

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 8672

9560 SENATE JUDICIARY

1997

CORRECTION

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



Rev. 6/98

Central Microfilm Services
Department of Education
State of Alaska

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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

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

MEMORANDUM

February 3, 1997

SUBJECT: Parental Consent for Minors' Activities (Work Order No. 20-LS0465)

TO: Senator Johnny Ellis
Attn: Noelle

FROM: Terri Lauterbach
Legislative Counsel *Terri Lauterbach*

You have asked if state law requires parental consent before a minor's ear can be pierced, before a minor may go on a school field trip, before a minor may attend certain types of movies, and similar situations.

While there are some state laws that require parental consent in other situations, I have not found a state law requiring parental permission in the specific situations you have described. When parental permission is required in a commercial situation, such as ear piercing or to attend a movie, it is usually merely a business practice of the proprietor. The proprietor may require permission for any of several reasons, among them the following: to avoid a suit by the parent for injury to the minor, as a way of ensuring that the item or service will be paid for by an adult, or as a practice to maintain the good will of the parents or to uphold voluntary industry standards. When parental permission is required for a school function, liability and goodwill are probably the main concerns of the school district.

My review of the Alaska Statutes has found the following situations where parental consent is required for an activity of or relating to a minor:

- (1) possession of a firearm if under 16 (AS 11.61.220(1)(3));
- (2) marriage if 16 but under 18 (AS 25.05.171);
- (3) testimony if the minor is a victim of a domestic violence crime, unless the court determines that the minor is capable of waiving the privilege not to testify (AS 25.35.100);
- (4) informal treatment of delinquency charges (AS 47.10.020);
- (5) to be absent from parental custody (AS 11.51.130(a)(4));

Senator Johnny Ellis
February 3, 1997
Page 2

(6) to be evaluated for placement in special education classes, but a hearing can be held to determine whether the minor should be tested if the parent fails or refuses to consent (AS 14.30.193(a));

(7) transfer of an exceptional child outside the school district (AS 14.30.285(f));

(8) photographing a minor being evaluated for mental health treatment, except for internal identification purposes (AS 47.30.840(a)(1));

(9) being in or viewing an indecent photograph if under 16 (AS 11.61.123(a)).

State law specifically provides that parental consent is not required in the following situations:

(1) medical and dental services for a minor if the parent won't give an answer or cannot be contacted (AS 25.20.025);

(2) medical and dental services to a minor parent and for the minor's parent's child (AS 25.20.025);

(3) diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of pregnancy or venereal disease (AS 25.20.025);

(4) relinquishment of parental rights by a minor parent; (AS 25.23.180(b));

(5) to be interviewed at school by DHSS or law enforcement personnel when an allegation of abuse has been filed (AS 47.17.027(a));

(6) to be x-rayed or photographed when an allegation of abuse has been filed (AS 47.17.064(a)).

Please let me know if you have further questions about this matter or if I can be of other assistance.

TML:glc
97-050.glc



SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189 Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095

Sponsor Statement -- SB 24

"An Act relating to a requirement that a parent, guardian, or custodian consent before certain minors receive an abortion; establishing a judicial bypass procedure by which a minor may petition a court for authorization to consent to an abortion without consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian; amending the definition of 'abortion'; and amending Rules 40 and 79, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure; Rules 204, 210, 212, 213, 508, and 512.5, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure; and Rule 9, Alaska Administrative Rules."

Senate Bill 24 allows enforcement of existing law requiring parental consent before an abortion can be performed on a minor. Parental consent is required under AS 18.16.010, approved by the Legislature in 1970. However, a 1976 Attorney General's opinion declared the statute unenforceable as it lacks a judicial bypass provision which would enable a minor to receive permission from a judge as an alternative to a parent. Various Supreme Court decisions have held that judicial bypass is necessary if parental consent laws are to meet constitutional muster. SB 24 adds the required bypass.

In other states, parental involvement laws have had a positive impact, reducing both the number of abortions *and* the number of teen pregnancies. During the first six years Minnesota's parental involvement law was in effect, the teen pregnancy rate fell 20.5 percent, teen abortions declined 27.4 percent, and the teen birth rate went down 12.5 percent.

SB 24 also upholds the rights of parents, which are uniquely disregarded in the area of abortion. Parental consent is required for virtually every medical procedure. An exception should not exist for abortion. In Alaska, young people under age 18 are not considered mature enough to be served alcohol, buy cigarettes, or vote in elections. Even marriage is not permitted, unless a parent consents. But a teenager can obtain an abortion, even one paid for by the state, and the parents are not even required to be notified of that fact.

A clear majority of Alaskans -- 78 percent -- expressed support for parental consent legislation considered in the 19th Legislature. Parental involvement laws are on the books in 38 states. These statutes are enforced in 27 of these states.

Sectional Analysis -- SB 24

"An Act relating to a requirement that a parent, guardian, or custodian consent before certain minors receive an abortion; establishing a judicial bypass procedure by which a minor may petition a court for authorization to consent to an abortion without consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian; amending the definition of 'abortion'; and amending Rules 40 and 79, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure; Rules 204, 210, 212, 213, 508, and 512.5, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure; and Rule 9, Alaska Administrative Rules."

Prepared by: Mike Pauley, Staff to Sponsor SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Last updated: Monday, January 27, 1997

Section 1: Purpose and Legislative findings

- Intent of legislation is to protect the health and welfare of minors, foster and preserve the family structure as a viable social unit, and protect the rights of parents to rear their children.
- The legislature finds that parents often possess information on the medical history of the minor that is essential to a physician's or surgeon's medical judgment.
- The legislature also finds that minors stand to benefit from parental counsel; the capacity to become pregnant and the capacity for mature judgment concerning the wisdom of an abortion are not necessarily related.

Section 2: Amends Title 18 of Alaska Statutes (Health & Safety)

- Repeals existing language on parental consent [AS 18.16.010(a)(3)] and replaces it with language requiring *either* parental consent or court authorization before an abortion can be performed on an unemancipated minor. The bill establishes a rebuttable presumption that an unmarried woman under 18 is unemancipated.

Section 3: Establishes new subsections under AS 18.16.010 (Regulation of Abortions)

- Person who performs an abortion without obtaining the required consent is civilly liable to the minor's parent(s) or guardian for compensatory and punitive damages.
- It is an affirmative defense to prosecution if the person performing the abortion was provided by the pregnant minor with false, misleading, or incorrect information about age, marital status, or emancipation.

- It is an affirmative defense to prosecution if the person performing the abortion could not comply with the consent requirement because the continuation of the pregnancy posed an immediate threat of serious risk to the life or physical health of the pregnant woman, necessitating an immediate abortion.

Section 4: Establishes new sections under AS 18.16 (Regulation of Abortions)

- **Sec. 18.16.020** provides that an abortion may not be performed on an unemancipated minor unless...
 - 1) one of the minor's parents or the minor's guardian has consented to the procedure in writing; or
 - 2) a court has issued an order permitting the minor to consent to the abortion without obtaining consent of a parent or guardian; or
 - 3) a court by its inaction has constructively authorized a minor to consent to the abortion (*see Sec. 18.16.030*).
- **Sec. 18.16.030** outlines the procedure for seeking a court order (judicial bypass) allowing a minor to consent to an abortion without first securing parental consent. Complaints must be filed in superior court. Complaint must be under oath and include a statement that the complainant is pregnant, unmarried, under age 18, unemancipated, and wishes to have an abortion without obtaining parental consent. In addition, the complainant must allege that she is sufficiently mature and well-informed to make an abortion decision without parental consent *and/or* that one or both of her parents or her guardian is abusing the complainant physically, sexually, or emotionally; or that securing consent is otherwise not in the woman's best interest. Sec. 18.16.030 also sets time limits for hearing complaints; establishes an appeals process; requires appointment of an attorney for complainants who have not retained counsel; provides for the anonymity of the complainant. If a court does not act on a complaint within the time limits established in the legislation, it shall be considered a "constructive order" allowing the minor to consent to the abortion without the consent of a parent or guardian.
- **Sec. 18.16.090** defines the terms "abortion" and "unemancipated".

Section 5: Amends Title 44 of Alaska Statutes (State Government)

- **Sec. 44.21.410(a)** is amended to require the Office of Public Advocacy to provide legal representation for minors seeking a court order for an abortion without parental consent.

Section 6: Repeals Alaska Statute 18.16.010(d)

- The existing definition of abortion under AS 18.16 (Regulation of Abortions) is repealed (*replaced with new definition @ Sec. 18.16.090*).

Section 7: Amending Rule 40, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure

- Sec. 18.16.030(c) of the bill has the effect of amending Rule 40 by setting time limits for hearing judicial bypass cases.

Section 8: Amending Rules 204, 210, 212, and 213, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure

- Sec. 18.16.030(j) of the bill has the effect of amending Rules 204, 210, 212, and 213, by setting time limits for judicial bypass appeals, and also by liberally modifying or dispensing with formal requirements for the form and content of appellants' briefs.

Section 9: Amending Rule 512.5, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure

- Sec. 18.16.030(k) of the bill has the effect of amending Rule 512.5 by making certain appellate records and papers confidential.

Section 10: Amending Rule 9, Alaska Administrative Rules; Rule 79, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure; and Rule 508, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure.

- Sec. 18.16.030(m) of the bill has the effect of amending Rule 9, Rule 79, and Rule 508 by prohibiting filing fees and court cost assessments in judicial bypass cases.

JUNEAU EMPIRE

JOHN WINTERS
Publisher

SUZANNE DOWNING
Managing Editor

JIM WHITAKER
Editorial Page Editor

FRED HOWARD
Circulation Manager

DAVID BLUMENSHINE
Production Manager

ROBIN HERDMAN PAUL
Advertising Manager

PAT SMITH
Office Manager

Girls, abortion and judicial bypass

A bortion is an issue with very little middle ground. Those who call themselves "pro-choice" favor it; those known as "pro-life" fight it at every turn. Rarely, if ever, do the two sides agree. And whenever an abortion-related bill comes up, the battle lines are drawn before the ink is dry.

Such, unfortunately, will probably be the case with Senate Bill 24, introduced recently by Sen. Loren Leman, an Anchorage Republican. His bill requires minors to obtain consent from a parent or guardian before getting an abortion. The provision also allows a minor to petition the courts for permission for the procedure without the consent of a parent or guardian.

The state currently has a parental consent law on the books. However, a 1976 opinion by the attorney general declared it unenforceable because the statute lacked a judicial bypass provision. Various Supreme Court decisions have held that such an option is necessary to meet constitutional muster. Sen. Leman's bill would fix the problem.

Regardless of one's emotional views on the subject, this bill simply follows a fairly logical extension of existing Alaska law. A minor cannot vote, buy cigarettes or be served alcohol. Should we, however, allow minors to get an abortion?

A minor under the age of 18 can't use a firearm unless obtaining consent from a parent; they can't get married without consent; and they can't get any major - or often times - minor medical procedure without parental consent. If one argues abortion is 'just a medical procedure,' then parental consent should be required here as well.

What one calls that which grows inside a woman - fetus, egg, child, it, tissue, or whatever - one point remains absolute. An abortion ends the life of a future human being. Such a decision should not be made by one scared young girl alone.

If an under-aged teen-ager needs permission for almost any medical procedure, how is an abortion different? And this law provides an outlet for those, for whatever reason allowable, who cannot obtain permission from their parents or guardians. The law allows for the courts to step in. However, courts must be extremely conservative in allowing this review. This is a matter left to the family except in extreme cases. It should not be an option available just because a girl doesn't want to face her parents.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/13/97

FURTHER: Judiciary
Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 1/23/97
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/3/97

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 24

Require ⁱⁿ consent before minors receive an abortion; amend Rules 40 and 79 ~~Alaska~~ Rules of Civil Procedure; Rules 204, 210, 212, 213, 508, and 512.5, Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure; and Rule 9, Alaska Administrative Rules.

and recommends:

- 2 Fair's & 20/10/97*
- be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to the _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
- new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
- technical title
- new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Donald Ward</i>	✓	<i>fly Ebers</i>		X	
<i>Andrew D. Skene</i>	✓				
<i>Lynne Green</i>	✓				
<i>Edwards</i>	✓				
<i>CHAIR: Wilton</i>	✓	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
Alaska Court System	1/28/97		✓
Public Dept of Admin - Defender	1/28/97	✓	
Social Dept of Health + Services	1/29/97	✓	
Public Dept of Admin - Advocacy	1/28/97		✓

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE
REFERRALS

FAX TRANSMISSION

TO: Senate Judiciary Committee
FAX: 465-3922
DATE: 2-6-97
MESSAGE: 3 pg letter to follow

Regarding Senate Bill No. 24
Regarding House Bill No. 37

January 31, 1997
February 6, 1997

My name is Sharylee Zachary,

My husband, Dan, and I have 3 wonderful daughters ages 11, 9, and 7. We are working hard and faithfully at instilling in them high moral values and standards to live by. For every action, there is a consequence and you should own up to those actions and consequences and not blame them on anyone else. No one else should pay the price for your consequences. But also, we stand together as a family to work through the happenings and consequences of our actions. We learn from them, deal with them, encourage each other to make wiser decisions the next time. We are teaching our children to be responsible and to look out for the welfare of those around them.

High on our list is to teach them the great value and sanctity of human life, a precious life that God has given to every conceived baby, whether that baby is two cells or full term. Ideally, we live our life so that a baby is conceived within the bonds of a love relationship between a husband and wife and we do not have sex until marriage. We believe in the preservation of the family unit.

I realize that one of the main reasons this bill has come about is because a lot of people don't feel this way and are not living their lives in this manner and are not teaching these truths to their children. Instead of living according to absolute moral values, they live by their 'feelings' and their 'right' as an American citizen to do what they please. The consequences have been disastrous to our nation. There is now a huge number of broken families, single parent families where there was never a marriage or commitment (just 'feelings'), and a huge abortion rate where the 'consequences' of peoples 'feelings', the resulting babies, are being slaughtered. We have a multitude of fatherless families living in poverty; crime is running rampant, -children are joining 'gangs' in order to find security and a 'family' feeling. The effects of the misuse of drugs and alcohol are running rampant. You are quite aware of all this, I know.

I also realize that another main reason this bill has come about is because of the pregnancy consequences women end up with because of the abuse they have suffered at the hand of some man (men) (which can take many forms). My heart aches for these women. And I am very sorry that our society has given them the message that the only way out is by handing down a death sentence to their unborn child.

I am grateful that this bill is designed to decisio strongly recognize the rights of the family and the parents to support their children through such crisis and to guide them in making wise sions.

Unfortunately, few people are taking appropriate responsibility for the consequences of their actions. For years, now, around the country children are being educated that, 'You

are going to have sex anyway so use condoms, they will protect you from disease and pregnancy'. Well, that does not work. Instead, we need to plant seeds in the children that they have the ability to live an abstinent lifestyle (which is the only true means of birth control and disease prevention) and still be happy and content. Then we need to raise up support groups to encourage that type of responsible behavior. Our children are told that if they get pregnant, the only way out is abortion. "And, by the way, lets keep it a secret from your parents, we will provide all you need to get the abortion." (Who usually pays for the medical costs as the result of the abortion? - the parents, not the clinic that botched things up!)

Talk about driving a major wedge in the parent/child relationship!!! Parents are not even given a chance to help their child through the crisis. If one of our daughters were to become pregnant, we would support her through the pregnancy, and help her make the wisest decision for her and her baby as far as keeping her baby or adoption into a healthy, loving family. It is unfortunate that everywhere you go there are people and resources outside the family who are filling our children with those types of lies.

Please continue to encourage the ability and right of the parents and families to support our children in times of crisis.

I realize that there are those parents who are currently abusing their children and would continue to treat their children badly (or worse) upon hearing the news of an unwanted pregnancy. And there are cases of incest and rape where people feel this is the time for an abortion. My husband and I, and hundreds of thousands of folks like us, are not ignorant nor cold-hearted toward the plight of these unfortunate children. But we do believe that if a baby is on the way, that viable life has a right to be born. Communities do need to support the mother through the pregnancy and onto a healthier life style. There also needs to be community help for the fathers to take on their responsibility for their actions, - they need support groups to help them, also. They should not be ignored. Many of them have had no positive role models to show them the way toward responsible behavior toward those around them, - as well as toward themselves. It is also really 'key' that Churches, once again, are allowed back into the arena of helping folks get their life in shape.

Please continue to work for legislation that does not allow for the breakdown of our families and our nation.

Two questions:

1) If this legislation does not pass, what provisions can be done for the family whose daughter, unknown to them, has had an abortion and is living through the emotional scars of that procedure, the emotional scars of the unwanted pregnancy and often the accompanied abandonment by the father, etc., - - there is something wrong with their daughter, and they don't have a chance to help her through it because they don't even know about it?

2) I have met several adult women who, while in their teens, were forced by their parents to have an abortion, - against their will, and they are still carrying the emotional (and some physical) scars this produced in their lives. Is there legislation to safeguard children against this type of abuse?

Alaska has made many wise pro-family, pro-nation choices in it's laws and I am very proud of that.

Alaska has to stand strong, not to go the route of many of the lower-48 states that are falling apart because of their unwise, anti-family choices in their living styles and laws.

Alaska needs to be the North Star state pointing the way to strong families, strong communities, strong states, and a strong nation founded and built on absolute values and taking responsibility for personal actions and the consequences thereof so that the innocent no longer suffer.

Very Sincerely and Respectfully,

Sharylee Zachary
Box 1531
Petersburg,AK 99833
(907) 772-3681



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
ALASKA CHAPTER

525 Main Street, Juneau AK 99801
586-4438 1-800-478-6279 Fax: 586-4439
naswak@alaska.net

Testimony Regarding

SB 24 - PARENTAL CONSENT FOR ABORTION

Before the
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
ALASKA SENATE
February 12, 1997

Presented by
Angela M. Salerno, ACSW
Executive Director,
National Association of Social Workers Alaska Chapter



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS ALASKA CHAPTER

525 Main Street, Juneau AK 99801
586-4438 1-800-478-6279 Fax: 586-4439
naswak@alaska.net

ALASKA CHAPTER

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the world's largest organization of professional social workers. NASW's 155,000 members nationwide and 460 in Alaska work in a wide range of settings at all levels in the public and private sectors. Professional social workers focus on vulnerable populations and promote state and federal policies which enhance the lives of the people we serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee on SB 24 - Parental Consent for Abortion.

NASW opposes SB 24 and does not recommend its passage.

A pregnant woman's constitutional right to choose between childbirth and abortion was established in 1973 by the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in *Roe V. Wade*. All women, including those under 18, are entitled to a safe, legal abortion.

Of the more than one million teenage pregnancies that occur in the United States each year, over 80 percent are unintended. Nearly all pregnant teens are unwed, and some 40% of them choose abortion. The bill before you will require that young women seeking to terminate an unwanted pregnancy receive the permission of parents, guardians or the court before receiving a safe, legal abortion.

This proposal will not act to promote desirable parental consultation. Ideally, a teenager should be able to tell her parents about her pregnancy, obtain their love and support and arrive at critical decisions about her future through family discussions. In fact, the majority of pregnant teenagers do tell at least one parent about their pregnancies. Based on a national survey of more than 1,600 unmarried minors having abortions in states without parental consent laws, 61% discussed the decision to have an abortion with at least one of their parents. The younger the minor, the more likely she was to have voluntarily discussed the abortion with her parents.

Parental involvement laws do not strengthen family relationships. The need to reinforce family relationships is the reason most often cited to justify state laws requiring parental consent before abortion. But such laws are unnecessary for stable and supportive families, and they are ineffective and cruel for unstable, troubled families. Some teenagers cannot tell their parents. Some are victims of incest or other forms of family violence - one study showed that 14% of minors having abortions believed that, if forced to tell their parents about their pregnancies, they would face physical abuse, and 11% feared violence between their parents. Mandatory parental consent cannot transform abusive families into supportive ones.

Mandating parental involvement poses health risks to teenagers. Young women already are more likely than older women to have later abortions, and parental involvement laws only cause further delays either because of fears of telling their parents or because of the inevitable delays in going to court for a judicial bypass hearing. While abortion at all stages of pregnancy is safer than childbirth, the risk of major complications increases 15 - 30% per week. Statistics compiled by the Federal Centers for Disease Control indicate that the risk of death from childbirth is, on average, 24 times higher than the risk of death from abortion up to 12 weeks of pregnancy. Following enactment of Minnesota's parental notification laws, second-trimester abortions among minors increased by 18%. Minors who cannot obtain an abortion in their small towns or villages must travel to other sites to have the procedure, are forced to carry their pregnancies to term, or resort to illegal abortion. Under Minnesota notification statute, the birth rate in Minneapolis for 15 -17 year olds rose 38%. The American Medical Association has long recognized that parental notification and consent requirements deter minors from seeking necessary health care. The desire to maintain secrecy has been one of the leading reasons for illegal abortion deaths since the Supreme Court recognized the constitutional right to abortion in

1973. Further, the AMA believes some minors may be physically or emotionally harmed if required to involve a parent in the abortion decision.

Teenagers faced with the choice between childbirth and abortion can make a responsible decision without parents or courts. The American Psychological Association has found that minors are usually able to make intelligent, informed decisions about pregnancy. Even young women from severely troubled families often show great maturity and sensitivity when seeking confidential birth services.

A judicial bypass option is inadequate and discriminatory in Alaska. Young women using this procedure often experience fear, anxiety and shame as they are forced to reveal detail of their private lives to strangers in the courtroom. Mandatory representation by the currently overburdened Office of Public Advocacy will surely result in delays or inadequate representation. In rural Alaska, confidentiality will be severely compromised as a young woman will most likely be recognized by the judge or other court personnel.

In Alaska, the courts are moving toward assigning teenagers greater responsibility for their actions, not imposing further restrictions. During the last legislative session lawmakers were successful in passing laws to treat certain juvenile offenders as adults. In the 20th Legislature, bills have been introduced to remove the protections of immaturity from teenagers who commit minor offenses. It is unfair to treat pregnant teens differently with proposals to strip personal responsibility in decisions about reproductive matters.

Parental consent laws are an unconstitutional attack on a women's right to abortion, and in Alaska, on an individual's right to privacy. *Roe v. Wade* entitled all women to legal, safe abortion. Parental consent as well as other provisions of SB 24 such as the creation of civil liability for performing abortion, are barriers manufactured to interfere with this constitutional guarantee. Should this bill become law in Alaska, there will most certainly be court challenges, as the Constitution of the State of Alaska specifically guarantees each citizen the right to privacy.

While NASW supports strong families and believes that parents have profound interests in their children's well-being, in the case of pregnancy, a teenager's privacy rights must be paramount. Courts have found that teenagers who want to keep their pregnancies a secret almost always have sound reasons. When there is a reason to expect an extremely abusive parental reaction to a young woman's unplanned pregnancy, her right to privacy must come first since she is in the best position to know whether or not she is in danger. A legislature that is unfamiliar with a young woman's particular situation is not in a position to force her to involve her parents. Where abortion is concerned, privacy can be a life or death matter for teenagers.

In acknowledging and affirming the social work profession's commitment to respecting diverse value systems in a pluralistic society, we recognize that the issue of abortion is controversial because it reflects the different value systems of different groups. Consequently, NASW does not take a position concerning the morality or immorality of abortion.

NASW's position concerning abortion services is based on the principle of self-determination. Every individual must be free to participate or not participate in abortion services. In the event that a woman choose abortion the following services should be available to her:

- *counseling and referral provided by professionally trained staff who are knowledgeable of the social and psychological dynamics of unwanted pregnancy and abortion*
- *safe surgical care, including pre- and post-operative services*
- *counseling regarding the use of contraception and the prevention of unwanted pregnancies*
- *provision of appropriate contraceptive devices. These devices should be available to all women.*



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS ALASKA CHAPTER

525 Main Street, Juneau AK 99801
586-4438 1-800-478-6279 Fax: 586-4439
naswak@alaska.net

FACTS ON ABORTION

Safety of Abortion

- 97% of women who obtain abortions before 13 weeks of pregnancy report no complications. (American Medical Association Council Report, *Induced Termination of Pregnancy Before and After Roe v. Wade*, 1992).
- Abortion is 11 times safer than carrying a pregnancy to term. (Gold, R. B, *Abortion and Women's Health: A Turning Point for America?*, 1990).
- **Teenage girls are more than 24 times more likely to die from childbirth than from a first trimester, legal abortion.** (Ory, H W, "Mortality Associated with Fertility and Fertility Control," *Family Planning Perspectives*, vol. 15, no. 2).
- Of the 3.4 million women who become pregnant unintentionally in the U.S. each year, approximately 1.6 million terminate their pregnancies by medically safe, legal abortion. (Gold, R. B, *Abortion and Women's Health: A Turning Point for America?*, 1990).

Health Risks to Women

- Legislation mandating parental involvement in decisions about abortion does **increase the risk of harm to the adolescent** by delaying access to appropriate medical care. (American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Adolescence, "The Adolescent's Right to Confidential Care When Considering Abortion," *Pediatrics*, vol. 97, no 3).
- Complication rates increase for abortions performed between 13 and 24 weeks. (American Medical Association Council Report, *Induced Termination of Pregnancy Before and After Roe v. Wade*, 1992).
- The American Medical Association noted that "because the need for privacy may be compelling, minors may be driven to desperate measures to maintain the confidentiality of their pregnancies. They may run away from home, obtain a "back alley" abortion, or resort to self-induced abortion. The desire to maintain secrecy has been **one of the leading reasons for illegal abortion deaths since...1973.** (AMA, "Mandatory Parental Consent," 83.).

Possible Links Between Abortion and Breast Cancer

- Only about 20 studies have examined the risk of developing breast cancer for women who have had abortions. (National Women's Health Network Fact Sheet: "*Abortion and Breast Cancer: The Unproven Link*." January, 1994).

- Cancer researchers at the **National Cancer Institute**, the **American Cancer Society**, and major universities say that the most reliable studies show no increased risk, and they call the entire body of research inconclusive.
- **Harvard School of Public Health** researchers concluded in the January issue of *Cancer Causes and Control*, that abortion does not appreciably increase or decrease a woman's risk for breast cancer.

Long-Term Effects of Abortion

- Anti-choice groups are circulating unfounded claims that a majority of American women who choose to terminate their pregnancies suffer severe and long-lasting emotional trauma as a result. They call this largely nonexistent phenomenon "post-abortion trauma," or "post-abortion syndrome." They hope that terms like these will gain wide currency and credibility despite the fact that **neither the American Psychological Association nor the American Psychiatric Association recognizes their existence.**
- For most women who have had abortions, the procedure represents a maturing experience, a successful coping with a personal crisis situation. In fact, **the most prominent emotional response of most women to first-trimester abortion is relief.** (Zabin, L.S. et al. "When Urban Adolescents Choose Abortion: Effects on Education, Psychological Status and Subsequent Pregnancy." *Family Planning Perspectives*, 21(6), Nov/Dec 1989; Adler, N. et al. "Psychological Responses After Abortion." *Science*, April 6, 1990; Lazarus, A. "Psychiatric Sequelae of Legalized Elective First Trimester Abortion." *Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 43(3), September 1985; Russo, N.F. and Zierk, K.L. "Abortion, Childbearing, and Women's Well-Being." *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 23(4), 1992; Armsworth, M.W. "Psychological Response to Abortion." *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 69, March/April 1991.).
- A study of a group of teenage black women who obtained pregnancy tests at one of two Baltimore clinics found that the young women who choose to have abortions **were are more likely to graduate from high school** than those of similar socioeconomic status who carried their pregnancies to term or who were not pregnant. They showed no greater levels of stress at the time of the pregnancy and abortion and no greater rate of psychological problems two years after the abortion that did the other women. (Zabin, L.S. et al. "When Urban Adolescents Choose Abortion: Effects on Education, Psychological Status and Subsequent Pregnancy." *Family Planning Perspectives*, 21(6)).
- Up to 98% of the women who have abortions **have no regrets and would make the same choice again** in similar circumstances. (Dagg, P.K.B., MD "The Psychological Sequelae of Therapeutic Abortion - Denied and Completed." *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 148(5), May 1991).
- In July 1987, President Ronald Regan directed Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to provide the administration with a report on the health effects of induced abortion. In a letter to the president dated January 8, 1989, Dr. Koop stated that he could not form a conclusion with the available data. (Koop, C. Everett, letter to President Regan, January 9, 1989. Reproduced in "A Measured Response: Koop on Abortion," *Family Planning Perspectives*, 21(1), Jan/Feb, 1989.
- In a 1988 closed meeting, Surgeon General Koop told representatives from several anti-abortion organizations that the risk of **significant emotional problems following abortion was "minuscule"** from a public health perspective. (House Committee on Government Operations. "The Federal Role

in Determining the Medical and Psychological Impact of Abortions on Women, H.R. Rep. No. 329, 101st Congress, 2d Sess. 14 (1989).

- In 1989, a panel of experts assembled by the **American Psychological Association** concluded unanimously that legal abortion **“does not create psychological hazards for most women undergoing the procedure.”** The panel noted that, since approximately 21% of all U.S. women have had an abortion, if severe emotional reactions were common there would be an epidemic of women seeking psychological treatment. There is no evidence of such an epidemic. (Adler, N., University of California at San Francisco, statement on behalf of the American Psychological Association before the Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, U.S. House of Representatives, March 16, 1989.)

FAX TRANSMISSION FORM

CYNTHIA BROOKE M.D.
3340 PROVIDENCE DR. #45
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508
(907) 563-8588 PHONE
(907) 563-6903 FAX

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW 4

TO: ROBIN TAYLOR ATTN: LAUREL

FROM: DR CYNTHIA BROOKE

MESSAGE _____

2/12/97

Cynthia Brooke, M.D., F.A.C.O.G

Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology



Cynthia Brooke, MD
A balance of treatment
and prevention.

attention: Laurel & Honorable
Robin Taylor
Judiciary committee;

Please include written
testimony should I not be
available for oral
testimony today. (I have
a patient in labor).

my comments for House Bill
37 may be used in
their entirety for Senate
Bill 24.

Thank-you for considering
the testimony for the
Alaska State Medical
Association,

Sincerely,
Cynthia Brooke



Cynthia Brooke, MD
A balance of treatment
and prevention.

Cynthia Brooke, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.

Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Written testimony regarding House Bill #37 Introduced by Rep. Kelly, Kohring, Vezey and Molder. Senate Bill #24, Robin Taylor.

I would like to thank the members of the legislature for allowing me to testify both verbally and in writing. As a brief introduction, my name is Cynthia Brooke and I am a board certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist practicing in Anchorage. I did my medical school training at the University of Washington and was a WAMI student in Alaska for 3 months in the summer of 1985 and have considered myself lucky to be able to come back to Alaska to practice medicine. I did my specialty training at the University of Texas in San Antonio which is a very busy county hospital serving south Texas and central Mexico. I have been practicing Obstetrics and Gynecology in Alaska since 1992 and have been a solo practitioner in Anchorage since 1995. I am currently on the Board of Trustees of the Alaska State Medical Association and have been asked to review any legislative bills that may impact on my specialty.

Obstetrics and Gynecology is a specialty that deals with pregnancy, pregnancy complications and any medical or surgical diseases associated with female reproduction. Because of this, we also deal with infertility, hormonal disorders, pelvic anatomy dysfunction including bladder and rectal problems and pelvic tumors. Our daily interaction with patients include detailed histories which because of the nature of our specialty impacts on very private issues. We would be of little use to patients if they could not confide such private matters such as sexual dysfunction, unwanted pregnancies, inability to become pregnant, abuse issues including physical, psychological and sexual abuse and anatomical dysfunctions. The privacy of this relationship between the doctor and the patient is absolutely essential to provide appropriate treatment, care and support. Those of us who live in Alaska and understand what a small community this really is, can probably understand the importance of this confidentiality better than persons who live in more urban settings.

I have some significant concerns about this bill and most of them center around the confidentiality issues. We all know that teenage pregnancy is far too common. I deal with this issue on a daily basis. Whether or not one considers teenagers too immature to make decisions about their own health, future and reproduction; as human beings they deserve to expect the same level of confidentiality and professionalism from their health care providers as their parents would expect. I treat many families in my practice. I would never consider breaking the confidence of one of my teenage patients with one of her family members without that teenager's permission any more than I would tell the

Page 2 Written testimony

teenager of a personal issue that her mother has discussed with me. We actively encourage teenage patients to confide in their parents and the vast majority of them do. However, they do this on their own terms and I think with more honesty than in any artificial scenario I could manipulate. In this way I can keep my relationship with both the mother and daughter intact as confidant and health care provider, giving them unbiased medical facts versus being a policewoman or unwanted arbiter of family tensions.

I think you as a legislature should also know that some teenage pregnancies are the result of extremely harmful, abusive living situations in which it is not in the patient's best interest to inform one or both of her parents. Specifically in the case of incest or abuse by a mother's boyfriend or rape by a close family friend, it is sometimes unrealistic or even unwanted to inform certain family members without the patient's permission. There are some situations where this could even put the patient in harm's way. I think it is absolutely inconceivable to think that a teenager who cannot tell her parents or family members that she is pregnant would be willing to go in front of a judge and a bunch of strangers and tell them of her dysfunctional situation. I know for a fact that there are many teenagers out there who would rather die than confront relatives, friends, parents or strangers who would be disapproving of what they have done and of their situation. Anyone who works with teenage pregnant girls can tell you the risk of suicide, botched abortion attempts (sometimes even conducted by a fellow teenager) and even as evidenced recently in a case in Delaware, attempted infanticide. As you have already stated in your bill, teenagers may not always think clearly. Situations that to many adults may seem tough but not insurmountable can seem insurmountable to a teenager. They may truly feel that their life is not worth living anymore.

In my experience, teenagers with unwanted pregnancies who come from loving households do eventually tell their parents. I cannot imagine the loving parents of a teenage girl not wanting their daughter to get all the medical facts so that she can make the best decision about her own health, body and reproductive future. The fact is, she is five times more likely to die if she carries the pregnancy to term than if she has a legal first trimester termination of pregnancy. I cannot imagine loving parents forcing their daughter to make the decision one way or another that so heavily impacts on her health and her future. In my experience this does not happen. In the opposite situation when teenagers do not come from loving homes, sometimes the situation is so dysfunctional and so bizarre it is not feasible for the parents to participate in the decision making. It is these girls that are at risk with this bill. They are at risk and if this bill passes it is just a matter of time before one of them dies as a result. We have already seen this happen in Ohio. There a couple who spearheaded a similar law in Ohio requiring parental consent for teenagers to receive an abortion lost their own daughter to an illegal, botched abortion. They changed their point of view 180 degrees, but at what cost??

Page 3 Written testimony

I have included with my testimony some statistics for you, a copy of an oath based on the Hippocratic Oath which has been adopted by the AMA that illustrates succinctly the importance of confidentiality. Whether or not you pass this law, I will not violate this oath with my patients, and I think that you will find a similar response from other physicians in my association. You can call it a misdemeanor, you can call it a felony, you can put me in jail. I need to act in the best interest of my patient. I welcome parents and other interested parties to help me with this commitment to my patients but I am realistic that sometimes relatives including parents do not have the patient's best interests at heart. It is those patients for whom I am the only advocate and if I betray them, who do they have left? We have had many examples in the past where the interference of big government, or legislators and well-meaning community members has resulted in disaster. I cannot support this bill and I have urged all members of the Alaska State Medical Association to do the same.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Brooke, M.D.

Cynthia Brooke M.D.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Judiciary
 committee name
 committee on SB 24, dated 2/12/97
 bill/subject

Signed: _____
 Testifier

 Representing (Optional)

 Address

 Phone No.

9/88 Legislative Information Office

1 of 3

12 February, 1997

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

Re: SB 24, Parental consent or Judicial Bypass for Minor Women

From: Natasha I. Calvin for Sitkans for Choice

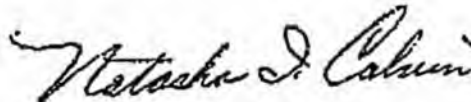
Honorable Senators:

Why require a pregnant 13 year old girl to go to court to get the safest of all alternatives, i.e. a safe, legal abortion? Under former Surgeon General Koop, it was determined that carrying a pregnancy to term is 7 to 24 times as likely to cause a woman's death as a safe first trimester abortion.

Alarms raised about dangers of abortion are true for illegal, unsafe abortions, not for those performed by qualified personnel. Illegal, unsafe abortions require no parental consent or judicial bypass. It is illegal, unsafe abortions that kill women by the thousands. Roe v Wade was promulgated to protect the lives and health of women. Should we in Alaska do less for our children?

Please do not pass SB 24 out of your committee.

Thank you.

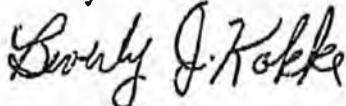


Natasha I. Calvin for
Sitkans for Choice
PO Box 2966
Sitka, Alaska 99835
(907) 747- 8950

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON SB 24

I am writing to ask the Legislature to support SB 24 which upholds the requirement of parental consent in the case of a minor seeking an abortion. This bill is necessary to support family unity and protect and support a minor in making this momentous decision. I feel it will allow parents to be more involved in their children's lives by supporting them in this critical time and helping them to make a difficult decision. The family unit and value system is chiseled away enough in our society by the media and externals that parents have no control over. Please support this piece of legislation that strives to uphold the family unit and allow parents to have a say in this vital decision that will follow their children all their lives-no matter what decision is made.

Thank you for your time.



Beverly J. Kokke

631 DeGroff

Sitka, AK 99835

966-2570

SB

25

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 3
Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act authorizing DOC to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system"
Sponsor: Senator Ellis
Requestor: (S) STA

Department Affected: Administration
BRU: Public Defender Agency
Component: Public Defender Agency
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

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	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
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts				-		
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

The bill provides for an automated victim notification system. There is no fiscal impact on the Public Defender Agency.

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

Phone: (907) 264-4414
Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Bover
Agency: Department of Administration

Mark Bover
Date: 4/21/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. 2
Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date: _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: Automated victim notification system BRU: CDVSA
 Component: CDVSA
 Sponsor: Senator Ellis
 Requestor: S.STA **COMPONENT SERIAL NO.** 0521

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

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

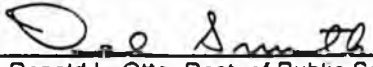
Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ 0

POSITIONS:

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

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill has no fiscal impact on the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Prepared By: Jayne E. Andreen, Executive Director Phone: 907-465-4356
 Division: Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Date: 4/15/97
 Approved by Commissioner:  Date: 4/15/97
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: SB 25
(S) Publish Date: 4-25-97

Revision Date: 4/24/97 Dept. Affected: Corrections
Title: Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide BRU: Administration and Support
Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System Component: Data and Word Processing
Sponsor: Senator Ellis
Requester: Senate State Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 698

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	44.1	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT	3.0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (1005)	0.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
-----------------------------	-----	------	------	------	------	------

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	150.1					
1005 GF/Program Receipts		93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This information is the Department's best estimate for system and operation costs of an automatic victim notification system for Alaska's prisons, jails, probation offices, and CRC locations. Exact expenditures would not be available until the Department received responses to an RFP for an automated victim notification system.

There would be no charge for notifying victims of changes in prisoner's status. The estimated revenues shown are anticipated through fees charged to members of the public who wish to obtain additional information such as bail costs, charges, visitation, or information on prisoners who have been released.

Prepared by: Bruce Richards
Division: Office of the Commissioner
Approved by Commissioner: _____
Agency: Department of Corrections

Phone: 465-3307
Date: 4/24/97
Date: 4/24/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 25 (JUD)

Revision Date: _____
 Title: "An Act authorizing DOC to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner informatin system."
 Sponsor: Senator Ellis
 Requestor: (S) JUD

Department Affected: Administration
 BRU: Public Defender Agency
 Component: PublicDefender Agency
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 1631

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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY 97) cost: \$ 0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

The bill provides for an automated victim notification system. There is no fiscal impact on the Public Defender Agency.

Prepared by: Barbara Brink, Director
 Division: Public Defender

Phone: 274-1684
 Date: _____

Approved by Commissioner: Mark Bover
 Agency: Department of Administration

Date: 4/29/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
 For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



Sen. Robin Taylor, Chair
Sen. Drue Pearce, Vice Chair
Sen. Mike Miller
Sen. Sean Parnell
Sen. Johnny Ellis

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-3717
Fax: (907) 465-3922

Senate Judiciary Committee MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Bert Sharp, Finance Committee Co-Chair
FROM: Senator Robin Taylor, Judiciary Committee Chair *ALT*
DATE: April 28, 1997
RE: CSSB25(JUD) "Telephone Victim Notification System"

Bert--

Senate Judiciary Committee passed a committee substitute for SB 25 out of committee today after adopting one amendment. The amendment necessitates a couple of conforming changes to the bill that I hope the Finance Committee will consider making.

To facilitate your committees review of CSSB25(JUD), I've attached a copy of the Legal Services memorandum explaining the recommended conforming changes.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

-- Robin

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 28, 1997

SUBJECT: CSSB 25(JUD)

TO: Senator Robin Taylor, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
Attn: Laura

FROM: Pamela Finley 
Revisor of Statutes

Enclosed is CSSB 25(JUD), which passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee today. Because the committee changed "may" to "shall" in several places, several other conforming changes ought to be made to the bill:

Page 2, line 4:

Delete "authorized"
Insert "required"

Page 2, lines 8 - 9 :

Delete "if such a system has been established by the commissioner"
Insert "established"

Requests for changes on the bill should still be addressed to Jerry Luckhaupt; I am writing this only because Jerry is so busy today.

PF:glc
97-280.glc

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 25 (JUD)

Revision Date:		Dept. Affected:	Corrections
Title:	<u>Authorizing Department of Corrections to provide</u>	BRU:	<u>Administration and Support</u>
	<u>Automated Victim Notification & Prisoner Information System</u>	Component:	<u>Data and Word Processing</u>
Sponsor:	<u>Senator Ellis</u>	COMPONENT SERIAL NO.:	<u>698</u>
Requester:	<u>Senate Judiciary Committee</u>		

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	144.1	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.9
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT	3.0					
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (1005)	0.0	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
------------------------------------	-----	------	------	------	------	------

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	150.1					
1005 GF/Program Receipts		93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	150.1	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9	93.9

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This information is the Department's best estimate for system and operation costs of an automatic victim notification system for Alaska's prisons, jails, probation offices, and CRC locations. Exact expenditures would not be available until the Department received responses to an RFP for an automated victim notification system.

There would be no charge for notifying victims of changes in prisoner's status. The estimated revenues shown are anticipated through fees charged to members of the public who wish to obtain additional information such as bail costs, charges, visitation, or information on prisoners who have been released.

Prepared by:	<u>Bruce Richards</u>	Phone:	<u>465-3307</u>
Division:	<u>Office of the Commissioner</u>	Date:	<u>4/29/97</u>
Approved by:	<u>Commissioner Margaret M. Pugh</u>	Date:	<u>4/29/97</u>
Agency:	<u>Department of Corrections</u>		

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/25/97

FURTHER: Finance

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 4/28/97

Judiciary Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 25

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS SB 25 (JUD)
- adopt previous CS ()
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by Committee
- further referral to the Committee

- Senate Bill:**
 same title
 new title
- House Bill:**
 same title
 technical change
 new: SCR#

SIGNING/DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Sean Parnell</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>John Ellis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>17</i>					
CHAIR: <i>David J. [Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
FISCAL NOTES FORTHCOMING	_____		

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4431
Fax: (907) 343-4499

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 25, 1997

RECEIVED APR 28 1997

Senator Robin Taylor
State Capitol, Room 30
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 25

Dear Senator Taylor:

I urge your support of Senate Bill 25 providing for a statewide automated victim notification system. The victims of violent crime and sex offenses deserve a criminal justice system responsive to their needs and concerns; passage of the VINE legislation will provide this.

When the legislature passed the Domestic Violence Act of 1996, it imposed a burden on prosecutors to "make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release [of the defendant] and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release." This task can only be reasonably accomplished through implementation of an automated victim notification system.

The VINE system has proven effective in 12 states. The State of Alaska should be on the cutting edge of increasing responsiveness to victim concerns. We should not lag behind in this area.

As chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, your support is crucial to the passage of this bill. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rick Mystrom
Mayor of Anchorage

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4431
Fax: (907) 343-4409

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

April 25, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 27 1997

APS J.....

Senator Lyda Green
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 25

Dear Senator Green:

I urge your support of Senate Bill 25 providing for a statewide automated victim notification system. The victims of violent crime and sex offenses deserve a criminal justice system responsive to their needs and concerns; passage of the VINE legislation will provide this.

When the legislature passed the Domestic Violence Act of 1996, it imposed a burden on prosecutors to "make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release [of the defendant] and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release." This task can only be reasonably accomplished through implementation of an automated victim notification system.

The VINE system has proven effective in 12 states. The State of Alaska should be on the cutting edge of increasing responsiveness to victim concerns. We should not lag behind in this area.

As chair of the Senate Committee of State Affairs, your support would be instrumental in achieving the passage of this bill. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rick Mystrom
Mayor of Anchorage

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Health, Education and
Social Services Committee

Senate Judiciary Committee

Department of Health and Social
Services Budget Subcommittee

Department of Law
Budget Subcommittee



While in Session:
State Capitol, Rm. 9
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 463-3704
fax: (907) 463-2529

While in Anchorage:
716 West 4th Ave., Ste. 410
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 258-8182
fax: (907) 258-5571

SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS

Sponsor Statement for Senate Bill 25

An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system.

Proper and timely notification to victims about the release or escape of their attackers is a serious problem, both nationally and in Alaska. In November 1996, Alaska's prisons and pre-trial facilities housed 2,990 inmates, 49% of whom are considered violent. Each day, over 600 concerned Alaskans call our state institutions seeking information on inmates.

In order to keep crime victims informed of inmate activity, a state-of-the-art computer system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) was developed. V.I.N.E. provides two important services which enhance the vital link of communication between the justice system and victims of crime.

First, the system provides automatic notification calls to crime victims when an inmate's status changes. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, V.I.N.E. places automated telephone calls to all registered victims within 10 minutes of a change in the offender's status. V.I.N.E. continues to call the victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim.

Second, V.I.N.E. provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. V.I.N.E. allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.

In February 1996, the State of Kentucky became the first state to implement V.I.N.E. statewide. During the first 90 days of operation, over 20,000 phone calls were processed. Over 600 victims were notified by phone of impending inmate releases. Three months later, over 3,500 successful notifications had been made, with an average of 7 new registrations per day. Currently, the V.I.N.E. Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

Implementing V.I.N.E. will increase state compliance with the Victims' Bill of Rights, overwhelmingly passed by the people of Alaska in 1994. The V.I.N.E. computer system will enhance the Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes.

I urge your support and prompt passage.



VINE™ System Facts

VINE™ is a fully automated service that alerts victims upon the release of an inmate and provides vital custody status information via the telephone.

How VINE™ works

A centralized computer system located in Louisville, Kentucky constantly monitors inmate activity at each jail or prison site.

When an inmate has a change in status, VINE™ reacts immediately to contact all registered victims. Telephone calls continue for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified.

How Victims Register

Victims register with VINE™ by calling a local access telephone number and following the prompts given by the computer. Some communities may opt to have victims automatically registered by the arresting agency involved with the case.

A personal identification number (PIN) for each victim is requested by VINE™.

The PIN number, entered by a victim after a notification, confirms a successful contact.

Benefits of Implementing VINE™ for a Victim

Registered persons are automatically called by VINE™ within ten minutes of an inmate transfer or release.

Vital inmate information is continuously available through the VINE™ information hotline.

VINE™ allows for confidential information exchange. Victims do not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Victims can register alternate telephone numbers with VINE™ and can easily enter a new telephone number if there is a change of address.

For Prosecutors and Jail Administrators

VINE™ has letter generating capabilities and is available in multiple languages.

The centralized call center is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Notification is efficient and reliable.

All telephone calls and letters are documented.

A complete audit trail of VINE™ activity is readily available.

A VINE™ program can be customized to meet the needs of each community.

The VINE™ Company



VINE™ System Features

VINE™ is a ground breaking system for Victim Assistance and Notification Programs around the country. It's current design includes features such as:

- **Full integration** with the existing Jail or Prison Information System. This means no additional workload for data input personnel.
- **Automated Dial in Query of Inmate Status.** The system will support an incoming line which allows a victim to query the status of an inmate.
- **Automated Registration of Victims** via any telephone using a combination of advanced Voice Recognition technology. This method is far superior to those requiring alphanumeric data to be typed into the telephone handset.
- **Letter Generation** for notifying victims of upcoming parole board hearings and other emergency situations.
- **Advanced Voice Recognition Technology.** This feature increases the usability of the system by allowing access to *30% of the population* which *do not have a touch tone telephone*. All users will find this registration approach much simpler and quicker.
- **Automated Notification** to two different phone numbers per victim. This function will provide an automated voice message once contact is made.
- **Message Confirmation** ensures that the message was delivered to the proper person.
- **Complete Audit Reports** which display daily activity on a per day or per case basis. These audit reports will be quickly recalled to a printer or CRT to review the systems performance.
- **Foreign Language Capabilities** available upon request.



General VINE™ Information

Interactive Systems was formed in 1992 to develop automated systems utilizing computer technology and telephone equipment.

In January of 1994 Interactive Systems cooperated with Jefferson County officials to study automated technology and victim notification.

In January of 1995 due to the success of the VINE™ program, Interactive Systems reformatted to focus exclusively on the VINE™ system and automated notification. A dba (doing business as), The VINE™ Company, was selected as the new name.

VINE™ program cost includes a low start-up fee and a monthly service component. Several funding options, including state and federal grants, are available.

Cost is based on inmate population, notification needs and optional parameters. Each program is unique and developed specifically for each community.

All inmate information accessed through VINE™ is public information. VINE™ differs from other notification programs by providing an automated, rather than manual, method of victim notification.

Currently, the VINE™ Company has contracts with over 150 counties in over 12 states including Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida.

The VINE™ system received national recognition as the only automated program for victim information and notification.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/13/97

FURTHER: Judiciary
 Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 4/10/97
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
 IN TO OFFICE: 4/24/97

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 25

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

E 19

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to the _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
 same title
 new title
House Bill:
 same title
 technical title
 new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>[Signature]</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>		CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

	Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
#3	Admin: Public Defender		0	
#1	Corrections			150.1
#2	Public Safety		0	

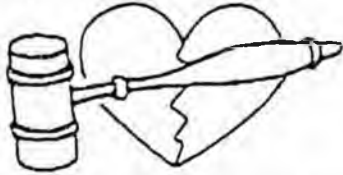
PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

	Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

Previous Committee Report(s)

VICTIMS

for Justice 619 East Fifth Avenue • Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 278-0977 • Fax: (907) 258-0740

March 11, 1997

The Honorable Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing to you to urge you to support the swift passage of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26: *An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victims notification and prisoner information system.*

Alaskan families and victims of violent crime deserve to be recognized and assisted by Alaska's Department of Corrections. In fact, in 1994, the people of Alaska overwhelmingly passed at the state level, the Victims' Bill of Rights. This Constitutional amendment makes *explicit* the *right* to be *informed, present and heard* at the same proceedings where the accused or convicted offenders have such rights. As you are aware, the Alaska Department of Corrections has statutory duties relating to crime victims, ranging from the notification of parole hearings; transfers to other facilities; an escape or release from custody to supervising restitution compliance. The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) computer system will enhance Alaska's Department of Corrections relationship with the families and victims of violent crimes and will significantly increase compliance with the intent of these laws.

Sincerely,

Janice Lienhart
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

STATE OFFICE
ALASKA PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 240106 Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0106 Phone (907) 277-0515 Fax (907) 272-5355



January 17, 1997

Business Manager

Joseph E. Young
Anchorage

Board of Directors

Michael Corkill, President
Fairbanks

Robin Lown, Vice President
Juneau

Mike Gomes, Past President
Anchorage

Ron Bacon, Member
Kenai
Pres. Kenai Chapter

Leo Brandan, Member
Anchorage
Pres. Anchorage Chapter

Sam Edwards, Member
Palmer
Pres. Mat-Su Chapter

Steve MacLean, Member
Fairbanks
Pres. Fairbanks North Chapter

Steve Paskala, Member
Juneau
Pres. Capitol City Chapter

Scott Chalm, Member
Wrangell
Pres. Wrangell Chapter

Leroy Mestas, Member
Ketchikan
Pres. First City Chapter

James Sea, Member
Craig
Pres. Prince of Wales Chapter

Senator Johnny Ellis
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Ellis,

On behalf of the Alaska Peace Officers Association, I would like to thank you for introducing Senate Bills 25 and 26 relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system and appropriations for the same. At a recent meeting of the APOA State Board, we decided to unanimously support this legislation. We believe that the better the communications are between Corrections, departments, municipalities and victims, the better the prevention of prisoner-related problems.

We encourage you to call on us when there are hearings on these bills, so that we may testify about the need for this legislation. If you need assistance as you shepherd these bills through the legislative process, please call me at 451-5316, or our business manager, Joseph Young at 277-0515.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Corkill".

Michael Corkill
APOA State President

Municipality
of
Anchorage



P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650
Telephone: (907) 343-4250

Rick Mystrom, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Office of the Prosecutor
420 L Street, Suite 100

March 19, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Lyda Green;

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Prosecutors Office, the Municipality of Anchorage and its people, and all the victims of domestic violence. I urge your support for the passage of Senate Bill 25 and the attendant appropriations bill.

Since the passage of the Domestic Violence Protection/Victim Protection act of 1996, particularly the amendments to AS 12.30.027, Prosecutor and District Attorney offices around the state have been charged with a responsibility we simply cannot meet this in any meaningful manner.

AS 12.30.027(d)(1) provides:

When a person is released from custody under (a) of this section (bail), from a correctional facility, the correctional facility shall notify the prosecuting authority and the prosecuting authority shall make reasonable efforts to immediately notify the alleged victim of the release, and to furnish the alleged victim with a copy of the order setting any conditions of release.

As things stand now, there simply are no reasonable efforts we can make to immediately notify the victim if a defendant makes bail at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning, which is when most of these arrests are made.

An automated and statewide victim notification system is the only meaningful method of complying with AS 12.30.027. If we are to protect the victim's of domestic violence and remain at the forefront of domestic violence prosecution, this system must be implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Marston Richard", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature. Below the signature is the printed name and title of the signatory.

John Marston Richard
Chief Municipal Prosecutor

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



Bethel Police Department

P.O. Box 500 : Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3785

February 7, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182

RE: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
Senate Bill Nos: 25

Dear Senator Green,

The Bethel Police Department is very much in support of the VINE legislation.

We feel it is critical that the rights' of the victims of violent crime are defended. It is paramount to the well-being of every victim that they be notified of and have access to obtain information regarding the activities of the violent offender.

Most sincerely,

Gary K. Eilers
Chief of Police

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis
Room 9
State Capitol
Juneau, AK. 99801-1182



City and Borough of Sitka

POLICE DEPARTMENT

304 Lake Street, Room 102 • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Lynn F. Lamm
Chief of Police

Business 747-3245
Fax 747-1075

TO: Senator Lyda GREEN, Chair
State Affairs Committee

FROM: Chief Lynn LAMM, Sitka Police Department
Director Christine MCLEOD, Sitkans Against Family Violence

DATE: 2-06-97

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bills 25 and 26
Support for House Bills 47 and 48
VINE

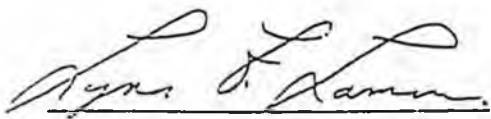
NH

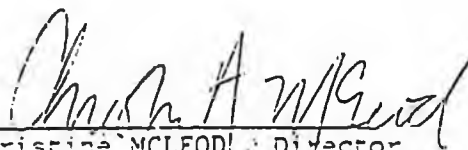
Senator GREEN-

The Sitka Police Department and Sitkans Against Family Violence would like to jointly express our support for this legislation.

Automatic notification would be beneficial to the domestic violence victim and the police. Immediate notification would be very beneficial to the victim allowing sufficient time to prepare themselves and family members for release of an inmate. For the police it would mean timely notification to the victim and another method of notification besides the current methods outlined in the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1995.

We urge passage of this legislation on behalf of victim's rights in domestic violence cases and as a continuation of legislative efforts toward prevention of domestic abuse.


Lynn LAMM, Chief of Police
Sitka Police Department


Christine MCLEOD, Director
Sitkans Against Family Violence

Senator Ellis-

This is a courtesy copy for your information.

Sgt. Allen
SPD

March 5, 1997

Dear Senator Green,

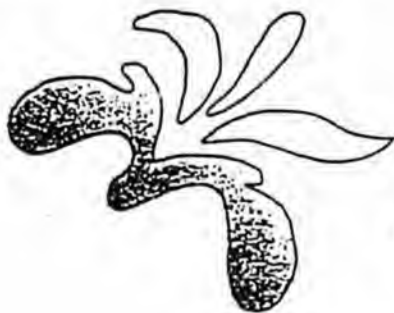
I strongly urge you to support SB 25 and 26. Alaskans who have been victimized should not also live in daily fear that the perpetrator will be released without their knowledge. An efficient and reliable method for victim notification that reduces the burden on corrections staff is in all of our best interests. The VINE system seems an excellent way to accomplish this essential public service.

Thank-you in advance for moving these bills

Sincerely,

Patty Kattlin

4920 Anderson Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709



WOMEN IN CRISIS

Counseling and Assistance

717 Ninth Avenue • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

(907) 452-2293 • Fax: 452-2613 • 1-800-478-7273

February 12, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of SB 25, "An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system" and SB 26, providing funding.

Passage of and funding for SB 25 will allow for greater safety for victims of violent crimes. It would save victims from physical harm and save lives. It stands to reason that the sooner this bill becomes law, the sooner can this protection be provided. Therefore, I urge you to facilitate both bills' passage this session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Samaniego
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis

Pamela Lutgen-Sandvik
PO Box 878464
Wasilla, AK 99687-8464



February 4, 1997

Senator Lyda Green
Chair, State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I recently read SB 25 and SB 26 regarding an automated system that notifies victims when their perpetrators have been released, transferred to another facility or have posted bail. Through the system, victims can also call to check on the status of an inmate anytime through an anonymous process that protects their safety. I fully endorse this legislation and encourage you to consider affirmative action on this bill.

The VINE system is highly cost-effective since it is entirely computerized. Aside from the initial set-up and data entry, the system is extremely low-maintenance. Creating this system of victim notification will increase greatly the safety of those victimized by violent offenders and reduce significantly the opportunity for re-offense to victimized families.

We have suffered some major tragedies in the past year. While the VINE system will not ameliorate all violent deaths, it has the potential to prevent many and make the Mat-Su Borough a safer place for all of us to live.

Sincerely,


Pamela L. Sandvik

CC: Senator Johnny Ellis



Tongass

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

February 5, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1188

Dear Senator Green:

On behalf of the staff at Tongass Community Counseling Center I am requesting that you support Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26 to fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections. Tongass Community Counseling Center works with the perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our primary focus in this line of work is victim safety and perpetrator accountability. We endorse VINE because it empowers the victim. It gives victims access to information when they choose rather than relying on someone in the criminal justice to remember to notify them. I encourage you to pass this bill to provide a better service to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Thank you for your consideration in this issue.

Sincerely,

Bridget Crawford
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

February 25, 1997

Senator Lynda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and urge your support and the prompt passage of these bills. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Pexa
Executive Director

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980 • FAX (907) 835-2981

March 1, 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
State Affairs Committee
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These bills would authorize the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system in the State of Alaska. This system is commonly referred to as "VINE." Victims of violence deserve prompt and accurate information regarding the status of the perpetrator, including release, transfer, posting bail, or escape. In many cases, this information may be a matter of life and death, especially in the cases of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. I urge you to consider co-sponsoring the bills, ensuring your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tamara McCurry
Evening Advocate

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis





advocates for victims of violence

P.O. Box 524 • Valdez, Alaska 99686
24 Hour Crisis Line (907) 835-2999 • Office (907) 835-2980

27th February 1997

Senator Lyda Green, Chair
Room 125, State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99081 - 1182

Dear Senator Green,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 25 and Senate Bill 26. These Bills address the need of victims of violent crime to have the right to have prompt accurate information about the status of the perpetrator. Information such as release, transfer, posting bail and escape affects victims deeply and may in the case of domestic or sexual violence mean the difference between life and death. These Bills would allow the Department of Corrections to provide automated victim notification and prisoner information system in Alaska (VINE). We need as a society, to ensure perpetrators are held accountable and victims are given the information needed to rebuild their lives safely.

Please consider co-sponsoring Bill 25 and Bill 26. We need your support to see these bills are given prompt passage. Thank you

Catherine Vaara,
Direct Services Coordinator

cc: Senator Johnny Ellis



Alaska Women's Lobby

P.O. Box 210685 Anchorage 99521
211 Fourth Street Suite 108 Juneau 99801

phone: 907-586-1107
fax: 907-586-1097

POSITION STATEMENT

SB25/SB26: Automated Victim Notification/Prisoner Identification System

These bills authorize and fund an automated victim notification system called Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) This system automatically places calls to victims to notify them that their attacker has been released, transferred to another facility or posted bail. Victims may also anonymously call to check on the status of an inmate anytime.

We heartily support the goal of this legislation to provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims when the inmate has a change of status. Timely notification allows a victim to prepare for the perpetrator's release, which can sometimes involve taking lifesaving precautions. In addition, the burden placed on corrections and victim/witness staff, charged with responsibility for notifying the crime victim, is significantly reduced.

The Alaska Women's Lobby supports these bills and applauds this effort to make life a little safer for victims of crime. We urge prompt passage.

KODIAK WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND CRISIS CENTER



P.O. BOX 2122, KODIAK, ALASKA 99615

Business Phone: (907) 486-6171 Crisis Line Phone: 486-3625 Fax: 486-4264

TO: Senator Johnny Ellis

FROM: Letitia Raub, Executive Director ^{LR}
Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center
Po Box 2122, Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-6171

RE: SB25 VINE

DATE: 4/17/97

The Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center is a private non-profit corporation serving the Kodiak Island Borough. Our primary mission is to provide services to the victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. As advocates for victims of these violent crimes, we support the implementation of an automated victim notification system within the Department of Corrections. This system will provide an efficient and reliable method of notifying crime victims regarding inmate change of status. Timely notification will allow victims to prepare for inmate release and initiate safety planning. The system allows for a confidential exchange of information, thus victims will not have to reveal their identity when registering or accessing inmate status.

Kodiak Women's Resource & Crisis Center urges the passage of this important legislation.

TESTIMONY SUBMITTED FOR SB25/VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

From: Brenda Wieffering, Executive Director
Women's Resource & Crisis Center
325 S. Spruce St.
Kenai, AK 99611
Phone: 283-9479 Fax: 283-5844

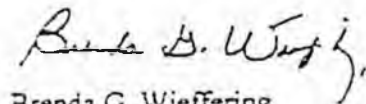
We fully support implementing a telephone victim notification system (VINE) through the Department of Corrections. Such a system will strengthen the state's compliance with the recently passed victims rights constitutional amendment.

A VINE system will offer *timely* crucial information for victims to use in safety planning when their perpetrators are about to be released from custody and carry out threats to harm them again.

Please enhance victim safety by supporting SB25. Lives may literally depend on it.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,


Brenda G. Wieffering

BEVERLY BOWERS
P.O. Box 907
Nome, Alaska
Phone and Fax: 907-443-2865

F A X

DATE: April 23, 1997
TO: Senator Johny Ellis
FROM: Beverly Bowers
SUBJECT: SB 25 - VINE

I support the passage of SB25 - VINE. For the protection of victims of sexual assault and domestic violence it is important that the whereabouts of the perpetrator is known.

Beverly Bowers

JAN-22-1996 08:37

DILLINGHAM LIO

842 5125 P.01

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)
 8 Main Street • PO Box 828 Dillingham AK 99576 • Phone: 842-5319 Fax 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

First name Lorraine	Last name Swinney	J. 27, 14.
Residence (street) address		Zip code
Mailing address PO Box 104 Unalaska, AK 99685		Zip code
Daytime telephone number (907) 581-1500	Group affiliation (if applicable) Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence	

To: Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a ✓ in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (enter H or S)		House members		Senate members	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Avelorman (ave)	<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mackie (mak)	<input type="checkbox"/> Donley (don)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (bri)	<input type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellis (ell)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (lco)	<input type="checkbox"/> Burns (bur)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank (frk)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mulder (mul)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rul)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (deb)	<input type="checkbox"/> Navarre (nav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Helford (hel)		
<input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nichols (nic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffmen (hof)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Elton (elt)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ogan (oga)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finkelshtein (fik)	<input type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (grn)	<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grossendorf (gro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pea)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Anchorage (age)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rotenberg (rok)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (phl)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bush (bus)	<input type="checkbox"/> Iven (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ringer (rin)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fairbanks (fairsor) (fm)	<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thr)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salo (sal)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Merou (mer)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kpl)	<input type="checkbox"/> Toohy (toh)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority (mjr)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vezay (vez)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Minority (mnr)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kari (kar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)	<input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubina (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Witts (wit)	<input type="checkbox"/> Zharoff (zha)		

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB SB	Bill number 25	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> Amend	OR	Subject: VINE
----------------	-------------------	----------------	--	----	------------------

Message: * This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.
 * Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 60 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

1	Support	the	VINE	bill	3
10090.	The	Vine.	bill	is	10
an	excellent	idea.	This	is	18
very	important	for	the	victims	23
safety.	Thank	you.			23
					30
					33
					40
					43
					60

TOTAL P.01

JAN-22-1996 28:37

DILLINGHAM LIO

342 5105 P.31

Public Opinion Message

Dillingham Legislative Information Office (LIO)

6 Main Street • PO Box 829 Dillingham AK 99576 • Phone: 842-5319 Fax: 842-5105

From: Print your name and address as it appears on your voter registration card.

First name	Desiree	Last name	Ortega
Residence (street) address			Zip code
Mailing address	P.O. Box 1073 Umanak, AK		99581-1500
Division (committee) number	Group affiliation (if applicable)		
407581-1500	Unmaskers Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence		

To: Write an H or an S in a Committee box; put a V in a Caucus or Member's box.

Committees (enter H or S)	House members	Senate members
<input type="checkbox"/> Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aue)	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Donley (don)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (bri)	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/> Judiciary (jud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown (bro)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellis (eli)
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Commerce (lbc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank (fra)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rules (rle)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, B. (dab)	<input type="checkbox"/> Helford (hel)
<input type="checkbox"/> State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis, G. (dag)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoffman (hon)
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Epton (ept)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Finkelstein (fik)	<input type="checkbox"/> Leman (lem)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (grn)	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gruensdorf (gra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pea)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hanley (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phelps, R. (phi)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ivan (iva)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rieger (rie)
	<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salo (salo)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kpi)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (kor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Koti (koti)	<input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubisa (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/> Zharoff (zha)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Long (lng)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mackie (mak)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Mulder (mul)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Navarre (nav)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Nichols (nic)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ogen (oge)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phi)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Robinson (rob)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rokberg (rok)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Theriault (thi)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Toohy (toh)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vezay (vez)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Willis (wis)

Subject: Enter a bill number and check one box below OR enter a subject.

HB or SB	Bill number	and check one:	Support	OR	Subject:
SB	25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose		VINE
		<input type="checkbox"/> Amend			

Message: * This form MUST be completely filled out, including a phone number. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO. * Please PRINT. Your message cannot exceed 30 words (one word per box), and cannot contain any vulgar language.

I	SUPPORT	the	VINE	Bill	1
100	percent.	I	encourage	DOE	10
to	implement	VINE.	This	would	18
support	efforts	in	keeping	the	23
victims	safe.	the	VINE	bill	25
is	an	excellent	idea	and	30
long	overview!	Thank	you.		35
					40
					45
					60

TOTAL P.21

Public Opinion Message

Anchorage Legislative Information Office (LIO)
• 716 W 4th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 • Phone: 258-4111 Fax: 258-1281

This form MUST be completely filled out. You may phone, fax, or deliver your POM to any LIO.

From: Please PRINT the information below.

Ms. or Mrs. MS.	First name Diana	MI L.	Last name Burch	Jr., Sr., III...
Mailing address 100 West 13th Ave.			Anchorage, AK	
Residence (if real address is different from mailing address)			Zip code 99501	
Daytime telephone number 279-9581	Organ affiliation (if applicable) Abused woman's Aid in Crisis		Signature Diana L. Burch	
			Date 4/24/97	

To: Put a ✓ in the appropriate box(es).

Senate State Affairs 465-3805

Committees		House members		Senate members	
<input type="checkbox"/> H or S	Community & Regional Affairs (cra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Austerman (aue)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, P. (kl)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Adams (ada)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance (fin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Barnes (bar)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kampton (kam)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Doney (don)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health, Ed., & Social Services (hes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Berkowitz (ber)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kohring (koh)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Duncan (dun)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judiciary (juc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brice (br)	<input type="checkbox"/> Koolosian (kuc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Effe (ef)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Labor & Commerce (l&c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunde (bun)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kott (kot)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resources (res)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cowdery (cow)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kubine (kub)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallford (hal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rules (ru)	<input type="checkbox"/> Croft (cro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Martin (mar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hartman (har)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	State Affairs (sta)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davies (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Masak (mas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, T. (kel)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation (tra)	<input type="checkbox"/> Davis (dav)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moses (mos)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Lemm (lem)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dyson (dys)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mueker (mue)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln (lin)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elton (el)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nicholas (nic)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Mackie (mak)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Foster (fos)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ogen (oge)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Miller (mil)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Green (gre)	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, G. (phg)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parnell (par)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Grossbardt (gro)	<input type="checkbox"/> Porter (por)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pearce (pear)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Hanky (han)	<input type="checkbox"/> Roseberg (rok)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Phillips, R. (phi)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Hoagins (hoo)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan (rye)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp (sha)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Hudson (hud)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanders (san)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Taylor (tay)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ivan (ive)	<input type="checkbox"/> Thammatt (thr)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Torgerson (tor)
		<input type="checkbox"/> James (jam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehey (veh)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward (war)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Joule (je)	<input type="checkbox"/> Williams (wil)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Witten (wik)

Subject: Fill out the boxes below OR enter a Subject.

HA or SB SB	Bill number 25	and check one:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose	<input type="checkbox"/> Amend	OR enter a general Subject (LIO staff may modify):
----------------	-------------------	----------------	---	---------------------------------	--------------------------------	---

Message: Your PRINTED message cannot exceed 50 words or contain any vulgar language.

				1
				10
				15
				20
				25
				30
				35
				40
				45
				50

AWAIC's primary concern is victim safety. Victims need to be able to begin to lead normal lives. They can often only do this when they know the whereabouts of their perpetrator. Additionally, this bill will give a clear message to victims that the system is working for them and is on their side. Too often they are denied information about their perpetrator which increases their feelings of victimization.

FAX

DATE: Thursday, April 24, 1997

TO: Senator Ellis

FAX: 907 465-2529

FROM: Tundra Women's Coalition

PAGES: 2

MEMO

APR-24-97 THU 2:53 PM

9075433752

P. 1

Senate Bill 25

Good afternoon

My name is Carmen Lowry and i am the Executive Director of the Tundra Women's Coalition. TWC provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of SB25. I am urging the Senate to authorize and fund an automated victims notification system called Victims Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) within the Department of Corrections.

This system is sorely needed to provide proper and timely notification to victims about the release or transfer of their perpetrators. VINE provides automatic notification calls to victims when an inmate's status changes. VINE will continue to call victims for 24 hours or until a successful notification is verified by the victim. That means if that guy who promised to kill you when he gets out is getting out, you will be notified and make all the necessary arrangements to keep yourself safe.

The bottom line for this legislation is two fold:

- It saves lives: timely notification allows a victims to prepare for an offender's release
- It saves valuable resources: the burden placed on corrections staff charged with the responsibility of notifying crime victims is significantly reduced.

I urge you to do the right thing, defend the rights of Alaska's victims of violent crimes, and support the passage of SB25. Thank you.

would ultimately provide more jobs and income evenly across the board. By the way, I am a conservative Republican.

— Dennis Adamson
Anchorage

Cuts to Film Office costly

I own and operate one of Alaska's major stock photography agencies which represents 58 photographers. For the past seven years we have provided numerous award-winning photos for the state Film Office's advertising campaigns (five billboards, several location handbooks, direct mail pieces and many ads in movie trade magazines). The Film Office has been a great client over the years.

If the proposed budget cuts go through, it will have a lasting and negative effect on many small businesses and one of Alaska's largest industries — tourism. Last year it cost the state of Alaska \$261,000 to operate the Film Office and it generated an income of nearly \$3 million. Can we afford not to take advantage of this free advertising that promotes Alaska?

The Film Office has a proven record that it is a prime investment, generating income for Alaskans and also for the state of Alaska. With the proposed budget cuts, we lose and the state of Alaska loses.

— Ken Graham, owner
Ken Graham Agency
Anchorage

Drug testing violates privacy

The willingness of people to permit themselves to be degraded through arbitrary employment drug testing is appalling. Indiscriminate drug testing violates people's privacy and requires them to prove their "innocence" even though there is no reason to believe that their job performance is being impaired by drug use or anything else. Admirably, the Anchorage police and firefighters have the self-respect to oppose such testing.

Drug testing is ostensibly done to promote job safety and performance. But drug tests do not measure job performance; they generally only test for metabolites, which are what is left over in the body after it uses up a drug. Except with respect to alcohol, drug tests generally don't even determine whether a

person presently has a particular drug in the body. A person could be under the influence of an intoxicating drug at the time of a drug test and yet have the test result be negative.

The only rational way to promote job performance and safety is through performance testing. Such tests are even used for astronauts in the space program. With them, an employer can determine whether an employee is functioning safely or impaired by sickness, fatigue, injury, emotional distress or intoxication.

Drug testing is too limited and unreliable to be used to promote job performance and public safety. The invasion of privacy involved such testing should be considered to be unacceptable. We should support all efforts to eliminate workplace drug testing and, if some kind of testing is desirable and necessary, replace it with performance tests.

Alex Vasauskas
Palmer

Victims need notification

For the tens of thousands of victims of domestic violence in Alaska, there is no system in place to let them know when their perpetrator is released from jail. Often, the first time a victim knows that their assailant has been released is when he shows up at their door.

Perpetrators who were jailed for beating their spouse may use their children as pawns in order to "get back" at the victim. If the perpetrator is the biological father of a victim's child, he may take the child from school, or day care without the other parent's knowledge, threatening to harm or kidnap the child.

If victims knew that their perpetrator was being released from jail, they could get a restraining order and notify their child's school or day care about the potentially dangerous situation.

Every week, our agency hears stories about how victims, who are supposed to be protected by the law, are betrayed by a system that lacks follow-through.

Sen. Johnny Ellis and Rep. Allen Kenipen have introduced a bill that could change all this. Senate Bill 25 and the companion bill, House Bill 47, would allow the Department of Corrections to set up a system to notify vic-

tims whenever a perpetrator's status changed. If an inmate is released, transferred, posts bail or escapes, registered victims would be notified through an automated system within minutes.

The system, called Victim Information and Notification Everyday, gives victims time to take life-saving steps. VINE is being used in Kentucky, New Jersey, Texas, California, Michigan, Georgia and Florida — helping victims and their children stay out of harm's way. Please call your legislator or write a letter in support for SB 25 and HB 47. The successful passage of this bill may mean the difference between life and death for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

— Angelica Rosales
domestic violence supervising counselor
Alaska Women's Resource Center

HMOs ripping off Medicare

Medicare rip-off! I recently received a newspaper clipping from a Southern California newspaper concerning a merger of two HMOs. I am a little familiar with the FHP HMO since my foster mother was enrolled until a few weeks ago. The clipping is too long to quote entirely, but here are a few highlights that bother me:

Top bosses would qualify for huge payouts after HMO merger. A handful of senior executives at FHP International Corp. stands to get huge going-away paydays ... At the top of the list is FHP chief executive Wescott W. Price III who will receive a \$1.5 million golden handshake if he walks away, as expected. Price's contract calls for him to get three times his annual \$500,000 base salary if he loses his job because of a "change in control" ... Price also owns nearly 400,000 shares of FHP's common stock. He'll receive \$7 million in cash for those shares and an equal amount of PacifiCare stock.

FHP Chairman Jack R. Anderson will get the biggest payday, turning in his common and preferred FHP stock for \$53.7 million in cash and an equal amount of PacifiCare stock. And Richard M. Budge, an FHP director, retired Cigna Corp. executive and former president of the American Stock Exchange, will get \$15.3 million in cash and an equal amount of PacifiCare shares for his FHP stock.

alive, i.e., the state of Alaska vs. Venetie.

We Natives don't read in the newspapers nor do we see on television anything about what is really happening to us, though I know, and the "nouveau riche PFD Alaskans" are in denial about their role in all of this, while we "breathlessly" await an Alaska vs. Venetie decision for the next 20 years or so — at the rate we've been dying, please, Natives want to live! We are in constant peril from the state. We are not "merely" caretakers of the land. We Natives have kept our Alaska under our intrinsic watch for three ice ages or so — wasn't it always beautiful and clean here?

My advice to you, to whom this may apply — everyone — make sure those lands you left in disgust are cleaned up and go home. On your way out clean up Alaska.

— Evelyn Hash
Gakona

This alternative school works

With the March 28 lottery date for Anchorage School District's alternative school programs approaching, I would like to propose a program that is a success in every sense of the word — the Government Hill Spanish Immersion Program. Alternative schools are often criticized for being elitist, unfair or divisive. I think it's important to recognize that they can work and be inclusive — even in school-within-a-school settings such as our own.

The recent Government Hill World's Fair is an example. With the help and support of our sponsors — First National Bank of Anchorage, Taste Freez, Tesoro 7-Eleven and National Bank of Alaska, to name a few — we transformed the school into an international festival. Our many minority families participated. Korean women wore flowing han bok dresses, an Alaska Native puppet theater group entertained, and Latino parents cooked tostados and fried plantains. We shared and explored each other's cultures throughout the day.

By celebrating and understanding our differences, we discover that we are not so different after all.

Government Hill is proof that alternative programs work. Not only do they promote educational excellence, but when done right, they bring people together.

— Kaitlyn Gerlek
Anchorage

Victims for Justice

March 1997

Page 8

Victims for Justice

"Safe Neighborhood" Crime Initiatives

By Pearlene Hernandez-Villa
UAA Social Work Practicum Student
doing her internship with VFI

BILL TRACKING STATUS

As of March 12, 1997

HB 5

"An Act relating to prosecution of minors for criminal violations; and amending Rule 3(a), Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KELLY, Ogan

Current Status: (House) Judiciary Status
Date: 1/13/97 then Finance.

As of January 13, 1997, House Bill 5 has not had its first committee hearing. HB 5 is not expected to move during this session. Sponsors are putting their focus on HB 6 AND HB 15 in the juvenile crime area. Both HB 6 and HB 15 opens up confidentiality of juvenile crime offenders, a key component for victims of crime.

HB 6

"An Act amending laws relating to the disclosure of information relating to certain minors."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
KELLY, Theriault, Vezzey, Ogan, Dyson,
Phillips, Ryan

Current Status: (House) Finance Status
Date: 2/21/97

As of February 21, 1997, House Finance has heard House Bill 6 three times. HB 6 will be heard by House for the fourth time on March 20, 1997. HB 6 has been in Health Education and Social Service (HES) and Judiciary committee and passed out of committee.

HB 7

CSHB 7 Judiciary

"An Act authorizing establishment of community dispute resolution centers to foster the resolution of disputes between juvenile offenders and their victims, and providing immunity from civil suits for youth courts and for members of the boards of directors, employees, volunteers, and members of youth courts."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
PORTER, Green, Croft, Rokeberg, James,
Kubina, Bunda, Kemplen, Berkowitz, Ogan
SENATOR(S) Wilken

Current Status: (Senate) Judiciary Status
Date: 2/17/97 then Finance

House Bill 7 is in Senate Judiciary, it has

passed out of the House and is in Senate Judiciary Committee at this time.

House votes:

YEAS: 34 NAYS: 0 EXCUSED: 6 ABSENT: 0

HB 9

CSHB 9 (Finance) AM

"Victims Right to be Present at Trial."

"An Act relating to the rights of crime victims and victims of juvenile offenses; relating to the collection by victims of restitution from prisoners; relating to the definition of incapacitated for sexual offenses; creating the crime of interfering with a report of a crime involving domestic violence; relating to mental examinations of victims in criminal prosecutions; relating to the safety of victims, other persons, and the community in setting bail or conditions of release; relating to access to certain records of the Violent Crimes Compensation Board; amending Rule 6, Alaska Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rules 40² and 615, Alaska Rules of Evidence, and Rule 3, Alaska Delinquency Rules; and providing for an effective date."

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S)
PORTER, Green, Croft, Kubina, Kemplen

Current Status: (S) Judiciary Status
Date: 3/10/97 then Finance.

House Bill 9 has passed out of House and is in Senate Judiciary since March 10, 1997.

House votes

Passed on reconsideration YES 31 NAYS 6 EXCUSED 2 ABSENT 1

URGENT UPDATE - We have just received word Senator Robin Taylor is holding up HB 9. PLEASE CALL the legislative office at 258-8111 and send a public opinion message to Senator Taylor urging him to support HB 9. Crime victims' constitutional rights are in jeopardy!

HCR 4

Relating to records generated and maintained by the Department of Health and Social Services.

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE(S) KELLY,
Phillips, Dyson, Ryan, Barnes

Current Status: (House) Finance Status Date:
2/21/97

House Concurrent Resolution 4 is in House Finance since February 21, 1997. House Finance is going to hear in committee on March

20, 1997.

SB 25 HB 47

"An Act relating to authorizing the Department of Corrections to provide an automated victim notification and prisoner information system."

VINE™, provides critical inmate information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the automated telephone system. VINE allows for a confidential exchange of information. Victims may access information on a prisoner through the use of a personal identification number, and they may easily enter new contact numbers.

Senate Bill 25 is still waiting to be heard in Senate State Affairs Committee since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a hearing committee as of yet.

House Bill 47 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

SB 25 Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley
HB 47 Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE
KEMPLEN

SB 26 and HB 48

"An Act making a special appropriation for an automated victim notification system; and providing for an effective date."

The sum of \$250,000 shall be appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Corrections for an automated victim notification system for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

Senate Bill 26 has been in Senate State Affairs since January 13, 1997. It has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

House Bill 48 has been in House State Affairs since January 13, 1997, and it has not had a committee hearing as of yet.

Sponsor(s): SENATOR ELLIS, Donley

Both SB 25 and HB 47 need victims who would be willing to testify or submit written testimony regarding their experience with not being notified when their attacker was released. If you are interested in testifying or providing written testimony please contact:

Senator Lyda Green, Senate State Affairs,
State Capitol, Rm 105, Juneau, AK 99801-
1182 (800)565-3743

Representative Jeannette James, House State
Affairs, Rm 102, Juneau, AK 99801-1182

S B

3 8

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSSSB 38 (JUD)

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Anatomical gifts, living wills and do not resuscitate orders
 Sponsor: Taylor
 Requestor: Senate Finance

Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services
 BRU: State Health Services
 Component: Community Health/EMS Services
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2078
 See also (SN#): _____

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	2.0					
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

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

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	2.0					
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please specify)						
TOTAL	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$0.0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would require that the Division of Public Health contract for a graphic artist, \$2.0, to design the symbols to be used on bracelets, necklaces and ID cards to alert medical attendants of their choices.

Prepared by: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH
 Division: Public Health

Phone: (907) 465-3090
 Date: 02/24/97

Approved by Commissioner: Karen Perdue, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Date: 2/25/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
 For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: CS SSSB 38(JUD)

Revision Date: 2/18/97 Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title: An Act relating to anatomical gifts, living wills, BRU: Motor Vehicles
and do not resuscitate orders. Component: Field Services
 Sponsor: Senator Taylor
 Requestor: Rules COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0502

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 () Revenue Code						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill will not fiscally impact the Division of Motor Vehicles

Prepared By: Juanita M. Hensley Phone: 465-2650
 Division: Motor Vehicles Date: 2/18/97
 Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte* Date: 2/19/97
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information call the Governor's Legislative Office

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/5/97

FURTHER: Finance

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/14/97

Judiciary Committee considered

SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 38

"An Act relating to anatomical gifts, living wills, and do not resuscitate orders."

and recommends:

be replaced with CS 9658 (3100)

adopt previous CS ()

attached amendment(s)

adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee

further referral to the _____ Committee

Senate Bill:

same title

new title

House Bill:

same title

technical change

new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Paul Stussell</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Peace</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
CHAIR: <i>Adrian L. Taylor</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
DHSS	2/3/97		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DPS	2/3/97	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR TAYLOR

TO: SSSB 38

- 1 Page 4, line 25, following "declarant":
- 2 Insert "at the declarant's direction"

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: SSSB 3R
(S) Publish Date: 2-3-97

Revision Date: _____
Title: Anatomical gifts, living wills and do not resuscitate orders
Sponsor: Taylor
Requestor: Senate HES

Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services
BRU: State Health Services
Component: Community Health/EMS Services
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 2078
See also (SN#): _____

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	2.0					
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

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

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	2.0					
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please specify)						
TOTAL	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$0.0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill would require that the Division of Public Health contract for a graphic artist, \$2.0, to design the symbols to be used on bracelets, necklaces and ID cards to alert medical attendants of their choices.

Prepared by: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH
Division: Public Health

Phone: (907) 465-3090
Date: 01/29/97

Approved by Commissioner: Karen Perdue, Commissioner
Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Date: 1/30/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO:

No. 2

Bill Version: SSSB 38

(S) Publish Date: 2-3-97

Revision Date: _____
 Title: An Act relating to anatomical gifts, living wills,
 and do not resuscitate orders.
 Sponsor: Senator Taylor
 Requestor: S. Hess

Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 BRU: Motor Vehicles
 Component: Field Services
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0502

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 () Revenue Code						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

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

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill will not fiscally impact the Division of Motor Vehicles

Prepared By: Juanita M. Hensley
 Division: Motor Vehicles

Phone: 465-2650
 Date: 1/24/97

Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte*
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

Date: 1/29/97

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information call the Governor's Legislative Office

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman,
Judiciary Committee

Member,
Resources Committee
Rules Committee
Committee on Committees



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3873
Fax: (907) 465-3922

352 Front Street
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
(907) 225-8088
Fax: (907) 225-0713

Senator Robin L. Taylor

Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 38

This legislation modifies existing statute dealing with living wills and would add to that statute a provision by which those who execute living wills can choose to become organ or tissue donors. By adding this provision to the statutory language of a living will, loved ones and health professionals would be fully informed of the wishes of family members and patients.

We live in a technological age in which the need for tissue and organ donation has found a much greater demand than supply. While it is not a legitimate function of government to dictate whether or not a person should become an organ or tissue donor, it is certainly a wise practice for government to facilitate this process.

In addition to adding anatomical gifts to the language of a living will, Senate Bill 38 would also instruct the Division of Motor Vehicles to indicate on drivers' licenses not only the fact that the bearer has elected to become an organ donor, but also that the individual has a living will.

Other than nominal expenses, this legislation should cost little to enforce, but may become invaluable if it increases Alaskans' participation in organ and tissue donation. Certainly any one of us, our families and loved ones, could benefit by an organ or tissue donation made less complicated by this bill.

Sponsor Statement - SB 38

Page Two

Since 1989, 19 Alaskans have received kidney transplants through that facility. Twelve Alaskans have received liver transplants and one state resident received both a kidney and a pancreas.

To understand the need to make organ donation as uncomplicated as possible, I would like to point out that as of January 24, 1997, this one facility had a waitlist of 20 Alaskans in need of kidney transplants, 11 seeking donor livers and one state resident waiting for a donated pancreas.

The Virginia-based United Network for Organ Sharing, the national clearing house for organ transplants, has 68 Alaskans on their waitlist.

Since 1988, the United Network for Organ Sharing documents 207 Alaskans who have received donor organs.

I ask your support for Senate Bill 38.

United Network for Organ Sharing

1

Transplants performed between January 1, 1988 and September 30, 1996

Reported Patient State of Residency: Alaska
By Year and Organ

Year of Transplant	Organ					Total
	Heart	Kidney	Liver	Lung	Pancreas	
1988	3	1	2	1	0	7
1989	3	6	3	0	0	12
1990	3	10	6	0	0	19
1991	4	21	6	1	1	33
1992	3	13	4	0	1	21
1993	5	15	11	2	0	33
1994	1	18	6	1	0	24
1995	6	24	6	2	0	38
1996	2	15	1	2	0	20
Total	30	123	43	9	2	207

Based on UNOS OPTN/Scientific Registry Data as of January 27, 1997
Data subject to change due to future data submission or correction

United Network for Organ Sharing
 Number of Registrations on the Wait List from Reported Residents of Alaska

1

Organ					
Heart	Kidney	Kidney-Pancreas	Liver	Lung	Total
Number of Registrations	Number of Registrations	Number of Registrations	Number of Registrations	Number of Registrations	Number of Registrations
2	51	2	12	1	68

Based on UNOS OPTN/Scientific Registry data as of January 27, 1997
 Data subject to change based on future data submission or correction.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/24/97

FURTHER: Judiciary

Date of 5-Day Notice: 1/23/97
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 2/3/97

HESS Committee considered **SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 38**

"An Act relating to anatomical gifts, living wills, and do not resuscitate orders."

1 Fwd of φ PR

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to the _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
 - new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
 - technical title
 - new: SCR" _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Wendy Ward</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>J. J. Eilers</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Don J. Lemay</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Lyle Green</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
CHAIR: <i>Tom Uebel</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
<i>Dept of Health + Social Services</i>	<i>1/30/97</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Dept of Public Safety</i>	<i>1/29/97</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

Life Alaska, Inc.

Tissue Procurement Service
P. O. Box 230785
Anchorage, AK 99523
1-907-562-5433 • 1-800-719-5433
Fax 1-907-562-5333



February 17, 1997

The Honorable Robin Taylor
Room 30
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: SB38

Dear Senator Taylor:

Regarding the amendment to Sec.3. AS 13.50.030 addressing persons or agencies authorized to remove or transplant part of a decedent's body:

- ◆ It is accepted practice in all fifty states for trained non-physician technical staff to procure tissues such as corneas, heart-valves, bone, and skin from non-heartbeating cadavers.
- ◆ While most states do not address the issue, it is universal practice for medically licensed surgeons to perform the more technically complex organ procurement such as kidney, heart, and liver donation.
- ◆ All tissue and organ transplant into living patients must be performed by licensed physicians. Typically, surgery is performed by specially trained transplant surgeons.
- ◆ In Alaska, trained technical staff have performed all tissue donations. Several MDs have assisted in training the local staff.
- ◆ In Alaska, surgeons who fly up from Seattle, Portland, or California perform most organ donation surgery. Occasionally, kidneys are procured by an Alaska surgeon who has received specific training.
- ◆ Life Alaska would welcome the assistance of a physician in Wrangle, Bethel or anywhere else performing donor surgery if we cannot arrive in time, or working with us if they have an interest. This has happened several times already.
- ◆ Organs and tissues are given to the most medically urgent person waiting for a transplant. Potential tissue and organ recipients decide who their transplant surgeon will be.
- ◆ Donation surgery is typically done by whatever tissue or organ bank provides donor coverage for that region. The Tissue or organ bank will send the technician or surgeon on call to perform the donation surgery.