

ALASKA

LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE

FILES

1997-1998

8672

9360

HOUSE

LABOR &

COMMERCE

1 architectural registration, engineers for engineering registration, [AND] land surveyors
2 for land surveying registration, and landscape architects for landscape architectural
3 registration, having personal knowledge of the applicant's architectural, engineering,
4 [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural education, training, or experience.

5 * Sec. 15. AS 08.48.211 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 08.48.211. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION. (a) An applicant who
7 fulfills the requirements set out by the board shall be awarded a certificate of
8 registration as a professional architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape
9 architect, authorizing the holder to offer or perform architectural, engineering, [OR]
10 land surveying, or landscape architectural services or work for the public, or to
11 certify or sign architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape
12 architectural documents. Certificates of registration issued under this section shall
13 be inscribed on their face in a manner determined by the board.

14 (b) The certificate of registration sealed by the board is prima facie evidence
15 that the person named in it is entitled to all rights and privileges of a professional
16 architect, professional engineer, [OR] professional land surveyor, or professional
17 landscape architect while the certificate remains unrevoked or unexpired.

18 * Sec. 16. AS 08.48.221 is amended to read:

19 Sec. 08.48.221. SEALS. Each registrant may obtain a seal of the design
20 authorized by the board, bearing the registrant's name, registration number, and the
21 legend, "Registered Professional Architect," "Registered Professional Engineer," [OR]
22 "Registered Professional Land Surveyor," or "Registered Professional Landscape
23 Architect," as appropriate. Final drawings, specifications, surveys, plats, plates,
24 reports, and other similar documents shall, when issued, be signed and stamped with
25 the seal. The board shall adopt regulations governing the use of seals by the registrant.
26 An architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape architect may not affix or
27 permit a seal and signature to be affixed to an instrument after the expiration of a
28 certificate or for the purpose of aiding or abetting another person to evade or attempt
29 to evade a provision of this chapter. The registrant, by affixing the registrant's seal to
30 final drawings, specifications, surveys, plats, plates, reports, and other similar
31 documents, and signing them, certifies that these documents were prepared by or under

1 the registrant's direct supervision, unless the registrant certifies on the face of the
2 document to the extent of the registrant's responsibility.

3 * Sec. 17. AS 08.48.241(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) This chapter does not prevent a corporation from offering architectural,
5 engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural services; however, the
6 corporation shall file with the board

7 (1) an application for a certificate of authorization upon a form to be
8 prescribed by the board and containing information required to enable the board to
9 determine whether the corporation is qualified in accordance with the provisions of this
10 chapter to offer to practice architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or
11 landscape architecture in this state;

12 (2) a certified copy of a resolution of the board of directors of the
13 corporation designating persons holding certificates of registration under this chapter
14 as responsible for the practice of architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or
15 landscape architecture by the corporation in this state and providing that full
16 authority to make all final architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or
17 landscape architectural decisions on behalf of the corporation with respect to work
18 performed by the corporation in this state is granted by the board of directors to the
19 persons designated in the resolution; however, the filing of this resolution does not
20 relieve the corporation of any responsibility or liability imposed upon it by law or by
21 contract;

22 (3) a designation in writing setting out the name of one or more
23 persons holding certificates of registration under this chapter who are in responsible
24 charge of each major branch of the architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or
25 landscape architectural activities in which the corporation specializes in this state;
26 if a change is made in the person in responsible charge of a major branch of the
27 architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural activities,
28 the change shall be designated in writing and filed with the board within 30 days after
29 the effective date of the change.

30 * Sec. 18. AS 08.48.241(b) is amended to read:

31 (b) Upon filing with the board the application for certificate of authorization,

1 certified copy of resolution, affidavit, and designation of persons specified in this
2 section, the board shall, subject to (c) of this section, issue to the corporation a
3 certificate of authorization to practice architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying,
4 or landscape architecture in this state upon a determination by the board that

5 (1) the bylaws of the corporation contain provisions that all
6 architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural decisions
7 pertaining to architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape
8 architectural activities in this state will be made by the specified architect, engineer,
9 [OR] land surveyor, or landscape architect in responsible charge, or other registered
10 architects, engineers, [OR] land surveyors, or landscape architects under the direction
11 or supervision of the architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape architect
12 in responsible charge;

13 (2) the application for certificate of authorization states the type of
14 architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture practiced
15 or to be practiced by the corporation;

16 (3) the applicant corporation has the ability to provide architectural,
17 engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural services;

18 (4) the application for certificate of authorization states the professional
19 records of the designated person who is in responsible charge of each major branch of
20 architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural activities
21 in which the corporation specializes;

22 (5) the application for certificate of authorization states the experience
23 of the corporation, if any, in furnishing architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying,
24 or landscape architectural services during the preceding five-year period;

25 (6) the applicant corporation meets other requirements related to
26 professional competence in the furnishing of architectural, engineering, [OR] land
27 surveying, or landscape architectural services as may be adopted by the board in
28 furtherance of the objectives and provisions of this chapter.

29 * Sec. 19. AS 08.8.241(d) is amended to read:

30 (d) The certificate of authorization shall specify the major branches of
31 architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture of which

1 the corporation has designated a person in responsible charge as provided in this
2 section. The certificate of authorization shall be conspicuously displayed in the place
3 of business of the corporation, together with the names of persons designated as being
4 in responsible charge of the professional activities.

5 * Sec. 20. AS 08.48.241(e) is amended to read:

6 (e) If a corporation, organized solely by either a group of architects, a group
7 of engineers, [OR] a group of land surveyors, or a group of landscape architects,
8 each holding a certificate of registration under this chapter, applies for a certificate of
9 authorization, the board may, in its discretion, grant a certificate of authorization to the
10 corporation based on a review of the professional records of the incorporators, in place
11 of the required qualifications set out in this section. If the ownership of the
12 corporation is altered, the corporation shall apply for a revised certificate of
13 authorization, based upon the professional records of the owners, if exclusively
14 architects, engineers, [OR] land surveyors, or landscape architects, or otherwise under
15 the qualifications required by (b)(1) - (4) of this section.

16 * Sec. 21. AS 08.48.241(f) is amended to read:

17 (f) A corporation authorized to offer architectural, engineering, [OR] land
18 surveying, or landscape architectural services under this chapter, together with its
19 directors and officers for their own individual acts, is responsible to the same degree
20 as the designated individual registered architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or
21 landscape architect, and shall conduct its business without misconduct or malpractice
22 in the practice of architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape
23 architecture as defined in this chapter.

24 * Sec. 22. AS 08.48.241(g) is amended to read:

25 (g) If the board, after a proper hearing, finds that a corporation holding a
26 certificate of authorization has committed misconduct or malpractice, the board shall
27 suspend or revoke the certificate of authorization. The board shall also suspend or
28 revoke the certificate of registration of any registered individual architect, engineer,
29 [OR] land surveyor, or landscape architect who, after a proper hearing, is found by
30 the board to have participated in committing the misconduct or malpractice.

31 * Sec. 23. AS 08.48.251 is amended to read:

1 Sec. 08.48.251. PARTNERSHIPS. This chapter does not prevent the practice
2 of architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture by
3 partnership if all of the members of the partnership are architects, engineers, [OR] land
4 surveyors, or landscape architects legally registered under this chapter.

5 * Sec. 24. AS 08.48.281 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 08.48.281. PROHIBITED PRACTICE. A person may not practice or
7 offer to practice the profession of architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or
8 landscape architecture in the state, or use in connection with the person's name or
9 otherwise assume or advertise a title or description tending to convey the impression
10 that the person is a registered architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape
11 architect unless the person has been registered under the provisions of this chapter or
12 is a person to whom these provisions do not apply, or, in the case of a corporation,
13 unless it has been authorized under this chapter.

14 * Sec. 25. AS 08.48.281 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

15 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, this chapter does not prohibit the
16 practice of landscape architecture by a person who is not registered to practice
17 landscape architecture if the services being performed by the person are within the
18 scope of practice authorized by another license that is held by the person.

19 (c) Notwithstanding the definition of the "practice of landscape architecture"
20 in AS 08.48.341, a registered landscape architect may not perform or offer to perform
21 a service described as the practice of landscape architecture in AS 08.48.341 if that
22 service also requires registration as an architect or engineer unless the landscape
23 architect is also registered as an architect or engineer, as applicable.

24 * Sec. 26. AS 08.48.291 is amended to read:

25 Sec. 08.48.291. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES. A person who practices
26 or offers to practice architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape
27 architecture in the state without being registered or authorized to practice in
28 accordance with the provisions of this chapter, or a person presenting or attempting to
29 use the certificate or the seal of another, or a person who gives false or forged
30 evidence of any kind to the board or to a member of the board in obtaining or
31 attempting to obtain a certificate, or a person who impersonates a registrant, or a

1 person who uses or attempts to use an expired or revoked or nonexistent certificate,
2 knowing of the certificate's status, or a person who falsely claims to be registered and
3 authorized to practice under this chapter, or a person who violates any of the
4 provisions of this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is
5 punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than
6 one year, or by both.

7 * Sec. 27. AS 08.48.311 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 08.48.311. RIGHTS NOT TRANSFERABLE. The right to engage in the
9 practice of architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture
10 is considered a personal and individual right, based on the qualifications of the
11 individual as evidenced by the individual's certificate of registration, which is not
12 transferable.

13 * Sec. 28. AS 08.48.321 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 08.48.321. EVIDENCE OF PRACTICE. A person practices or offers to
15 practice architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture
16 who

17 (1) practices a branch of the profession of architecture, engineering,
18 [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture as defined in AS 08.48.341;

19 (2) by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or other
20 means represents to be an architect, engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape
21 architect, or through the use of some other title implies that the person is an architect,
22 engineer, [OR] land surveyor, or landscape architect; or

23 (3) holds out as able to perform or who does perform an architectural,
24 engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural service recognized by
25 the professions covered by this chapter, and specified in regulations of the board, as
26 an architectural, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architectural
27 service.

28 * Sec. 29. AS 08.48.331 is amended to read:

29 Sec. 08.48.331. EXEMPTIONS. This chapter does not apply to

30 (1) a contractor performing work designed by a professional architect,
31 [OR] engineer, or landscape architect or the supervision of the construction of the

1 work as a supervisor or superintendent for a contractor;

2 (2) workers in building trades crafts, superintendents, supervisors, or
3 inspectors in the performance of their customary duties;

4 (3) an officer or employee of the United States government practicing
5 architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture as required
6 by the person's official capacity;

7 (4) an employee or a subordinate of a person registered under this
8 chapter if the work or service is done under the direct supervision of a person
9 registered under this chapter;

10 (5) associates, consultants, or specialists retained by a registered
11 individual, a partnership of registered individuals, or a corporation authorized to
12 practice architecture, engineering, [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture
13 under this chapter, in the performance of professional services if responsible charge
14 of the work remains with the individual, the partnership, or a designated representative
15 of the corporation;

16 (6) a person preparing drawings or specifications for

17 (A) a building for the person's own use and occupancy as a
18 single family residence and related site work for that building;

19 (B) farm or ranch buildings, unless the public health, safety, or
20 welfare is involved;

21 (C) a building that is intended to be used only as a residence
22 by not more than four families and that is not more than two stories high;

23 (D) a garage, workshop, or similar building that contains less
24 than 2,000 square feet of floor space to be used for a private noncommercial
25 purpose;

26 (7) a specialty contractor licensed under AS 08.18 while engaged in the
27 business of construction contracting or designing systems for work within the specialty
28 to be performed or supervised by the specialty contractor, or a contractor preparing
29 shop or field drawings for work that the specialty contractor has contracted to perform;

30 (8) a person furnishing drawings, specifications, instruments of service,
31 or other data for alterations or repairs to a building that do not change or affect the

1 structural system or the safety of the building, or that do not affect the public health,
2 safety, or welfare;

3 (9) a person who is employed by a postsecondary educational
4 institution to teach engineering, architectural, [OR] land surveying, or landscape
5 architectural courses; in this paragraph, "postsecondary educational institution" has
6 the meaning given in AS 14.48.210;

7 (10) a person who prepares plans and specifications for
8 revegetation, restoration, reclamation, rehabilitation, or erosion control for
9 disturbed land if the person has a bachelor's degree with specific education
10 relating to the activity for which the plans and specifications are prepared;

11 (11) a person who maintains or directs the placement of plant
12 material.

13 * Sec. 30. AS 08.48.341(2) is amended to read:

14 (2) "board" means the State Board of Registration for Architects,
15 Engineers, [AND] Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects;

16 * Sec. 31. AS 08.48.341(4) is amended to read:

17 (4) "certificate of authorization" means a certificate issued by the board
18 authorizing a corporation to provide professional services in architecture, engineering,
19 [OR] land surveying, or landscape architecture through individuals legally registered
20 by the board;

21 * Sec. 32. AS 08.48.341 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

22 (16) "landscape architect" means a professional landscape architect;

23 (17) "practice of landscape architecture" means consultative,
24 investigative, reconnaissance, research, planning, design, and preparation services
25 relating to drawings and construction documents, observation of construction, and
26 location, arrangement, and design of incidental and necessary tangible objects and
27 features for the purpose of

28 (A) preservation and enhancement of land uses and natural land
29 features;

30 (B) location and construction of aesthetically pleasing and
31 functional approaches for structures, roadways, and walkways;

1 (C) establishing or maintaining trails, landscape irrigation,
2 landscape lighting, and landscape grading; or

3 (D) generalized planning of the development of land areas in
4 a manner that is sensitive to the area's natural and cultural resources;

5 (18) "professional landscape architect" means a person registered as a
6 professional landscape architect by the board.

7 * Sec. 33. AS 08.48.351 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 08.48.351. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the Architects,
9 Engineers, [AND] Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects Registration Act.

10 * Sec. 34. AS 14.43.310(b) is amended to read:

11 (b) To assist the administering authority in selecting eligible applicants for
12 award of each of the memorial scholarship loans under AS 14.43.250 - 14.43.325 and
13 in reviewing the memorial scholarship loan program, the following advisory
14 committees are established:

15 (1) three Alaska state troopers, each one to be selected from and to
16 represent a state trooper region of the state by the regional commander to serve for
17 three years, for the Michael Murphy memorial scholarship;

18 (2) three members of the Governor's Commission on the Administration
19 of Justice selected annually by the commission from among its membership, for the
20 Carroll L. "Butch" Swartz memorial scholarship;

21 (3) three members of the state Board of Registration for Architects,
22 Engineers, [AND] Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects selected annually by
23 the board from among its engineer members, for the Harvey Golub memorial
24 scholarship; and

25 (4) three members of the state Board of Education, or of the staff of
26 the Department of Education, or any combination of these, selected annually by the
27 board, for the Robert L. Thomas memorial scholarship.

28 * Sec. 35. AS 44.62.330(a)(4) is amended to read:

29 (4) State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, [AND] Land
30 Surveyors, and Landscape Architects:

31 * Sec. 36. TERMS OF NEW MEMBERS. Notwithstanding AS 08.01.035, the initial term

1 of the new member appointed under AS 08.48.011(b), as amended by sec. 3 of this Act, is one
2 year.

3 * Sec. 37. TRANSITION. Notwithstanding this Act, a person may practice landscape
4 architecture without a certificate of registration issued under AS 08.48 until 60 days after the
5 first examination for landscape architects administered in the state under AS 08.48.181, as
6 amended by this Act, has been graded.

SB

122

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 122

Revision Date (2/19/98) Dept. Affected Commerce & Economic Development
 Title An Act relating to unfair discrimination under a group BRU Insurance
insurance policy for services provided by marital and family therapists Component Insurance
 Sponsor Senate L&C by request
 Requester House - State Affairs Component Serial No. 354

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 (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY98) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
This bill has no fiscal impact on the component

Prepared by Marianne K. Burke, Director Phone 465-2515
 Division Insurance Date 2/19/98
 Approved by Commissioner Deborah B. Sedwick Date 2-19-98
 Agency Commerce and Economic Development

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HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: February 23, 1998

FURTHER REFERRALS:

World Trade

Date of Committee Action: 3/10/98

The LABOR AND COMMERCE Committee considered:

SB 122

SENATE BILL NO. 122

INS. COVERAGE: MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST

“An Act relating to unfair discrimination under a group health insurance policy for services provided by marital and family therapists; and providing for an effective date.”

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) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DCEI

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>John J. Condey</i>	✓			
<i>John Sanders</i>			✓	
<i>Paul Harris</i>			✓	
<i>Bill Hudson</i>	✓			
<i>Tom Kelly</i>			✓	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Tom Kelly*

3/9/98

ALASKA STATE

HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME

ASSOCIATION

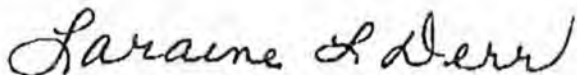
FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE L & C MEETING, MARCH 9, 1998

March 9, 1998

Representative Rokeberg

To let you know -- the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association is in favor of SB122 the way it is currently drafted. We believe that any amendment regarding insurance should be dealt with in a separate piece of legislation.

Sincerely,



Laraine L. Derr
President/CEO

03-09-08P02:42 RCVN



Providence Health System in Alaska

Providence Alaska Medical Center

Breakthrough Department

2401 E. 42nd Ave., Ste 103

P. O. Box 196604, Anchorage, AK 99519-6604

Fax #: (907) 562-6193 / Dept. # (907) 562-7325

03-09-98P02:42 RCYD

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE:

March 9, 1998

FAX TO:

Legislator Norman Rokkeberg
District 11

FAX #:

907-465-2040

FROM:

Joe Galt, M.S., L.M.F.T.
Providence Breakthrough

TELEPHONE #:

907-562-7325

FAX #:

907-562-6193

OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: _____

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MESSAGE/COMMENTS:

Please support SB 122 preventing insurance companies from discriminating against marriage & family therapists.
Thank you - Joe Galt

DIXIE A. HOOD, M.A.
Marriage, Family & Child Counselor

March 9, 1998

Representative John Cowdery
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Sir:

I am writing to urge your support of SB 122 which adds Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists to the list of health care providers that cannot be discriminated against for insurance reimbursement.

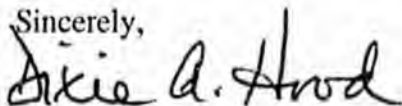
Basically, these are the points I want you to understand.

1. A profession must be named on the health care provider list to ensure third-party reimbursement.
2. My clients and I have been denied compensation for mental health services that were provided, only because I am a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and LMFT's are not included along with psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers on this provider list. I have also had prospective clients cancel counseling appointments when they find out their mental health coverage will not reimburse for my services since LMFT's are not listed.
3. An amendment proposed by Jerry Reinwand on behalf of Blue Cross, and dropped by the Senate before passage of SB 122 last year, is once again being brought forward by Mr. Reinwand. The amendment in question, if as important as suggested, could have been added to SB 104, the Omnibus Insurance Reform Act which passed the Legislature in 1997, without any effort to include such an amendment.

This amendment should not be used to derail SB 122 and perpetuate the unfair discrimination that I and all other LMFT's in Alaska have suffered. I am enclosing a typical insurance company denial of a client claim as well as my resume which represents the scope of my training and experience as an LMFT.

Please support passage of SB 122 without the amendment.

Sincerely,



Dixie A. Hood

Enclosure

Explanation of Services



Blue Cross
of Washington and Alaska
An independent licensee of the
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

P.O. Box 327
Seattle, Washington 98111-0327
1-800-213-5470

Date: 04/14/97
Provider #: 56442846E

Page #: 1

SUBSCRIBER NAME PATIENT ACCOUNT/GROUP # PATIENT NAME CLAIM NUMBER/SUBSCRIBER ID	DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE(S)	TOTAL CHARGE(S)	ALLOWED AMOUNT	AMOUNT PAID	P O T O	SUBSCRIBER BALANCE	AUDI CODE
J. M. R45BB01	030397 030397	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	OOC
J. M. 7597055575/574706122								
J. M. R45BB01	121096 121096	90899	262.50		.00		262.50	OOC
J. M. 7094203576/574706122	121796 121796	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	
	010297 010297	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	010697 010697	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	
	011397 011397	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	012197 012197	90844	75.00		.00		75.00	
	012997 012997	90844	100.00		.00		100.00	
	020497 020497	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	021997 021997	90860	130.25		.00		130.25	
	022597 022597	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	PATIENT TOTAL---		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	
	DED. APPLIED---		.00	OTH COVERAGE---			.00	
	PATIENT BALANCE		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	
	PAID AS ALLOWED		.00	.00	.00		.00	
	PAID AS CHARGED		.00	.00	.00		.00	
	VOUCHER TOTAL---		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	

EXPLANATION of AUDIT CODE(S):
OOC SERVICES BY THIS PROVIDER ARE NOT COVERED.

EXPLANATION of PAID
TO CODE(S):
P=PROVIDER
S=SUBSCRIBER
C=CO-PAY
A=ADJUSTMENT
O=OTHER

* One-on-one counseling
for differing lengths of time
(1 hr. - 3.5 hr. @ \$75.00)
Some sessions in person,
Some on the phone, for this

Ketchikan client, disabled
and depressed in traumatic
accident.

DIXIE A HOOD MA
222 SEWARD #210
JUNEAU AK 99801-1236



Insurance
reimbursement
denied.

DIXIE A. HOOD. Counselor

222 Seward Street, Suite 210 • Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 586-2200

Skill Areas

Personal, crisis and substance abuse counseling, small group leadership, teaching and training, re-entry women and inmate programs, domestic violence, organizing and directing student and community service activities, program development and evaluation, grant-writing, public relations.

Education

M.A., Psychology (Clinical Training), Sonoma State University, California, 1984
M.A., Psychology with an Emphasis in College Teaching, San Francisco State University, 1971
B.A., Psychology, San Francisco State University, 1969

Credentials

Alaska Marriage Family and Child Counseling License (No. AA 00027), 1993
Clinical Member, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, 1988
California Marriage, Family and Child Counseling License (No. MU 202125), 1985
California Community College Teaching Credential - Psychology, English, 1971

Employment History

1985 to Date Private Practice, Juneau, Alaska. Individual and Family Counseling.
1992 Russian Far East University, Vladivostok, Russia. Lecturer.
1985 - 1988 City & Borough of Juneau, Department of Health and Social Services. Mental Health Therapist. Developed Suicide Prevention Program, Recruited and Trained Volunteers, Chemical Dependency Contract Counselor.
1985 - 1986 MEN, Inc., Juneau, Alaska. Anger Management Program. Contract Counselor.
1985 Lemon Creek Correctional Center, Juneau, Alaska. Inmate Substance Abuse Treatment Program (Southeast Regional Resource Center), grant writer, Counselor/Coordinator.
1985 Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE), Juneau, Alaska. Volunteer Counselor.
1983 - 1984 Napa County Mental Health, Napa, California. In-Patient and Out-Patient Alcohol Program, Counselor. Crisis Service, Counselor.
1982 - 1983 Phoenix Programs, Inc., Concord, California. Counselor, Mt. Diablo Transitional Services (Day Treatment for Chronic Schizophrenics).
1979 Southeast Regional Resource Center, Juneau, Alaska. Consultant, Counseling (CETA Program).
1976 - 1979 University of Alaska, Juneau. Psychology Instructor, Admissions Counselor/Student Activities Coordinator.
1971 - 1975 Marin Community College District, Kentfield, California. Psychology Instructor.

SB 122

TOTAL P.01

03-09-98 AM 9:28 RUCS

WRANGELL COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
P.O. BOX 1615
Wrangell, Alaska 99929
(907) 874-2373 FAX (907) 874-2576

March 8, 1998

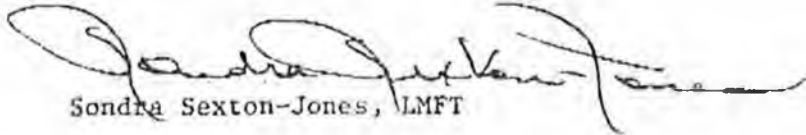
Legislator Norman Rokeberg District 11
Legislator John Cowdery District 17
Legislator Jerry Sanders District 19
Legislator Joe Ryan District 21

RE: SENATE BILL 122 - Preventing insurance companies from discriminating
against Marriage & Family Therapists

Gentlemen:

I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 122 which prevents insurance companies from discriminating against marriage & family therapists . In the day of shrinking avenues for people seeking help, this allows a broader choice. In addition, it ends discrimination against marriage & family therapists in Alaska and brings Alaska in line with the majority of the states who do not currently discriminate against marriage and family therapists. Please pass it out of your committee.

Sincerely,


Sondra Sexton-Jones, LMFT

P.01

MRP-09-1998 21:32

SB122

Author: lholman@alaska.net (Larry Holman) at CC2MHS1

Date: 3/7/98 4:11 PM

Priority: Normal

TO: Representative John Cowdery at LAA_TRANS, Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS,
"Representative_Jerry_Sanders"@legis.state.ak.us at CC2MHS1,
" Representative_Joe_Ryan"@legis.state.ak.us at CC2MHS1

Subject: Senate Bill 122

Gentlemen,

I am a licensed marriage and family therapist in Anchorage and a member of the Alaska Association of Marriage and Family Therapy. We represent about 200 therapists all over the state. I urge you to assist us by voting in favor of SB 122 which prevents insurance companies from discriminating against licensed marriage and family therapists in this state. Marriage and family therapists are the most qualified in the counseling profession to assist families in dealing with the great number of problems which face them. It has also been shown by other states who have this type of bill that it does not increase the cost to the state or the insurance companies. We are equally trained and qualified as mental other licensed professionals in this state. Please vote to pass it out of your committee and support it's passage in other committees.

Thank-you

Larry Holman

1009 980101 100

SB122

Author: michaelw@alaska.net (Michael Weingarten) at CC2MHS1
Date: 3/7/98 1:04 PM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: SB 122

March 7, 1998
To: Representative Rokeberg
Re: SB 122

House Labor and Commerce will be continuing the hearing on this bill, SB 122, again on Monday, March 9.

Please support this bill and move it out of committee. Please do NOT attach wording to our bill which will change the substance and scope of what our bill is about.

I am a 20 year Anchorage, Alaska resident, practicing, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and Board member of the Alaska Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, and member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Please contact me if you need more information about this bill.

Sincerely,

Michael Weingarten, MA, LMFT
Human Relations Center
1709 South Bragaw Street
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-272-5500
Fax: 907-277-0985
Email: michaelw@alaska.net

01-09-08410:27 RMD

SB 122

Author: jcbrenner@juno.com (James & Cathy Brenner) at CC2MHS1
Date: 3/8/98 4:37 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: SB122

As a licensed marriage and family therapist who has practiced in the State of Alaska since coming here with the Air Force in 1969, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 122 to help end discrimination against MFT. Thank you.

Jim Brenner, M.S., LMFT
4011 East Sixth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
(907) 333-0153

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03-09-95 11:00 AM

SB122

Author: gbheron@ptialaska.net (Tom Jacobsen) at CC2MHS1
Date: 3/8/98 7:34 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: Fw: SB 122 and HB300

> From: Tom Jacobsen <gbheron@ptialaska.net>
> To: RepresentativeNorman_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us
> Subject: SB 122 and HB300
> Date: Saturday, March 07, 1998 2:53 PM
>
> Please block the insurance industry's amendment to these bills to exempt
> insurance companies from claims of Unfair Discrimination. This is an
> attempt by the insurance companies to limit Alaskans' right to choose a
> health care provider of their choice. It is not about fees or cost
> containment. This is a blatant attempt by insurance companies to abridge
> the right of Alaskans to choose a provider and independently decide upon
> a
> course of treatment. Please pass these bills on to the next committee
> assignment without this onerous and self-serving amendment.
> Thank you for your consideration.
>
> Tom Jacobsen DDS
> Never a lackey of any insurance company and never will be.
>

05-09-07:03 (0) 27-RCVD

SB122

Author: logan@alaska.net (Dave Logan) at CC2MHS1
Date: 3/9/98 12:16 PM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: SB122 and HB300

Representative Rokeberg:

I am a dentist in Juneau and I am urging you to take action on two bills affecting dentistry in Alaska.

SB 122 would allow insurance companies to interfere with the patients choice of care. Giving the insurance companies the ability to perform "Utilization review, cost containment and apply standards of clinically appropriate health care services" without definition of these standards would be a huge mistake. Insurance companies are not equipped to make clinical decisions and the consultants they hire are only marginally more qualified. To allow this bill to become law would be a vote to precipitously lower the standard of care for all patients in Alaska.

HB300. This bill seeks to preserve patients rights under any health care plan. I urge your committee to conduct timely reviews of this bill and forward it to the next committee.

03-09-98 12:49 RCYS

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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


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

MEMORANDUM

April 22, 1997

SUBJECT: Group health insurance - (CSSB 122(L&C))

TO: Senator Jerry Mackie
Attn: Dave

FROM: Michael F. Ford 
Legislative Counsel

You have asked for an explanation of the effects of CSSB 122(L&C). Under sec. 1 of the bill, marital and family therapists are added as a protected class of health care providers. Under this provision, if a marital and family therapist provides health care services, the services are covered under a group health policy, and are within the scope of the provider's occupational license, then the insurer could not deny coverage. This is primarily the effect of the bill.

The bill also adds a definition of "unfair discrimination" that excludes from the definition certain insurer requirements applicable to insurance coverage. The excluded items include utilization review, cost containment, and standards of clinically appropriate health care services. This provision is intended to allow an insurer to impose conditions regarding coverage, if the conditions are not related to the type of health care provider who provides the required health care. For example, the insurance policy could impose a \$250 deductible as a cost containment measure, or could deny coverage for surgery unrelated to illness. These are kinds of discrimination that are not "unfair discrimination" prohibited by AS 21.36.090(d).

I would suggest a change to the bill's title, however. On page 1, line 2, "marital and family therapists" should be changed to "health care providers". This would reflect the addition of the new definition of "unfair discrimination".

Please contact me if you have further questions.

MFF:glc:jr
97-261.glc

JERRY REINWAND

Consultant • Lobbyist

2 Marine Way - Suite 219

Juneau, Alaska 99801

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Norm Rokeberg
Chairman
House Labor and Commerce Committee

DATE: February 20, 1998

FROM: Jerry Reinwand *Jerry* SUBJ.: S.B. 122-Marital Therapists Bill

Mr. Chairman, your Committee will soon be receiving S.B. 122, the Marital and Family Therapists' bill. My client, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska, has a strong interest in this bill and attempted to amend it in the Senate. The thrust of the bill is to add "marital and family therapists" to the list of "health care providers" against whom insurers may not "unfairly discriminate."

There are several major problems with this bill:

1. It is extremely unclear what this section of the insurance code [AS 21.36.090(d)] really does, and what the net effect of adding "health care providers" to the list does to Alaska's health insurance policy holders. Through the years that I have followed this issue we have heard varying interpretations of what AS 21.36.090(d) is intended to accomplish from a public policy perspective. The simple fact is this section of the insurance code is extremely vague and is open to widely varying interpretations by health care providers, insurance companies, and the Division of Insurance staff. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska would like to see clear policy articulated by the Legislature in this area of the law and S.B. 122 may be a good "vehicle" to do it.
2. There is no statutory definition of what constitutes "unfair discrimination." Therefore, group health insurers are being forced to comply with a law which gives no policy directions and no standards.
3. The Division of Insurance has not adopted regulations to define what constitutes "unfair discrimination." Again, this leaves health insurers in a regulatory "no man's land."

I have attached a proposed amendment for your consideration. This amendment approaches the problem from a different direction by trying to define what "unfair discrimination" is not, instead of attempting to define what "unfair discrimination" is.

Mr. Chairman, we strongly believe that the Legislature is the appropriate body to address this important policy issue. Unless the definition of what constitutes "unfair discrimination" is addressed in S.B. 122, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska will be placed in the position of opposing the bill.

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: S.B. 122

Page 1, Line 11, following "subsection":

Insert "(1)";

Page 2, line 1, following "midwife";

Insert ";

(2) "unfair discrimination" does not include requirements imposed by an insurer for purposes of utilization review, cost containment, or standards of clinically appropriate health care services"

Page 2, line 8, following "subsection":

Insert "(1)"

Page 2, line 11, following "worker":

Insert ";

(2) "unfair discrimination" does not include requirements imposed by an insurer for purposes of utilization review, cost containment, or standards of clinically appropriate health care services"

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

DIVISION OF INSURANCE

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

P.O. BOX 110805
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0805
PHONE: (907) 465-2515
FAX: (907) 465-3422
TDD: (907) 465-5437

March 6, 1997

The Honorable Loren Leman
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 113
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Leman:

During our presentation to the Senate Finance Subcommittee, you requested that the division provide you information on "Fair vs. Unfair" discrimination as it is applied in insurance.

As you know, insurance is inherently discriminatory. The protections offered by the insurance statutes of a state make a distinction between "fair" and "unfair" discrimination but frequently do little to define it. Other statutes, both federal and state, typically do this by specific example. Some state laws get very specific. In some cases, court determinations have provided definition. Insurance discrimination generally occurs in two areas and each are addressed somewhat differently. These areas are discrimination in rates and discrimination in selection. Something that is unfair for one line of insurance may not be unfair for another. The examples that follow are certainly not exhaustive but may give some idea concerning what we look for.

A fair discrimination in rates may not be a fair discrimination in selection of risk. For example, rate differentials where the difference in rate is supported by difference in loss experience is permitted, but the same criteria is often not acceptable in the selection of business. Automobile insurance rates based on gender, marital status, driving record, type of vehicle, etc. may be acceptable. However, refusal to write an automobile coverage based on gender or marital status is not.

Rates based on occupation for workers' compensation insurance are appropriate. Rates based on occupation for homeowners insurance are not.

Rate differentials based on type of business, condition of premises, or location of premises are appropriate forms of discrimination for commercial liability and fire insurance.

Selection of business, refusal to write insurance on a particular consumer because the risk characteristics are known to fall outside the insurer's target market, is acceptable if applied uniformly and consistently. For example, fair selection criteria may include the consumer's driving record, the size of the consumer's business, loss history, claiming patterns, type of consumer's business, condition of property to be insured, etc.

The Honorable Loren Leman

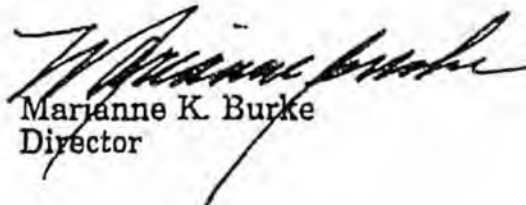
-2-

March 5, 1997

Some forms of unfair discrimination are clearly stated in federal law such as discrimination based of race, religion, creed, or national origin. Any discrimination of this kind, whether based on statistical support or not, is unfair. Unfair discrimination is typically characterized by inconsistent application. For example, asking different questions of two consumers for the same kind of insurance who are of different race is unfair discrimination. Charging two consumers, in the same company with the same rating characteristics, different rates is unfair discrimination. Basing a consumer's rates on criteria that is inappropriate to the risk being assumed is unfair discrimination. For example, surcharging a consumer for failure to maintain prior insurance when there was no requirement that such prior insurance be maintained is unfair. Giving a marital discount to insureds who claim to be engaged is unfair. Giving a second car discount based on a promise to insure a second car sometime in the future is unfair. Failing to provide appropriate discounts when the insurer has reason to know that such discount is warranted is unfair.

Obviously, this kind of listing can go on and on as each line and kind of insurance is examined and discussed. The above notes only give a few basic notions that may guide the reader to determine by extrapolation other forms of fair and unfair discrimination.

Very truly yours,



Marianne K. Burke
Director

MKB/cw4495.ins
090497b

cc: The Honorable John Torgerson
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Patrick Pourchot
Legislative Director
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

CARE SYSTEMS NORTH

211 Fourth Street, Suite 114

Juneau, Alaska 99801

463-6753, Fax 463-6754

csn@alaska.net

Insurance companies that DO COVER licensed marriage and family counselors

Actna (Alaska Airlines)	Seattle, WA
Cigna	Columbus OH
Cigna Healthcare	Sherman, TX
Cooperative Benefit Admins. Inc.	Lincoln, NE
First Health	London, KY
First Health	Boise, ID
Fortis Benefits	St. Paul, MN
Kirke-Van Orsdel, Inc.	Des Moines, IA
Liberty Life Assurance, Co	Fresno, CA
Lincoln National Life Insurance	Green Bay, WI
Motorola Claim Services Office	Phoenix, AZ
Nea-Alaska Health Plan	Columbia, MD
NYLCARE Health Plan NW/Ethix	Seattle, WA
Optima Sound Health	Salt Lake City, UT
Palmetto Government Benefits	Surfside Beach, SC
Pioneer Life	Rockford, IL
Risk & Benefit Mngt. Services	Anchorage, AK
State Farm Health Insurance	Ploumington, IL
TPA of Washington	Seattle, WA
The Guardian	Spokane, WA
Third Medical Group/SGSTB	Elmendorf AFB, AK
Three Rivers Benefit Corp	Sioux City, IA
Welfare & Pension Admin. SVCS.	Seattle, WA

Insurance companies that DO NOT COVER licensed marriage and family counselors

Blue Cross for Washington and Alaska
Blue Cross/ Blue shield Federal Program
Government Employees Hospital Association (GEHA) Kansas City, MO
First Health (Providence Hospital)
Great West Life and Annuity <<<generally not covered>>> Bellevue, WA
Actna <<<Varies per group plan, some do and some don't>>>
not covered: Actna Medicare
 Actna US Healthcare
 Actna Life/MN



Blue Cross
of Washington and Alaska
An independent licensee of the
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

P.O. Box 327
Seattle, Washington 98111-0327
1-800-213-5470

Date: 04/14/97
Provider #: 564428465
Page #: 1

SUBSCRIBER NAME PATIENT ACCOUNT/GROUP # PATIENT NAME CLAIM NUMBER/SUBSCRIBER ID	DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE(S)	TOTAL CHARGE(S)	ALLOWED AMOUNT	AMOUNT PAID	P D T O	SUBSCRIBER BALANCE	AUDIT CODE(S)
Jr M R45BBO1	030397 030397	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	OOC
J. M 7597055575/574706122								
J M. R45BBO1	121096 121096	90899	262.50		.00		262.50	OOC
J. M. 7094203576/574706122	121796 121796	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	
	010297 010297	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	010697 010697	90899	150.00		.00		150.00	
	011397 011397	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	012197 012197	90844	75.00		.00		75.00	
	012997 012997	90844	100.00		.00		100.00	
	020497 020497	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	021997 021997	90860	130.25		.00		130.25	
	022597 022597	90860	112.50		.00		112.50	
	PATIENT TOTAL---		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	
	DED. APPLIED---		.00	OTH COVERAGE---			.00	
	PATIENT BALANCE		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	
	PAID AS ALLOWED		.00	.00	.00		.00	
	PAID AS CHARGED		.00	.00	.00		.00	
	VOUCHER TOTAL---		1467.75	.00	.00		1467.75	

EXPLANATION of AUDIT CODE(S):
OOC SERVICES BY THIS PROVIDER ARE NOT COVERED.

EXPLANATION of PAID
TO CODE(S):
P = PROVIDER
S = SUBSCRIBER
C = CO-PAY
A = ADJUSTMENT
Q = OTHER

DIXIE A HOOD MA
222 SEWARD #210
JUNEAU AK 99801-1236



Alaska Imago Relationship Services
Jackie Garretson, M. ED

Certified Imago Relationship Therapist

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

Licensed Psychological Associate

March 2, 1998

Representative Norman Rokeberg
House of Representatives
Alaska State Capitol, Room 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Mr. Rokeberg,

Back in the 1970's and 1980's my husband, Walt Garretson, and I had occasion to meet and talk with you in real estate matters. I was broker of a small real estate office in the late 70's. When you ran for office you were familiar to us and we have watched your career with interest. Perhaps this is why I feel that writing to you about a bill that will come up in your committee today, SB-122, may be appropriate.

In 1989 I completed work on a masters degree in counseling/psychology. I was in my late thirties and applied that maturity to carefully choosing my area of interest. I decided that the field of Marriage and Family Therapy would give me the best training to help Alaskans with mental health problems. I took a job in a small clinic and began logging the 1500 hours of client contact and 200 hours of direct supervision with a clinical psychologist that would qualify me for taking a difficult national examination and the opportunity to achieve licensing in the state of Alaska. At the same time, I applied for the Licenced Psychological Associate designation because it was well known that a few insurance companies, specifically the federal Blue Cross system, would not pay for the services of Marriage and Family Therapists in Alaska because our field was not protected from discrimination by statute in this state.

I now hold both licenses and have practiced for eight years. I specialize in marriage counseling, an area that is difficult for therapists who have no training in family systems to do well. I believe that I am helping Alaskan families in the present and future because well adjusted couples raise well adjusted children. The powerful Blue Cross lobby would have you believe that giving parity to Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists in Alaska would cost them or the state more money. That is not true and our own Division of Insurance has said it is not true. It does not mean that anyone would have to add another service to insurance policies. It only means that if a client chooses to work with a Marriage and Family Therapist for any issue, we can be paid. Our training and licensure requirements are equal to those for other masters level mental health providers, such as social workers.

The situation as it exists is simply not fair to us and does not serve your constituents. Other members of the Alaska Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (I am secretary of the Board) will be available to answer any questions you might have during the hearing for SB-122. Please consider the importance of passing this legislation and support SB-122.

Sincerely,

Jackie Garretson

Jackie Garretson, LMFT

Author: ShamanF15@aol.com at CC2MHS1
Date: 3/1/98 3:09 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: Requesting your support

Dear Rep. Rokeberg,

I understand that SB/HB 122 is coming before your committee this Monday, Mar. 2nd. It is a very important piece of legislation to a large number of Marriage and Family Therapists across the State. With the approval of the bill it will enable us to provide needed mental health services; to intervene in complex family problems and to help return many individuals and families to a higher level of functioning for the good of us all. I am writing to ask you to give this bill your support. It will enable more trained professionals to make their services available to the general public, and will not increase costs in any way for either the state or for insurance companies.

My name is Susan M. Bayne. I live in Anchorage, and am a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. I send you regards, and thank you for any support you can give this bill.

Sincerely,

Susan Bayne

Author: michaelw@alaska.net (Michael Weingarten) at CC2MHS1
Date: 2/28/98 11:21 PM
Priority: Normal
TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS
Subject: SB 122

Please support SB 122 (Marriage and Family Therapy) which is scheduled for a hearing in House Labor and Commerce on Monday, March 2, 1998.

On December 15, 1997, we met at your office in Anchorage and discussed support for our bill, SB 122.

I am a 20 year Anchorage resident and a practicing Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. In my practice, I see a children, adolescents, and adults, that have a multitude of problems which include: depression, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

Our bill, SB 122 adds Marriage and Family Therapists to the existing insurance law that states that insurance companies cannot discriminate against licensed mental health professionals listed in the statute, who are practicing within their area of expertise and competence. Our bill promotes the public having free choice, and greater guaranteed access to mental health services. Our bill does NOT require insurance companies to spend additional money. Our Bill does NOT require that insurance companies have mental health coverage, or what the amount or terms of coverage must be. Our bill simply gives the person with insurance coverage the right to choose fairly which type of qualified, licensed mental health professional they want to see.

Our title "Marriage and Family Therapist" is misleading, as we have training and experience in "systems theory" in treating different family members simultaneously, and understanding how individuals think, feel, and behave in relationship to their social environment. Alaska has about 180 Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, most of them in the Anchorage area. We are employed at universities, clinics, mental health centers, private clinics, hospitals, and in administration. We are often more cost effective and charge lower fees than other professional groups. We are one of 5 core mental health professional groups identified and recognized by the federal government.

Please contact me if you need more information. Thank you for your support!

Michael Weingarten, MA, LMFT
Human Relations Center
1709 S. Bragaw, Suite A
Anchorage, AK 99508
907-272-5500



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

SENATE

FEB 3 2 1998

FEB 2 3 1998

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

MEMO

TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chairman
House Labor & Commerce Committee

FROM: Senator Loren Leman, Chairman
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee *Loren Leman*

DATE: February 19, 1998

RE: Scheduling Senate Bill 122: Insurance Coverage: Marriage and Family
Therapists

Please schedule a hearing on SB 122: Insurance Coverage: Marriage and Family Therapists, sponsored by the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee by Request.

I have attached a copy of the sponsor statement, the bill as it passed the House State Affairs Committee, and a legal opinion of the bill's effect.

Please contact Annette Kreitzer in my office if you have any further questions on this legislation.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

SENATE

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB 122: Marital and Family Therapists

Senate Bill 122 was introduced by the Labor and Commerce Committee at the request of the Alaska Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). SB 122 adds marital and family therapists to the list of providers against whom insurers may not discriminate.

This bill does not require insurers to add coverage of marital and family therapists where the coverage currently is not provided. It merely requires that insurers treat marital and family therapists on equal footing with other licensed providers.

Section 1 adds marital and family therapists to the unfair discrimination list under group health insurance policies with an effective date of July 1, 1998.

AAMFT is a division of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Inc.. Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) are a group of mental health professionals with background in a variety of disciplines, including psychology, social work, and family social science. MFTs are licensed or certified in 37 states and are recognized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as one of the five core mental health disciplines in the United States.



American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Research and Education Foundation

Promoting the Well-Being of Families through Research and Education in Marriage and Family Therapy, Family Policy, and Family Science

Research Report:

Prepared March 1995

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) Treat Severe Mental Illness

Marriage and family therapists are highly trained mental health professionals who provide cost-effective mental health services to individuals with severe mental illnesses, including schizophrenia, and other major affective disorders, depression, anorexia, bulimia, and psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. Research shows that family therapy used as a component of treatment for severe mental illness:

- Reduces relapse rates
- Prevents costly psychiatric hospitalization
- Enhances medication and treatment compliance

Schizophrenia

"Family therapy is generally effective in preventing relapse and improving symptomatology both in comparison to 'routine care' that included medication and individual treatment and to specifically designed SST [social skills training] and individual psychotherapy."

Schooler, N.R., & Keith, S.J. (1993). The clinical research base for the treatment of schizophrenia. *Health care reform for Americans with severe mental illnesses: Report of the National Advisory Mental Health Council*. Rockville, MD: National Institute of Mental Health, p. 23.

The rehospitalization rate for patients with schizophrenia in a 6-month period was 30% for patients using drug treatment alone — but 0% when family therapy was part of the treatment plan.

Goldstein, M.J., Rodnick, E.H., Evans, J.R., et al. (1978). Drug and family therapy in the aftercare of acute schizophrenics. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 35, 1169-1177.

In biochemical illnesses such as schizophrenia, family interventions may effect the illness by either positively protecting against environmental stresses or by negatively precipitating symptomatic relapse. Family therapy focused on reducing high expressed emotion (EE) has been shown to be effective in lowering rates of EE and improving the relapse rate. According to controlled outcome studies, patients from families treated with focused family therapy designed to actively guide the family in understanding and changing their interactions showed more rapid improvement in symptoms than did patients treated with psychoeducational approaches alone. Family-oriented therapy tripled the time chronically mentally ill patients spent outside the hospital, when compared to each patient's hospitalization pattern prior to treatment and to results of individually-oriented case management.

Levene, J., Newman, F., & Jeffries, J. (1989). Focal family therapy outcome study, I: Patient and family functioning, *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 34: 641-647.

Major Depression

Relapse rates were reduced for 77% of patients with manic depressive or schizoaffective psychoses after receiving brief systemic family therapy (6 sessions), compared to a seven-year average prior to treatment. One-half of these patients were able to function without major medication 3 years later, although all were on medication prior to family therapy.

Retzer, A., Simon, F., Weber, G., Stierlin, H., Schmidt, G., et al. (1991). Follow-up study of manic-depressive and schizoaffective psychoses after systemic family therapy. *Family Process, 30*(2).

Patients hospitalized with bipolar disorder who received family therapy had significantly less relapse and rehospitalization.

Gelenberg, A.J. (1993). Report on the efficacy of treatments for bipolar disorder. *Health care reform for Americans with severe mental illnesses: Report of the National Advisory Mental Health Council*. Rockville, MD: National Institute of Mental Health.

Affective Disorders

Adding family treatment to standard hospital treatment for severely disturbed psychiatric patients was effective, particularly for female patients with affective disorders. Outcomes showed that when families met their treatment goals, long-term improvement was seen in medication and psychological treatment compliance.

Glick, I.D., Clarkin, J.F., Haas, G.L., Spenser, J.H., & Chen, C.L. (1991). A randomized clinical trial of inpatient family intervention: VI mediating variables and outcome. *Family Process, 30*(1), 85-99.

Eating Disorders

A 50% higher success rate was reported for family therapy in preventing anorexia nervosa from reaching more critical stages in adolescents.

Dare, C., Eisler, I., Russell, F.M., & Szmulker, G.I. (1990). The clinical and theoretical impact of a controlled trial of family therapy on anorexia nervosa. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, 16*(1), 39-57.



American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Research and Education Foundation

Promoting the Well-Being of Families through Research and Education in Marriage and Family Therapy, Family Policy, and Family Science

Research Report:

Prepared March 1995

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) Offer Family-Focused Treatment for Family Violence

Violence is a Family Problem

- Americans are more likely to be killed or physically assaulted in their homes by other family members than anywhere else — or by anyone else — in our society.
Gelles, R., and Cornell, C.P. (1990). *Intimate violence in families* (2nd edition). Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.
- A propensity of family violence is transmitted from one generation to the next, according to a substantial body of research. One study concluded that among adults who were abused as children, more than one-fifth later abuse their own children.
Straus, M., Gelles, R., and Steinmetz, S. (1980). *Behind closed doors: Violence in the American family*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday.
- People who were physically abused or neglected as children are twice as likely to be arrested for a violent offense.
Widom, C. (1989). The cycle of violence. *Science* 244: 160-166.

MFTs Offer Family-Focused Treatments

Reducing Domestic Violence

A marital therapy program for couples referred by the Milwaukee district attorney's office after wife abuse has occurred has demonstrated success in stopping husbands' violence. Similarly, a 12-year-old program for couples in Tyler, Texas, has been successful in reducing domestic violence and improving relationships for couples.

Lipchik, E., and Geffner, R. (1994, February). A comment on Jacobson's findings. *Family Therapy News*. 25(1), 21.

Family Preservation Means Less Out-of-Home Placement

A family preservation program in eastern Iowa has been able to keep 70% of the children originally identified as needing out-of-home placement — because of neglect or violence — in their homes. In-home services, including family therapy, are cost-effective.

Leverington, J. (1994, August). Family preservation: Walking the line. *Family Therapy News*. 25(4), 11-12.

MFT Means Lower Recidivism for Criminal Offenders

A 1988 study showed that compared to a control group of offenders matched for sex, ethnicity, and offense, twice as many of those receiving family therapy were arrest-free a year later. The cost of adding a family therapy program per offender is \$700 compared to over \$25,000 for incarceration per year.

Reed, T. (March/April 1992). Research issues in new programming to help inmates go home to stay. *IARCA Journal*.



American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Research and Education Foundation

Promoting the Well-Being of Families through Research and Education in Marriage and Family Therapy, Family Policy, and Family Science

Research Report:

Prepared March 1995

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) Effectively Treat Children and Adolescents and Their Families

Research demonstrates that marriage and family therapists (MFTs) provide cost-effective treatments for children and adolescents and their families coping with serious mental and emotional illness, substance abuse and behavior problems.

Autism, ADD, Conduct Disorders and Anxiety Disorders

Family therapy is an effective treatment for autism, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, conduct disorders, and anxiety disorders.

Klein, R.G., & Slomkowski, C. (1993). Treatment of psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. *Health care reform for Americans with severe mental illnesses: Report of the National Advisory Mental Health Council*. Rockville, MD: National Institute of Mental Health, p. 185.

Adolescent Substance Abuse

Family therapy has been more successful than any other form of outpatient therapy in retaining adolescents with drug abuse problems in treatment and in reducing their drug abuse, thereby preventing costly hospitalization.

Liddle, H. (April 1993). Multidimensional treatment of adolescent drug abuse. *Family Therapy News*, 24(2), 7; Joanning, H., Quinn, W., Thomas, F., & Mullen, R. (1992). Treating adolescent drug abuse: A comparison of family systems therapy, group therapy, and family drug education. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 18(4), 345-356.

Eating Disorders

A 50% higher success rate was reported for family therapy in preventing anorexia nervosa from reaching more critical stages in adolescents.

Dare, C., Eisler, I., Russell, F.M., & Szukler, G.I. (1990). The clinical and theoretical impact of a controlled trial of family therapy on anorexia nervosa. *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 16(1), 39-57.

Juvenile Delinquency

In a meta-analysis of 46 studies examining different modes of treatment with nearly 1,600 juvenile delinquents, Roberts and Camasso (1991) found family therapy particularly promising in preventing recidivism for at least one year after the completion of treatment. Juveniles in the family therapy treatment group performed 71.5% better than those in the comparison group.

Roberts, A.R., and Camasso, M.J. (1991). The effect of juvenile offender treatment programs on recidivism: A meta-analysis of 46 studies. *Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy*, 5, 421-444.

MFT Means Less Hospitalization and Lower Costs

Family-focused treatment outside of hospitals is often appropriate and much less expensive. One recent study found that in-home treatment of seriously emotionally disturbed adolescents and their families — as an alternative to psychiatric hospitalization — showed significant improvement in family and adolescent functioning and produced a 50% cost savings.

Seelig, W.R., et al. (1992) In-home treatment of families with seriously disturbed adolescents in crisis. *Family Process*, 31(2), 135-149.

Research Demonstrates MFT As Effective As Other Treatments

Family therapy for young Hispanic boys and their families not only improved their functioning and reduced serious behavioral and emotional problems, but also improved overall family functioning, compared to traditional individual therapy and to a control group.

Szapocznik, J. (1989). Structural family versus psychodynamic child therapy for problematic Hispanic boys. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, (5), 571-578.

Montgomery (1990) conducted a meta-analysis of 43 studies examining the effects of family therapy for the treatment of identified problems of children. Family therapy achieved favorable results for child-identified problems when compared to no treatment. These findings remained consistent over varying methodological features, diverse client and treatment characteristics, and multiple outcome measures.

Montgomery, L.M. (1990). *The effects of family therapy for treatment of child-identified problems*. Doctoral dissertation: Memphis State University.

Parenting Training

Cedar and Levant (1990) conducted a meta-analysis of 26 studies assessing the impact of parent effectiveness training. Self-report scales were used to measure outcome. They found an overall effect size of .33, which is larger than had been previously thought. The authors conclude that this finding puts parent effectiveness training on par with similar interventions, such as family enrichment programs.

Cedar, B., and Levant, R.F. (1990). A meta-analysis of the effects of parent effectiveness training. *American Journal of Family Therapy*, 18, 373-384.



American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Promoting the Profession and the Practice Since 1942

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs): *Qualified*

Mental Health Professionals Who Meet High Professional Standards

The American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), the professional organization for MFTs since 1942, promotes strict education and training standards for the profession.

Education and Clinical Experience

Education: AAMFT Clinical Members have a minimum of a master's degree in marriage and family therapy from an accredited program, or a master's degree in another mental health discipline from a regionally accredited institution and an equivalent course of study in marriage and family therapy.

Clinical Experience: A minimum of two years of clinical work experience in marriage and family therapy, with at least 1,000 hours of marriage and family therapy client contact, 200 hours of which must be supervised by an AAMFT Approved Supervisor or the equivalent. AAMFT Approved Supervisors must meet strict educational, experiential and supervisory training requirements to be qualified to supervise other MFTs.

State Regulation of MFTs

- Thirty-five states currently license or certify MFTs — up from 11 in 1986. Regulatory requirements in all 35 states are substantially equivalent to the AAMFT Clinical Membership standards.
- The Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) conducts a national examination for marriage and family therapists used as a licensure requirement in 19 states.

Accreditation of MFT Education and Training

The AAMFT Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) develops and enforces education and training standards for marriage and family therapy.

- The COAMFTE currently accredits 74 master's, doctoral, and post-degree training programs.
- COAMFTE has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the national accrediting agency for graduate and post-graduate MFT training programs since 1978.
- COAMFTE gained recognition from the Commission on Recognition for Postsecondary Accreditation (CORPA), the independent authority on accrediting bodies, in 1994.

Ethical Standards

The AAMFT developed and enforces a comprehensive Code of Ethics and ethics enforcement procedure for all of its Clinical Members.



American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

Promoting the Profession and the Practice Since 1942

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs): *Recognized* ***Recognized as Qualified Mental Health Professionals***

By States

- Thirty-five states license or certify MFTs — up from 11 in 1986.
- The Council of State Governments' Clearinghouse on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) notes that marriage and family therapy is a uniquely and explicitly delineated profession.

By the U.S. Government

- The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) identifies marriage and family therapy as one of five core mental health services. The other four are psychiatry, psychology, social work, and psychiatric nursing.
- The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) lists marriage and family therapy as an identifiable and distinct mental health profession. HRSA defines an MFT as one who "diagnoses and treats nervous and mental disorders within the context of marriage and family systems."
- The Department of Education has regularly renewed the recognition of AAMFT Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) as the national accrediting body for graduate and post-graduate educational and training programs in the field of marriage and family therapy since 1978.
- Education for the Handicapped Act, Part H — MFTs are recognized as providers in the family-centered Part H program, which provides services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families (PL 102-119).
- Head Start recognizes MFTs' solution-oriented perspective and their emphasis on family competence and strength. The national Head Start Bureau asked the AAMFT in 1993 to help coordinate a nationwide program to recruit marriage and family therapists as volunteers in Head Start programs.

By the U.S. Military

- The U.S. military's Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) has routinely reimbursed MFTs since 1966. In 1994, CHAMPUS removed the physician supervision and referral requirement for MFTs.
- Since their inception in 1979, Navy and Marine Corps Family Service Centers (FSC) have employed MFTs. According to an unpublished survey, fully 1/3 of FSC "clinical counselors" and "clinical supervisors" are MFTs.
- MFTs have provided storefront readjustment counseling to Vietnam veterans in a program conducted under the auspices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In Federal Scholarship Programs

- NIMH allows MFT trainees to compete on an equal basis with students from other mental health disciplines for funding.

AAMFT actively seeks to be enriched through the strength, power, and wisdom of diversity

National Survey Reveals Family Therapy Yields Cost-Effective and Positive Results

A University of Minnesota survey published in the Winter 1996 issue of the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy reveals never-before collected data on the practice patterns and effectiveness of Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs). There is emerging evidence that marriage and family therapy is a cost-effective, short-term and results-oriented form of psychotherapy.

Among the many findings, the research identifies and profiles MFTs, their patients, the problems presented, the various treatments administered, and the length of treatment, along with cost reimbursement rates, outcome efficacy, and client satisfaction.

The survey confirms that marriage and family therapists are highly skilled health care practitioners who successfully treat a broad range of emotional problems and mental illnesses. The data also show that these therapists treat mental disorders in a short-term and cost-effective manner.

The survey represents, for the first time, comparable outcome data collected from both therapists and their clients. The study, conducted by Dr. William Doherty and Deborah Simmons of the Family Social Science Department of the University of Minnesota, surveyed AAMFT members in 15 states across the United States during the Summer and Fall of 1994.

- SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS -

Two-thirds of Marriage and Family Therapists' (MFTs) clients have third-party coverage for an average of 50% of the fee. Insurers reimburse for couple therapy 60.2% of the time and for family therapy 64.1% of the time.

The most frequent interval for treatment by MFTs is biweekly, and the average fee is \$80 per hour. About 25% of their clients receive reduced fees.

The average length of treatment for couples therapy (11.5 sessions) and family therapy (9 sessions) is shorter than the average length of treatment for individual therapy (13 sessions).

Based on charges in actual cases, the average cost of a case treated by an MFT is \$780. Broken out by type of treatment, individual therapy costs \$845, couple therapy costs \$748, and family therapy costs \$585.

MFTs practice relatively short-term therapy, with a median of 12 sessions and 65% of cases completed within 20 sessions.

MFTs are a highly experienced group of practitioners, with an average of 13 years of clinical practice in the field of marriage and family therapy.

MFTs treat a wide range of serious clinical problems, primarily depression, marital problems, anxiety, child behavior problems, parent-child problems, and other psychological problems of adults and children.

By both therapist and client reports, marriage and family therapy is an effective treatment that results in positive outcomes, including marked improvement in individual, family, work, and social functioning.

MENTAL HEALTH COVERAGE: EFFICACY, HEALTH CARE SAVINGS, CORPORATE SUCCESS MODELS

The past fifteen years has witnessed dramatic innovation of effective mental health treatments and cost-effective delivery and financing systems. Empirical evidence and practical experience demonstrate that mental illness can be treated as successfully as many prevalent "physical" disorders and that general medical care costs can be significantly reduced with appropriate mental health intervention.

Treatment Efficacy

- Some treatments for severe forms of schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, major depression, manic-depressive illness and panic disorders have success rates (preventing relapse over a six-month period) higher than those of angioplasty and atherectomy, two common treatments for heart disease¹:

<u>Disorder</u>	<u>Success Rate</u>
Panic	80%
Manic Depressive	80%
Major Depression	65%
Schizophrenia	60%
Obsessive-compulsive	60%
Atherectomy	52%
Angioplasty	41%

- Mental health care can significantly improve health outcomes for persons with physical disorders. In one study, breast cancer patients who received group therapy lived, on average, eighteen months longer than did the randomly assigned control group.²

Health Care Savings

- General medical costs could be reduced by as much as \$1.2 billion through the use of appropriate mental health treatment.³
- In a study of Harvard Community Health Plan patients whose presenting symptoms were thought to be influenced by psychosocial factors, providing group behavioral therapies resulted in a 50% reduction in office visits during the six months following enrollment, with an average net cost savings during this period of \$3,900.⁴
- Patients in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan with chronic medical diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension, who received outpatient mental health care used an average \$298 fewer inpatient medical (non-mental health) services in the third year following medical diagnosis than those who did not.⁵

Corporate Success Models

- The Washington Business Group on Health has reported the following cost-savings achieved by corporations implementing mental health coverage with a full range of benefits:
 - McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Company reduced per capita costs by 34% in the first year⁶;
 - First National Bank of Chicago reduced overall behavioral health costs by nearly 30% over four years⁷; and
 - Honeywell, Inc. reduced costs by 40% in the first year, and has held cost inflation down to 4% in subsequent years, with high employee satisfaction⁸.
- By actively implementing an integrated mental health benefit covering a continuum of services, BellSouth experienced a 20% reduction in outlays for mental health care over five years.⁹

References

1. National Advisory Mental Health Council, *Health Care Reform for Americans with Severe Mental Illness: Report of the National Advisory Mental Health Council*, National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, MD, 1993.
2. Spiegel, D., *Psychotherapy for the Medically Ill*, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, 1993.
3. National Advisory Mental Health Council, *op cit*.
4. Hellman, C.J.C., Budd, M., et al. "A Study of the Effectiveness of Two Group Behavioral Medicine Interventions for Patients With Psychosomatic Complaints." *Behavioral Medicine*, Winter 1990.
5. Schlesinger, H.J., Mumford, E., et al., "Mental Health Treatment and Medical Care Utilization in a Fee-For-Service System: Outpatient Mental Health Treatment Following the Onset of a Chronic Disease," *American Journal of Mental Health*, Vol. 73, No. 4, April 1983.
6. England, M.H., Vaccaro, V.A., "New Systems to Manage Mental Health Care," *Health Affairs*, Winter 1991.
7. Vaccaro, V.A., *Depression: Corporate Experiences and Innovations*, D/ART National Worksite Program, Washington Business Group on Health, September 1991.
8. *Statement of the Washington Business Group on Health on: Mental and Addictive Disorders*, Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Washington DC, May 1993.
9. Finch, R. A., *BellSouth Statement on Managed Mental Health Care*, Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, May 1993.

RONALD K. POLLOCK, D.O.

110 WEST 18TH AVENUE, SUITE A
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
TELEPHONE (907) 272-1892

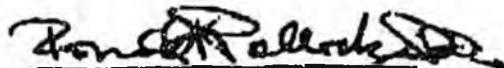
PSYCHIATRY

7 April 1997

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists. I work with LMFT's on a regular basis and find their therapeutic skills to be equal or superior to other mental health professionals of similar training level. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists are especially well trained in the areas of couple and family therapy, yet insurers in Alaska do not compensate them equally.

I urge lawmakers to remove the obstacles that allow insurance companies to deny compensation to LMFT's, who are trained and licensed to provide these types of needed care to Alaskan families.


Ronald K. Pollock, D.O.

MW:pr

Merjeanne A. Moore, D.O.

Psychiatry
110 West 15th Avenue, Suite A
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 272-1892 Telephone
(907) 272-0962 Fax

7 April 1997

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists receiving status and reimbursement by health insurers equal to that received by Licensed Clinical Social Workers.

I have worked in hospital and clinic settings for 15 years, supervising and working closely with LMFT's and LCSW's. Licensing of each requires a Master's degree, supervised internship in a clinical setting, and in Alaska, licensure by the State Division of Occupational Licensing. LMFT's and LCSW's have very similar professional abilities and performance expectations; moreover, an LMFT's training specifically includes family and couples psychotherapy.

I urge lawmakers to allow LMFT's recognition for the services they provide.



Merjeanne Moore, D.O.

MM:pr

SB

126

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: CSB 126 (FIN)
(S) Publish Date: 3-25-97

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: All Departments
 Title: An Act relating to the retirement incentive BRU: N/A
program for state employees Component: N/A
 Sponsor: Senate Finance Committee
 Requester: Senate Finance Committee COMPONENT SERIAL NO. N/A

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
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						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	***	***	***	***	***	***

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would increase the number of employees retiring under the retirement incentive (RIP) program. However, the magnitude of the increase in participating employees and the associated fiscal impacts cannot be accurately projected, because these factors depend both on individual employee decisions to be made in the future, as well as how many employees would participate under the current RIP over the next two years, which also cannot be accurately projected.

The Knowles Administration believes that the strategic RIP approach enacted by the Legislature in 1996 and currently being implemented by the Administration is more cost-effective and will result in greater long-term savings to state government than the "universal" RIP approach which SB 126 would require.

Prepared by: Annalee McConnell *Annalee McConnell* Phone: 465-4660
 Division: Office of Management and Budget Date: _____
 Approved by Commissioner: Jim Ayers, Chief of Staff *J. Ayers* Date: 3/20/97
 Agency: Office of the Governor

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 2
Bill Verson: CSSB 126 (FIN)
(S) Publish Date: 3-25-97

Revision Date: _____
Title: An Act relating to the retirement incentive program for state employees; and providing for an effective date.
Sponsor: Senate Finance Committee
Requestor: Sen. Finance

Department Affected: Administration
BRU: Retirement & Benefits
Component: _____
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 64

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FUND SOURCE: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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 97) cost: \$ zero

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)
There is no fiscal impact on the Division of Retirement & Benefits.

Prepared by: Robert F. Stalnaker
Division: Retirement & Benefits

Phone: 465-4470
Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer
Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 3/19/97

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 126

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act relating to the retirement incentive program for state employees; and providing for an effective date.
 Sponsor: Senate Finance Committee
 Requestor: Senate Finance

Department Affected: Administration
 BRU: Retirement & Benefits
 Component: _____
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 64

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 90	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUND SOURCE: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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 97) cost: \$ zero

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

There is no fiscal impact on the Division of Retirement & Benefits.

Prepared by: Robert F. Stalnaker Phone: 465-4470
 Division: Retirement & Benefits Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Boyer Date: 3/19/97
 Agency: Department of Administration

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 126 | _____

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: All Departments
 Title: An Act relating to the retirement incentive BRU: N/A
program for state employees Component: N/A
 Sponsor: Senate Finance Committee
 Requester: Senate Finance Committee COMPONENT SERIAL NO. N/A

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
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						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	***	***	***	***	***	***

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would increase the number of employees retiring under the retirement incentive (RIP) program. However, the magnitude of the increase in participating employees and the associated fiscal impacts cannot be accurately projected, because these factors depend both on individual employee decisions to be made in the future, as well as how many employees would participate under the current RIP over the next two years, which also cannot be accurately projected.

The Knowles Administration believes that the strategic RIP approach enacted by the Legislature in 1996 and currently being implemented by the Administration is more cost-effective and will result in greater long-term savings to state government than the "universal" RIP approach which SB 126 would require.

Prepared by: Annalee McConnell *Annalee McConnell* Phone: 465-4660
 Division: Office of Management and Budget Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Jim Ayers, Chief of Staff *J. Ayers* Date: 2/20/97
 Agency: Office of the Governor

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Official Business

COMMITTEE:

HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE

DATE: May 7, 1997

SIGN-IN

Subject of meeting:

SB 126 - STATE EMPLOYEES RIP AMENDMENTS

**PLEASE PRINT!
NAME**

ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)

PHONE

REPRESENTING

**DO YOU WANT
TO TESTIFY?**

NAME	ADDRESS (MAILING) & (ZIP)	PHONE	REPRESENTING	DO YOU WANT TO TESTIFY?
Bill Church		# 5700	Ret & Ben	ANSWER Questions
Tom Williams		# 3009	Sen Sharp/SFC	YES

M. Lee McHugh

05-08-1997 06:20AM FROM 9074552267 TO 2040 P.01



Official Business

Alaska State Senate


Senate Finance Committee

9:05am
MAY 01 1997

Mail Stop 3100
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chair
House Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Senator Bert Sharp, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee 

RE: *Hearing for SB 126*

DATE: May 1, 1997

This is to request a hearing for SB 126 at your committee's earliest convenience. I have attached a copies of the sponsor statement, the sectional analysis and the two fiscal notes.

If you require any additional information regarding this legislation, please contact Tom Williams of my staff at 465-6593.

Thank you.

Attachments (4)



Official Business

Alaska State Senate

Senate Finance Committee

Mail Stop 3100
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

CSSB 126 (FIN) **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

March 26, 1997

Senate Bill 126 will require state agencies to make better use of the Retirement Incentive Program (RIP) enacted last year.

Soon after the beginning of the legislative session, the Senate Finance Committee took testimony from the Office of Management and Budget regarding the administration's utilization of the RIP program and the savings that had been realized as a result of its implementation. The administration chose a very restrictive and selective approach to implementing RIP. Consequently, the number of employees who were even offered the opportunity to retire under the plan was small relative to total number of state employees, minimizing the potential savings to the state. In other cases, individuals who were offered the opportunity to participate may have chosen to delay their retirement to a later RIP date.

CSSB 126 (FIN) leaves the basic elements of current Retirement Incentive Program in place. However, it adds two principal provisions. It

1. limits a qualified employee's participation to the first RIP application period for which they qualify (*section 4*); and
2. requires state agencies to offer a RIP plan to all qualified classified state employees during three two month application periods (*section 1*).

This legislation will not only increase RIP participation, it will accelerate when employees are required to retire under this program. Both elements should increase savings to the state, the principal impetus to passing the RIP legislation last year.



Official Business

Alaska State Senate

Senate Finance Committee

Mail Stop 3100
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

CSSB 126 (FIN) **SECTIONAL ANALYSIS**

March 26, 1997

- Sec. 1:** Amends Section 23(a) of chapter 4, FSSLA 1996 to
- a. describe plans offered under the current Retirement Incentive Program as discretionary, distinguishing them from those plans required to be adopted for classified employees; and
 - b. require state agencies to offer a RIP plan to all qualified classified state employees during three two month application periods.
- Sec. 2:** Amends Section 23(b) of chapter 4, FSSLA 1996 to describe plans offered under the current Retirement Incentive Program as discretionary, distinguishing them from those plans required to be adopted for classified employees.
- Sec. 3:** Amends Section 23(e) of chapter 4, FSSLA 1996 to properly reference the amendments made in Section 1 of CSSB 126 (FIN).
- Sec. 4:** Adds a new subsection 23(f) to chapter 4, FSSLA 1996 to limit a qualified employee's participation to the first RIP application period for which the employee qualifies.
- Sec. 5:** Makes the enacted changes effective immediately.

cc:Mail for: Representative Norman Rokeberg

Subject: SB 126 State employees RIP amendments

From: bullet@pobox.alaska.net at CC2MHS1 4/30/97 5:19pm

To: Representative Norman Rokeberg at LAA_TRANS

MAY 01 1997

I encourage your support of SB 126. As chairman of the House Labor & Commerce Committee, you are in the best position to promote passage of this important legislation. Last year's RIP provisions lacked the teeth necessary to make the agencies take a hard look at retirement as a cost savings. These amendments go further in that direction, but the change to a five-year window instead of a three-year threshold of savings opportunity would be even better. Thanks for your help.

Nancy Cliff

600 W. 76th Ave #406

Anchorage, AK 99518

Retirement Incentive Program

Status Report on Approved RIP Plans

3/20/97

SB 126

Department/Agency	Total In Department (Full Time)	Positions In RIP Plan(s)	Positions Deleted In Plan	Positions Downgraded In Plan	Hold Open At Least 3 Months	Can Be Refilled - No Delay	Application Period	Must Retire by	Applications Received (as of 2/1/97)	Retired To Date (by 2/1/97)
Administration	1,091	12	3	2	3	2	multiple plans	mult. plans	4	2
AIDEA	32	3		2		3	2/1/97 - 3/31/97	9/1/97		
Commerce	390	15	1	1	1	13	1/10/97 - 2/28/97	6/30/97	3	0
Community and Regional Affairs	171	5		1	1	4	multiple plans	mult. plans	1	1
Corrections (Corr. & Probation Officers)	1,352	238				234	1/13/97 - 2/12/97	7/1/97	24	11
Education	463	42	1	6		41	3/17/97 - 4/17/97	7/1/97		
Environmental Conservation	483	23	2	9		17	1/16/96 - 2/15/97	7/1/97	1	
Fish and Game	757	24	6	18		18	11/7/96 - 12/31/97	5/1/97	19	4
Governor's Office	178	2		1		2	12/2/96 - 1/20/97	7/1/97	1	1
Health and Social Services	2,049	69	15	2		54	multiple plans	mult. plans	12	6
Labor	645	44	7			37	11/3/96 - 12/2/96	1/1/97	11	11
Natural Resources	569	26	4	7		22	multiple plans	mult. plans	12	9
Revenue	791	3	2	1		1	9/1/96 - 9/30/96	3/1/97	2	1
Public Safety	869	59	59	3		56	3/8/97 - 4/8/97	6/30/97		
Transportation and Public Facilities	2,704	95			45	50	2/18/97 - 3/19/97	7/1/97	4	
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	12,544	660	100	53	50	557			94	46
University of Alaska	3,469	481					11/11/96 - 12/31/96	6/30/97	101	26
Legislature	224	17	1					12/1/96	10	10
Court System	653	81					1/16/97 - 2/28/97	7/1/97	16	3
GRAND TOTALS	16,890	1,239							221	85

(as of 2/1/97) (by 2/1/97)

Note: RIP savings cannot be accurately projected yet for most departments because it is uncertain how many employees will actually retire, when they will retire, and which employees (high or low savings) will retire.

FAX TRANSMITTAL
STATE OF ALASKA

TO: Melinda
Rep Hudson's Office

DATE: 5/2/97
PHONE: _____
FAX #: 2273

FROM: Dave Kivimäki
Commissioner's Office
Department of Administration
P.O. Box 110200
Juneau, AK 99811-0200

PHONE: (907) 465-2200
FAX #: (907) 465-2135

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 3

PLEASE CALL ON RECEIPT

COMMENTS: If you have questions about
these sheets, call Bill Church - 5700

State of Alaska Retirement Incentive Program Statistics

Department	Designated	Applied	Retired
Governor's Office	2	1	1
Administration	12	6	2
Law	0	0	0
Revenue	3	2	2
Education	42	27	4
Health & Social Services	69	26	10
Labor	44	11	11
Commerce	18	10	1
Military & Veterans Affairs	0	0	0
Natural Resources	26	17	14
Fish & Game	24	19	6
Public Safety	59	23	5
Environmental Conservation	23	11	3
Corrections	243	55	18
Community & Regional Affairs	5	1	1
Transportation	95	38	8
Court System	74	17	6
	739	264	90
		35.72%	12.18% percent of designated
			34.10% percent of applied
Legislative Council	17	10	10
		58.82%	58.82% percent of designated

Retirement Incentive Program Statistics								
Group	Employers	Participating	Percent	Designated	Applied	Retired	Estimated Cost of Designated	Est. Savings of Designated
TRS-SD	61	37	61.00%	1287	427	92	\$46,714,749.00	\$71,148,437.00
PERS-SD	54	19	35.00%	499	156	38	\$9,162,669.00	\$8,606,594.00
TRS-UA	1	1	100.00%	276	75	16	\$10,530,296.00	\$4,941,750.00
PERS-UA	1	1	100.00%	200	72	20	\$6,150,090.00	\$2,142,314.00
STATE	17	15	88.00%	739	284	90	\$20,717,240.00	\$16,160,358.00
ST-LEG	1	1	100.00%	17	10	10	\$471,517.00	\$491,773.00
PERS-PS	99	16	16.00%	247	67	32	\$6,978,493.00	\$5,039,407.00
TOTALS	234	90		3265	1071 32.80%	298 9.13% 27.82%	percent of designated percent of applied	

5/7/97

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TO: CSHB 126(FIN)

PAGE 2, Line7 after "plan.":

ADD: "A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section shall reduce the range by at least one level for each vacant or eliminated position created under the adopted retirement incentive plan for positions compensated at Range 17 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable schedule that applies to the position. For a period of three years a state agency may not increase the salary range for a vacant or eliminated position created as a result of an adopted retirement incentive plan. Compensation for each position may be increased after the third year upon completion of a position classification study that recommends an increase in compensation.

R. Michael McGee

PO Box 32262
Juneau, AK 99803
(907)789-9096

APR 29 1997

April 28, 1997

FROM THE OFFICE OF
REPRESENTATIVE BILL HUDSON

Representative Al Vezey
State Capitol, Room 13
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Vezey:

I am writing in support of three bills.

I support SB126 and HB226 because I don't believe the Knowles Administration is acting in the best interest of the State of Alaska. If I understand these bills correctly, they would require the Knowles Administration to allow all classified employees to participate in the RIP program if they meet the age and service requirements. This is good, because in my belief the Knowles Administration could save a substantial amount of money by allowing employees to participate in the RIP. I feel this would help prevent the layoff of many employees. By virtue of the fact the Knowles Administration is not even considering eligible employees for the RIP leads me to believe they are going to blame the legislature for any layoffs occurring because of budget cuts. Several employees have talked to me about the lack of available information about the RIP from their departments. They have also told me they are reticent to say anything for fear of retaliation from within their departments. This is extremely sad, if true. I have told them that I would use my situation as an example because I feel that an injustice is being done. It is obvious to me that the only individuals who are being offered the ability to RIP are those individuals that a department wants to get rid of or, on a couple of occasions, used as a reward to friends.

Since I have volunteered to use my case as an example for you, let me begin. By the way, I was not offered the ability to accept or reject the RIP. In fact, employees in our department (Revenue) were not even aware that a plan had been put forth until we read about it in the local newspaper. This is true even though several of my employees had requested information from the Commissioner's office long before the plan was announced in the newspaper. I wrote the Commissioner's office expressing the concerns of my employees and was told that a plan had been submitted and approved by OMB and "that's it." In my situation, the State would have realized a savings of approximately \$14,752 even under Revenue's very rigid criteria. This savings didn't even consider a range reduction for my position. Since the duties and requirements for my position have changed considerably over the years, a range reduction could result in additional savings. The prior administration was considering a reduction of my position but never got around to it. If they were to reduce it even by two ranges, from 22 to 20, the three year savings would be \$75,664. I feel this is extremely realistic and possibly the range could be reduced even more.

The other bill for which I would like to express support is SB129. Since the RIP has been presented, I have said it is not realistic to use a three year period for calculating the savings. It took me ten years to reach the range I am in today. So if you increase the calculation years to five, it would be much more realistic in figuring the savings. In my case it would mean a savings of \$114,946 under the five year scenario with a two range reduction. Remember this is only one employee. If there were ten other employees in similar situations, the savings would be \$1,149,460, or if there were 100, the savings to the State would be \$11,494,600. I would say

that this is substantial. But it appears that no one seems to be looking at these savings. It is my understanding that one position that did take advantage of the RIP was reduced in range, but another employee's position in that unit was increased in range - so I ask, where is the savings in that situation?

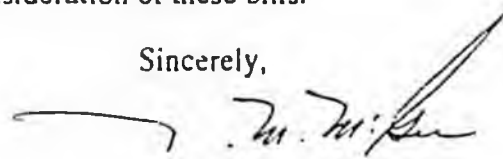
I haven't even worked hard at the above scenarios. There is no telling the amount of savings to the State of Alaska and the layoffs that could be avoided if just a little time, creativity and imagination were put into it. That is the reason I support the above bills. Maybe it will have a positive impact on the state budget without having a negative impact on the Alaska economy. It saddens me to think that individuals might lose their jobs because the Knowles Administration will not even take advantage of the tools made available to them.

The question begs to be asked - why would the Knowles Administration not use this budget saving tool if it is not costing them anything, saving funds and helping to prevent layoffs and thereby reducing the negative effect on the Alaska economy?

I feel I gave you the answer to this question at the beginning of this letter. The next question is what are you, the Alaska State Legislature, going to do about this situation?

Thank you very much for your consideration of these bills.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Michael McGee", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

R. Michael McGee

Enclosures

MAY 6, 1997

MAY 07 1997

TO: REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN ROKEBERG

I AM WRITING TO INQUIRE ABOUT SB #126 FOR STATE EMPLOYEES RIP BILL. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE STATUS OF THIS BILL AND IF YOU THINK IT WILL PASS THE LEGISLATURE THIS SESSION?

MY HUSBAND WILL HAVE ENOUGH TIME IN TO RETIRE THE END OF JULY AND BEING THE ONLY FISH AND GAME BIOLOGIST IN WRANGELL THE CONCERN THAT I HAVE IS THAT THEY ARE NOT GOING TO REPLACE HIS POSITION AND ESSENTIALLY CLOSE THIS OFFICE. WE WOULD HATE TO SEE THIS HAPPEN SO HE HAS OFFERED TO RIP SO THEY CAN BRING IN A LOWER PAYED BIOLOGIST TO HELP WITH THE BUDGET CRUNCH BUT APPARENTLY IT IS BEING DENIED. I'M SURE HE QUALIFIES FOR THE RIP AS WE HAVE BEEN HERE FOR 20 YEARS AND THEY HAVE NEVER PROMOTED HIM DURING THAT TIME AND HE IS MAXED OUT ON THE PAY SCALE.

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED SINCE IT IS THE #1 CUT IN THE COMMERCIAL FISH BUDGET FOR S.E. AND A HIRING FREEZE HAS BEEN PUT ON HIS PART TIME SECRETARIES POSITION.

I GUESS MY QUESTION IS HOW CAN SOME FISH & GAME EMPLOYEES BE GIVEN THE RIP AND NOT OTHERS EVEN THOUGH A SAVINGS CAN BE SHOWN? I GUESS THE POWERS TO BE ARE PLANNING ON HIM JUST TAKING HIS NORMAL RETIREMENT AND THEN JUST SHUTTING DOWN THIS OFFICE ANYWAY, AND AS A STATE EMPLOYEE FROM LAST YEARS RIP BILL WE HAVE NO RECOURSE.

I DID MAKE SOME PHONE CALLS TO FISH AND GAME ABOUT THIS AND I GUESS I RUFFLED SOME FEATHERS. ONE PERSON TOLD ME THAT A SAVINGS CAN'T BE SHOWN IN HIS JOB IF HE IS JUST NOT BUDGETED FOR IN NEXT YEARS BUDGET SO THEREFORE HE WILL NOT QUALIFY. CAN THIS REALLY HAPPEN WHEN THIS POSITION HAS BEEN HERE FOR OVER 30 YEARS? MY REPLY WAS WELL MAYBE WE WILL JUST BE A THORN IN THEIR SIDE AND NOT MAKE IT SO EASY AND NOT RETIRE IN WHICH HER REPLY WAS WELL WE WILL JUST PUT HIM ON LAYOFF STATUS.

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF SOME EMPLOYEES GET TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE THE STATE MONEY BECAUSE THEY ARE ONE OF THE GOOD OLD BOYS IN JUNEAU THAT ALL OF THE EMPLOYERS THAT QUALIFY SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET THE RIP.

I WOULD APPRECIATE A REPLY TO SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS. IT IS HARD TO SEE A DEDICATED STATE EMPLOYEE BE TREATED SO UNFAIRLY.

THANK YOU.

KRIS TIMOTHY
874-3615
FAX 874-2991

WOULD SB #126 HELP MY HUSBAND
TO BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
THE RIP? IF SO, PLEASE HELP TO
SEE THAT THIS BILL IS PASSED

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TO: CSHB 126(FIN)

PAGE 2, following line7:

Insert a new bill section to read:

"*Sec. 3. Section 23 (c), ch 4. FSSLA 1996, is amended to read:

(c) A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section may not permit an employee who is the governor, the lieutenant governor, or a commissioner, deputy commissioner, or assistant commission of a principal department of the executive branch to participate in the plan. A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section by a state agency shall reduce the range by at least one level for each vacant position created under the adopted retirement incentive plan for positions compensated at Range 17 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable schedule that applies to the position. For a period of three years a state agency may not increase the salary range for a vacant position created as a result of an adopted retirement incentive plan. Compensation for each position may be increased after the third year upon completion of a position classification study that recommends an increase in compensation.

Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: CSSB 126(FIN)

1 Page 2, following line 7:

2 Insert a new bill section to read:

3 **** Sec. 3. Section 23(c), ch. 4, FSSLA 1996, is amended to read:**

4 (c) A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section may not
5 permit an employee who is the governor, the lieutenant governor, or a commissioner,
6 deputy commissioner, or assistant commissioner of a principal department of the
7 executive branch to participate in the plan. A proposed retirement incentive plan
8 adopted under this section may not permit an employee of a state agency who is
9 compensated at Range 17 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable
10 schedule that applies to the position to participate in the plan unless the agency
11 certifies that the employee's position will be eliminated or, if the employee will
12 be replaced, that the agency will reclassify the position to reduce the
13 compensation for which an employee in the position is eligible. The reduction
14 must be accomplished by reducing the range at which the replacement employee
15 is compensated by at least one level. For three years after the retirement of the
16 employee under the retirement incentive plan, the salary range at which the
17 position is compensated may not be increased unless the increase is recommended
18 in a position classification study."

19 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

0-LS0687F.3
Cramer
5/7/97

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE
TO: CSSB 126(FIN)

1 Page 2, following line 7:

2 Insert a new bill section to read:

3 **** Sec. 3. Section 23(c), ch. 4, FSSLA 1996, is amended to read:**

4 (c) A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section may not
5 permit an employee who is the governor, the lieutenant governor, or a commissioner,
6 deputy commissioner, or assistant commissioner of a principal department of the
7 executive branch to participate in the plan. In the case of each employee who
8 participates in the retirement incentive plan and who is compensated at Range 17
9 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable level on the salary
10 schedule that applies to the employee, the employing department or agency shall
11 reduce the range for the employee's position by at least one level before hiring
12 a replacement for the employee. For a period of three years after the position
13 became vacant because of the employee's retirement, the state department or
14 agency may not increase the salary range for the position previously held by the
15 retiring employee. The department or agency may only increase the salary range
16 for the position after the three year period if the increase is recommended by a
17 position classification study."

18 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TO: CSHB 126(FIN)

PAGE 2, Line7 after "plan.":

ADD: "A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section shall reduce the range by at least one level for each vacant or eliminated position created under the adopted retirement incentive plan for positions compensated at Range 17 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable schedule that applies to the position. For a period of three years a state agency may not increase the salary range for a vacant or eliminated position created as a result of an adopted retirement incentive plan. Compensation for each position may be increased after the third year upon completion of a position classification study that recommends an increase in compensation.

Why did you include eliminated positions in the amendment you drafted? Are they eliminated? I included them in this draft because you did? But I need to know why an eliminated position would be included.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TO: CSHB 126(FIN)

PAGE 2, Line7 after "plan.":

ADD: "A proposed retirement incentive plan adopted under this section shall reduce the range by at least one level for each vacant or eliminated position created under the adopted retirement incentive plan for positions compensated at Range 17 or above on the state salary schedule or a comparable schedule that applies to the position.

A state agency may not increase the salary range for ^{of the}vacant or eliminated position created as a result of an adopted retirement incentive plan for a period of three years. Compensation for each position may be increased after the third year upon completion of a position classification study that recommends an increase in compensation.

For a period of three years after the retirement of the employee under the retirement incentive plan

state, if the employee does not purport to speak or act in an official capacity.

(b) The heads of the administrative departments of the state may adopt internal management regulations for their respective departments, specifying exceptions to (a) (5) of this section. These regulations shall be submitted for approval to the personnel board provided for in AS 39.25.060.

(c) The provisions of (a) of this section do not diminish the authority of an authorized law enforcement agency to conduct criminal investigations of state employees suspected of being involved in criminal activity.

Sec. 39.26.015

DRESS CODES AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS.

Dress codes and appearance standards adopted by a department, division, agency, official, or other employee of the state, that are to be applied to state employees shall be in the form of a regulation subject to legislative review under the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62).

Sec. 39.26.020

APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.

This chapter applies to those state employees in the classified and partially exempt services.

Chapter 39.27

PAY PLAN FOR STATE EMPLOYEES

Sec. 39.27.010

BASIC SALARY SCHEDULE. *REPEALED, Sec. 12 CH 80 SLA 1978. FOR CURRENT LAW COVERING THE SUBJECT MATTER, SEE AS 39.27.011.*

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 39.27.011

SALARY SCHEDULE.

(a) The following monthly basic salary schedule is approved as the pay plan for classified and partially exempt employees in the executive branch of the state government who are not members of a collective bargaining unit established under the authority of the Public Employment Relations Act and employees of the legislature under AS 24.10 and AS 24.20:

Range No.	Step A	Step B	Step C	Step D	Step E	Step F	Step
05	1504	1546	1591	1635	1683	1728	1728
06	1591	1635	1683	1728	1778	1830	1830
07	1683	1728	1778	1830	1887	1945	1945
08	1778	1830	1887	1945	2001	2064	2064
09	1887	1945	2001	2064	2131	2191	2191
10	2001	2064	2131	2191	2258	2327	2327
11	2131	2191	2258	2327	2405	2480	2480
12	2258	2327	2405	2480	2565	2652	2652
13	2405	2480	2565	2652	2745	2845	2845
14	2565	2652	2745	2845	2945	3057	3057
15	2745	2845	2945	3057	3156	3276	3276
16	2945	3057	3156	3276	3394	3516	3516
17	3156	3276	3394	3516	3637	3762	3762
18	3394	3516	3637	3762	3885	4032	4032
19	3637	3762	3885	4032	4155	4310	4310
20	3885	4032	4155	4310	4442	4605	4605
21	4155	4310	4442	4605	4750	4921	4921

22	4442	4605	4750	4921	5084	5270
23	4750	4921	5084	5270	5446	5650
24	5084	5270	5446	5650	5841	6039
25	5446	5650	5841	6039	6262	6497
26	5650	5841	6039	6262	6497	6731
27	5841	6039	6262	6497	6731	6987
28	6039	6262	6497	6731	6987	7230
29	6262	6497	6731	6987	7230	7485
30	6497	6731	6987	7230	7485	7749

(b) *Repealed, Sec. 38 ch 3 SLA 1980.*

(c) If a state officer or employee is appointed a deputy department head or a division director and, at the time of appointment, the officer or employee is receiving a salary higher than that set for the position to which appointment has been made, the officer or employee is entitled to continue receiving the higher salary. This subsection does not apply to the salary of a person appointed to a position other than a deputy department head or a division director.

(d) The commissioner of administration shall adopt the regulations required under AS 22.05.140(d), AS 22.07.090(c), AS 22.10.190(d), and AS 22.15.220(e). The regulations relate to the internal management of state agencies and their adoption is not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62). The regulations shall be published in the Alaska Administrative Register and Code for informational purposes.

Sec. 39.27.012

TEMPORARY SALARY SCHEDULES.

The director of personnel may establish salary schedules providing lesser amounts than those in the basic salary schedule in order to meet salary limit requirements for receipt and expenditure of federal funds. Salary rates established under authority of this section do not affect the salaries of employees provided for by a collective bargaining agreement negotiated under the authority of the Public Employment Relations Act (AS 23.40.070 - 23.40.260).

Sec. 39.27.015

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS. *REPEALED, Sec. 12 CH 80 SLA 1978.*

Repealed or Renumbered

Sec. 39.27.020

PAY STEP DIFFERENTIALS BY ELECTION DISTRICT AND IN OTHER STATES.

(a) The following pay step differentials are approved as an amendment to the basic salary schedules provided in AS 39.27.011:

Election District	Pay Steps Above Basic Salary Schedule
1	0
2	1
3	1
4	0
5	2
6a (excluding Valdez Duty Station)	4
6b (Valdez Duty Station)	5
7	1
8	0
9	2
10	2
11	2

12	7	
13	7	
14	8	
15a (excluding Nenana Duty Station)		9
15b (Nenana Duty Station)		8
16a (south of Arctic Circle)		4
16b (north of Arctic Circle)		9
17	9	
18	9	
19	8	
In other states	minus 6	

(b) For purposes of (a) of this section, "election district" means an election district designated in the governor's proclamation of reapportionment and redistricting of December 7, 1961.

(c) The director shall establish salary differentials for positions in foreign countries. The differentials shall be adjusted annually, effective July 1, to maintain equitable relationships between salaries for positions in foreign countries and salaries for positions in Alaska.

Sec. 39.27.022

PAY INCREMENTS FOR LONGEVITY IN STATE SERVICE.

(a) Pay increments, computed at the rate of 3.75 per cent of the employee's base salary, shall be provided after an employee has remained in the final step within a given range for two years, provided that the employee has worked continuously for the state for seven years and provided that the current annual rating by the employee's supervisors is designated as "good" or higher.

(b) Additional increments, each computed at the rate of 3.75 per cent of the employee's base salary, shall be provided under the same restrictions as provided in (a) of this section when the employee has remained in the final step for four, nine and thirteen years.

(c) Longevity pay increments provided for in (a) and (b) of this section are approved under AS 39.25.150(2) as an amendment to the pay plan for employees of the state.

(d) This section applies to employees of the legislature only if the committee responsible for adopting employment policies concerning the employee adopts a written policy that the section applies. This section applies to the employees of the office of the ombudsman only if the ombudsman adopts a policy that the section applies.

Sec. 39.27.025

SWING AND GRAVEYARD SHIFT DIFFERENTIALS.

(a) Classified and partially exempt state employees who regularly work a "swing" shift beginning between 12:00 noon and 7:59 p.m. are entitled to a one-step increase over their normal pay established by this chapter.

(b) Classified and partially exempt state employees who regularly work a "graveyard" shift beginning between 8:00 p.m. and 3:59 a.m. are entitled to a two-step increase over their normal pay established by this chapter.

Sec. 39.27.030

ANNUAL SALARY SURVEY.

(a) The director of the division of personnel shall conduct an annual salary survey in the manner prescribed by AS 39.27.030 - 39.27.040, and make recommendations in pay ranges to be applied to all classes of positions in the state's partially exempt and classified service. This survey shall

(1) reflect the costs of living in the various election districts of the state by using the cost of living in Seattle, Washington, as a base of 100;

(2) reflect the competitive position of the state, first, by comparing state salary

S B

1 3 7

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO No. 2
Bill Verson: SB 137
(S) Publish Date: 3-26-97

Revision Date: March 17, 1997 Dept. Affected: Public Safety
Title: An Act exempting certain volunteer EMT's & FF's from state wage & hour laws BRU: Fire Prevention
Sponsor: Senator Leman Component: Fire Prevention Operations
Requestor: S. Judiciary COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0494

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

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

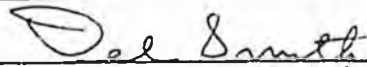
Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ _____

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill will not fiscally impact the Division of Fire Prevention.

Prepared By: Chester Weger Phone: 269-5905
Division: Fire Prevention Date: 3/17/97
Approved by Commissioner:  Date: 3/19/97
Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: SB 137
(S) Publish Date: 3-26-97

Revision Date: _____
Title: Exempt Vol. EMT/Fire Flgtr
Wage & Hour Law
Sponsor: Senator Leman
Requestor: Senate L&C

Department Affected: Labor
BRU: Labor Standards & Safety
Component: _____
Wage & Hour Administration
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 345

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
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						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUE FUND SOURCE #						
---------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year (FY97) impact: \$ NONE

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would exempt certain volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer fire fighters from state wage and hour laws. There is no fiscal impact associated with this bill.

Prepared by: Alan W. Dwyer, Director *ADW* 3/17/97 Phone: 465-4855
Division: Labor Standards & Safety Date: 2/20/97

Approved by Commissioner: Tom Cashen, Commissioner
Agency: Department of Labor Date: 2/20/97

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(7)

Date Referred to Committee: April 3, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/11/97

The LABOR AND COMMERCE Committee considered:

SB 137

SENATE BILL NO. 137

EXEMPT VOL. EMT/FIRE FGTR WAGE & HOUR LAW

"An Act exempting certain volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer fire fighters from state wage and hour laws; and providing for an effective date."

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute HCS 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) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>John C. ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>John Sanders</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>John ...</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>John ...</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Bill Hudson</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Nan Kately</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE

Nan Kately

4-11-97

04/11/97

LEGISLATIVE TELECONFERENCE NETWORK SYSTEM

LTN1150

15:20:56

PARTICIPANT LIST (TESTIFIERS ONLY)

BY:JNU

TCN:70609 SCHEDULED FOR:04/11/97 15:15 TO 17:15

FOR:ALL

PUBLIC HEARING

HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE

LOCATION: ANCHORAGE

SB 137

RANDY

CARR

TESTIFY

LOCATION: FAIRBANKS

SB 137

MR.

CRAIG

LEWIS

INT. REG EMS

TESTIFY

LOCATION: TOK

SB 137

MR

TOM

DEAN

TOK AREA E.M.S. TESTIFY