ill in America* (1949) (tracing history of civil commitment in the 18th and 19th centuries); G. Grob, *Mental Institutions in America: Social Policy to 1875* (1973) (discussing colonial and early American civil commitment statutes). We have consistently upheld such involuntary commitment statutes provided the confinement takes place pursuant to proper procedures and evidentiary standards. See *Foucha*, *supra*, at 80; *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418, 426-427 (1979). It thus cannot be said that the involuntary civil confinement of a limited subclass of dangerous persons is contrary to our understanding of ordered liberty. Cf. *id.*, at 426.

The challenged Act unambiguously requires a finding of dangerousness either to one's self or to others as a prerequisite to involuntary confinement. Commitment proceedings can be initiated only when a person "has been convicted of or charged with a sexually violent offense," and "suffers from a mental abnormality or personality disorder which makes the person likely to engage in the predatory acts of sexual violence." Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a02(a) (1994). The statute thus requires proof of more than a mere predisposition to violence; rather, it requires evidence of past sexually violent behavior and a present mental condition that creates a likelihood of such conduct in the future if the person is not incapacitated. As we have recognized, "[p]revious instances of violent behavior are an important indicator of future violent tendencies." *Heller v. Doe*, 509 U.S. 312, 323 (1993); see also *Schall v. Martin*, 467 U.S. 253, 278 (1984) (explaining that "from a legal point of view there is nothing inherently unattainable about a prediction of future criminal conduct"). A finding of dangerousness, standing alone, is ordinarily not a sufficient ground upon which to justify indefinite involuntary commitment. We have sustained civil commitment statutes when they have coupled proof of dangerousness with the proof of some additional factor, such as a "mental illness" or "mental abnormality." See, e.g., *Heller*, *supra*, 314-315 (Kentucky statute permitting commitment of "mentally retarded" or "mentally ill" and dangerous individual); *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364, 366 (1986) (Illinois statute permitting commitment of "mentally ill" and dangerous individual); *Minnesota ex rel. Pearson v. Probate Court of Ramsey Cty.*, 309 U.S. 270, 271-272 (1940) (Minnesota statute permitting commitment of dangerous individual with "psychopathic personality"). These added statutory requirements serve to limit involuntary civil confinement to those who suffer from a volitional impairment rendering them dangerous beyond their control. The Kansas Act is plainly of a kind with these other civil commitment statutes: It requires a finding of future dangerousness, and then links that finding to the existence of a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" that makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the person to control his dangerous behavior. Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a02(b) (1994). The precommitment requirement of a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" is consistent with the requirements of these other statutes that we have upheld in that it narrows the class of persons eligible for confinement to those who are unable to control their dangerousness.

Hendricks nonetheless argues that our earlier cases dictate a finding of "mental illness" as a prerequisite for civil commitment, citing *Foucha*, and *Addington*. He then asserts that a "mental abnormality" is *not* equivalent to a "mental illness" because it is a term coined by the Kansas Legislature, rather than by the

psychiatric community. Contrary to Hendricks' assertion, the term "mental illness" is devoid of any talismanic significance. Not only do "psychiatrists disagree widely and frequently on what constitutes mental illness," *Ake v. Oklahoma*, 470 U.S. 68, 81 (1985), but the Court itself has used a variety of expressions to describe the mental condition of those properly subject to civil confinement. See, e.g., *Addington*, 441 U. S., at 425-426 (using the terms "emotionally disturbed" and "mentally ill"); *Jackson*, 406 U. S., at 732, 737 (using the terms "incompetency" and "insanity"); cf. *Foucha*, 504 U. S., at 88 (O'Connor, J., concurring in part and concurring in judgment) (acknowledging State's authority to commit a person when there is "some medical justification for doing so").

Indeed, we have never required State legislatures to adopt any particular nomenclature in drafting civil commitment statutes. Rather, we have traditionally left to legislators the task of defining terms of a medical nature that have legal significance. Cf. *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354, 365, n. 13 (1983). As a consequence, the States have, over the years, developed numerous specialized terms to define mental health concepts. Often, those definitions do not fit precisely with the definitions employed by the medical community. The legal definitions of "insanity" and "competency," for example, vary substantially from their psychiatric counterparts. See, e.g., Gerard, *The Usefulness of the Medical Model to the Legal System*, 39 Rutgers L. Rev. 377, 391-394 (1987) (discussing differing purposes of legal system and the medical profession in recognizing mental illness). Legal definitions, however, which must "take into account such issues as individual responsibility . . . and competency," need not mirror those advanced by the medical profession. American Psychiatric Association, *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* xxiii, xxvii (4th ed. 1994).

To the extent that the civil commitment statutes we have considered set forth criteria relating to an individual's inability to control his dangerousness, the Kansas Act sets forth comparable criteria and Hendricks' condition doubtless satisfies those criteria. The mental health professionals who evaluated Hendricks diagnosed him as suffering from pedophilia, a condition the psychiatric profession itself classifies as a serious mental disorder. See, e.g., *id.*, at 524-525, 527-528; 1 American Psychiatric Association, *Treatments of Psychiatric Disorders*, 617-633 (1989); Abel & Rouleau, *Male Sex Offenders*, in *Handbook of Outpatient Treatment of Adults* 271 (M. Thase, B. Edelman, & M. Hersen, eds. 1990). [n.3] Hendricks even conceded that, when he becomes "stressed out," he cannot "control the urge" to molest children. App. 172. This admitted lack of volitional control, coupled with a prediction of future dangerousness, adequately distinguishes Hendricks from other dangerous persons who are perhaps more properly dealt

with exclusively through criminal proceedings. Hendricks' diagnosis as a pedophile, which qualifies as a "mental abnormality" under the Act, thus plainly suffices for due process purposes.

We granted Hendricks' cross petition to determine whether the Act violates the Constitution's double jeopardy prohibition or its ban on *ex post-facto* lawmaking. The thrust of Hendricks' argument is that the Act establishes criminal proceedings; hence confinement under it necessarily constitutes punishment. He contends that where, as here, newly enacted "punishment" is predicated upon past conduct for which he has already been convicted and forced to serve a prison sentence, the Constitution's Double Jeopardy and *Ex Post-Facto* Clauses are violated. We are unpersuaded by Hendricks' argument that Kansas has established criminal proceedings

The categorization of a particular proceeding as civil or criminal "is first of all a question of statutory construction." *Allen*, 478 U. S., at 368. We must initially ascertain whether the legislature meant the statute to establish "civil" proceedings. If so, we ordinarily defer to the legislature's stated intent. Here, Kansas' objective to create a civil proceeding is evidenced by its placement of the Sexually Violent Predator Act within the Kansas probate code, instead of the criminal code, as well as its description of the Act as creating a "civil commitment procedure." Kan. Stat. Ann., Art. 29 (1994) ("Care and Treatment for Mentally Ill Persons"), §59-29a01 (emphasis added). Nothing on the face of the statute suggests that the legislature sought to create anything other than a civil commitment scheme designed to protect the public from harm.

Although we recognize that a "civil label is not always dispositive," *Allen, supra*, at 369, we will reject the legislature's manifest intent only where a party challenging the statute provides "the clearest proof"

that "the statutory scheme [is] so punitive either in purpose or effect as to negate [the State's] intention" to deem it "civil." *United States v. Ward*, 448 U.S. 242, 248-249 (1980). In those limited circumstances, we will consider the statute to have established criminal proceedings for constitutional purposes. Hendricks, however, has failed to satisfy this heavy burden.

As a threshold matter, commitment under the Act does not implicate either of the two primary objectives of criminal punishment: retribution or deterrence. The Act's purpose is not retributive because it does not affix culpability for prior criminal conduct. Instead, such conduct is used solely for evidentiary purposes, either to demonstrate that a "mental abnormality" exists or to support a finding of future dangerousness. We have previously concluded that an Illinois statute was nonpunitive even though it was triggered by the commission of a sexual assault, explaining that evidence of the prior criminal conduct was "received not to punish past misdeeds, but primarily to show the accused's mental condition and to predict future behavior." *Allen, supra*, at 371. In addition, the Kansas Act does not make a criminal conviction a prerequisite for commitment—persons absolved of criminal responsibility may nonetheless be subject to confinement under the Act. See Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a03(a) (1994). An absence of the necessary criminal responsibility suggests that the State is not seeking retribution for a past misdeed. Thus, the fact that the Act may be "tied to criminal activity" is "insufficient to render the statut[e] punitive." *United States v. Ursery*, 518 U. S. ___ (1996) (slip op., at 24).

Moreover, unlike a criminal statute, no finding of scienter is required to commit an individual who is found to be a sexually violent predator; instead, the commitment determination is made based on a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" rather than on one's criminal intent. The existence of a scienter requirement is customarily an important element in distinguishing criminal from civil statutes. See *Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144, 168 (1963). The absence of such a requirement here is evidence that confinement under the statute is not intended to be retributive.

Nor can it be said that the legislature intended the Act to function as a deterrent. Those persons committed under the Act are, by definition, suffering from a "mental abnormality" or a "personality disorder" that prevents them from exercising adequate control over their behavior. Such persons are therefore unlikely to be deterred by the threat of confinement. And the conditions surrounding that confinement do not suggest a punitive purpose on the State's part. The State has represented that an individual confined under the Act is not subject to the more restrictive conditions placed on state prisoners, but instead experiences essentially the same conditions as any involuntarily committed patient in the state mental institution. App. 50-56, 59-60. Because none of the parties argues that people institutionalized under the Kansas general civil commitment statute are subject to punitive conditions, even though they may be involuntarily confined, it is difficult to conclude that persons confined under this Act are being "punished."

Although the civil commitment scheme at issue here does involve an affirmative restraint, "the mere fact that a person is detained does not inexorably lead to the conclusion that the government has imposed punishment." *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739, 746 (1987). The State may take measures to restrict the freedom of the dangerously mentally ill. This is a legitimate non punitive governmental objective and has been historically so regarded. Cf. *id.*, at 747. The Court has, in fact, cited the confinement of "mentally unstable individuals who present a danger to the public" as one classic example of nonpunitive detention. *Id.*, at 748-749. If detention for the purpose of protecting the community from harm necessarily constituted punishment, then all involuntary civil commitments would have to be considered punishment. But we have never so held.

Hendricks focuses on his confinement's potentially indefinite duration as evidence of the State's punitive intent. That focus, however, is misplaced. Far from any punitive objective, the confinement's duration is instead linked to the stated purposes of the commitment, namely, to hold the person until his mental abnormality no longer causes him to be a threat to others. Cf. *Jones*, 463 U. S., at 368 (noting with approval that "because it is impossible to predict how long it will take for any given individual to recover [from insanity]—or indeed whether he will ever recover—Congress has chosen . . . to leave the length of commitment indeterminate, subject to periodic review of the patients's suitability for release"). If, at any time, the confined person is adjudged "safe to be at large," he is statutorily entitled to immediate release. Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a07 (1994).

Furthermore, commitment under the Act is only *potentially* indefinite. The maximum amount of time an individual can be incapacitated pursuant to a single judicial proceeding is one year. §59-29a08. If Kansas seeks to continue the detention beyond that year, a court must once again determine beyond a reasonable doubt that the detainee satisfies the same standards as required for the initial confinement. *Ibid*. This requirement again demonstrates that Kansas does not intend an individual committed pursuant to the Act to remain confined any longer than he suffers from a mental abnormality rendering him unable to control his dangerousness.

Hendricks next contends that the State's use of procedural safeguards traditionally found in criminal trials makes the proceedings here criminal rather than civil. In *Allen*, we confronted a similar argument. There, the petitioner "place[d] great reliance on the fact that proceedings under the Act are accompanied by procedural safeguards usually found in criminal trials" to argue that the proceedings were civil in name only. 478 U. S., at 371. We rejected that argument, however, explaining that the State's decision "to provide some of the safeguards applicable in criminal trials cannot itself turn these proceedings into criminal prosecutions." *Id.*, at 372. The numerous procedural and evidentiary protections afforded here demonstrate that the Kansas Legislature has taken great care to confine only a narrow class of particularly dangerous individuals, and then only after meeting the strictest procedural standards. That Kansas chose to afford such procedural protections does not transform a civil commitment proceeding into a criminal prosecution.

Finally, Hendricks argues that the Act is necessarily punitive because it fails to offer any legitimate "treatment." Without such treatment, Hendricks asserts, confinement under the Act amounts to little more than disguised punishment. Hendricks' argument assumes that treatment for his condition is available, but that the State has failed (or refused) to provide it. The Kansas Supreme Court, however, apparently rejected this assumption, explaining:

"It is clear that the overriding concern of the legislature is to continue the segregation of sexually violent offenders from the public. Treatment with the goal of reintegrating them into society is incidental, at best. The record reflects that treatment for sexually violent predators is all but nonexistent. The legislature concedes that sexually violent predators are not amenable to treatment under [the existing Kansas involuntary commitment statute]. If there is nothing to treat under [that statute], then there is no mental illness. In that light, the provisions of the Act for treatment appear somewhat disingenuous." 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136.

It is possible to read this passage as a determination that Hendricks' condition was *untreatable* under the existing Kansas civil commitment statute, and thus the Act's sole purpose was incapacitation. Absent a treatable mental illness, the Kansas court concluded, Hendricks could not be detained against his will.

Accepting the Kansas court's apparent determination that treatment is not possible for this category of individuals does not obligate us to adopt its legal conclusions. We have already observed that, under the appropriate circumstances and when accompanied by proper procedures, incapacitation may be a legitimate end of the civil law. See *Allen, supra*, at 373; *Salerno*, 481 U. S., at 748-749. Accordingly, the Kansas court's determination that the Act's "overriding concern" was the continued "segregation of sexually violent offenders" is consistent with our conclusion that the Act establishes civil proceedings, 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136, especially when that concern is coupled with the State's ancillary goal of providing treatment to those offenders, if such is possible. While we have upheld state civil commitment statutes that aim both to incapacitate and to treat, see *Allen, supra*, we have never held that the Constitution prevents a State from civilly detaining those for whom no treatment is available, but who nevertheless pose a danger to others. A State could hardly be seen as furthering a "punitive" purpose by involuntarily confining persons afflicted with an untreatable, highly contagious disease. Accord *Compagnie Francaise de Navigation a Vapeur v. Louisiana Bd. of Health*, 186 U.S. 380 (1902) (permitting involuntary quarantine of persons suffering from communicable diseases). Similarly, it would be of little value to require treatment as a precondition for civil confinement of the dangerously insane when no acceptable treatment existed. To conclude otherwise would obligate a State to release certain confined individuals who were both mentally ill and dangerous simply because they could not be successfully treated for their afflictions. Cf. *Greenwood v. United States*, 350 U.S. 366, 375 (1956) ("The fact that at present there may be little likelihood of recovery does not defeat federal power to make this initial commitment of the petitioner"); *O'Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563, 584 (1975) (Burger,

C. J., concurring) ("[I]t remains a stubborn fact that there are many forms of mental illness which are not understood, some which are untreatable in the sense that no effective therapy has yet been discovered for them, and that rates of 'cure' are generally low").

Alternatively, the Kansas Supreme Court's opinion can be read to conclude that Hendricks' condition is treatable, but that treatment was not the State's "overriding concern," and that no treatment was being provided (at least at the time Hendricks was committed). 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136. See also *ibid.* ("It is clear that the primary objective of the Act is to continue incarceration and not to provide treatment"). Even if we accept this determination that the provision of treatment was not the Kansas Legislature's "overriding" or "primary" purpose in passing the Act, this does not rule out the possibility that an ancillary purpose of the Act was to provide treatment, and it does not require us to conclude that the Act is punitive. Indeed, critical language in the Act itself demonstrates that the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services, under whose custody sexually violent predators are committed, has an obligation to provide treatment to individuals like Hendricks. §59-29a07(a) ("If the court or jury determines that the person is a sexually violent predator, the person shall be committed to the custody of the secretary of social and rehabilitation services for *control, care and treatment* until such time as the person's mental abnormality or personality disorder has so changed that the person is safe to be at large" (emphasis added)). Other of the Act's sections echo this obligation to provide treatment for committed persons. See, e.g., §59-29a01 (establishing civil commitment procedure "for the long term care and treatment of the sexually violent predator"); §59-29a09 (requiring the confinement to "conform to constitutional requirements for care and treatment"). Thus, as in *Allen*, "the State has a statutory obligation to provide 'care and treatment for [persons adjudged sexually dangerous] designed to effect recovery,'" 478 U. S., at 369 (quoting Ill. Rev. Stat., ch. 38, ¶ 105-8 (1985)), and we may therefore conclude that "the State has . . . provided for the treatment of those it commits." 478 U. S., at 370.

Although the treatment program initially offered Hendricks may have seemed somewhat meager, it must be remembered that he was the first person committed under the Act. That the State did not have all of its treatment procedures in place is thus not surprising. What is significant, however, is that Hendricks was placed under the supervision of the Kansas Department of Health and Social and Rehabilitative Services, housed in a unit segregated from the general prison population and operated not by employees of the Department of Corrections, but by other trained individuals. ^[n.4] And, before this Court, Kansas declared "[a]bsolutely" that persons committed under the Act are now receiving in the neighborhood of "31.5 hours of treatment per week." Tr. of Oral Arg. 14-15, 16. ^[n.5]

Where the State has "disavowed any punitive intent"; limited confinement to a small segment of particularly dangerous individuals; provided strict procedural safeguards; directed that confined persons be segregated from the general prison population and afforded the same status as others who have been civilly committed; recommended treatment if such is possible; and permitted immediate release upon a showing that the individual is no longer dangerous or mentally impaired, we cannot say that it acted with punitive intent. We therefore hold that the Act does not establish criminal proceedings and that involuntary confinement pursuant to the Act is not punitive. Our conclusion that the Act is nonpunitive thus removes an essential prerequisite for both Hendricks' double jeopardy and *ex post-facto* claims.

The Double Jeopardy Clause provides: "[N]or shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb." Although generally understood to preclude a second prosecution for the same offense, the Court has also interpreted this prohibition to prevent the State from "punishing twice, or attempting a second time to punish criminally, for the same offense." *Witte v. United States*, 515 U.S. 389, 396 (1995) (emphasis and internal quotation marks omitted). Hendricks argues that, as applied to him, the Act violates double jeopardy principles because his confinement under the Act, imposed after a conviction and a term of incarceration, amounted to both a second prosecution and a second punishment for the same offense. We disagree.

Because we have determined that the Kansas Act is civil in nature, initiation of its commitment proceedings does not constitute a second prosecution. Cf. *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354 (1984) (permitting involuntary civil commitment after verdict of not guilty by reason of insanity). Moreover, as commitment under the Act is not tantamount to "punishment," Hendricks' involuntary detention does not violate the Double Jeopardy Clause, even though that confinement may follow a prison term. Indeed, in

Baxstrom v. Herold, 383 U.S. 107 (1966), we expressly recognized that civil commitment could follow the expiration of a prison term without offending double jeopardy principles. We reasoned that "there is no conceivable basis for distinguishing the commitment of a person who is nearing the end of a penal term from all other civil commitments." *Id.*, at 111-112. If an individual otherwise meets the requirements for involuntary civil commitment, the State is under no obligation to release that individual simply because the detention would follow a period of incarceration.

Hendricks also argues that even if the Act survives the "multiple punishments" test, it nevertheless fails the "same elements" test of *Blockburger v. United States*, 284 U.S. 299 (1932). Under *Blockburger*, "where the same act or transaction constitutes a violation of two distinct statutory provisions, the test to be applied to determine whether there are two offenses or only one, is whether each provision requires proof of a fact which the other does not." *Id.*, at 304. The *Blockburger* test, however, simply does not apply outside of the successive prosecution context. A proceeding under the Act does not define an "offense," the elements of which can be compared to the elements of an offense for which the person may previously have been convicted. Nor does the Act make the commission of a specified "offense" the basis for invoking the commitment proceedings. Instead, it uses a prior conviction (or previously charged conduct) for evidentiary purposes to determine whether a person suffers from a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" and also poses a threat to the public. Accordingly, we are unpersuaded by Hendricks' novel application of the *Blockburger* test and conclude that the Act does not violate the Double Jeopardy Clause.

Hendricks' *ex post-facto* claim is similarly flawed. The *Ex Post-Facto* Clause, which "'forbids the application of any new punitive measure to a crime already consummated,'" has been interpreted to pertain exclusively to penal statutes. *California Dept. of Corrections v. Morales*, 514 U.S. 499, 505 (1995) (quoting *Lindsey v. Washington*, 301 U.S. 397, 401 (1937)). As we have previously determined, the Act does not impose punishment; thus, its application does not raise *ex post-facto* concerns. Moreover, the Act clearly does not have retroactive effect. Rather, the Act permits involuntary confinement based upon a determination that the person *currently* both suffers from a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" and is likely to pose a future danger to the public. To the extent that past behavior is taken into account, it is used, as noted above, solely for evidentiary purposes. Because the Act does not criminalize conduct legal before its enactment, nor deprive Hendricks of any defense that was available to him at the time of his crimes, the Act does not violate the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause.

We hold that the Kansas Sexually Violent Predator Act comports with due process requirements and neither runs afoul of double jeopardy principles nor constitutes an exercise in impermissible *ex post-facto* lawmaking. Accordingly, the judgment of the Kansas Supreme Court is reversed.

It is so ordered.

Notes

¹ Subsequent to Hendricks' commitment, the Kansas Legislature amended the Act in ways not relevant to this case. See, e.g., Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a03 (Supp. 1996) (changing notification period from 60 to 90 days); §59-29a04 (Supp. 1996) (requiring state attorney general to initiate commitment proceedings).

² In addition to Hendricks' own testimony, the jury heard from Hendricks' stepdaughter and stepson, who recounted the events surrounding their repeated sexual abuse at Hendricks' hands. App. 194-212. One of the girls to whom Hendricks exposed himself in 1955 testified as well. *Id.*, at 191-194. The State also presented testimony from Lester Lee, a licensed clinical social worker who specialized in treating male sexual offenders, and Dr. Charles Befort, the chief psychologist at Larned State Hospital. Lee testified that Hendricks had a diagnosis of personality trait disturbance, passive aggressive personality, and pedophilia. *Id.*, at 219-220. Dr. Befort testified that Hendricks suffered from pedophilia and is likely to commit sexual offenses against children in the future if not confined. *Id.*, at 247-248. He further opined that pedophilia qualifies as a "mental abnormality" within the Act's definition of that term. *Id.*, at 263-264. Finally, Hendricks offered testimony from Dr. William S. Logan, a forensic psychiatrist, who

stated that it was not possible to predict with any degree of accuracy the future dangerousness of a sex offender. *Id.*, at 328-331.

3 We recognize, of course, that psychiatric professionals are not in complete harmony in casting pedophilia, or paraphilias in general, as "mental illnesses." Compare Brief for American Psychiatric Association as Amicus Curiae 26 with Brief for Menninger Foundation et al. as *Amici Curiae* 22-25. These disagreements, however, do not tie the State's hands in setting the bounds of its civil commitment laws. In fact, it is precisely where such disagreement exists that legislatures have been afforded the widest latitude in drafting such statutes. Cf. *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354, 365, n. 13 (1983). As we have explained regarding congressional enactments, when a legislature "undertakes to act in areas fraught with medical and scientific uncertainties, legislative options must be especially broad and courts should be cautious not to rewrite legislation." *Id.*, at 370 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

4 We have explained that the States enjoy wide latitude in developing treatment regimens. *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 317 (1982) (observing that the State "has considerable discretion in determining the nature and scope of its responsibilities"). In *Allen*, for example, we concluded that "the State serves its purpose of treating rather than punishing sexually dangerous person by committing them to an institution expressly designed to provide psychiatric care and treatment." 478 U. S., at 373 (emphasis in original omitted). By this measure, Kansas has doubtless satisfied its obligation to provide available treatment.

5 Indeed, we have been informed that an August 28, 1995, hearing on Hendricks' petition for state habeas corpus relief, the trial court, over admittedly conflicting testimony, ruled that: "[T]he allegation that no treatment is being provided to any of the petitioners or other persons committed to the program designated as a sexual predator treatment program is not true. I find that they are receiving treatment." App. 453-454. Thus, to the extent that treatment is available for Hendricks' condition, the State now appears to be providing it. By furnishing such treatment, the Kansas Legislature has indicated that treatment, if possible, is at least an ancillary goal of the Act, which easily satisfies any test for determining that the Act is not punitive.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Nos. 95-1649 and 95-9075

KANSAS, PETITIONER 95-1649 v. LEROY HENDRICKS LEROY HENDRICKS, PETITIONER 95-9075

on writs of certiorari to the supreme court

of kansas

[June 23, 1997]

Justice Breyer, with whom Justices Stevens and Souter join, and with whom Justice Ginsburg joins as to Parts II and III, dissenting.

I agree with the majority that the Kansas Act's "definition of 'mental abnormality'" satisfies the "substantive" requirements of the Due Process Clause. *Ante*, at 8. Kansas, however, concedes that Hendricks' condition is treatable; yet the Act did not provide Hendricks (or others like him) with any treatment until after his release date from prison and only inadequate treatment thereafter. These, and certain other, special features of the Act convince me that it was not simply an effort to commit Hendricks civilly, but rather an effort to inflict further punishment upon him. The *Ex Post-Facto* Clause therefore prohibits the Act's application to Hendricks, who committed his crimes prior to its enactment.

I begin with the area of agreement. This Court has held that the civil commitment of a "mentally ill" and-dangerous" person does not automatically violate the Due Process Clause provided that the commitment takes place pursuant to proper procedures and evidentiary standards. See *Foucha v. Louisiana*, 504 U.S. 71, 80 (1992); *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418, 426-427 (1979). The Kansas Supreme Court, however, held that the Due Process Clause forbids application of the Act to Hendricks for "substantive" reasons, *i.e.*, irrespective of the procedures or evidentiary standards used. The court reasoned that Kansas had not satisfied the "mentally ill" requirement of the Due Process Clause because Hendricks was not "mentally ill." *In re Hendricks*, 259 Kan. 246, 260-261, 912 P. 2d 129, 137-138 (1996). Moreover, Kansas had not satisfied what the court believed was an additional "substantive due process" requirement, namely the provision of treatment. *Id.*, at 257-258, 912 P. 2d, at 136. I shall consider each of these matters briefly.

In my view, the Due Process Clause permits Kansas to classify Hendricks as a mentally ill and dangerous person for civil commitment purposes. *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364, 370-371, 373-375 (1986). I agree with the majority that the Constitution gives States a degree of leeway in making this kind of determination. *Ante*, at 11-12; *Foucha, supra*, at 87 (O'Connor, J., concurring in part and concurring in judgment); *Jones v. United States*, 463 U.S. 354, 365, n. 13 (1983). But, because I do not subscribe to all of its reasoning, I shall set forth three sets of circumstances that, taken together, convince me that Kansas has acted within the limits that the Due Process Clause substantively sets.

First, the psychiatric profession itself classifies the kind of problem from which Hendricks suffers as a serious mental disorder. *E.g.*, American Psychiatric Assn., *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* 524-525, 527-528 (4th ed. 1994) (describing range of paraphilias and discussing how stress aggravates pedophilic behavior); Abel & Rouleau, *Male Sex Offenders*, in *Handbook of Outpatient Treatment of Adults* 271 (M. Thase, B. Edelstein, & M. Hersen eds. 1990). I concede that professionals also debate whether or not this disorder should be called a mental "illness." See R. Slovenko, *Psychiatry and Criminal Culpability* 57 (1995) (citing testimony that paraphilias are not mental illnesses); Schopp & Sturgis, *Sexual Predators and Legal Mental Illness for Civil Commitment*, 13 *Behav. Sci. & The Law* 437, 451-452 (1995) (same). Compare Brief for American Psychiatric Association as *Amicus Curiae* 26 (mental illness requirement not satisfied) with Brief for Menninger Clinic et al. as *Amici Curiae* 22-25 (requirement is satisfied). But the very presence and vigor of this debate is important. The Constitution permits a State to follow one reasonable professional view, while rejecting another. See *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418, 431 (1979). The psychiatric debate, therefore, helps to inform the law by setting the bounds of what is reasonable, but it cannot here decide just how States must write their laws within those bounds. See *Jones*, *supra*, at 365, n. 13.

Second, Hendricks' abnormality does not consist simply of a long course of antisocial behavior, but rather it includes a specific, serious, and highly unusual inability to control his actions. (For example, Hendricks testified that, when he gets "stressed out," he cannot "control the urge" to molest children, see *ante*, at 7.) The law traditionally has considered this kind of abnormality akin to insanity for purposes of confinement. See, *e.g.*, *Minnesota ex rel. Pearson v. Probate Court of Ramsey Cty.*, 309 U.S. 270, 274 (1940) (upholding against a due process challenge the civil confinement of a dangerous person where the danger flowed from an "utter lack of power to control . . . sexual impulses") (quoting *State ex rel. Pearson v. Probate Court of Ramsey Cty.*, 205 Minn. 545, 555, 287 N. W. 297, 302 (1939)); 1788 N. Y. Laws, ch. 31 (permitting confinement of those who are "furiously mad"); *In re Oakes*, 8 Law Rep. 122, 125 (Mass. 1845) (Shaw, C. J.); A. Deutsch, *The Mentally Ill in America* 419-420 (1949) (tracing history of commitment of furiously mad people in 18th and 19th centuries); Dershowitz, *The Origins of Preventative Confinement in Anglo American Law--Part II: The American Experience*, 43 U. Cin. L. Rev. 781 (1974). Indeed, the notion of an "irresistible impulse" often has helped to shape criminal law's insanity defense and to inform the related recommendations of legal experts as they seek to translate the insights of mental health professionals into workable legal rules. See also American Law Institute, *Model Penal Code* §4.01 (insanity defense, in part, rests on inability "to conform . . . conduct to the requirements of law"); A. Goldstein, *The Insanity Defense* 67-79 (1967) (describing "irresistible impulse" test).

Third, Hendricks' mental abnormality also makes him dangerous. Hendricks "has been convicted of . . . a sexually violent offense," and a jury found that he "suffers from a mental abnormality . . . which makes" him "likely to engage" in similar "acts of sexual violence" in the future. Kan. Stat. Ann. §§59-29a02, 59-29a03 (1994). The evidence at trial favored the State. Dr. Befort, for example, explained why Hendricks was likely to commit further acts of sexual violence if released. See, *e.g.*, App. 248-254. And Hendricks' own testimony about what happens when he gets "stressed out" confirmed Dr. Befort's diagnosis.

Because (1) many mental health professionals consider pedophilia a serious mental disorder; and (2) Hendricks suffers from a classic case of irresistible impulse, namely he is so afflicted with pedophilia that he cannot "control the urge" to molest children; and (3) his pedophilia presents a serious danger to those children; I believe that Kansas can classify Hendricks as "mentally ill" and "dangerous" as this Court used those terms in *Foucha*.

The Kansas Supreme Court's contrary conclusion rested primarily upon that court's view that Hendricks would not qualify for civil commitment under Kansas own state civil commitment statute. The issue before us, however, is one of constitutional interpretation. The Constitution does not require Kansas to write all of its civil commitment rules in a single statute or forbid it to write two separate statutes each covering somewhat different classes of committable individuals. Moreover, Hendricks apparently falls outside the scope of the Kansas general civil commitment statute because that statute permits confinement only of those who "lac[k] capacity to make an informed decision concerning treatment." Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-2902(h) (1994). The statute does not tell us why it imposes this requirement.

Capacity to make an informed decision about treatment is not always or obviously incompatible with severe mental illness. Neither Hendricks nor his *amici* point to a uniform body of professional opinion that says as much, and we have not found any. See, e.g., American Psychiatric Assn., Guidelines for Legislation on the Psychiatric Hospitalization of Adults, 140 Am. J. Psychiatry 672, 673 (1983); Stromberg & Stone, A Model State Law on Civil Commitment of the Mentally Ill, 20 Harv. J. Legis. 275, 301-302 (1983); DeLand & Borenstein, Medicine Court, II, *Rivers in Practice*, 147 Am. J. Psychiatry 38 (1990). Consequently, the boundaries of the federal Constitution and those of Kansas' general civil commitment statute are not congruent.

The Kansas Supreme Court also held that the Due Process Clause requires a State to provide treatment to those whom it civilly confines (as "mentally ill" and

"dangerous"). It found that Kansas did not provide Hendricks with significant treatment. And it concluded that Hendricks' confinement violated the Due Process Clause for this reason as well.

This case does not require us to consider whether the Due Process Clause *always* requires treatment--whether, for example, it would forbid civil confinement of an *untreatable* mentally ill, dangerous person. To the contrary, Kansas argues that pedophilia is an "abnormality" or "illness" that can be treated. See Tr. of Oral Arg. 12 (Kansas Attorney General, in response to the question "you're claiming that there is some treatability . . . ?" answering "[a]bsolutely"); Brief for Petitioner 42-47. Two groups of mental health professionals agree. Brief for the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers as *Amicus Curiae* 11-12 (stating that "sex offenders can be treated" and that "increasing evidence" shows that "state of the art treatment programs . . . significantly reduce recidivism"); Brief for the Menninger Foundation et al. as *Amici Curiae* 28. Indeed, no one argues the contrary. Hence the legal question before us is whether the Clause forbids Hendricks' confinement unless Kansas provides him with treatment *that it concedes is available*.

Nor does anyone argue that Kansas somehow could have violated the Due Process Clause's *treatment* concerns had it provided Hendricks with the treatment that is potentially available (and I do not see how any such argument could succeed). Rather, the basic substantive due process treatment question is whether that Clause requires Kansas to provide treatment that it concedes is potentially available to a person whom it concedes is treatable. This same question is at the heart of my discussion of whether Hendricks' confinement violates the Constitution's *Ex Post-Facto* Clause. See *infra*, at 11-16, 17, 19-21. For that reason, I shall not consider the substantive due process treatment question separately, but instead shall simply turn to the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause discussion. As Justice Kennedy points out, *ante*, at 1-3, some of the matters there discussed may later prove relevant to substantive due process analysis.

Kansas' 1994 Act violates the Federal Constitution's prohibition of "any . . . *ex post-facto* Law" if it "inflicts" upon Hendricks "a greater punishment" than did the law "annexed to" his "crime[s]" when he "committed" those crimes in 1984. *Calder v. Bull*, 3 Dall. 386, 390 (1798) (opinion of Chase, J.); U. S. Const., Art. I, §10. The majority agrees that the Clause "forbids the application of any *new punitive measure* to a crime already consummated." *California Dept. of Corrections v. Morales*, 514 U. S. ____ (1995) (slip op., at 5) (citation omitted; emphasis added). *Ante*, at 23-24. But it finds the Act is not "punitive." With respect to that basic question, I disagree with the majority.

Certain resemblances between the Act's "civil commitment" and traditional criminal punishments are obvious. Like criminal imprisonment, the Act's civil commitment amounts to "secure" confinement, Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a07(a) (1994), and "incarceration against one's will." *In re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1, 50 (1967). See Testimony of Terry Davis, SRS Director of Quality Assurance (App. 52-54, 78-81) (confinement takes place in the psychiatric wing of a prison hospital where those whom the Act confines and ordinary prisoners are treated alike). Cf. *Browning Ferris Industries of Vt., Inc. v. Kelco Disposal, Inc.*, 492 U.S. 257, 298 (1989) (O'Connor, J., concurring in part and dissenting in part). In addition, a basic objective of the Act is incapacitation, which, as Blackstone said in describing an objective of criminal law, is to "depriv[e] the party injuring of the power to do future mischief." 4 W. Blackstone, *Commentaries** 11%* 12 (incapacitation is one important purpose of criminal punishment); see also *Foucha*, 504 U. S., at 99 (Kennedy, J., dissenting) ("Incapacitation for the protection of society is not an unusual ground for incarceration"); *United States v. Brown*, 381 U.S. 437, 458 (1965) (punishment's "purposes: retributive, rehabilitative, deterrent--and preventative. One of the reasons society imprisons

those convicted of crimes is to keep them from inflicting future harm, but that does not make imprisonment any the less punishment"); 1 W. LaFave & A. Scott, *Substantive Criminal Law* §1.5, p. 32 (1986); 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a); United States Sentencing Guidelines, Guidelines Manual, ch. 1, pt. A (Nov. 1995).

Moreover, the Act, like criminal punishment, imposes its confinement (or sanction) only upon an individual who has previously committed a criminal offense. Kan. Stat. Ann. §§59-29a02(a), 59-29a03(a) (1994). Cf. *Department of Revenue of Mont. v. Kurth Ranch*, 511 U.S. 767, 781 (1994) (fact that a tax on marijuana was "conditioned on the commission of a crime" is " 'significant of [its] penal and prohibitory intent' ") (citation omitted); *Lipke v. Lederer*, 259 U.S. 557, 561-562 (1922). And the Act imposes that confinement through the use of persons (county prosecutors), procedural guarantees (trial by jury, assistance of counsel, psychiatric evaluations), and standards ("beyond a reasonable doubt") traditionally associated with the criminal law. Kan. Stat. Ann. §§59-29a06, 59-29a07 (1994).

These obvious resemblances by themselves, however, are not legally sufficient to transform what the Act calls "civil commitment" into a criminal punishment. Civil commitment of dangerous, mentally ill individuals by its very nature involves confinement and incapacitation. Yet "civil commitment," from a constitutional perspective, nonetheless remains civil. *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S. 364, 369-370 (1986). Nor does the fact that criminal behavior triggers the Act make the critical difference. The Act's insistence upon a prior crime, by screening out those whose past behavior does not concretely demonstrate the existence of a mental problem or potential future danger, may serve an important noncriminal evidentiary purpose. Neither is the presence of criminal law type procedures determinative. Those procedures can serve an important purpose that in this context one might consider noncriminal, namely helping to prevent judgmental mistakes that would wrongly deprive a person of important liberty. *Id.*, at 371-372.

If these obvious similarities cannot by themselves prove that Kansas' "civil commitment" statute is criminal, neither can the word "civil" written into the statute, §59-29a01, by itself prove the contrary. This Court has said that only the "clearest proof" could establish that a law the legislature called "civil," was, in reality a "punitive" measure. *United States v. Ward*, 448 U.S. 242, 248-249 (1980). But the Court has also reiterated that a "civil label is not always dispositive," *Allen v. Illinois*, *supra*, at 369; it has said that in close cases the label is " 'not of paramount importance,' " *Kurth Ranch*, *supra*, at 777 (citation omitted); and it has looked behind a "civil" label fairly often. *E.g.*, *United States v. Halper*, 490 U.S. 435, 447 (1989).

In this circumstance, with important features of the Act pointing in opposite directions, I would place particular importance upon those features that would likely distinguish between a basically punitive and a basically nonpunitive purpose. *United States v. Ursery*, 518 U.S. ___, ___ (1996) (slip op., at 9) (asking whether a statutory scheme was so punitive " 'either in purpose or effect' " to negate the legislature's " 'intention to establish a civil remedial mechanism' ") (citations omitted). And I note that the Court, in an earlier civil commitment case, *Allen v. Illinois*, 478 U.S., at 369, looked primarily to the law's concern for treatment as an important distinguishing feature. I do not believe that *Allen* means that a particular law's lack of concern for treatment, by itself, is enough to make an incapacitative law punitive. But, for reasons I will point out, when a State believes that treatment does exist, and then couples that admission with a legislatively required delay of such treatment until a person is at the end of his jail term (so that further incapacitation is therefore necessary), such a legislative scheme begins to look punitive.

In *Allen*, the Court considered whether, for Fifth Amendment purposes, proceedings under an Illinois statute were civil or "criminal." The Illinois statute, rather like the Kansas statute here, authorized the confinement of persons who were sexually dangerous, who had committed at least one prior sexual assault, and who suffered from a "mental disorder." *Id.*, at 366, n. 1. The *Allen* Court, looking behind the statute's "civil commitment" label, found the statute civil--in important part because the State had "provided for the treatment of those it commits." *Id.*, at 370 (also referring to facts that the State had "disavowed any interest in punishment" and that it had "established a system under which committed persons may be released after the briefest time in confinement").

In reaching this conclusion, the Court noted that the State Supreme Court had found the proceedings "

'essentially civil' " because the statute's aim was to provide " 'treatment, not punishment.' " *Id.*, at 367 (quoting *People v. Allen*, 107 Ill. 2d 91, 99-101, 481 N. E.2d 690, 694-695 (1985)). It observed that the State had "a statutory obligation to provide 'care and treatment . . . designed to effect recovery' " in a "facility set aside to provide psychiatric care." 478 U. S., at 369 (quoting Ill. Rev. Stat., ch. 38, ¶105-8 (1985)). And it referred to the State's purpose as one of "treating rather than punishing sexually dangerous persons." 478 U. S., at 373; see also *ibid.* ("Had petitioner shown, for example, that the confinement . . . imposes . . . a regimen which is essentially identical to that imposed upon felons with no need for psychiatric care, this might well be a different case").

The *Allen* Court's focus upon treatment, as a kind of touchstone helping to distinguish civil from punitive purposes, is not surprising, for one would expect a nonpunitive statutory scheme to confine, not simply in order to protect, but also in order to cure. That is to say, one would expect a nonpunitively motivated legislature that confines *because of* a dangerous mental abnormality to seek to help the individual himself overcome that abnormality (at least insofar as professional treatment for the abnormality exists and is potentially helpful, as Kansas, supported by some groups of mental health professionals, argues is the case here, see *supra*, at 6). Conversely, a statutory scheme that provides confinement that does not reasonably fit a practically available, medically oriented treatment objective, more likely reflects a primarily punitive legislative purpose.

Several important treatment related factors--factors of a kind that led the five member *Allen* majority to conclude that the Illinois' legislature's purpose was primarily civil, not punitive--in this case suggest precisely the opposite. First, the State Supreme Court here, unlike the state court in *Allen*, has held that treatment is not a significant objective of the Act. The Kansas court wrote that the Act's purpose is "segregation of sexually violent offenders," with "treatment" a matter that was "incidental at best." 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136. By way of contrast, in *Allen* the Illinois court had written that " 'treatment, not punishment' " was "the aim of the statute." *Allen, supra*, at 367 (quoting *People v. Allen*, 107 Ill. 2d, at 99-101, 481 N. E. 2d, at 694-695).

We have generally given considerable weight to the findings of state and lower federal courts regarding the intent or purpose underlying state officials' actions, see *U. S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, 514 U. S. ___, ___ (1995) (slip op., at 52) (ordinarily "[w]e must . . . accept the State Court's view of the purpose of its own law"); *Romer v. Evans*, 517 U. S. ___, ___ (1996) (slip op., at 4); *Hernandez v. New York*, 500 U.S. 352, 366-370 (1991) (plurality); *id.*, at 372 (O'Connor, J., concurring); *Edwards v. Aguillard*, 482 U.S. 578, 594, n. 15 (1987); but see *Department of Revenue of Mont. v. Kurth Ranch*, 511 U. S., at 776, 780, n. 18; *Stone v. Graham*, 449 U.S. 39, 40-43 (1980) (*per curiam*); *Consolidated Edison Co. of N. Y. v. Public Serv. Comm'n of N. Y.*, 447 U.S. 530, 533, 535-537 (1980), although the level of deference given to such findings varies with the circumstances, *Crawford v. Board of Ed. of Los Angeles*, 458 U.S. 527, 544, n. 30 (1982), and is not always as conclusive as a state court's construction of one of its statutes. see, e.g., *R. A. V. v. St. Paul*, 505 U.S. 377, 381 (1992). For example, *Allen's* dissenters, as well as its majority, considered the state court's characterization of the state law's purpose an important factor in determining the constitutionality of that statute. *Allen, supra*, at 380 (Stevens, J., dissenting) (describing the state court as "the final authority on the . . . purpose" of the statute).

The record provides support for the Kansas court's conclusion. The court found that, as of the time of Hendricks' commitment, the State had not funded treatment, it had not entered into treatment contracts, and it had little, if any, qualified treatment staff. See *Hendricks*, 912 P. 2d, at 131, 136; Testimony of Dr. Charles Befort, App. 255 (acknowledging that he has no specialized training); Testimony of John House, SRS Attorney, *id.*, at 367 (no contract has been signed by bidders); Testimony of John House, SRS Attorney, *id.* at 369 (no one hired to operate SVP program or to serve as clinical director, psychiatrist, or psychologist). Indeed, were we to follow the majority's invitation to look beyond the record in this case, an invitation with which we disagree, see *infra*, at 20-21, it would reveal that Hendricks, according to the commitment program's own director, was receiving "essentially no treatment." Dr. Charles Befort in State Habeas Corpus Proceeding, App. 393; 259 Kan., at 249, 258, 912 P. 2d, at 131, 136. See also App. 421 ("the treatment that is prescribed by statute" is "still not available"); *id.*, at 420-421 (the "needed treatment" "hasn't been delivered yet" and "Hendricks has wasted ten months" in "terms of treatment effects"); *id.*, at 391-392 (Dr. Befort admitting that he is not qualified to be SVP program director).

It is therefore not surprising that some of the Act's official supporters had seen in it an opportunity permanently to confine dangerous sex offenders, *e.g.*, *id.*, at 468 (statement of Attorney General Robert Stephan); *id.*, at 475-476, 478 (statement of Special Assistant to the Attorney General Carla Stovall). Others thought that effective treatment did not exist, *id.*, at 503 (statement of Jim Blaufuss) ("Because there is no effective treatment for sex offenders, this Bill may mean a life sentence for a felon that is considered a risk to women and children. SO BE IT!")--a view, by the way, that the State of Kansas, supported by groups of informed mental health professionals, here strongly denies. See *supra*, at 6.

The Kansas court acknowledged the existence of "provisions of the Act for treatment" (although it called them "somewhat disingenuous"). 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136. Cf. Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a01 (1994) (legislative findings that "prognosis for rehabilita[tion] . . . in a prison setting is poor, . . . treatment needs . . . long term" and "commitment procedure for . . . long term care and treatment . . . necessary"); §59-29a09 ("commitment . . . shall conform to constitutional requirements for care and treatment"). Nor did the court deny that Kansas could later increase the amount of treatment it provided. But the Kansas Supreme Court could, and did, use the Act's language, history, and initial implementation to help it characterize the Act's primary purposes.

Second, the Kansas statute insofar as it applies to previously convicted offenders, such as Hendricks, commits, confines, and treats those offenders *after* they have served virtually their entire criminal sentence. That time related circumstance seems deliberate. The Act explicitly defers diagnosis, evaluation, and commitment proceedings until a few weeks prior to the "anticipated release" of a previously convicted offender from prison. Kan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a03(a)(1) (1994). But why, one might ask, does the Act not commit and require treatment of sex offenders sooner, say soon after they begin to serve their sentences?

An Act that simply seeks confinement, of course, would not need to begin civil commitment proceedings sooner. Such an Act would have to begin proceedings only when an offender's prison term ends, threatening his release from the confinement that imprisonment assures. But it is difficult to see why rational legislators who seek treatment would write the Act in this way--providing treatment years after the criminal act that indicated its necessity. See, *e.g.*, Wettstein, A Psychiatric Perspective on Washington's Sexually Violent Predators Statute, 15 U. Puget Sound L. Rev. 597, 617 (1992) (stating that treatment delay leads to "loss of memory" and makes it "more difficult for the offender" to "accept responsibility," and that time in prison leads to attitude hardening that "engender[s] a distorted view of the precipitating offense"). And it is particularly difficult to see why legislators who specifically wrote into the statute a finding that "prognosis for rehabilitating . . . in a prison setting is poor" would leave an offender in that setting for months or years before beginning treatment. This is to say, the timing provisions of the statute confirm the Kansas Supreme Court's view that treatment was not a particularly important legislative objective.

I recognize one possible counterargument. A State, wanting both to punish Hendricks (say, for deterrence purposes) and also to treat him, might argue that it should be permitted to postpone treatment until after punishment in order to make certain that the punishment in fact occurs. But any such reasoning is out of place here. Much of the treatment that Kansas offered here (called "ward milieu" and "group therapy") can be given at the same time as, and in the same place where, Hendricks serves his punishment. See, *e.g.*, Testimony of Leroy Hendricks, *id.*, 142-143, 150, 154, 179-181 (stating that Washington and Kansas had both provided group therapy to Hendricks, and that he had both taken and refused such treatment at various points); Testimony of Terry Davis, SRS Director of Quality Assurance, *id.*, at 78-81 (pointing out that treatment under the Act takes place in surroundings very similar to those in which prisoners receive treatment); Testimony of John House, SRS Attorney, *id.*, at 375-376. See also Task Force on Community Protection, Final Report to Booth Gardner, Governor State of Washington II 2 (1989) (findings of Task Force that developed the Washington State Act, which served as a model for Kansas' Act, stating that "[s]ex offenders can be treated during incarceration"). The evidence adduced at the state habeas proceeding, were we to assume it properly before the Court, see *infra*, at 20-21, supports this conclusion as well. See Testimony of Dr. Befort at State Habeas Proceeding, App. 399, 406-408 (describing treatment as ward milieu and group therapy); *id.*, at 416-417 (stating that Kansas offers similar treatment, on a voluntary basis, to prisoners). Hence, assuming *arguendo* that it would be otherwise permissible, Kansas need not postpone treatment in order to make certain that sex offenders serve their full terms of imprisonment, *i.e.*, to make certain that they receive the entire punishment that

Kansas criminal law provides. To the contrary, the statement in the Act itself, that the Act aims to respond to special "long term" "treatment needs," suggests that treatment should begin during imprisonment. It also suggests that, were those long term treatment needs (rather than further punishment) Kansas' primary aim, the State would require that treatment begin soon after conviction, not 10 or more years later. See also Vt. Stat. Ann., Tit. 18, §2815 (1959) (providing for treatment of sexual psychopaths first, and punishment afterwards).

Third, the statute, at least as of the time Kansas applied it to Hendricks, did not require the committing authority to consider the possibility of using less restrictive alternatives, such as postrelease supervision, halfway houses, or other methods that *amici* supporting Kansas here have mentioned. Brief for the Menninger Foundation et al. as *Amici Curiae* 28; Brief for the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers as *Amicus Curiae* 11-12. The laws of many other States require such consideration. See Appendix, *infra*.

This Court has said that a failure to consider, or to use, "alternative and less harsh methods" to achieve a nonpunitive objective can help to show that legislature's "purpose . . . was to punish." *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 539, n. 20 (1979). And one can draw a similar conclusion here. Legislation that seeks to help the individual offender as well as to protect the public would avoid significantly greater restriction of an individual's liberty than public safety requires. See Keilitz, Conn, & Gianpetro, Least Restrictive Treatment of Involuntary Patients: Translating Concepts into Practice, 29 St. Louis U. L. J. 691, 693 (1985) (describing "least restrictive alternativ[e]" provisions in the ordinary civil commitment laws of almost all States); Lyon, Levine, & Zusman, Patients' Bill of Rights: A Survey of State Statutes, 6 Mental Disability L. Rep. 178, 181-183 (1982) (same). Legislation that seeks almost exclusively to incapacitate the individual through confinement, however, would not necessarily concern itself with potentially less restrictive forms of incapacitation. I would reemphasize that this is not a case in which the State claims there is no treatment potentially available. Rather, Kansas, and supporting *amici*, argue that pedophilia is treatable. See *supra*, at 6.

Fourth, the laws of other States confirm, through comparison, that Kansas' "civil commitment" objectives do not require the statutory features that indicate a punitive purpose. I have found 17 States with laws that seek to protect the public from mentally abnormal, sexually dangerous individuals through civil commitment or other mandatory treatment programs. Ten of those statutes, unlike the Kansas statute, begin treatment of an offender soon after he has been apprehended and charged with a serious sex offense. Only seven, like Kansas, delay "civil" commitment (and treatment) until the offender has served his criminal sentence (and this figure includes the Acts of Minnesota and New Jersey, both of which generally do not delay treatment). Of these seven, however, six (unlike Kansas) require consideration of less restrictive alternatives. See Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§13-4601, 4606B (Supp. 1996-1997); Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code Ann. §§6607, 6608 (West Supp. 1997); Minn. Stat. §253B.09 (1996); N. J. Stat. Ann. 30:4-27.11d (West 1997); Wis. Stat. §980.06(2)(b) (Supp. 1993-1994); Wash. Rev. Code Ann. §71.09.090 (Supp. 1996-1997). Only one State other than Kansas, namely Iowa, both delays civil commitment (and consequent treatment) and does not explicitly consider less restrictive alternatives. But the law of that State applies prospectively only, thereby avoiding *ex post-facto* problems. See Iowa Code Ann. §709C.12 (Supp. 1997) (Iowa SVP act only "applies to persons convicted of a sexually violent offense on or after July 1, 1997"); see also Appendix, *infra*. Thus the practical experience of other States, as revealed by their statutes, confirms what the Kansas Supreme Court's finding, the timing of the civil commitment proceeding, and the failure to consider less restrictive alternatives, themselves suggest, namely, that for *Ex Post-Facto* Clause purposes, the purpose of the Kansas Act (as applied to previously convicted offenders) has a punitive, rather than a purely civil, purpose.

Kansas points to several cases as support for a contrary conclusion. It points to *Allen*--which is, as we have seen, a case in which the Court concluded that Illinois' "civil commitment" proceedings were not criminal. I have explained in detail, however, how the statute here differs from that in *Allen*, and why *Allen's* reasoning leads to a different conclusion in this litigation. See *supra*, at 9-16.

Kansas also points to *Addington v. Texas*, where the Court held that the Constitution does not require application of criminal law's "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard in a civil commitment proceeding. 441 U. S., at 428. If some criminal law guarantees such as "reasonable doubt" did not apply in

Addington, should other guarantees, such as the prohibition against *ex post-facto* laws, apply here? The answer to this question, of course, lies in the particular statute at issue in *Addington*--a Texas statute that, this Court observed, did "not exercis[e]" state power "in a punitive sense." *Ibid.* That statute did not add civil commitment's confinement to imprisonment; rather civil commitment was, at most, a substitute for criminal punishment. See Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. Ann. §5547-41 (1958) (petition must state "proposed patient is not charged with a crime or . . . charged [but] . . . transferred . . . for civil commitment proceedings"). And this Court, relying on the Texas Supreme Court's interpretation, wrote that the "State of Texas confines only for the purpose of providing care designed to treat the individual." *Addington*, *supra*, at 428, n. 4 (citing *State v. Turner*, 556 S. W. 2d 563, 566 (1977)). Cf. *Specht v. Patterson*, 386 U.S. 605, 608-609 (1967) (separate postconviction sexual psychopath commitment/sentencing proceeding held after conviction for serious sex crime, imposes a "criminal punishment even though . . . designed not so much as retribution as . . . to keep individuals from inflicting future harm"). Nothing I say here would change the reach or holding of *Addington* in any way. That is, a State is free to commit those who are dangerous and mentally ill in order to treat them. Nor does my decision preclude a State from deciding that a certain subset of people are mentally ill, dangerous, and untreatable, and that confinement of this subset is therefore necessary (again, assuming that all the procedural safeguards of *Addington* are in place). But when a State decides offenders can be treated and confines an offender to provide that treatment, but then refuses to provide it, the refusal to treat while a person is fully incapacitated begins to look punitive.

The majority suggests that this is the very case I say it is not, namely a case of a mentally ill person who is *untreatable*. *Ante*, at 18. And it quotes a long excerpt from the Kansas Supreme Court's opinion in support. That court, however, did not find that Hendricks was *untreatable*; it found that he was *untreated*--quite a different matter. Had the Kansas Supreme Court thought that Hendricks, or others like him, are *untreatable*, it could not have written the words that follow that excerpt, adopting by reference the words of another court opinion:

"The statute forecloses the possibility that offenders will be evaluated and treated until after they have been punished. . . . Setting aside the question of whether a prison term exacerbates or minimizes the mental condition of a sex offender, it plainly delays the treatment that must constitutionally accompany commitment pursuant to the Statute. The failure of the Statute to provide for examination or treatment prior to the completion of the punishment phase strongly suggests that treatment is of secondary, rather than primary, concern." 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136 (quoting *Young v. Weston*, 898 F. Supp. 744, 753 (WD Wash. 1995)).

This quotation, and the rest of the opinion, make clear that the court is finding it objectionable that the Statute, among other things, has not provided adequate treatment to one who, all parties here concede, *can* be treated.

The majority suggests in the alternative that recent evidence shows that Kansas is now providing treatment. *Ante*, at 19-21. That evidence comes from two sources. First, a statement by the Kansas Attorney General at oral argument that those committed under the Act are now receiving treatment. *Ante*, at 20-21. And second, in a footnote, a Kansas trial judge's statement, in a state habeas proceeding nearly one year after Hendricks was committed, that Kansas is providing treatment. *Ante*, at 21 n. 5. I do not see how either of these statements can be used to justify the validity of the Act's application to Hendricks at the time he filed suit.

We are reviewing the Kansas Supreme Court's determination of Hendricks' case. Neither the majority nor the lengthy dissent in that court referred to the two facts that the majority now seizes upon, and for good reason. That court denied a motion to take judicial notice of the state habeas proceeding, see Order of Kansas Supreme Court, No. 94-73039, March 1, 1996. The proceeding is thus not part of the record, and cannot properly be considered by this Court. And the Kansas Supreme Court obviously had no chance to consider Kansas' new claim made at oral argument before this Court. There is simply no evidence in the record before this Court that comes even close to resembling the assertion Kansas made at oral argument. It is the record, not the parties' view of it, that must control our decision. See *Russell v. Southard*, 12 How. 139, 158-159 (1851); *Adickes v. S. H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144, 157-158, n. 16 (1970); *Hopt v. Utah*, 114 U.S. 488, 491-492 (1885); *Witters v. Washington Dept. of Servs. for Blind*, 474 U.S. 481, 489 n. 3 (1986); *New Haven Inclusion Cases*, 399 U.S. 392, 450, n. 66 (1970); R. Stern,

E. Gressman, S. Shapiro, K. Geller, *Supreme Court Practice* 555-556, 594 (7th ed. 1993); Fed. Rule Evid. 201(b).

The prohibition on facts found outside the record is designed to ensure the reliability of the evidence before the Court. For purposes of my argument in this dissent, however, the material that the majority wishes to consider, when read in its entirety, show that Kansas was *not* providing treatment to Hendricks. At best, the testimony at the state hearing contained general and vague references that treatment was about to be provided, but it contains *no statement* that Hendricks *himself* was receiving treatment. And it provides the majority with no support at all in respect to that key fact. Indeed, it demonstrates the contrary conclusion. For example, the program's director, Dr. Befort, testified that he would have to tell the court at Hendricks' next annual review, in October 1995, that Hendricks "has had no opportunity for meaningful treatment." App. 400. He also stated that SVPs were receiving "essentially no treatment" and that the program does not "have adequate staffing." *Id.*, at 393, 394. And Dr. Befort's last words made clear that Hendricks has "wasted ten months . . . in terms of treatment effects" and that, as far as treatment goes, "[t]oday, it's still not available." *Id.*, at 420-421. Nor does the assertion made by the Kansas Attorney General at oral argument help the majority. She never stated that *Hendricks*, as opposed to other SVPs, was receiving this treatment. And we can find no support for her statement in the record.

We have found no other evidence in the record to support the conclusion that Kansas was in fact providing the treatment that all parties agree that it could provide. Thus, even had the Kansas Supreme Court considered the majority's new evidence--which it did not--it is not likely to have changed its characterization of the Act's treatment provisions as "somewhat disingenuous." 259 Kan., at 258, 912 P. 2d, at 136.

Regardless, the Kansas Supreme court did so characterize the Act's treatment provisions and did find that treatment was "at best" an "incidental" objective. Thus, the circumstances here are different from *Allen*, where the Illinois Supreme Court explicitly found that the statute's aim was to provide treatment, not punishment. See *supra*, at 10-12. There is no evidence in the record that contradicts the finding of the Kansas court. Thus, *Allen's* approach--its reliance on the State court--if followed here would mean the Act as applied to *Leroy Hendricks* (as opposed to others who may have received treatment or who were sentenced after the effective date of the Act), is punitive.

Finally, Kansas points to *United States v. Salerno*, 481 U.S. 739 (1987), a case in which this Court held preventive detention of a dangerous accused person pending trial constitutionally permissible. *Salerno*, however, involved the brief detention of that person, after a finding of "probable cause" that he had committed a crime that would justify further imprisonment, and only pending a speedy judicial determination of guilt or innocence. This Court, in *Foucha*, emphasized the fact that the confinement at issue in *Salerno* was "strictly limited in duration." 504 U. S., at 82. It described that "pretrial detention of arrestees" as "one of those carefully limited exceptions permitted by the Due Process Clause." *Id.*, at 83. And it held that *Salerno* did not authorize the indefinite detention, on grounds of dangerousness, of "insanity acquittees who are not mentally ill but who do not prove they would not be dangerous to others." 504 U. S., at 83. Whatever *Salerno's* "due process" implications may be, it does not focus upon, nor control, the question at issue here, the question of "punishment" for purposes of the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause.

One other case warrants mention. In *Kennedy v. Mendoza-Martinez*, 372 U.S. 144 (1963), this Court listed seven factors that helped it determine whether a particular statute was primarily punitive for purposes of applying the Fifth and Sixth Amendments. Those factors include whether a sanction involves an affirmative restraint, how history has regarded it, whether it applies to behavior already a crime, the need for a finding of scienter, its relationship to a traditional aim of punishment, the presence of a nonpunitive alternative purpose, and whether it is excessive in relation to that purpose. *Id.*, at 169. This Court has said that these seven factors are "neither exhaustive nor dispositive," but nonetheless "helpful." *Ward*, 448 U. S., at 249. Paraphrasing them here, I believe the Act before us involves an affirmative restraint historically regarded as punishment; imposed upon behavior already a crime after a finding of scienter; which restraint, namely confinement, serves a traditional aim of punishment, does not primarily serve an alternative purpose (such as treatment) and is excessive in relation to any alternative purpose assigned. 372 U. S., at 168-169.

This is to say that each of the factors the Court mentioned in *Martinez Mendoza* on balance argues here in favor of a constitutional characterization as "punishment." It is not to say that I have found "a single 'formula' for identifying those legislative changes that have a sufficient effect on substantive crimes or punishments to fall within the constitutional prohibition," *Morales*, 514 U. S., at ___ (slip op., at 9); see also *Halper*, 490 U. S., at 447; *id.*, at 453 (Kennedy, J., concurring). We have not previously done so, and I do not do so here. Rather, I have pointed to those features of the Act itself, in the context of this litigation, that lead me to conclude, in light of our precedent, that the added confinement the Act imposes upon Hendricks is basically punitive. This analysis, rooted in the facts surrounding Kansas' failure to treat Hendricks, cannot answer the question whether the Kansas Act, as it now stands, and in light of its current implementation, is punitive towards people other than he. And I do not attempt to do so here.

To find that the confinement the Act imposes upon Hendricks is "punishment" is to find a violation of the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause. Kansas does not deny that the 1994 Act changed the legal consequences that attached to Hendricks earlier crimes, and in a way that significantly "disadvantage[d] the offender," *Weaver v. Graham*, 450 U.S. 24, 29 (1981). See Brief for Respondent State of Kansas 37-39.

To find a violation of that Clause here, however, is not to hold that the Clause prevents Kansas, or other States, from enacting dangerous sexual offender statutes. A statute that operates prospectively, for example, does not offend the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause. *Weaver*, 450 U. S., supra, at 29. Neither does it offend the *Ex Post-Facto* Clause for a State to sentence offenders to the fully authorized sentence, to seek consecutive, rather than concurrent, sentences, or to invoke recidivism statutes to lengthen imprisonment. Moreover, a statute that operates retroactively, like Kansas' statute, nonetheless does not offend the Clause *if the confinement that it imposes is not punishment--if*, that is to say, the legislature does not simply add a later criminal punishment to an earlier one. *Ibid.*

The statutory provisions before us do amount to punishment primarily because, as I have said, the legislature did not tailor the statute to fit the nonpunitive civil aim of treatment, which it concedes exists in Hendricks' case. The Clause in these circumstances does not stand as an obstacle to achieving important protections for the public's safety; rather it provides an assurance that, where so significant a restriction of an individual's basic freedoms is at issue, a State cannot cut corners. Rather, the legislature must hew to the Constitution's liberty protecting line. See *The Federalist*, No. 78, p. 466 (C. Rossiter ed. 1961) (A. Hamilton).

I therefore would affirm the judgment below.

Appendix:

Selected Sexual Offense Commitment Statutes

(Kansas is the only State that answers "yes"

to all three categories)

State Delays Treatment Fails to Consider Less Restrictive

Alternatives Applies to Pre-Act Crimes Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§13-4601 *et seq.* (Supp. 1996-1997) YesNo

*

Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code Ann. §§6600 *et seq.* (West Supp. 1997) YesNoYes Colo. Rev. Stat. §16-11.7-101 *et seq.* (Supp. 1996) NoYesSome times Conn. Gen. Stat. §17a 566 *et seq.* (1992 and Supp. 1996) No

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*

Ill. Comp. Stat., ch. 725, §205 *et seq.* (1994)NoNoIowa Code Ann. ch. 709C (Supp. 1996)YesYesNoKan. Stat. Ann. §59-29a01 *et seq.* (1994)YesYesYesMass. Gen. Laws, ch. 123A (Supp. 1997)No

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Minn. Stat. Ann., ch. 253B (1994 and Supp. 1996-1997)SometimesNoYesiFeb. Rev. Stat. §29-2923 *et seq.* (Supp. 1996)NoNoGenerally notN. J. Stat. Ann. 30:4-82.4 *et seq.* (West 1997)SometimesNo

*

N. M. Stat. Ann §43-1-1 *et seq.* (1993)NoNo

*

Ore. Stat. §426. 510 *et seq.* (1995)NoYesGenerally notTenn. Code Ann. §33-6-301 *et seq.* (1984 and Supp. 1996)NoYes

*

Utah Code Ann. §77-16-1 *et seq.* (1995)NoYesGenerally notWash. Rev. Code Ann. §71.09.01 *et seq.* (1992 and Supp. 1996-1997)YesNoYesWis. Stat. §980.010 *et seq.* (1996)YesNoYes

(* = designation that the statute does not specify)

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This bill establishes procedures whereby certain sex offenders can be civilly committed as "sexually violent predators" after they have been released from incarceration. Although this legislation will have a significant impact on the court system, the extent of that impact can not be determined until the Department of Law has finalized its estimates as to the number of petitions it anticipates filing with the court each year. For that reason, the following analysis discusses the proceedings that will have a fiscal impact on the court system but does so without any specific fiscal estimates.

The court first becomes involved in the civil commitment of a sexually violent predator when it receives a petition filed by the Department of Law seeking to have a sex offender committed. Upon receipt of the petition the court is required to schedule a hearing within 72 hours to determine whether there is probable cause to believe that the person is a sexually violent predator.

Because the consequences of a determination that a person is a sexually violent predator are severe, it is anticipated that each stage of the process, including the initial probable cause hearing, will be vigorously defended.

If the court determines there is probable cause to believe that the person is a sexually violent predator, the person is taken into custody for the purposes of evaluation. If the results of the evaluation indicate that the person is a sexually violent predator the court is to schedule a trial to be held within 60 days. The trial date can be continued upon the motion of either party or the court. Because of the importance of the trial and the complexity of the issues it is anticipated that trials will routinely be continued.

Because there is no incentive to "plead" to a reduced "charge" (as in criminal cases) it is anticipated that all persons evaluated as sexually violent predators will exercise their right to a jury trial and their right to procure their own experts to conduct evaluations and testify on their behalf. These cases are anticipated to be complex and vigorously defended with competing expert testimony regarding the person's mental state and likely future behavior.

If a person alleged to be a sexually violent predator has been found incompetent to stand trial for the underlying sexual offense, the court is to hear evidence to determine whether the person committed the act or acts charged. At the hearing the person is entitled to all the rights available to a defendant in a criminal trial other than the right to a jury trial and the right not to be tried while incompetent. This hearing will be the equivalent of a bench trial and is expected to require the same judicial resources.

After hearing evidence relating to whether the incompetent person committed the act or acts charged, the court is to make specific findings of fact as to whether the person committed the alleged act or acts, the extent to which the person's incompetence affected the outcome of the hearing, the extent to which the evidence could be reconstructed without the assistance of the person, and the strength of the state's case. If the court finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the person committed the alleged act or acts it may proceed to determine whether the person should be committed. The person has a right to appeal a decision made under this section.

If a sex offender (competent or incompetent) is found by either the court or a jury to be a sexually violent predator the court is to consider whether less restrictive alternatives to confinement would adequately protect the public. If no alternatives are found, the court is to order the person committed until such time as he or she is safe to be at large. This determination is similar to a sentencing hearing under criminal law and is estimated to require similar judicial resources.

A person committed as a sexually violent predator has the right to an annual examination of his or her mental condition. He or she also has the right to petition the court for release. Because the number of persons confined will grow each year (as more and more people enter the system) the number of petitions for release will grow each year. It is anticipated that every person in confinement or otherwise subject to restrictions will petition the court each year for release.

There are two ways to petition the court for release: 1) If the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services determines that the person is safe to be at large he or she will authorize the person to petition the court for release. 2) If the commissioner does not so authorize, the person may petition the court on his or her own.

If the commissioner authorizes the person to petition the court for release, the court shall order a hearing to be held within 45 days of receipt of the petition. The hearing is to be before a jury upon the motion of either the state or the person. The state has the right to obtain its own experts and to have them examine the person. It is estimated that most or all of these hearings will be before a jury.

If a person files a petition for release without authorization from the commissioner, the court is to hold a show cause hearing to determine whether facts exist that warrant a hearing on whether the person is now safe to be at large.

If the court finds that probable cause exists that the person is now safe to be at large it shall set a hearing on the issue. At the hearing the person is entitled to be present and represented by counsel. He or she is also entitled to all the rights afforded him or her at the initial commitment proceeding. Both the state and the person have the right to retain their own experts and to request a trial by jury. It is anticipated that all cases will be tried before a jury and that the hearings will consume the same judicial resources as the initial civil commitment trial. Again, the number of hearings will grow each year as the number of people confined or otherwise restricted grows.

If a person has previously filed a petition for release without the approval of the commissioner and the court found, either upon initial review of the petition or following a hearing, that the petition was frivolous or that the petitioner was not safe to be released, the court is to deny any subsequent petition unless it contains new facts upon which the court could find that the person has so changed that a hearing is warranted.

HB

366

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: March 18, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/19/98

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

SSHB 366

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 366

NO CINA BASED SOLELY ON POVERTY

"An Act relating to child-in-need-of-aid proceedings."

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) Alma Weiss zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE Car Bende

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 366

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act relating to CINA proceedings for a child whose family is homeless or poor"
 Sponsor: Representative Dyson
 Requestor: (H) HES

Department Affected: Administration
 BRU: Legal and Advocacy Services
 Component: Public Defender Agency
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
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 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill will have no fiscal impact on the Public Defender Agency.

Prepared by: Barbara K. Brink, Director
 Division: Public Defender Agency

Phone: (907) 264-4414
 Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer
 Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 3/17/98

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REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

HB 366 Sponsor Statement

"An Act relating to child-in-need-of-aid proceedings for a child whose family is homeless or poor."

HB 366 prohibits an agency from using the status of being poor or homeless as the sole reason for determining that a child is in need of aid.

Children must not be removed from the custody of their parents simply based on the status of the parents. Being poor or homeless does not automatically indicate that the child is being harmed or neglected. A family living in a shelter for the homeless or camping out may be doing quite well at parenting.

This bill is designed to mandate that any agency must demonstrate that the child is harmed or in significant danger before taking a child into protective custody.

- E-mail -
Representative Fred Dyson
@legis.state.ak.us

- Internet -
http://www.akrepublicans.org

Sponsor Statement



Advocates for Victims of Violence, Inc.

24 Hour Crisis Line: (907) 835-2999 • 1-800-835-4044 (Statewide)

Office: (907) 835-2980 • Fax: (907) 835-2981

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686

FEB 17 1998

February 12, 1998

Representative Fred Dyson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Dyson:

I am writing to offer my full support for House Bill 366, pertaining to child-in-need-of-aid proceedings for a child whose family is homeless or poor. Also, I thank you for sponsoring such legislation. So many families in Alaska find it difficult to make ends meet. However, despite the struggle to feed and shelter their families, they still maintain loving and supportive environments for their children. As your bill states, a home should not be considered unhealthy by the courts, based solely on the economic status of the family. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Pexa
Executive Director



cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 366

From: ruawaic@aonline.com (Administration) at CC2MHS1 2/12/98 12:09 PM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

cc: Representative Con Bunde at LAA_HBUN

cc: Representative Joe Green at LAA_TRANS

cc: Representative Al Vezey at LAA_TRANS

cc: Representative_Vrian_Porter@legis.state.ak.us at CC2MHS1

To: Representative Dyson

From: Jan MacClarence, Executive Director, AWAIC

RE: HB 366

I am writing to you in support of HB 366. We encourage policy that protects the rights of poor and homeless families. Unfortunately, poor and homeless families are a politically unheard population. And, as a result these families are occasionally subjected to the harsh and undue "good" intentions of law. We would very much like to see HB 366 proceed through the legislative process. Thank you for your commitment.

CC: House HESS Committee

HB

367

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: January 28, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/10/98

The HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES Committee considered:

HB 367

HOUSE BILL NO. 367

PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

"An Act relating to part-time public school students; and providing for an effective date."

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

additional referral to Finance Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

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

APPROVES PREVIOUS: _____ (Dept/Date)

fiscal note(s) DOE

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Paul Ryan</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Joseph P. ...</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Charles ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Con Burns*

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL NO. HB 367

1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: _____

Department Affected: Education

Title: An act relating to part-time public school students; and providing for an effective date

BRU: K-12 Support

Sponsor: Representative Dyson

Component: Foundation Program

Requester: House HESS

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 141

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING

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

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

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY98) impact: -0-

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

The department believes there is a cost associated with this proposed legislation but is unable to determine the fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Eddy Jeans, School Finance Manager

Phone: 465-8679

Division: Education Support Services

Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Shirley J. Hollway, Ph. D., Commissioner

Date: 2-10-98

Agency: Education

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Toll free (800) 347-2199

REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

HB 367 Sponsor Statement

"An Act relating to part-time public school students; and providing for an effective date."

From the beginning, HB 158, the part-time student bill from last Session, was intended and discussed in committee and on the floor as an anti-discrimination and equal access bill. The Anchorage, Valdez, and Kenai School Districts have implemented policies that require part-time students to wait at the back of the line until full-time students have had the opportunity to enroll. This clearly is discriminatory and contrary to the bill which states that a part-time student can only be denied enrollment if a full-time student would similarly be denied.

The Anchorage School District (ASD) has stated that the reason behind their policy comes from 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1) "space is available in a course in which the student desires to enroll after full-time public school students have had an opportunity to enroll."

My intent from the bill's conception was to remove the discrimination against part-time students. This bill will effect that intent within the regulations, 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1).

- E-mail -
Representative.Fred.Dyson
@Legis.state.ak.us

- Internet -
<http://www.ak.epublicans.org>

SPONSOR STATEMENT

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: Equal Access to Public Schools

From: gdwartron@ebicom.net (Kip & Donna Warton) at CC2MHS1 2/10/98 6:27 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

Representative Dyson

By way of introduction I am an Alaska Resident and registered voter in Eagle River on duty with the US Air Force in Mississippi.

My wife and I request you consider favorably the bill allowing parttime part-time students equal access to classes in the public school. It would make the regulations conform to the original intent of last year's law (allowing part-time students at all), by mandating a non-discriminatory first-come, first-serve policy (not after all full-timers have enrolled).

Our children have attended both public schools and home-schools. Equal access is a must and should not be denied particularly given we pay property taxes which go toward educating all of our children in Alaska.

TR

Lt Col George & Donna Warton
7393 A Salem Dr
Columbus AFB MS 39701

601-434-6086

gdwartron@ebicom.net

SUPPORT

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: Part time school

From: lahamer@alaska.net (Lee Ann Hamerski) at CC2MHS1 2/7/98 12:26 PM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

Keep up the good work Mr. Dyson. We're behind you 100%
EQUAL ACCESS FOR EQUAL TAXES!!!
Lee Ann, Johann, Kristin, and Erik Hamerski
The Cottonwood Academy



REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

Alaska State Legislature

MEMORANDUM

January 15, 1998

To: Shirley Holloway
Commissioner, Department of Education

From: Fred Dyson
State Representative

RE: Proposed Regulation Change - 4 AAC 05.035
Memorandum Number 97-15

From the beginning, HB 158, the part-time student bill, was intended and discussed in committee and on the floor as an anti-discrimination and equal access bill. The Anchorage School District (ASD) and the Kenai School District have implemented policies that require part-time students to wait until full-time students have had the opportunity to enroll. This clearly is discriminatory and contrary to the bill which states that a part-time student can only be denied enrollment if a full-time student would similarly be denied.

The ASD has stated that the reason behind their policy comes from 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1) "space is available in a course in which the student desires to enroll after full-time public school students have had an opportunity to enroll."

My intent from the bill's conception was to remove the discrimination against part-time students. In order for the regulations to follow the law, I respectfully request that 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1) be modified as follows:

(1) space is available in a course in which the student desires to enroll [AFTER FULL-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENROLL];

Thank you for your help. If you have further questions on this matter, please contact me or my staff aide, Lisa Torkelson, at (907) 465-3467.



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 North Binkley Street • Soldotna, AK 99669-7598 • Phone 907/262-5846 • Fax 907/262-9645

file

February 16, 1998

To: Representatives Bunde, Green, Dyson, Porter, Vezey, Brice, Kemplen
Through: John Dahlgren, Superintendent
From: Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent
Subject: **House Bill 367 – Part time student enrollment**

I would like to speak against this amendment. I believe the argument for modification is inaccurate, the proposed change is improper, and the effect on local school districts will result in an invasion of their ability to self govern.

Preferential treatment is not a discriminatory action as described in the proposed amendment. There is no preference made based upon race, creed, sex, disability, or national origin. The state of Alaska has a history of granting benefits to groups of people based upon their level of participation. New students are charged higher college tuition rates if they have not been full time residents of the state. Tourists are charged higher fees than residents for fish & games licenses. Not all state residents are entitled for subsistence permits. Although in all these cases, some people receive preferential treatment, none of it is truly discriminatory because each individual has the same opportunity to qualify for the benefit. It is this personal choice which affords some benefits and excludes others.

Addition of the proposed language would actually generate another "protected class" from which discrimination claims could be leveled against school districts. It is improper to create a "protected class" for which inclusion is solely at the discretion of the individual.

School districts are charged with providing equal access to education. This is currently being accomplished. Those not choosing equal participation should not demand equal benefit. This bill will create the potential for a few anomalies in the education system. 1) a child can enroll in an out of district correspondence course, choose their own curriculum, and guarantee themselves a place in a highly desired elective course. 2) A student will be guaranteed the right to enroll in courses outside a defined attendance area by claiming "part time" status in both areas. 3) Students in private schools will be guaranteed seats in courses not normally available to them.

While I fully support the opportunity for all students to access the educational opportunities of the public school system, I do not support these opportunities at the expense of students fully enrolled in the system. I support the authority of the school board in setting enrollment policies and ask that you reject the amendment.

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



REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

Alaska State Legislature

MEMORANDUM

January 15, 1998

To: Shirley Holloway
Commissioner, Department of Education

From: Fred Dyson
State Representative

RE: Proposed Regulation Change - 4 AAC 05.035
Memorandum Number 97-15

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The ASD has stated that the reason behind their policy comes from 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1) space is available in a course in which the student desires to enroll after full-time public school students have had an opportunity to enroll.

My intent from the bill's conception was to remove the discrimination against part-time students. In order for the regulations to follow the law, I respectfully request that 4 AAC 05.035 (b) (1) be modified as follows:

(1) space is available in a course in which the student desires to enroll [AFTER FULL-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENROLL];

Thank you for your help. If you have further questions on this matter, please contact me or my staff aide, Lisa Torkelson, at (907) 465-3467.



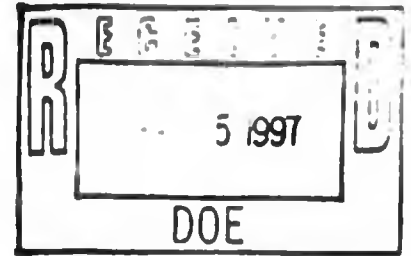
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REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON



MEMORANDUM

September 2, 1997

To: Eddy Jeans
School Finance Manager

From: Fred Dyson 
State Representative

RE: 4 AAC 05.035 and Memorandum Number 97-04

From the beginning, HB 158, the part-time student bill, was intended and discussed in committee and on the floor as an anti-discrimination and equal access bill. The Anchorage School District (ASD) and the Kenai School District have implemented policies that require part-time students to wait until full-time students have had the opportunity to enroll. This clearly is discriminatory and contrary to the bill which states that a part-time student can only be denied enrollment if a full-time student would similarly be denied.

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Thank you for your help. If you have further questions on this matter, please contact me or my staff aide, Lisa Torkelson, at (907) 694-6683.

E-mail:
Representative, Fred, Dyson
legis@state.ak.us

Internet:
http://www.akrepublicans.org

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

148 North Binkley Street • Soldotna, AK 99669-7598 • Phone 907/262-5846 • Fax 907/262-9645

File

February 16, 1998

To: Representatives Bunde, Green, Dyson, Porter, Vezey, Brice, Kemplen

Through: John Dahlgren, Superintendent

From: Patrick Hickey, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: **House Bill 367 – Part time student enrollment**

I would like to speak against this amendment. I believe the argument for modification is inaccurate, the proposed change is improper, and the effect on local school districts will result in an invasion of their ability to self govern.

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School districts are charged with providing equal access to education. This is currently being accomplished. Those not choosing equal participation should not demand equal benefit. This bill will create the potential for a few anomalies in the education system. 1) a child can enroll in an out of district correspondence course, choose their own curriculum, and guarantee themselves a place in a highly desired elective course. 2) A student will be guaranteed the right to enroll in courses outside a defined attendance area by claiming "part time" status in both areas. 3) Students in private schools will be guaranteed seats in courses not normally available to them.

While I fully support the opportunity for all students to access the educational opportunities of the public school system, I do not support these opportunities at the expense of students fully enrolled in the system. I support the authority of the school board in setting enrollment policies and ask that you reject the amendment.

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 367

From: halley@alaska.net (CATHERINE M.D. HALLEY) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 8:20 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

We are parents of two children that we home-school in the Valdez district. Valdez is considering a policy right now that would treat part time students as second class citizens, making them wait until all full time students have registered first. This is unfair and not right. We pay full taxes like everyone else and quite generously, I might add in Valdez, and to discriminate against anyone is not what the State of Alaska or the City of Valdez should have in mind. I urge you to support HB 367 to prevent such discrimination.

Catherine M.D. Halley

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 367

From: rutter@alaska.net at CC2MHS1 2/26/98 8:23 PM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

We strongly urge you to support HB 367, which would allow part-time students to register on a first-come, first-serve basis the same way full-time public school students register. The Valdez School District is considering a policy which would require that part-time students wait to register until after full-time students are registered. They can thereby be excluded if the district says that a class is full. This is nothing short of discrimination. Part-time students and their families are taxed at the same rate as every other citizen of Valdez, and should receive the same educational opportunities. We are all citizens of the State of Alaska, which places education as a top priority, and we believe that this applies to the education of all of our children.

Kathy J. Rutter
James B. Rutter III

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: hb 367

From: psilveir@alaska.net (Paul Silveira) at CC2MHS1 2/26/98 7:53 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

I am requesting that you support HB 367. As homeschoolers we think it would be appropriate to have first come first serve status in classes at the schools. We pay our taxes that staff and educate in the school without the opportunity to reap a benefit. An opportunity to utilize a class would be fair. Please inform me on the status of this bill after it comes up for vote. Thank you for your time. Sandy Silveira

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 367

From: blessed@alaska.net (Charles & Terina Lochner) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 8:38 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson

Dear Hess Committee Members,

I would like to request your support of HB 367. As the Administrative Coordinator of a large homeschooling support group I have seen first hand the determination and dedication of families who choose to homeschool. For most, this choice has been made at great personal and financial sacrifice. These are families striving to provide the best education possible for their children. The ability to access public school facilities is invaluable to this goal. Many classes which are difficult or impossible for homeschooling parents to provide are available at the local school. (For instance, not many homeschooling families can afford to recreate a complete science chemistry lab in their home.) It is the ability to be flexible and to custom fit the curriculum to the child that makes homeschooling an outstanding educational choice. By allowing homeschooled children EQUAL access to public school classes we provide their families with another tool for developing a customized education for each child. This kind of education benefits the State of Alaska as well as our society as a whole.

Please vote yes on HB 367 and support the highest quality education for ALL of Alaska's children!

Sincerely,

Terina Lochner
Administrative Coordinator
Valley Home Education Support Team (73 member families)
P.O. Box 877316
Wasilla, AK 99687

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 367

From: paulp@ptialaska.net (Paul & Tiffani Perry) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 1:03 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

cc: Lisa Torkelson at LAA_TRANS

Just a little note to you sir, and to all it may concern:

We home school, and although none of are children are in the "high school" grades as of yet, we are concerned that discrimination will be an issue. I believe, and hope that you will support and push for equal rights for equal students. I would like to think that if I had a student enrolled part time in a school that I pay full time "taxes" for, that they would not be bumped or passed over for a class so another student, also of full time "tax paying parents" could attend in their place. No special privileges, just equal ones for equal tax paying parents of tomorrows leaders.

Paul Perry
POB 7955
Nikiski, AK 99635
(907) 776-5633
email: paulp@ptialaska.net

POM for Representative Dyson



From: Mrs. Sharon Smith
1017 Kodiak St

Telephone: 474-9457

Fairbanks, AK 99709

NON Constituant

Registered Voter: U

Bill: HB 367 Title: PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMEN
Message:

WE SUPPORT HB 367 BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT ALL OF OUR STUDENTS SHOULD BE TREATED FAIRLY. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT ALL ALASKANS ARE TAXPAYERS. EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT AND PARAMOUNT. NOW IS THE TIME FOR A QUALITY EDUCATION. TOMORROW COULD BE TOO LATE. OUR CHILDREN ARE PRECIOUS. THANKS SO MUCH.

Entered in FBX on 2/20/98 POMID: 1517 Stored

Distribution: 12

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Message 4 out of 7.

POM for Representative Dyson



From: Mrs. Conny Robinson
5836 Poker Creek Cir

Telephone: 389-2733

Fairbanks, AK 99712

NON Constituant

Registered Voter: Y

Bill: HB 367 Title: PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMEN
Message:

I SUPPORT THIS BECAUSE ALL STUDENTS IN ALASKA SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO
PUBLIC FACILITIES SUPPORTED BY PUBLIC TAXES.

Entered in FBX on 2/20/98 POMID: 1521 Stored

Distribution: 10

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Message 5 out of 7.

POM for Representative Dyson



From: Mrs. Renee Person
1259 Arctic Tern Dr

Telephone: 457-5887

Fairbanks, AK 99712

NON Constituant

Registered Voter: Y

Bill: HB 367 Title: PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMEN
Message:

I SUPPORT THIS BILL BECAUSE ALL ALASKAN STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC EDUCATION REGARDLESS OF CURRENT EDUCATIONAL STATUS.

Entered in FBX on 2/20/98 POMID: 1529 Stored

Distribution: 12

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Message 6 out of 7.

POM for Representative Dyson



From: Mrs. Deanna Meyer
PO Box 55751

Telephone: 488-2331

North Pole, AK 99705

NON Constituant

Registered Voter: Y

Bill: HB 367 Title: PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ENROLLMEN
Message:

I SUPPORT THIS BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT ALL STUDENTS IN ALASKA SHOULD HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND A PUBLIC FACILITY TO ATTAIN THERE EDUCATION WHETHER IT BE FULL TIME OR PART TIME. THANK YOU.

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Message 7 out of 7.

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB 367

From: bearcub@alaska.net (Julia Enzenberger) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 11:28 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

I would like to speak in favor of HB 367 which allows part-time students the same treatment as full-time students when it comes to registering for classes.

This bill will help all students, part or full-time. Some times classes are not offered because there is insufficient enrollment and other times classes are crowded because there are not enough students for 2 classes, but too many to comfortably fit in one class. By allowing part-timers to register with full-timers the district will have a clearer picture of how many students want/need different courses.

It isn't right when part-time students can't enroll for AP Chemistry because the class is over-crowded, yet if they had been allowed to make their course selections known during primary registration the district would have seen a need for two AP Chemistry classes. Instead no part-times get to take AP Chemistry and the full-timers are in an over-crowded single class.

Any law that helps a student get a better education is a good law. This law would help students and it is a good law. Please vote in favor of HB 367.

JULIA ENZENBERGER
4385 Newcastle Way
Anchorage, AK 99503
908-561-4111

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: HB367 YES!!!

From: wetherpp@corecom.net (Dennis Wetherell) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 9:39 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

Dear Rep. Dyson,

I am a parent of two children in the Mat-Su school district. I support HB367 because I believe all children should have the right to participate in public education programs. Furthermore, all children should be guaranteed equal access under the law. All parents, in one way or another, contribute tax monies to the public education system, even if their children are homeschooled or enrolled in private school. To deny these children equal access to public education opportunities just because they do not attend public schools full time is clearly a violation of the laws pertaining to a free appropriate public education.

Under current Alaska laws regarding reimbursement for part time students, there is not even a valid criticism that providing such services is a drain on district budgets. A part time student who attends 4 hours per day is considered a full time student for purposes of state reimbursement. Thus, it seems to me, that school districts actually make money by enrolling part time students.

Sincerely,

Dennis Wetherell

D. Wetherell
wetherpp@corecom.net

cc:Mail for: Lisa Torkelson

Subject: Re: HB 367

From: charlieh@alaska.net (The Hardesty's) at CC2MHS1 2/26/98 9:10 PM

To: Lisa Torkelson at LAA_TRANS

Please register my family in support of HB 367. I know this is a very busy time of year for homeschoolers trying to finish up the year, but I'm sure that the support would be equally overwhelming as it was originally.

Thank you for fighting for equal rights for all children. This bill would certainly stand for equality. Thanks again.

Joanne Hardesty
Nikiski, Alaska

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: <No subject>

From: tinat@corecom.net (Tina Thomson) at CC2MHS1 2/26/98 5:19 PM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

Please support HB 367 that would allow part-time and full time students the same privileges. Our home schooled students work just as hard and deserve this equal treatment. Please show your support for educational choice. I would appreciate this fair treatment.

Thank you,
Tina Thompson

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: Support for HB 367

From: dclover@ptialaska.net (Dave and Sue Clover) at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 9:04 AM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

Dear Representative Dyson,

I cannot attend today's hearing but I would like express my support of HB 367, the bill to clarify the enrollment procedures for part-time students in the public schools. I agree that all students of the same grade level should be treated equally at registration. Public education should be equally accessible to all students of the State of Alaska. Thank you for your introduction of this bill.

In a personal note my daughter has taken advantage of part-time enrollment to take French at the local middle school. In her first classroom experience she is doing well and has a "A" in the class. She is very conscientious about getting her homework done and being ready for school in the morning and she is usually up before any of the rest of the family.

The teacher mentioned that the only problems my daughter has had have been to forget her pencil a couple of times "unlike some of the students that do not want to be here" in class. My daughter has mentioned that the teacher has had to send students to the hall because of the disruptions they cause in the class. Should students that want to learn and do not cause behavioral disruptions in class be discriminated against in registration in favor of full-time students that "do not want to be there?"

Again, thank you for your support and your introduction of this bill.

Sue Clover
dclover@ptialaska.net
1411 Daley Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Re: HB 367 support

From: smiley@alaska.net at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 10:52 AM

To: Lisa Torkelson

I support this bill
It allows fair access to education for all students
Please pass this bill
Karen Hurley
333-3673

cc:Mail for: Representative Fred Dyson

Subject: Part Time Student Status

From: AK49CURT@aol.com at CC2MHS1 2/27/98 1:57 PM

To: Representative Fred Dyson at LAA_TRANS

I am all for it. Part time students should get equal status with full timers.
Reason for this, it is time the school district wakes up and really takes a
good hard look at our educational system. All taxpayers pay for this perk, all
should be able to be parttakers if they want to not by all means forced to.
Melody Graham in Eagle River.