

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMPILED FILES, 2000-2000 001/2
11750 SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

is from this set of recommendations that the current state content and performance standards were developed.

In 1997, under the *Quality Schools Initiative*, the legislature passed a law requiring Alaska high school students to pass an exit exam before receiving a high school diploma. This exam is designed to test students skills in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics according to the state performance standards. The exam itself was assigned by a commercial test publisher contracted by the State and overseen by a number of committees appointed by the State Board of Education. There is currently a debate in the legislature as to when the exit exam should be incorporated into the system. Currently the State Department of Education web site states that the exam will be required for the graduating class of 2004.

The education system in Alaska is currently in the process of re-examining itself. The sentiment around Alaska, as well as the Nation, is that the system has failed our students in the past and that reform is necessary. The State has implemented a number of wide sweeping measures to raise the standards of education. The system is going through growing pains related to these reforms. Are these changes increasing the education level in all of our students? Will the new testing methods reflect the level of education our students possess? Are these testing methods accurate and fair to all students within the system? The long and short-term effects of the education reforms are in need of further study.

Sources & Links

Alaska Comprehensive Improvement Plan
www.eed.state.ak.us/AlaskaGoals2000master.pdf

A Nation at Risk
www.ed.gov/pubs/NatAtRisk/index.html

Goals 2000 Educate America Act
www.ed.gov/legislation/GOALS2000/TheAct/intro.html

Improving America's Schools Act
www.ed.gov/legislation/ESEA/toc.html

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HOUSE BILL NO. 146

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 2/18/97

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to competency testing requirements for secondary students; and
2 providing for an effective date."

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

4 * Section 1. AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.03.075. Secondary pupil competency testing.** (a) A pupil may not
6 be issued a secondary school diploma unless the pupil passes a competency
7 examination in the areas of reading, English, mathematics, science and social science.
8 The department shall determine the form and contents of the examination and shall
9 score completed examinations. A pupil who fails to pass the examination required
10 under this subsection and who is no longer in attendance shall receive a certificate of
11 attendance from the school district indicating the years of attendance and that the pupil
12 has not passed a competency examination or received a diploma.

13 (b) A pupil who fails the examination required under this section may be
14 reexamined. A reexamination may not be offered more often than once every three

- 1 months and must occur within three years after the date the pupil is no longer in
2 attendance. A pupil who passes the reexamination and who meets any other
3 graduation requirements shall receive a diploma from the school district
4 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.

Ruth Keller

From: Brian Webb [bwebb@sremsc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2005 3:40 PM
To: Ruth Keller
Subject: FW: Additional Input to SB4

It will be hard to nail down exact costs for each area. A rough ballpark is that an instructor should expect to be paid around \$15.00 per hour of classroom instruction, plus associated manikin and supplies costs if the school does not own manikins. Individual cards are around \$5.00 per student.

There are first aid/CPR instructors at most volunteer fire departments throughout the state in town & villages. Most Village health Aids could also fill the role as instructor (understanding that they, like many one-person shows, are overworked, but are the most likely to interface medically with their fellow villagers), especially if they can be compensated for their time.

Brian

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Webb [mailto:bwebb@sremsc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2005 3:29 PM
To: 'ruth_keller@legis.stat.ak.us'
Subject: Additional Input

Hi Ruth, here is what I talked to you about today:

Location	Course	Starts	Ends	Instructor
Kotzebue H.S.	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/05/05	05/20/05	Pardue
Hooper Bay H.S.	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/11/05	04/28/05	Funk
Sitka H.S.	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/17/05	05/26/05	Reilly
King Caree Center	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/18/05	05/10/05	Loken
Nenana H.S.	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/31/05	05/18/05	Mensch
King Career Center	Emergency Trauma Tech (ETT)	01/31/05	06/02/05	Loken
Burchell H.S. (Wasilla)	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1)	01/07/05	04/24/05	Estelle
Mt. Edgacumbe H.S.	Emergency medical Technician (EMT-1)	01/10/05	05/10/05	Raschick
King Career Center	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1)	01/31/05	04/28/05	Loken
King Career Center	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1)	01/31/05	06/02/05	Loken

These are current classes registered with the state EMS office. The ETT classes are part of the statewide (ETT in the High School Program" which began in Kotzebue, and then spread out.

The standard hours for a state ETT course are 50 hours. The standard hours for state EMT-1 course are 120 hours. This far exceeds requirements of the basic bill. I would like to make sure that there are measures in place so a student with an advanced certification can have that credited for the graduation requirement.

Let e know if you need anything else.

BRIAN L. WEBB, FF2/MICP
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bwebb@sremsc.org

3/9/2005

SB

8

Senator Hollis French

Capitol Room 504
465-3892
465-6595 fax



MEMORANDUM

Date: January 10, 2006

To: Senator Fred Dyson, Chair
HESS Committee

From: Senator Hollis French (HSE)

RE: Request for Hearing -- SB 8 - "An Act relating to a student loan repayment program for nurses, and amending the duties of the Board of Nursing that relate to this program; and providing for an effective date."

This is a request that you schedule a hearing on SB 8 - "An Act relating to a student loan repayment program for nurses, and amending the duties of the Board of Nursing that relate to this program; and providing for an effective date" at the earliest possible date.

I have attached a copy of the bill, a sponsor statement, and a sectional analysis for your use. Additional materials will be made available to your committee aide prior to the hearing.

Attachments

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR HOLLIS FRENCH

SPONSOR STATEMENT – SB 8

Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program

Alaska is suffering from a severe shortage of nurses, and Alaskans' health care is suffering because of that shortage. SB 8, which establishes the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program, could help to change that. Offering financial incentives to nurses working in Alaska will help attract new nurses to the state and encourage Alaskans to pursue their nursing vocations here at home.

In 2002, the Alaska Colleagues in Caring, in collaboration with the Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association, surveyed facilities in Alaska regarding nursing workforce needs. Results showed that vacancy rates for RNs had increased from 5.7% in 2000 to 11.5% in 2002, with increasing vacancy rates projected into the future. Facilities in western and northern Alaska reported a vacancy rate of over 20% and, according to information from other sources, the vacancy rate in some remote areas of Alaska is as high as 35 percent.

The Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program will provide repayment of up to \$10,000, over five years, of educational loans an individual has accumulated while training to become a nurse. To qualify for loan reimbursement, an individual must be hired as a nurse in Alaska on or after July 1, 2005, be licensed to practice as a nurse in Alaska, work as a nurse in the state throughout the loan repayment period, and have outstanding educational loans from a recognized lending institution.

Additional eligibility criteria and guidelines for the loan program will be set in regulations adopted by the Board of Nursing, in consultation with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. These may include guidelines on establishing priorities for participation in the loan repayment program if funding

for the program is not adequate to meet need. The guidelines may include determinations based on areas of the state and nursing specialties affected by shortages,

Funding for the program may be appropriated from the Student Loan Corporation dividend (the return of contributed capital authorized in AS 14.42.295(a)) or alternate state, federal, or other sources. The executive director of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education will administer the program.

Senator Hollis French
January 10, 2006

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR HOLLIS FRENCH

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS – SB 8

ALASKA NURSE RECRUITMENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

- Section 1:** Findings and purpose.
- Section 2:** Adds responsibility for establishing standards and eligibility criteria for the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program, including the adoption of necessary regulations and determination of areas of the state and specialties that have a shortage of nurses, to the Alaska Board of Nursing, in consultation with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.
- Section 3:** Adds responsibility to perform duties relating to the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program to the list of responsibilities of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE).
- Section 4:** Directs the executive director of ACPE to administer the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program.
- Section 5:** Establishes that the money made available to the state from the dividend of the Student Loan Corporation may be appropriated for the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program.
- Section 6:** Establishes the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program.

Sec. 14.43.530 – Establishes the loan repayment program to provide financial incentives for qualified registered nurses to work in the state through the repayment of education loans.

Sec. 14.43.540 – Establishes the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program account in the general fund. The account shall be used to provide financial awards for the repayment of education loans and to pay for the costs of administering the program. The account includes money appropriated by the

- more -

legislature from the dividend paid to the state by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation or other sources.

Sec. 14.43.550 – Establishes that the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program shall be administered by the executive director of the ACPE using standards and eligibility criteria established by the Board of Nursing and financial management standards established by the commission. Gives the commission authority to adopt regulations to carry out the duties involved with administering the program, after consultation with the Board of Nursing.

Sec. 14.43.560 – Establishes these eligibility criteria:

- Applicant was hired as a nurse in Alaska on or after July 1, 2005.
- Applicant is employed as a nurse in Alaska during the loan repayment period.
- Applicant is licensed to practice as a nurse in Alaska.
- Applicant must agree to fulfill any requirement of the program.
- Applicant must have outstanding education loans from a recognized lending institution..

Sec. 14.43.570 – Establishes conditions and limitations on loan payments. The total repayment amount to any individual is limited to \$10,000. An annual loan repayment to an individual may be the lesser of \$2,000 or 20 percent of the total loan and interest owed by the person.

Financial awards under the program will be conditioned on the availability of funds. If adequate funds are not available to meet all needs, the executive director of ACPE may prorate available funds and suspend the acceptance of new applications or award funds available for new or pending applicants according to criteria approved by the Board of Nursing.

A loan is not eligible for repayment under the program if it is eligible for repayment or forgiveness under any other program

Sec. 14.43.590 – Definitions of terms.

Section 7: Allows the Board of Nursing and ACPE to adopt necessary regulations immediately upon passage of the Act.

Section 8: Establishes an immediate effective date for Section 7.

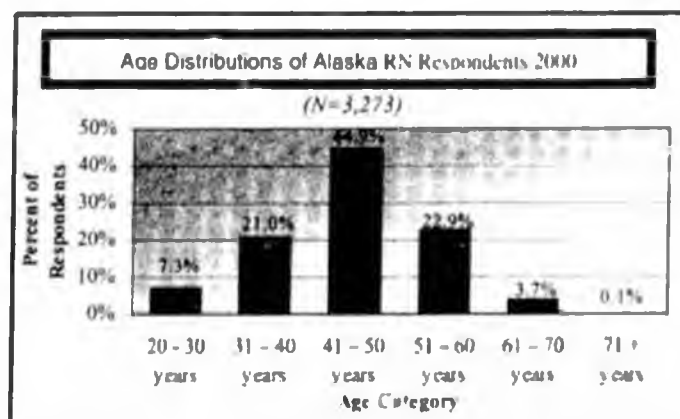
Section 9: Establishes an effective date of July 1, 2005, for the remainder of the Act.



Background On the Nursing Shortage in Alaska

There are currently about 5,200 RNs living in Alaska. Since the late 1990's there has been an increasing shortage of Registered Nurses in Alaska and the US as a whole. This has led to an 11.5% vacancy rate for nursing positions in the State. Contributing factors for this shortage include:

- The aging of the workforce. In 2000 the average age of a RN in Alaska 45.1 years compared to 43.3 years nationally. 72% of the RNs in Alaska are over the age of 40 years old. Data from the 2002 license renewal is currently being evaluated, but it is expected that the average age has only increased.¹



- Hospital and nursing home nursing is very physically demanding. Because of this most nurses working in these settings retire in their 50s. Nationally it is projected that half the nursing workforce will retire in the next five years.
- Fewer young people have gone into the profession. This is graphically illustrated by the above figure.¹ Formerly, the two primary occupations available to women were teaching and nursing. Now there are a larger number of options available. Many women who previously would have become nurses are now becoming doctors.
- Increased complexity of patient care. In order to reduce health care costs more procedures are being done on an outpatient basis, and hospital stays have been shortened. This means that the patients in hospitals are much sicker than 15 years ago, requiring more skilled care.
- In order to reduce costs, hospitals in the 90's increased the number of patients nurses were required to care for at the same time that the patients became sicker. This lead many nurses to leave the workforce because of concern about patient and nurse safety.



- A decrease in job satisfaction, as inadequate staffing is preventing RNs from providing high quality care to patients. One of the single most important factors in nurses being satisfied with their working conditions is the RN having ample time to provide quality care to their patients. This is usually directly tied the number and the acuity of the patients they are required to care for.
- Increased work-acquired injury and illness. This is addressed in detail elsewhere, but between the increased number of HIV and hepatitis infected patients and the increased weight of the population, many nurses have suffered career ending injuries or illnesses. It is not unusual for nurses to be asked to care for 300-500 lb patients.

Importance of RNs to Patient Health and Safety

The nursing shortage effects patient care in two main ways. Studies tie RNs to positive patient outcomes and poor staffing causes experienced RNs to leave the profession due to job dissatisfaction.

- A 2000 study¹¹¹ looked at hospital and Medicare data from hospitals in nine states in five categories of adverse outcomes: length of hospital stay, pneumonia contracted in the hospital, postoperative infection, bed sores, and urinary tract infections contracted while in the hospital. All five measures are markedly decreased with higher levels of RN involvement in patient care.
- A study published in the October 2002 Journal of the American Medical Association¹¹², found the risk of patient mortality increased by 7% for every additional patient in the average nurse's workload in the hospital;
- The study suggests that RNs contribute importantly to surveillance, early detection, and timely interventions that save lives;
- The benefits of improved RN staffing also extend to larger numbers of hospitalized patients who are not at risk for mortality but nevertheless are vulnerable to a wide range of unfavorable outcomes;
- Higher emotional exhaustion and greater job dissatisfaction in nurses were strongly and significantly associated with patient-to-nurse ratios;
- Improving nurse staffing levels may reduce alarming turnover rates in hospitals by reducing burnout and job dissatisfaction, major precursors of job resignation;
- Improving staffing may not only save patient lives and decrease nurse turnover but also reduce hospital costs, if recently published estimates of the costs of replacing a hospital medical and surgical general unit and a specialty nurse (\$42,000 to \$64,000) are correct



Health and Safety Issues Related to the Nursing Shortage

Health care is rapidly becoming the most hazardous industry in America, as well as Alaska. RNs report that health and safety concerns play a major role in their decisions to remain in the profession. Nurses and other health care workers are exposed to the following hazards:

- Biological hazards: HIV, hepatitis B and C and more than 20 other infectious agents have caused infections in nurses caring for patients with these infections.
- Ergonomic Injuries – Ergonomics hazards of manual lifting and transfer of patients cause back injuries to over 1/3 of all nurses. Nurses are more prone to back injuries than construction laborer, truck loader, or warehouse worker.^v Nurses accounted for more than 10% of the total for all occupations combined for neck, back and muscle injuries.^{vi}
- Chemical hazards: latex allergy and disinfectants cause occupational asthma, and laser smoke, exposure to carcinogenic chemotherapeutic agents result in illness.

The Shortage Will Grow

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development^{vii} provided the below statistics related to the current and growing nursing shortage.

- Employment demand for RNs is projected to grow nearly 40% between 1998 – 2008, faster than the all-occupational average (16.6%)
- The number of RNs needed to fill the new jobs resulting from industry growth will increase by nearly 1,600.
- If 2008 projections hold true, RNs will be the largest single healthcare occupation and the seventh largest occupation in the state.
- Nursing shortage is nationwide and Alaska must compete for RNs, or grow more of our own, to keep up with demand caused by the aging of society, as well as the aging of the RNs.

Alaska Nursing Employer Survey Results^{viii}

In 2002, the Alaska Colleagues in Caring, in collaboration with the Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association, surveyed facilities in Alaska regarding their nursing workforce needs.

- Vacancy rates for RNs increased on average from 5.7% in 2000 to 11.5% in 2002 with the West and North respondents reporting a 20.8% vacancy rate in 2002.



- Rate of Turnover reported for RNs in 2002 was 24% indicating difficulties with retaining RNs
- Employers identified the most successful retention incentives included
 - Decreased workload and greater scheduling choices
 - Educational Options
 - Management education and involvement
 - Positive work environment
- The percentage of facilities that actively recruit RNs from other states increased from 47.6% of facilities in 2000 to 83.3% of facilities in 2002.
- Employers identified the following anticipated changes in demand for nurses in the next two years
 1. Aging population/increased number of nurses retiring
 2. Increase in medical services used and number of patients
 3. Increased need for nurses, especially RNs
 4. Possible closure of facilities
 5. New facilities built/facility expansion
 6. An increased difficulty in recruiting and retaining nurses

Current Nursing Education in Alaska

The University of Alaska is the primary educator of nurses in the state. Weber State has had a small LPN program in the state for many years, but they will soon be leaving the state. Nursing education is very expensive to provide due to the cost of labs and clinical rotations. This cost is why there are not more providers of nursing education, and why nationally there has been a decrease in nursing education programs.

Current RN Programs Provided by UAA (110 RN graduates per year)

- 2 year RN – Anchorage 32 students admitted per year; Fairbanks 16 students, Kodiak 9 students (every 2 years)
- 4 year RN – Anchorage 80 students admitted per year, with an additional 40 being added this summer
- 1 year LPN – Anchorage 16 students admitted per year, Bethel 7, Fairbanks 8 (rotates), Ketchikan 6 (rotates)

Projected Locations and Numbers of Nursing Students 2006 (220 RN graduates per year)

- 2 year RN – Anchorage 32 students admitted per year, Fairbanks 16, and about 40 students admitted per year in Juneau, Bethel, Kodiak, Kenai, Ketchikan, or Sitka on a rotating basis. Other sites are also being investigated.
- 4 year RN – Anchorage 120 students admitted per year.



Articulation Programs

The University already has an RN to BSN program in place that can be completed through distance learning. UAA is in the process of refining the LPN to RN program to make mobility within the profession easier.

Current Demand for Nursing Education Exceeds Slots

The UAA four-year BSN program has only a minimal waiting list, which should be eliminated with this year's planned expansion. This year the 2-year (AAS) RN program had 2 applicants for every position. Initial interest meetings in expansion sites such as Kenai have shown a tremendous interest from persons in the community.



SOLUTIONS

The Alaska Nurses Association suggests the following solutions to the Alaska nursing shortage, which come under three main categories:

- Recruitment and education of new RNs
- Retention of experienced RNs
- Adapting the work environment to prolong the careers of aging RNs

RECRUITMENT AND EDUCATION

- State funding support of UAA and Industry Consortium's effort to double the number of RN graduates by 2006. This requires the State to match the industries commitment of 2.4 million over the next three years.
- Continue Federal funding of the Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives into Nursing (RRANN Program) at UAA.
- Support legislation for tuition loan reimbursement of nurses who work in Alaska. Currently several legislators are working to draft such legislation.
- Support an increase to competitive salaries for nursing professors. RNs can currently make more practicing in a hospital than teaching at the University, making the recruitment of qualified instructors very difficult.
- The Alaska Nurses Association is working to develop a recruitment program aimed at grade school children to show them the variety of careers available in the nursing profession.
- The Alaska Nurses Association, hopefully with the support of the Alaska Department of Labor and the University, is planning to work with high schools in developing a pre-nursing preparation program to ensure a successful foundation is created in math and science, especially for rural and non-traditional students.
- With the help of industry, identify and develop training for post-graduate RNs in high-need specialty areas, such as OR and ICU.
- Encourage employers to provide financial incentives for nurses working in facilities to mentor nursing students and new graduates.



RETENTION OF EXPERIENCED RNS

Workplace Conditions

- Support creation and adoption of legislation and/or standards for an appropriate nurse to patient acuity system that creates a safe and satisfying work environment. Several states have passed or are considering similar legislation.
- Create financial incentives for facilities to apply for Nursing Magnet Status with American Nurses Credentialing Center. Magnet status ensures RN participation in workplace design, and promotes quality patient care, highly increasing job satisfaction.
- Encourage employers to make nursing attractive as a long-term career by increasing retirement and medical benefits.
- Encourage Employers to be responsive to RN needs, such as providing daycare that is available during the hours that nurses work and providing flexible scheduling options.
- Create legislation to prohibit mandatory overtime as a staffing solution to the nursing shortage. Other states have successfully passed such legislation.

Health and Safety Solutions

- Provide legislative or administrative incentives for facilities to purchasing latex free products in order to limit latex injuries to RNs and patients, as well as decrease related costs.
- Support the revision and passage of Alaska's existing Needlestick Legislation¹⁸ to meet federal standards, to protect patients and healthcare workers from HIV, Hepatitis, and other infectious diseases.
- Department of Labor's development of Regulations aimed at reducing injuries, and related costs, acquired from lifting and transferring patients in facilities, such as lift teams and assistive devices. Alaska Native Medical Center has had significant success in this area.

ADAPTING THE WORK ENVIRONMENT TO PROLONG THE CAREERS OF AGING RNS

- Encourage institutions to be flexible about working hours and patient loads to allow aging nurses to physically prolong their careers. Many facilities demand 12-hour shifts, which are physically demanding and difficult for aging RNs.
- Fund a study to explore what measures need to be adopted to keep RNs who are over 50 in the workforce.



- Find creative ways to utilize experienced nurses to educate, mentor and recruit new nurses into the profession.

ⁱ "Alaska Colleagues in Caring, Alaska Re-Licensure Survey for RNs, 1996, 1998, and 2000", October 2001

ⁱⁱ Id.

ⁱⁱⁱ ANA's Nurse Staffing and Patient Outcomes in the Inpatient Hospital Setting released in May of 2000.

^{iv} "Hospital Nurse Staffing and Patient Mortality, Nurse Burnout, and Job Dissatisfaction," by Linda Aiken, PhD, RN, et. al., is in the October 23/30, 2002, issue of JAMA. The study looked at 232,342 patients between the ages of 20 and 85 who underwent general surgical, orthopedic, or vascular procedures in 168 Pennsylvania hospitals from April 1, 1998 to November 30, 1999.

^v Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 1998.

^{vi} Id.

^{vii} Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section (April 9, 2002)

^{viii} Alaska Colleagues in Caring Nursing Employer Survey, 1998, 200, & 2002.

^{ix} Sec. 18.60.880. Needlestick and sharps injury protections for health care workers.



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Anchorage, AK 99507
www.aknurse.org

January 20, 2006

Honorable Hollis French
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator French:

The Alaska Nurses Association would like to thank you for re-introducing Senate Bill 8 – “an Act relating to a student loan repayment program for nurses.”

Since your work on this issue during the last Session, our office has received numerous telephone inquiries concerning its progress.

As you know, Alaska is facing a nursing shortage with health care facilities reporting an average vacancy rate of eleven percent (11%), with some rural facilities reporting vacancies as high as thirty-five percent (35%).

With the war in Iraq, the threat of bioterrorism, the continued emergence of “new” diseases, such as the ‘bird flu”, the West Nile virus, and SARS, we will need even more nurses in the coming years.

As a state, we have to develop programs to encourage additional qualified individuals to pursue nursing education. One way is to assist them with their educational expenses and to encourage them to remain in the state to practice.

Again, the nurses of Alaska applaud you for your work on this matter.

Sincerely,

Dianne O'Connell, M.Div.
Executive Director
Alaska Nurses Association

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
Bill Version: SB8-EED-ACPE-03-03-06
() Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Education
Title An Act relating to a student loan repayment program RDU ACPE
for nurses, and amending the duties of the Board of Nursing that... Component Program Administration & Operations
Sponsor Sen. French
Requester (S)HES Component No. 2738

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Personal Services	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous	944.0	1,918.0	2,926.0	3,968.0	5,044.0	5,212.0
TOTAL OPERATING	969.0	1,943.0	2,951.0	3,993.0	5,069.0	5,237.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	65.0					
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	944.0	1,918.0	2,926.0	3,968.0	5,044.0	5,212.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1106 Corporate Receipts	90.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
TOTAL	1,034.0	1,943.0	2,951.0	3,993.0	5,069.0	5,237.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2006) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2007 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time	1	1	1	1	1	1
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation establishes the Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program as an incentive tool to attract and retain nurses to work in the state. Eligibility criteria will be set by the Alaska Board of Nursing and administrative criteria will be set by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. The Commission executive director is the designated program administrator. Administrative costs are designated above as paid from corporate receipts; the loan benefit costs will be paid from General Funds. While Sec. 6 of the bill contemplates the Legislature may make appropriation to the Fund from the Alaska Student Loan Corporation's annual dividend to the state, that appropriation is not mandated, and the recent dividend amount, if appropriated, would be insufficient to cover costs. The \$65,000 capital expenditure is to create a web-based program management tool. Individual benefits may be paid to the program.

Prepared by: Diane Barrans, Executive Director Phone 465-6740
Division: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Date/Time 3/3/06 12:00 AM
Approved by: Diane Barrans, Executive Director Date 3/3/2006
Agency: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO.

SB008-EED-ACPE-03-03-06

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

participants of up to \$10,000 in exchange for five years of employment in the state as a nurse.

The chart below provides additional details relating to the cost estimates in this fiscal note. Assumptions are:

- *average individual education loan debt burden of \$16,000 based on borrowing in this field from the Alaska state education loan programs;
- *starting workforce size of 5,500;
- *average annual vacancy rate of 9%;
- *70% of new hires will have qualifying debt, and
- *workforce growth at a rate of 3% per year.

Growth/Cost Projection Estimates for Alaska Nurse Recruitment Loan Repayment Program
(Dollar Amounts Shown in Thousands)

Year	# New Hire Nurses	FY					
		FY 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2006	472	\$ 944	\$ 944	\$ 944	\$ 944	\$ 944	
2007	487		\$ 974	\$ 974	\$ 974	\$ 974	\$ 974
2008	504			\$1,008	\$1,008	\$1,008	\$1,008
2009	521				\$1,042	\$1,042	\$1,042
2010	538					\$1,076	\$1,076
2011	556						\$1,112
		\$ 944	\$1,918	\$2,926	\$3,968	\$5,044	\$5,212

Alaska State Hospital & Nursing Home Association

We're helping people care for people!

RECEIVED
MAR 06 2006

March 6, 2006

Senator Fred Dyson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Building, Room 121
Juneau AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Dyson:

The Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association supports SB 8, a student loan repayment program for nurses. The Legislature has been very responsive with increases in the University's budget to increase the nursing program, graduating more than 200 annually. Kenai has 9 students in their second year of an associate program and Homer just began its program.

We ask for your support for this legislation to allow loan forgiveness for nurses wanting to return to Alaska. Even with the improvements Alaska has made to recruit and retain nurses, there is still a huge gap between qualified nurses and the projected need over the next 10-15 years.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Linda Fink
Vice President

426 Main Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Phone: 907-586-1790 • Fax: 907-463-7573 • Web: ashnha.com

3/6/2006

My name is Donna Phillips and I have been a Registered Nurse for 27 years. The Alaska Nurses Association as well as myself personally would like to speak in support of SB 8. I feel that this is important legislation that will have a positive impact on the nursing shortage that we experience in the State of Alaska. The bill will allow some relief of student loans for new nurses who will work full time in the state. This student loan relief will hopefully impact a nurse's decision to stay in the state of Alaska. I think that new nurses who will work in the private sector don't have the opportunity to access loan relief like nurses working for other types of funded facilities.

I would like to thank the Senate for watching out for the citizens of the State of Alaska by doing what they possibly can to help alleviate the nursing shortage that we experience in Alaska.

Thank you for taking my testimony.
Donna Phillips, BSN, RN
Alaska Nurses Association, Board of Directors
Labor Council, chair
907-783-2041

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Phillips". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name and contact information.

SB

10



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATOR GRETCHEN GUESS
SENATOR FRED DYSON

Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 10:

"An Act relating to liability for destruction of property by unemancipated minors; and providing for an effective date."

The intent of SB 10 is to hold minors who vandalize and their parents financially accountable for the minor's action in a fair and humane manner, but to hold them fully accountable.

Current Alaska law limits restitution to \$15,000 (and \$25,000 if an insurance policy will pay for the restitution) if a minor vandalizes. Additionally, current law holds only parents/guardians accountable for this restitution not the minor who made the choice to vandalize.

Senate Bill 10 would remove the cap, allowing full restitution for any vandalism performed by a minor. Additionally, it would allow the courts to recover damages from the minor along with the parents. As a result, for example, the court could take away a minor's permanent fund dividend check.

In the past, the legislature has not removed the cap because of a concern of bankrupting families. SB 10 has two provisions responding to this concern while still ensuring full accountability. First, SB 10 requires the courts to develop a payment plan based on financial resources. We know a family with \$10,000 in assets is different from a family with \$1 million in assets. Under SB 10, both families will be held accountable for the damages but may have different payment schedules.

Second, SB 10 holds the minor solely responsible for the remaining restitution when he/she turns 18, and again the courts are required to create a reasonable payment plan based on financial ability. For example, a 16 year old does \$50,000 worth of damage to a school play yard. The court may determine the parents must pay \$5,000 a year for two years. When the minor turns 18, he/she will be responsible for the remaining \$40,000 with the court deciding he/she can and must pay \$2,000 a year. In the end, the restitution will be paid in full.

It is our hope holding minors who vandalize fully accountable for their action may make them think twice before vandalizing. If it does not, they (not the taxpayers, business owner, or homeowner) will be accountable for the restitution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wayne Leighty

From: Fiedler_Roger [Fiedler_Roger@asdk12.org]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2004 11:03 AM
To: Sen. Gretchen Guess; Wayne Leighty
Subject: Playground arson repair costs

Senator Guess,

On your behalf, Wayne Leighty requested from the Anchorage School District the cost of damage repair and replacement for the five playground arsons that occurred during the summer of 2004. Listed below are the actual costs of cleanup and removal of burned material and equipment, and purchase and installation of replacement material and equipment.

Please note that the costs listed are as of December 21, 2004. Costs on some of these projects could rise. For example, at Alpenglow Elementary School pea gravel was used to replace the playground's burned rubber-mulch surface material, due to local availability of pea gravel and the need to make the playground usable as quickly as possible. Should the district decide to return the playground to a rubber-mulch surface, the cost listed below will rise by a significant amount.

Alpenglow Elementary School: \$126,890.72
Kasuun Elementary School: \$61,570.20
Scenic Park Elementary School (two incidents, combined cost): \$42,756.51
Susitna Elementary School: \$9,285.07

Roger

Roger Fiedler
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www.asdk12.org

Bears win

Boys, girls claim
on second day
of City Classic

SPORTS • PAGE B1



Stingy Americans?

Comment by U.N. official
that rich nations aren't doing
enough irks White House

NATION • PAGE A7



Dying bruins

Environmentalists worry
about 31 dead grizzlies this
year in Glacier Nat'l Park

NATION • PAGE C7



JUNEAU EMPIRE

WEDNESDAY

Dec. 29, 2004

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Volume 93 No. 299

Bill would have vandals pay more

Measure would remove caps on parents' liability

By **TIMOTHY INKLEBARGER**
JUNEAU EMPIRE

A Republican and Democrat
in the Alaska Senate have pro-
posed a bill for the 2005 legisla-
tive session to toughen laws on
minors caught vandalizing.

The proposal by Sen.

Gretchen
Guess, D-An-
chorage, and
Sen. Fred
Dyson, R-Eagle
River, removes
caps on parents'
liability for
their childrens'
vandalism, al-
lows the court
to establish a
payment plan and makes the mi-
nor responsible for debt before
and after they turn 18. State law
now caps parent liability at



SEN. FRED
DYSON



SEN. GRETCHEN
GUESS

\$25,000, ac-
cording to
Guess.

The bill also
would allow
the state to ar-
rnish Alaska
Permanent
Fund dividend
checks for van-
dals who have
not repaid their

debts, Guess said.

"For the first time it could
hold minors accountable, if the
court sees fit, before the child

turns 18," Guess said.

Dyson could not be reached
for comment.

Guess said the Anchorage
School District budgets
\$300,000 annually to cover van-
dalism costs. This year Anchor-
age schools suffered five cases of
playground vandalism by mi-
nors, costing between \$10,000
and \$123,000, according to
Guess.

Juneau School District Su-
perintendent Peggy Cowan

Please see **VANDALS**, Page A8

Vandals: It will cost more

Continued from Page A1

said she supports the proposal. The district expects to pay about \$40,000 for acts of vandalism committed in 2004. Much of the cost comes from an incident this June at the Meendenhall River Community School, where vandals smashed 16 windows, three glass doors, a computer and stole other school equipment.

"It communicates that vandalism is vandalism and we take it very seriously and there is accountability," Cowan said. "We obviously are interested in the limited dollars we have going to classrooms, teachers and textbooks rather than paying for repairs to vandalism."

District funds not only go toward repairing damaged property but also preventing future vandalism, said School Board President Mary Becker.

She said installing surveillance cameras was one of the additions to Juneau-Douglas High

It's the concept that you might be paying \$50 a month for the rest of your life.

SEN. GRETCHEN GUESS
D-Anchorage

School when it underwent renovations in 2003.

"(Vandalism) hurts everybody," Becker said. "It stops growth that we could otherwise have. It's a waste of money."

Guess said payment plans would be up to the discretion of the courts and that she intends the proposal to capture payment for damages without "bankrupting families."

"It's the concept that you might be paying \$50 a month for the rest of your life," she said.

• Timothy Inkebarger can be reached at timothy.inkebarger@junequampire.com



meagancfooster@hotmail.com

Printed: Thursday, January 13, 2005 12:07 PM

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Anchorage Daily News (AK)

Anchorage Daily News (AK)

December 31, 2004

Vandals may face new laws

TOUGH: State senators want to lift \$15,000 cap for suits against minors.

Author: KATIE PESZNECKER
Anchorage Daily News

Staff

Edition: Final
Section: Alaska
Page: B1

Estimated printed pages: 4

Article Text:

You break it, you buy it, or so they say.

But that hasn't necessarily been the case in Alaska.

When kids here are caught vandalizing property, state law says that a minor's parents or guardians can only be sued for up to \$15,000 -- \$25,000 if they have homeowners' insurance -- even though damage may exceed that amount.

Sens. Fred Dyson and Gretchen Guess want that cap eliminated and are co-sponsoring legislation to do that. Their bill would allow courts to make minors pay, too, and would make the minor responsible for any debt remaining when he or she turns 18. The legislation also asks that courts use a payment plan based on a minor's or family's financial situation.

Dyson, an Eagle River Republican, said this bill is similar to but more sophisticated than one he launched two sessions ago. Guess, an Anchorage Democrat, was among its co-sponsors. The limit then for payback was \$10,000. But instead of eliminating the cap, lawmakers bumped it to \$15,000. Some said it didn't seem right to pass legislation that could potentially bankrupt parents.

"There was the argument that parents can't control their kids and shouldn't be responsible," Dyson said. "Well phooey! And maybe this will encourage parents to do a better job. Because if the kid and the parents don't pay, the general taxpayers get to, and that ain't fair."

Costly vandalism at Anchorage-area schools has largely fueled the move to increase or eliminate how much minors' parents can be sued for. The district's insurance only covers damage over \$1 million. The School Board routinely budgets \$300,000 a year for vandalism expenses and the district usually spends it -- on everything from broken windows to kicked-in doors to graffiti.

"That's, what, six teachers at least that could be in our classrooms?" Guess said. "When people pay taxes for the Anchorage School District, they're paying it because they want money in the classroom enhancing learning, not repairing vandalism."

Higher-profile acts of vandalism have angered the community, too. Among them: sliced brake lines on 50 school buses in summer 2003 and hallways at Dimond High School trashed with spray paint and glue that same summer. Last summer, vandals damaged four playgrounds -- from torching swings and slides to breaking gates and signs to lobbing Molotov cocktails at wooden play equipment.

And vandalism isn't limited to schools. An Eagle River church was vandalized three times in less than a year. In spring 2003, vandals slashed 50 tires on parked cars and trucks in a Muldoon neighborhood. Later that fall, vandals destroyed Hilltop Ski Area's Owl's Nest lodge.

By pre-filing the legislation, Guess and Dyson were able to co-sponsor the bill across party lines. Once the session starts Jan. 10, politicians from opposing parties cannot both appear as primary sponsors on a bill.

Guess said they tried this time around to create a bill that would eliminate the cap while still appealing lawmakers who worried about bankrupting families.

"Let's create a system, which is what I call fair and humane, that still holds people accountable," Guess said. "I'm hoping that this does (pass), or maybe it will spur a conversation about how to find that balance and lifting the cap."

By giving courts the power to hold both minors and their parents accountable, "the courts could take the minor's Permanent Fund dividend check," Guess said. "They could actually put some of the financial burden on the minor."

Also, requiring courts to make a payment schedule for families based on their incomes and assets is a more realistic way to get them to pay compensation, she said.

"If a minor is going to pay \$50 a month for the rest of their life, that's OK," Guess said. "I don't want to financially ruin families nor do I want to financially ruin minors."

Dyson hopes penalties for youths will help curb vandalism. He compared it to when someone gets a ticket for driving drunk: It makes their friends think twice about getting behind the wheel, he said.

"The kid's dividend is on the line, and the judge can decide the kid couldn't get any student loans, house loans, anything else until they satisfy this according to the judge's payment schedule," Dyson said. "The message will get around to other kids. You've got a friend who has his nose tied to the grindstone and is out making restitution, maybe that will be a learning opportunity for you."

Dyson said he thinks lawmakers may be more receptive to eliminating the liability cap this time.

"Just the accelerating number and severity of vandalism we're seeing, not only in schools but in neighborhoods, is really irritating people," Dyson said. "We've got to close the responsibility loop and let the people who do the damage pay the piper."

Anchorage Superintendent Carol Comeau said she is thrilled the legislation is being introduced. District administrators and School Board members have pushed to remove the cap, she said.

"Our emphasis is on holding the youth accountable, not bankrupting the parents," Comeau said. "I applaud these two legislators. It's a bipartisan effort which is very significant to me, and we'll be looking forward to working with them and testifying in support of it."

Daily News reporter Katie Pesznecker can be reached at kpesznecker@adn.com.

Caption:

Dyson

Guess

January 2005



W) 907-742-4322 (F) 907-742-4417
 Wiget_Larry@asdk12.org

TO: SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES
 FROM: CAROL COMEAU, SUPERINTENDENT *Carol Comeau*
 TIM STEELE, PRESIDENT, ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD *Tim Steele*
 CONTACT: LARRY WIGET, DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
 SUBJECT: SB 10: RELATING TO LIABILITY FOR DESTRUCTION OF
 PROPERTY BY UNEMANCIPATED MINORS

The Anchorage School District supports SB 10 (24-LS0115/I) and encourages the Legislature to lift the liability limit for damage done by under aged vandals. We believe that offenders should be held fully accountable for the damage done to our school and facilities; parents must also accept some responsibility for their children's acts.

Between December 2001 and August 2004 vandals did over \$841,000 in major damage to our schools and facilities (Attachment A). Of this amount, \$386,915 was incurred this past summer by juveniles who set fire to playgrounds and equipment in four of our elementary schools.

To date, from 2001 - 2005, we have recovered only \$1,700 in restitution. While the arson cases this past summer are still pending in court, current law restricts the ability of the court to impose full restitution in these cases; rather, the judge will assess how much a juvenile can pay in restitution while under the jurisdiction of the court. We feel this is intolerable and sends the wrong message to juveniles that they can get away from long-time consequences of crimes committed when they are under the age of 18, and that their records will be kept confidential. We believe that juveniles should have to sign a commitment to repay full restitution no matter how long it takes them to repay the cost of the vandalism. We believe this will reinforce the importance of parents knowing who their children are with when they are out of their parents' direct supervision.

Our community, the Anchorage Police Department, the Mayor, and our locally elected officials, as well as the Anchorage Daily News (Attachment B) support this statutory change. We must do something to stop this type of juvenile crime!

The Anchorage School Board and Administration urge the Legislature to lift the cap for damage done by under-aged vandals. We must hold the offenders and their parents fully accountable.

Increase Liability For Destruction of Property by Minors

Vandalism damages a school district's physical plant, has a negative impact on student learning, and demoralizes hard-working staff and students. Every dollar spent on repairing vandalism is a taxpayer dollar a school district cannot invest in textbooks, teachers or technology.

In 2003, the Alaska Legislature took the first step by increasing the amount school districts can recover from either parent, both parents, or the legal guardian of an un-emancipated minor under the age of 18 years, who, as a result of a knowing or intentional act, destroys real or personal property belonging to a school district from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for a parent without an insurance policy to \$25,000 for a parent with an insurance policy.

The Anchorage School Board urges the Alaska Legislature to allow a school district to recover, with appropriate judicial protections, the full amount of damages to school property from an un-emancipated minor and from either parent, both parents, or the legal guardian of the minor who, as a result of a knowing or intentional act, destroys real or personal property belonging to a school district. We believe that school districts will reasonably evaluate when to seek full recovery, and that the courts will remain able to weigh circumstances in which full recovery is inappropriate due to family or financial circumstances, but that an artificial ceiling is unfair to the taxpaying public.

-2005 ASD Legislative Priority

cc: Anchorage School Board
Mayor Mark Begich
Anchorage Assembly
Chief of Police Walt Monegan.

(Attachment B)

Anchorage Daily News Editorial

(Published: January 15, 2005)

Vandals' \$

No reason to limit liability

As the Legislature starts work, the Alaska Senate has been offered a good way to strike a quick note of bipartisanship. Republican Fred Dyson and Democrat Gretchen Guess combined forces on a bill that lets victims of juvenile vandalism recoup the full cost of damage from the perpetrators and their parents. Speedily passing the bill would help the Senate overcome last year's acrimony and get off to a constructive start.

Current law caps parents' liability for their children's vandalism at \$15,000. The Dyson-Guess bill would eliminate the cap and make the juvenile vandal potentially responsible for at least a portion of the repayment. To make sure a family isn't bankrupted, the courts can structure a repayment plan that considers financial circumstances. Part of the plan can include payments by the vandal after he or she turns 18.

Removing the cap on damages would drive home the message that a costly vandalism spree is not a joke that can be shrugged off as a youthful indiscretion. Anchorage has seen too many incidents where vandals have inflicted tens of thousands of dollars' worth of damage. Those vandals should face full financial responsibility for their crimes, even if they're underage at the time.

BOTTOM LINE: Lift the liability limit for damage done by under aged vandals.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATOR GRETCHEN GUESS

Memorandum

Date: January 13, 2005

To: Senator Fred Dyson
Chair, Health, Education, and Social Services Committee

From: Senator Gretchen Guess

Re: Hearing Request for SB 10.

Please consider this memorandum a formal request for a hearing of Senate Bill 10, "*An act relating to liability for destruction of property by unemancipated minors; and providing for an effective date.*" This bill holds minors who vandalize and their parents financially accountable for the entire damage caused.

If you have any questions regarding SB 10, please feel free to contact me or my aide, Wayne Leighty, at x2435.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

24-LS0115C
Cook
3/31/05

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 10()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATORS GUESS AND DYSON, Ellis, Bunde

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to civil liability for acts of unemancipated minors; relating to court
2 revocation of a minor's privilege to drive; relating to restitution for acts of minors; and
3 amending Rule 60, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure."

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

5 * Section 1. AS 04.16.050(c) is amended to read:

6 (c) A person is guilty of repeat minor consuming or in possession or control if
7 the person was placed on probation under (b) of this section or has been previously
8 convicted, and the person violates (a) of this section. Upon conviction in the district
9 court, the court shall

10 (1) impose a fine of \$1,000 and require at least 48 hours of community
11 work;

12 (2) revoke the person's driver's license for three months unless
13 AS 28.15.185(b)(2) applies;

14 (3) take possession of the person's driver's license; and

1 (4) suspend up to \$500 of the fine and place the person on probation
2 under (e) of this section.

3 * Sec. 2. AS 04.16.050(d) is amended to read:

4 (d) A person is guilty of habitual minor consuming or in possession or control
5 if the person was placed on probation under (c) of this section, or has been previously
6 convicted twice, and the person violates (a) of this section. Habitual minor consuming
7 or in possession or control is a class B misdemeanor. Upon conviction, the court may
8 impose an appropriate period of imprisonment and fine and place the person on
9 probation under (e) of this section and shall

10 (1) impose at least 96 hours of community work;

11 (2) revoke the person's driver's license for six months unless
12 AS 28.15.185(b)(2) applies;

13 (3) within five working days, notify the agency responsible for the
14 administration of motor vehicle laws of the revocation; and

15 (4) take possession of the person's driver's license.

16 * Sec. 3. AS 09.68 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Sec. 09.68.112. Civil liability for acts of unemancipated minors.** (a) A
18 person may recover damages in a civil action and court costs from either parent or
19 both parents of a child, and from the child, who as a result of a knowing or intentional
20 act committed while the child is an unemancipated minor under 18 years of age, harms
21 the person or damages or destroys property belonging to the person. For purposes of
22 this subsection, the parent or parents are liable for damages only if the minor was in
23 the legal custody of the parent or parents when the act was committed. Recovery in
24 damages shall be apportioned by the court between the parents without regard to legal
25 custody but with due consideration for the actual care and custody of the minor
26 provided by the parents. The child is not liable, but the parent or parents are liable, for
27 that portion of damages that exceeds \$5,000, as adjusted under this subsection.
28 However, the total amount of parental liability for damages under this subsection may
29 not exceed \$15,000, as adjusted under this subsection. The child is liable for that
30 portion of the total damages that the parent or parents are not liable for under this
31 subsection. Monetary amounts in this subsection shall be adjusted according to and to

1 the extent of changes in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the
2 Anchorage metropolitan area compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United
3 States Department of Labor (the index). The index for January of 2005 is the
4 reference base index.

5 (b) The court shall set a payment schedule for each individual liable for
6 damages that is fair and takes into account each individual's ability to make payments.
7 The schedule must separately address payments the child may have to make after
8 reaching 18 years of age. The court may order an individual who is liable for damages
9 under this subsection to apply for one or more permanent fund dividends.

10 (c) If damages are awarded under (a) of this section, the court shall require the
11 child who caused the damages to provide a written report to the court regarding

12 (1) financial resources of the child that are available for payment of
13 damages;

14 (2) the amount and type of restitution the child has already made to the
15 claimants; and

16 (3) what, if anything, the child has learned from the civil justice
17 process.

18 (d) A court may modify the payment schedule set under (b) of this section if
19 the court determines that a change in the circumstances of a party to the original action
20 requires the modification. If a party to the original action opposes the modification of
21 the payment schedule and the modification is granted, the court shall enter on the
22 record its reasons for the modification.

23 (e) A parent is not liable under (a) of this section for the acts of a runaway or
24 missing minor that are committed after a parent of the minor has made a report to a
25 law enforcement agency, as authorized by AS 47.10.141(a), that the minor has run
26 away or is missing. In this subsection, "runaway or missing minor" means a minor
27 who a parent reasonably believes is absent from the minor's residence for the purpose
28 of evading a parent or who is otherwise missing from the minor's usual place of abode
29 without the consent of a parent.

30 (f) Subsection (a) of this section does not authorize the recovery of damages
31 from

1 (1) a legal guardian other than a parent;
 2 (2) a person, other than the minor's parent, with temporary or
 3 permanent legal custody of the minor at the time the minor committed the act for
 4 which damages were awarded; or

5 (2) an adoptive parent of the minor as a hard-to-place child if, at the
 6 time the minor committed the act for which damages were awarded, the adoptive
 7 parent was receiving financial assistance from the state as a result of the adoption; in
 8 this paragraph, "hard-to-place child" has the meaning given in AS 25.23.240.

9 (h) This section does not apply to the recovery of damages resulting when a
 10 minor shoplifts merchandise. For purposes of this subsection, "shoplifts merchandise"
 11 has the meaning given in AS 09.68.110(e).

12 * Sec. 4. AS 28.15.185(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) A person is subject to revocation, under (b) of this section, of the person's
 14 driver's license or permit, privilege to drive, or privilege to obtain a license if the
 15 person

16 (1) is at least 13 years of age but not yet 21 years of age and is
 17 convicted of or is adjudicated a delinquent minor by a court for misconduct involving
 18 a controlled substance under AS 11.71 or violation of a municipal ordinance with
 19 substantially similar elements; or

20 (2) is at least 13 years of age but not yet 18 years of age and is
 21 convicted of or is adjudicated a delinquent minor by a court for a misdemeanor,
 22 felony, [AN OFFENSE INVOLVING THE ILLEGAL USE OR POSSESSION OF A
 23 FIREARM THAT IS PUNISHABLE UNDER AS 11] or violation of a municipal
 24 ordinance with elements that are substantially similar to those of a misdemeanor or
 25 felony [ELEMENTS].

26 * Sec. 5. AS 28.15.185(b) is amended to read:

27 (b) The court shall impose the revocation for an offense described in (a) of this
 28 section as follows:

29 (1) except as provided in AS 04.16.050(c) and (d), for a first
 30 conviction or adjudication when the conviction or adjudication is for a
 31 misdemeanor or violation of an ordinance with substantially similar elements, the

1 revocation may be for a period not to exceed 90 days;

2 (2) for a second or subsequent conviction or adjudication when the
3 second or subsequent conviction or adjudication is for a misdemeanor or
4 violation of an ordinance with substantially similar elements, the revocation may
5 be for a period not to exceed one year;

6 (3) for a first conviction or adjudication when the conviction or
7 adjudication is for a felony or violation of an ordinance with substantially similar
8 elements, the revocation may be for a period not to exceed 180 days;

9 (4) for a second or subsequent conviction or adjudication when the
10 second or subsequent conviction or adjudication is for a felony or violation of an
11 ordinance with substantially similar elements, the revocation may be for a period
12 not to exceed two years or until the person reaches 18 years of age, whichever is
13 longer.

14 * Sec. 6. AS 28.15.201(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) A court of competent jurisdiction revoking a person's driver's license,
16 privilege to drive, or privilege to obtain a license under AS 28.15.181(b) or
17 28.15.185(a) may, if the person is at least 16 years of age and for good cause,
18 impose limitations upon the driver's license of a person that will enable the person to
19 earn a livelihood without excessive risk or danger to the public. A limitation may not
20 be placed upon a driver's license until after a review has been made of the person's
21 driving record and other relevant information, and a limitation may not be imposed
22 when a statute specifically prohibits the limitation of a license for a violation of its
23 provisions.

24 * Sec. 7. AS 43.23.065(b) is amended to read:

25 (b) An exemption is not available under this section for permanent fund
26 dividends taken to satisfy

27 (1) child support obligations required by court order or decision of the
28 child support services agency under AS 25.27.140 - 25.27.220;

29 (2) court ordered restitution under AS 12.55.045 - 12.55.051,
30 12.55.100, or AS 47.12.120(b)(4);

31 (3) claims on defaulted education loans under AS 43.23.067;

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(4) court ordered fines;

(5) writs of execution under AS 09.35 of a judgment that is entered

(A) against a minor in a civil action to recover damages and court costs;

(B) under AS 09.68.112 [AS 34.50.020] against an individual for damages resulting from a knowing or intentional act [THE PARENT, PARENTS, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN] of an unemancipated minor;

(6) a debt owed by an eligible individual to an agency of the state, including the University of Alaska, unless the debt is contested and an appeal is pending, or the time limit for filing an appeal has not expired;

(7) a debt owed to a person for a program for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of domestic violence required under AS 12.55.101, AS 18.66.100(c)(15), AS 25.20.061(3), or AS 33.16.150(f)(2).

* Sec. 8. AS 47.12.060(b) is amended to read:

(b) When the department or the entity selected by it decides to make an informal adjustment of a matter under (a)(2) of this section, that informal adjustment

(1) must be made with the agreement or consent of the minor and the minor's parents or guardian to the terms and conditions of the adjustment;

(2) must give the minor's foster parent an opportunity to be heard before the informal adjustment is made;

(3) must include notice that informal action to adjust a matter is not successfully completed unless, among other factors that the department or the entity selected by it considers, [AS TO THE VICTIM OF THE ACT OF THE MINOR THAT IS THE BASIS OF THE DELINQUENCY ALLEGATION, THE MINOR PAYS RESTITUTION IN THE AMOUNT SET BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE ENTITY SELECTED BY IT OR AGREES AS A TERM OR CONDITION SET BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE ENTITY SELECTED BY IT TO PAY THE] restitution is paid as required under (c) - (g) of this section;

(4) for a violation of habitual minor consuming or in possession or control under AS 04.16.050(d) must include an agreement that the minor perform 96 hours of community work, provide that the minor's driver's license or permit, privilege

1 to drive, or privilege to obtain a license be revoked for six months unless
2 AS 28.15.185(b)(2) applies, and provide that the driver's license or permit, privilege
3 to drive, or privilege to obtain a license be revoked for an additional six months if the
4 informal adjustment is not successful because the minor has failed to perform
5 community work as ordered, or has failed to submit to evaluation or successfully
6 complete the education or treatment recommended; the department or an entity
7 selected by the department shall notify the agency responsible for issuing driver's
8 licenses of an informal adjustment under this paragraph or of an unsuccessful
9 adjustment described in this paragraph;

10 (5) of an offense described in AS 28.15.185(a) [AS 28.15.185(a)(1)]
11 must include an agreement that the minor's driver's license or permit, privilege to
12 drive, or privilege to obtain a license be revoked as provided in AS 28.15.185(b); the
13 department or an entity selected by the department shall notify the agency responsible
14 for issuing driver's licenses of an informal adjustment under this paragraph.

15 * Sec. 9. AS 47.12.060 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

16 (c) An informal action under this section must include restitution for damages
17 resulting from the act of the minor that is the basis of the delinquency allegation,
18 including restitution to the victim and to any person who is or will be providing
19 counseling, medical care, or shelter to the victim, unless the restitution is expressly
20 waived by the person entitled to receive it. When supported with credible evidence,
21 unless expressly waived, the restitution shall include compensation to a nonprofit
22 organization for the value of labor or goods provided by volunteers of the organization
23 if the labor or goods were necessary to alleviate or mitigate the effects of the minor's
24 act. In determining the amount of restitution, the department may not consider the
25 ability to pay of the minor or a parent of the minor. In determining the amount and
26 method of payment of restitution or compensation, the department shall take into
27 account the

28 (1) public policy that favors requiring compensation for damages and
29 injury that results from criminal acts;

30 (2) financial burden placed on the victim and those who provide
31 services to the victim and other persons injured by the criminal conduct of the minor;

1 (3) amount and type of restitution that has already been made for the
2 act that is the basis of the delinquency allegation.

3 (d) If the minor was in the legal custody of the minor's parent or parents when
4 the act of the minor that is the basis of the delinquency allegation was committed the
5 minor is not responsible, but the minor's parent or parents are responsible, for that
6 portion of the restitution that exceeds \$5,000, as adjusted under this subsection.
7 However, the total amount of parental responsibility for restitution under this
8 subsection may not exceed \$15,000, as adjusted under this subsection. The minor is
9 responsible for that portion of the total restitution that the parent or parents are not
10 responsible for under this subsection. Monetary amounts in this subsection shall be
11 adjusted according to and to the extent of changes in the Consumer Price Index for all
12 urban consumers for the Anchorage metropolitan area compiled by the Bureau of
13 Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor (the index). The index for
14 January of 2005 is the reference base index.

15 (e) The department shall set a payment schedule for each individual
16 responsible for restitution that is fair and takes into account each individual's ability to
17 make payments. The schedule must separately address payments the minor may have
18 to make after reaching 18 years of age. The department may modify the payment
19 schedule if it determines that a change in the circumstances of an individual
20 responsible for the restitution requires the modification. The department may require
21 an individual who is responsible for restitution to agree to apply for one or more
22 permanent fund dividends.

23 (f) A parent is not responsible for restitution required as a result of the acts of
24 a runaway or missing minor that are committed after a parent of the minor has made a
25 report to a law enforcement agency, as authorized by AS 47.10.141(a), that the minor
26 has run away or is missing. In this subsection, "runaway or missing minor" means a
27 minor who a parent reasonably believes is absent from the minor's residence for the
28 purpose of evading a parent or who is otherwise missing from the minor's usual place
29 of abode without the consent of a parent.

30 (g) This section does not authorize the recovery of restitution payments from

31 (1) a legal guardian other than a parent;

1 (2) a person, other than the minor's parent, with temporary or
2 permanent legal custody of the minor when the minor committed the act that is the
3 basis of the delinquency allegation; or

4 (3) an adoptive parent of the minor as a hard-to-place child if, at the
5 time the minor committed the act that is the basis of the delinquency allegation, the
6 adoptive parent was receiving financial assistance from the state as a result of the
7 adoption; in this paragraph, "hard-to-place child" has the meaning given in
8 AS 25.23.240.

9 * Sec. 10. AS 47.12.120(b) is amended to read:

10 (b) If the minor is not subject to (j) of this section and the court finds that the
11 minor is delinquent, it shall

12 (1) order the minor committed to the department for a period of time
13 not to exceed two years or in any event extend past the day the minor becomes 19
14 years of age, except that the department may petition for and the court may grant in a
15 hearing (A) two-year extensions of commitment that do not extend beyond the minor's
16 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the minor and the public; and
17 (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if continued supervision
18 is in the best interests of the person and the person consents to it; the department shall
19 place the minor in the juvenile facility that the department considers appropriate and
20 that may include a juvenile correctional school, juvenile work camp, treatment facility,
21 detention home, or detention facility; the minor may be released from placement or
22 detention and placed on probation on order of the court and may also be released by
23 the department, in its discretion, under AS 47.12.260;

24 (2) order the minor placed on probation, to be supervised by the
25 department, and released to the minor's parents, guardian, or a suitable person; if the
26 court orders the minor placed on probation, it may specify the terms and conditions of
27 probation; the probation may be for a period of time not to exceed two years and in no
28 event to extend past the day the minor becomes 19 years of age, except that the
29 department may petition for and the court may grant in a hearing

30 (A) two-year extensions of supervision that do not extend
31 beyond the minor's 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the

1 minor and the public; and

2 (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if
3 the continued supervision is in the best interests of the person and the person
4 consents to it;

5 (3) order the minor committed to the custody of the department and
6 placed on probation, to be supervised by the department and released to the minor's
7 parents, guardian, other suitable person, or suitable nondetention setting such as with a
8 relative or in a foster home or residential child care facility, whichever the department
9 considers appropriate to implement the treatment plan of the predisposition report; if
10 the court orders the minor placed on probation, it may specify the terms and conditions
11 of probation; the department may transfer the minor, in the minor's best interests, from
12 one of the probationary placement settings listed in this paragraph to another, and the
13 minor, the minor's parents or guardian, the minor's foster parent, and the minor's
14 attorney are entitled to reasonable notice of the transfer; the probation may be for a
15 period of time not to exceed two years and in no event to extend past the day the
16 minor becomes 19 years of age, except that the department may petition for and the
17 court may grant in a hearing

18 (A) two-year extensions of commitment that do not extend
19 beyond the minor's 19th birthday if the extension is in the best interests of the
20 minor and the public; and

21 (B) an additional one-year period of supervision past age 19 if
22 the continued supervision is in the best interests of the person and the person
23 consents to it;

24 (4) order the minor and the minor's parent to make suitable restitution
25 as provided in (l) - (n) of this section in lieu of or in addition to the court's order
26 under (1), (2), or (3) of this subsection; under this paragraph,

27 (A) except as provided in (B) of this paragraph, the court may
28 not refuse to make an order of restitution to benefit the victim of the act of the
29 minor that is the basis of the delinquency adjudication; under this
30 subparagraph, the court may require the minor to use the services of a
31 community dispute resolution center that has been recognized by the

1 commissioner under AS 47.12.450(b) to resolve any dispute between the minor
2 and the victim of the minor's offense as to the amount of or manner of payment
3 of the restitution;

4 (B) the court may not order payment of restitution by

5 (i) the parent of a minor who is a runaway or missing
6 minor for an act of the minor that was committed by the minor after the
7 parent has made a report to a law enforcement agency, as authorized by
8 AS 47.10.141(a), that the minor has run away or is missing; for
9 purposes of this subparagraph, "runaway or missing minor" means a
10 minor who a parent reasonably believes is absent from the minor's
11 residence for the purpose of evading the parent or who is otherwise
12 missing from the minor's usual place of abode without the consent of
13 the parent;

14 (ii) a legal guardian other than a parent;

15 (iii) a person, other than the minor's parent, with
16 temporary or permanent legal custody of the minor when the
17 minor committed the offense; or

18 (iv) an adoptive parent of the minor as a hard-to-
19 place child if, at the time the minor committed the offense, the
20 adoptive parent was receiving financial assistance from the state as
21 a result of the adoption; in this paragraph, "hard-to-place child"
22 has the meaning given in AS 25.23.240; and

23 (C) at the request of the department, the Department of Law,
24 the victims' advocate, or on its own motion, the court shall, at any time, order
25 the minor and the minor's parent, if applicable, to submit financial information
26 on a form approved by the Alaska Court System to the court, the department,
27 and the Department of Law for the purpose of establishing the amount of
28 restitution or enforcing an order of restitution under AS 47.12.170; the form
29 must include a warning that submission of incomplete or inaccurate
30 information is punishable as unsworn falsification under AS 11.56.210;

31 (5) order the minor committed to the department for placement in an

1 adventure-based education program established under AS 47.21.020 with conditions
2 the court considers appropriate concerning release upon satisfactory completion of the
3 program or commitment under (1) of this subsection if the program is not satisfactorily
4 completed;

5 (6) in addition to an order under (1) - (5) of this subsection, order the
6 minor to perform community service; for purposes of this paragraph, "community
7 service" includes work

8 (A) on a project identified in AS 33.30.901; or

9 (B) that, on the recommendation of the city council or
10 traditional village council, would benefit persons within the city or village who
11 are elderly or disabled; or

12 (7) in addition to an order under (1) - (6) of this subsection, order the
13 minor's parent or guardian to comply with orders made under AS 47.12.155, including
14 participation in treatment under AS 47.12.155(u)(1).

15 * Sec. 11. AS 47.12.120(k) is amended to read:

16 (k) A court that adjudicates a delinquent minor for repeat minor consuming or
17 in possession or control under AS 04.16.050(c) or for habitual minor consuming or in
18 possession or control under AS 04.16.050(d) shall revoke the minor's driver's license
19 or permit, privilege to drive, or privilege to obtain a license as provided in
20 AS 04.16.050(c) or (d). A court that adjudicates a delinquent minor for another [AN]
21 offense [INVOLVING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE UNDER AS 11.71 OR
22 INVOLVING A FIREARM UNDER AS 11] shall revoke the minor's driver's license
23 or permit, privilege to drive, or privilege to obtain a license as provided in
24 AS 28.15.185.

25 * Sec. 12. AS 47.12.120 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

26 (l) A court that adjudicates a delinquent minor must include restitution for
27 damages resulting from the offense, including restitution to the victim and to any
28 person who is or will be providing counseling, medical care, or shelter to the victim,
29 unless the restitution is expressly waived by the person entitled to receive it. When
30 supported with credible evidence, unless expressly waived, the restitution shall include
31 compensation to a nonprofit organization for the value of labor or goods provided by

1 volunteers of the organization if the labor or goods were necessary to alleviate or
2 mitigate the effects of the minor's offense. In determining the amount of restitution,
3 the court shall take into account the

4 (1) public policy that favors requiring compensation for damages and
5 injury that results from criminal acts; and

6 (2) financial burden placed on the victim and those who provide
7 services to the victim and other persons injured by the criminal conduct of the minor;

8 (3) amount and type of restitution that has already been made for the
9 offense.

10 (m) If the minor was in the legal custody of the minor's parent or parents when
11 the offense was committed by the minor, the minor is not responsible, but the minor's
12 parent or parents are responsible, for that portion of the restitution that exceeds
13 \$5,000, as adjusted under this subsection. However, the total amount of parental
14 responsibility for restitution under this subsection may not exceed \$15,000, as adjusted
15 under this subsection. The minor is responsible for that portion of the total restitution
16 that the parent or parents are not responsible for under this subsection. Monetary
17 amounts in this subsection shall be adjusted according to and to the extent of changes
18 in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the Anchorage metropolitan
19 area compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor
20 (the index). The index for January of 2005 is the reference base index.

21 (n) The court shall set a payment schedule for each individual responsible for
22 restitution that is fair and takes into account each individual's ability to make
23 payments. The schedule must separately address payments the minor may have to
24 make after reaching 18 years of age. The court may modify the payment schedule if it
25 determines that a change in the circumstances of an individual responsible for the
26 restitution requires the modification. The court may require an individual who is
27 responsible for restitution to agree to apply for one or more permanent fund dividends.

28 * Sec. 13. AS 47.12.300(e) is amended to read:

29 (e) The court's official records prepared under this chapter and not made
30 public under this section are confidential and may be inspected only with the court's
31 permission and only by persons having a legitimate interest in them. A foster parent is

1 considered to have a legitimate interest in those portions of the court's official records
2 relating to a child who is already placed with the foster parent or who is recommended
3 for placement with the foster parent. A person with a legitimate interest in the
4 inspection of a confidential record maintained by the court also includes a victim who
5 suffered physical injury or whose real or personal property was damaged as a result of
6 an offense that was the basis of an adjudication or modification of disposition. If the
7 victim knows the identity of the minor, identifies the minor or the offense to the court,
8 and certifies that the information is being sought to consider or support a civil action
9 against the minor or against the minor and the minor's parents [OR GUARDIAN]
10 under AS 09.68.112 [AS 34.50.020], the court shall, subject to AS 12.61.110 and
11 12.61.140, allow the victim to inspect and use the following records and information
12 in connection with the civil action:

13 (1) a petition filed under AS 47.12.040(a) seeking to have the court
14 declare the minor a delinquent;

15 (2) a petition filed under AS 47.12.120 seeking to have the court
16 modify or revoke the minor's probation;

17 (3) a petition filed under AS 47.12.100 requesting the court to find that
18 a minor is not amenable to treatment under this chapter and that results in closure of a
19 case under AS 47.12.100(a); and

20 (4) a court judgment or order entered under this chapter that disposes
21 of a petition identified in (1) - (3) of this subsection.

22 * Sec. 14. AS 34.50.020 is repealed.

23 * Sec. 15. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
24 read:

25 **INDIRECT COURT RULE AMENDMENT.** AS 09.68.112(d), as added by sec. 3 of
26 this Act, amends Rule 60, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure, relating to modifications of
27 payment schedules set in actions involving liability for the knowing or intentional acts of
28 unemancipated minors.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATOR GRETCHEN GUESS
SENATOR FRED DYSON

Sponsor Statement

CS Senate Bill 10:

"An Act relating to civil liability for acts of unemancipated minors; relating to court revocation of a minor's privilege to drive, relating to restitution for acts of minors; amending Rule 60, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure; and providing for an effective date."

Senate Bill (SB) 10 started out to lift the cap on civil liability for minor's vandalism, holding children and their parents accountable for the damage caused by minors.

In examining the current system, however, we found the juvenile system contains three processes for holding minors and their parents accountable for restitution: informal probation, criminal adjudication, and civil litigation. Each process approaches the crime of vandalism, non-vandalism crimes, the accountability of minors, and the accountability of parents differently.

The intent of Committee Substitute (CS) for SB 10 is to establish a consistent set of policies for all three processes to ensure full restitution, to hold minors and their parents appropriately accountable, and to improve the collection of restitution.

The key provisions of CS SB 10, applied to informal probation, criminal adjudication, and civil litigation processes, are as follows.

- All crimes are included except for shoplifting.
- All processes must result in full restitution being paid to the victim.
- Minors are accountable for the first \$5,000 of damages. Parents are accountable for the next \$15,000, and the minor pays the remaining amount. These allocations increase with the rate of inflation.
- The processes must develop payment plans based on ability to pay.
- Legal guardians, parents of runaway or missing minors, and adoptive parents of a hard-to-place child are exempt from liability.
- PFDs may be garnished and the court can order applying for a PFD.

Additionally, CS SB 10 revokes a minor's driver's license for any criminal adjudication.

Thank you for your consideration.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATOR GRETCHEN GUESS
SENATOR FRED DYSON

Sectional Analysis

CS Senate Bill 10:

"An Act relating to civil liability for acts of unemancipated minors; relating to court revocation of a minor's privilege to drive, relating to restitution for acts of minors; amending Rule 60, Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure; and providing for an effective date."

- Section 1:** Amends current statute on the revocation of a minor's driver's license for repeat minor consumption or possession of alcohol to reference the new language under section five of this bill.
- Section 2:** Amends current statute on the revocation of a minor's driver's license for habitual minor consumption or possession of alcohol to reference the new language under section five of this bill.
- Section 3:** Creates a new section on civil liability for the acts of unemancipated minors.
- For any knowing or intentional act by a minor that harms a person or damages or destroys property, the child is liable for the first \$5,000 of harm, parents are liable for the next \$15,000 of harm, and the child is liable for any amount remaining. These specified monetary amounts will be adjusted to account for inflation.
 - Parents are liable only if they have legal custody when the act was committed. This section exempts from liability legal guardians other than parents, persons other than parents with legal custody, parents of a runaway or missing minor, and adoptive parents of a hard-to-place children.
 - The court will set a payment schedule for each individual liable for damages according to their ability to make payments and may modify these payment schedules if financial circumstances change.
 - The court may order an individual who is liable for damages to apply for a Permanent Fund Dividend.
 - The child who caused the damages must provide a written report to the court regarding the financial resources of the child available for payment of damages, the amount and type of restitution the child has already made to the claimants, and what, if anything, the child has learned from the civil justice process.
 - This section does not apply to shoplifting, which is covered in AS 09.68.110.

- Section 4:** Amends current statute on the revocation of a minor's driver's license to include all misdemeanor and felony offenses rather than just offenses involving misconduct with a controlled substance and illegal use or possession of a firearm.
- Section 5:** Amends current statute on the revocation of a minor's driver's license with the following provisions. Except for the existing statutes on repeat and habitual minor consumption or possession of alcohol, the court will revoke a minor's license for up to 90 days for a first misdemeanor, up to one year for subsequent misdemeanors, up to 180 days for a first felony, and up to two years or age 18 (whichever is longer) for subsequent felonies.
- Section 6:** Amends current statute allowing court issuance of a provisional driver's license to enable a person to earn a livelihood to include the provisions under section five of this bill.
- Section 7:** Clarifies 100 percent of a parent's or minor's PFD can be taken to satisfy their required debt under this bill.
- Section 8:** Amends current statute on informal adjustments to reference the new subsection created in section nine of this bill and the driver's license provisions in sections five and six of this bill.
- Section 9:** Creates a new subsection on informal actions for the acts of unemancipated minors.
- Informal action must include restitution for damages resulting from the act of a minor.
 - In determining the amount of restitution, the department may not consider the minor's or parent's ability to pay and must take into account the public policy that favors requiring compensation for damages and injury that results from criminal acts, the financial burden placed on the victim, and the amount and type of restitution that has already been made for the act.
 - The child is liable for the first \$5,000 of harm, parents are liable for the next \$15,000 of harm, and the child is liable for any amount remaining. These specified monetary amounts will be adjusted to account for inflation.
 - Parents are liable only if they have legal custody when the act was committed. This section exempts from liability legal guardians other than parents, persons other than parents with legal custody, parents of a runaway or missing minor, and adoptive parents of a hard-to-place children.
 - The court will set a payment schedule for each individual liable for damages according to their ability to make payments and may modify these payment schedules if financial circumstances change.

- The court may order an individual who is liable for damages to apply for a Permanent Fund Dividend.

Section 10: Amends current statute on criminal adjudication of a minor to reference the new subsections created in section 12 of this bill. Exempts from liability legal guardians other than parents, persons other than parents with legal custody, and adoptive parents of a hard-to-place children.

Section 11: Amends current statute on criminal adjudication to include the driver's license provisions in section five and six of this bill.

Section 12: Creates a new subsection on criminal adjudication for the acts of unemancipated minors.

- Adjudication of a delinquent minor must include restitution for damages resulting from the act of a minor.
- In determining the amount of restitution, the department must take into account the public policy that favors requiring compensation for damages and injury that results from criminal acts, the financial burden placed on the victim, and the amount and type of restitution that has already been made for the act.
- The child is liable for the first \$5,000 of harm, parents are liable for the next \$15,000 of harm, and the child is liable for any amount remaining. These specified monetary amounts will be adjusted to account for inflation.
- Parents are liable only if they have legal custody when the act was committed.
- The court will set a payment schedule for each individual liable for damages according to their ability to make payments and may modify these payment schedules if financial circumstances change.
- The court may order an individual who is liable for damages to apply for a Permanent Fund Dividend.

Section 13: Amends current statute on the confidentiality of court records to include the new section on civil actions created in section three of this bill.

Section 14: Repeals current statute on civil actions for the vandalism of an unemancipated minor.

Section 15: The new subsection on civil actions created in section three of this bill amends Rule 60 of the Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure relating to modifications of payment schedules set in actions involving liability for the knowing or intentional acts of unemancipated minors.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB010-LAW-CDCO-4-14
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: LAW
 Title "An Act relating to liability for destruction of RDU CRIMINAL
property by unemancipated minors..." Component Criminal Justice Litigation
 Sponsor Senators Guess and Dyson
 Requester Senate Health, Education and Social Svces Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
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 ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other - Regulatory Cost Charge						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2005) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill amends AS 34.50.020(a) (Liability for destruction of property by minors) allowing recovery of damages and court costs from the child jointly with the either or both of the child's parents. Current statutes do not impose liability on the child. An additional change would end parental liability imposed under the section when the child reaches 18 years of age, but would not also end the child's liability.

Passage of this legislation will not result in a fiscal impact on the Criminal Division. There may be impact on the Civil Division's Collections Unit that we are assessing and may submit a second fiscal note to address that impact.

Prepared by: Kathryn Daughhete, Director Phone 465-3673
 Division Administrative Services Division Date/Time 4/1/05 4:38 PM
 Approved by: Kathryn Daughhete for David Marquez, Attorney General Date 4/1/2005
 Agency Department of Law

Current Liability Framework

	Restitution Required		Parent Liability		Juvenile Liability	
	Vandalism	Other Crimes	Vandalism	Other Crimes	Vandalism	Other Crimes
Informal (AS 47.12.060)	By Department	By Department	None Required	None Required	All	All
Criminal (AS 47.12.120)	Suitable	Suitable	Jointly AS 47.12.120 (4)	Jointly AS 47.12.120 (4)	Jointly AS 47.12.120 (4)	Jointly AS 47.12.120 (4)
Civil (AS 09)	By Court, Limited (AS 34.50.020) (minor's crime)	By Court, Sometimes Limited (AS 09) (all perpetrators)	CAP \$15 / 25 k (AS 34.50.020) (minor's crime)	By Court, By Fault AS 09.17.080 (all perpetrators)	None	By Court, By Fault AS 09.17.080 (all perpetrators)

Policy with CSSB 10

The key provisions of CSSB 10, applied to informal probation, criminal adjudication, and civil litigation processes, are as follows.

- **All crimes** are included except for shoplifting.
- All processes must result in **full restitution** being paid to the victim.
- Minor is accountable for the first **\$5,000** of damages. Parents are accountable for the next **\$15,000**. Minor is accountable for the **remaining** amount, even after 18. These allocations increase with the rate of inflation.
- **Payment plans** must be developed and based on ability to pay.
- Legal guardians, parents of runaway or missing minors, and adoptive parents of a hard-to-place child are **exempt from liability**.
- Community service is an acceptable form of payment if the victim agrees.

Other Provisions of CSSB 10

- If convicted of a crime, the minor's **driver's license** will be revoked, with allowance for a provisional driver's license for employment.
- **PFDs** may be garnished.
- The court can order the minor and/or parents to apply for a PFD.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATOR GRETCHEN GUESS

Memorandum

Date: 4/11/05

To: Senate HESS Committee

From: Senator Gretchen Guess

Re: Conceptual Amendment to CSSB 10

I propose a conceptual amendment to CSSB 10 to accomplish the following.

- Direct the drafter to make the restitution provisions of this bill (sections 3, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15) apply only to property crimes and harm to property. Statutes regarding non-property crimes and harm to persons would remain unchanged by this bill.
- Retain application of the driver's license provisions of this bill (sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 11) to all crime as currently specified in the bill.
- Retain application the PFD provision of this bill in section 7 to all crime and harm to persons or property as currently specified in the bill.

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/11/05

FURTHER: Judiciary

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 4.11.05

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 10

SB 10 PARENTAL LIABILITY FOR CHILD'S DAMAGE

"An Act relating to liability for destruction of property by unemancipated minors; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS SB 10 (HES)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to _____ Committee

Senate Bill:

- Same Title
 New Title

House Bill:

- Same Title
 Technical Title Change
 New Title w/ SCR # _____

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
LAW	4/1			X	
ACS	1/19			X	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>Garry Miller</i>			X	
<i>[Signature]</i>			✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>			✓	
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓			

SB

13

SESSION ADDRESS:
Alaska State Capitol
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Senator Gary Stevens
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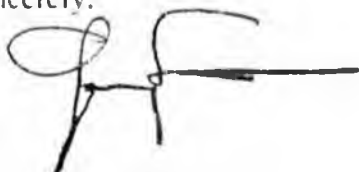
Memorandum

Date: January 18, 2005
To: Senator Fred Dyson
Chair, Senate FESS Committee
Fr: Senator Gary Stevens
Re: SB 13

I respectfully request a committee hearing be scheduled at your earliest convenience for SB 13, "An Act requiring a separate appropriation bill for funding public education; providing for an increase in the base student allocation used in the formula for state funding of establishing a date by which the bill funding public education must be transmitted to the governor; and providing for an effective date."

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. Stevens", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Gary Stevens

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MEMORANDUM

January 12, 2005

SUBJECT: Public education funding; sectional summary (Senate Bill 13)

TO: Senator Gary Stevens

FROM: Tamara Brandt Cook
Director *TBC*

Sec. 1. Requires the governor to submit a separate appropriation bill funding primary and secondary public education before the fourth legislative day. Directs the legislature to pass and transmit to the governor a bill funding primary and secondary public education by April 1.

Sec. 2. Increases the base student allocation to \$4,869 from \$4,576.

Sec. 3. Adds references to the separate education funding bill required in bill sec. 1 to the statute describing the budget.

Sec. 4. Effective date of July 1, 2005.

TBC:med
05-024.med



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: <http://www.akrepublicans.org>

Sponsor: Senator Gary Stevens
Current Version: SB 13
Contact: Doug Letch, 465-4925

Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 13

Short Title: EDUCATION FUNDING

Summary:

- Requires the governor to submit a separate appropriation bill for funding public education by the fourth legislative day of each session.
- Requires the legislature to pass the education funding bill by April 1 of each year.
- Increases the base student allocation from \$4,576 to \$4,869, an increase of \$293 per student.

Benefits:

- Makes education funding a top legislative priority.
- Helps school districts and local governments prepare a local education budget well in advance of the end of their fiscal year.
- Prevents school districts from losing personnel who have been laid off due to budget uncertainties.

Background:

School districts are required to submit funding requests to their municipal governments by May 1 each year. In many instances, the legislature and the governor have not passed the operating budget until well after May 1, making it difficult for school districts to prepare actual budgets. Over the years, this uncertainty has caused school districts to lay off high quality teachers until administrators could determine adequate funding would be available to hire them back. This has caused educators to seek other employment opportunities.

SB

22

Alaska State Legislature

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Senator Bettye Davis

Senate Bill 22

" An Act adding birthing centers to the list of health facilities eligible for payment of medical assistance for needy persons."

Sponsor Statement

Currently in Alaska, Medicaid does not cover licensed birthing center facility fees, often forcing pregnant women to choose a hospital birth where costs to the state are significantly greater than those at a birthing center. The average cost from four hospitals in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau of a "natural" birth is \$3,667.00. This figure does not include epidural anesthesia or the use of pitocin to enhance the strength of labor, internal fetal monitoring and forceps or vacuum assisted deliveries. A cesarean section on average would cost an additional \$4,385.75. The facility fees for three birthing centers in Alaska averages \$1,400.00.

If birthing center facility fees were to be reimbursed by Medicaid or Denali KidCare, the option of a birth center birth could be made available to even more women. It's a logical step towards saving the state money and allowing families on the Denali KidCare program to choose their preferred location to give birth. I urge you to support the passage of this legislation

THE BIRTH CENTER EXPERIENCE

Birth Centers Lead Cost Containment Efforts While Providing Quality Care

"Few innovations in health service promote lower cost, greater availability, and a high degree of satisfaction with a comparable degree of safety. The results of this study suggest that modern birth centers can identify women who are at low risk for obstetrical complications and care for them in a way that provides these benefits."

New England Journal of Medicine, 12/28/89

What is a birth center?

- The birth center is a homelike facility, existing within a healthcare system with a program of care designed in the wellness model of pregnancy and birth.
- Birth centers are guided by principles of prevention, sensitivity, safety, appropriate medical intervention, and cost effectiveness.
- Birth centers provide family-centered care for healthy women before, during and after normal pregnancy, labor and birth.

What is the birth center experience?

- The quality of care in birth centers reported in the "The National Birth Center Study" reflects the low overall intrapartum and neonatal mortality rate of 1.3/1000 births; 0.7/1000 if lethal anomalies are excluded. These rates are comparable to studies of low risk, in-hospital births.¹
- The cesarean section rate for women receiving care in birth centers averages 4.4%, approximately one half that in studies of low risk, in-hospital births.¹
- Birth centers nationally have consistently displayed charges for care for normal birth that average up to 50% less than regular hospital stays and 30% less than short stays - including practitioner fees.^{2, 3}
- More than half of birth centers include routine laboratory exams, childbirth education, home visits, extra office visits, and initial newborn examinations in their charges.
- Most major health insurers reimburse contract with birth centers for reimbursement. Because charges reflect cost and since the birth center is a single service unit, there is no opportunity for cost shifting or operating the birth center as a "loss leader" to other services.
- 98.8 percent of women using the birth center would recommend it to friends and/or return to the center for a subsequent birth.¹

What are the potential benefits to families?

- The birth center approaches pregnancy and birth as a normal family event until proven otherwise. The program encourages family involvement and provides a safe environment for families to experience the social, emotional, and spiritual renewal inherent in birthing forth new life -- while attending to the possibility that a problem may arise that will require medical intervention or care in the acute care setting of the hospital. This is in opposition to the view that pregnancy is an illness and birth a medical/surgical event that needs to be cured.
- The birth center program of education encourages parents to become informed and self-reliant; to assume responsibility for their own health and the health of the family.
- The birth center brings generations together to celebrate new life by encouraging grandparents and children to participate in the birth center program.
- Birth centers have demonstrated that they are a viable alternative to unattended home birth and to costly hospital acute care for 20 years. It is now time to mainstream these services.

What are the benefits to business and industry?

- Birth centers offer business and industry direct savings in the cost of health benefits. If only 100,000 births were attended in birth centers, annual savings could be almost \$314 million.^{2, 3}
- The birth center program provides a starting base for the wellness and prevention programs being established in industry.
- The family is the hinge pin of the employee. Industry's support of a program that encourages family unity, self-determination and responsible health can only improve employee performance.
- Birth center care encourages childbearing women (who may also be employees) to be confident in the design of their bodies. Such confidence, in turn, builds self-esteem and starts the young family off on thinking of pregnancy, birth and family health as wellness, not disease.
- The nine-month intensive focus on improving family health by promotion of lifestyle changes in pregnancy can have a significant ripple effect in the long-term improvement of family health.

How will it affect the hospital acute care service?

- Birth centers have had a major impact on humanizing the acute care maternity services provided by hospitals. Note the rise in hospital birthing rooms, in privileges for nurse-midwives, in childbirth education programs, and in more liberal attitudes about family participation.
- Birth centers are showing that the majority of women can safely proceed through pregnancy and birth using acute care services only as needed. In a wellness orientation to pregnancy and birth, birth centers would be the managed care gatekeepers for the acute care obstetric newborn services.
- Birth centers eventually will help to reduce the number of costly hospital beds and expand primary care services.
- Birth centers will help to reduce dependency fostered by institutional confinement and strengthen the family's ability to share responsibility for maternity care and family health.
- Birth centers will help to develop a system of care based first, on the needs of the family and second, on the needs of medical education or product promotion.

How will it affect the obstetricians?

- Birth centers provide an opportunity for obstetricians and family physicians to learn and practice midwifery - time and education intensive, "with woman" - care.
- Birth centers provide an opportunity for obstetricians to invest in a service in which they can expand their interests.
- Birth centers offer obstetricians an opportunity to develop teams of professional care providers that will improve primary care services to families and better use their specialist skills.

How is the quality of care assured in birth centers?

- Through the promotion of state regulations for licensure (37 states currently license birth centers).
- Through established National Standards (adopted 1985).
- Through a Continuous Quality Improvement Program for Birth Centers (model program available).
- Through accreditation by the Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers.

How do birth centers contain costs?

- By retaining autonomy (control) over birth center operations and program regardless of ownership (some hospitals own freestanding birth centers).
- By providing "high touch" rather than "high tech" care, birth centers minimize the overuse of technology.
- By providing a program of primary care that emphasizes education, wellness, prevention, self-help and self-reliance in family health maintenance.
- By using staff efficiently; staff are only in-house when a mother is in-house. Since birth centers do not compete with emergency services or hospital acute care, levels of staff are used efficiently and appropriately.
- By sharing responsibility with the childbearing family for health and prevention of illness.
- By using existing community services when available (instead of creating costly duplications) for transport services, social services, medical consultation, laboratories, etc.
- By using established policies and procedures for screening and transfer of women with problems to acute care services.
- By using low cost construction that meets safety codes.

REFERENCES

1. Rooks, J., et al., "Outcomes of Care in Birth Centers: The National Birth Center Study", *New England Journal of Medicine*, 321:1804-1811, (December 28), 1989
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4. Rooks, J., et al., "The National Birth Center Study: Part I - Methodology and Prenatal Care and Referrals", *Journal of Nurse-Midwifery*, Vol. 37, No. 4: 222-253, July/August, 1992
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6. Rooks, J., et al., "The National Birth Center Study: Part III - Intrapartum and Immediate Postpartum Neonatal Complications and Transfers, Postpartum and Neonatal Care, Outcomes and Client Satisfaction", *Journal of Nurse-Midwifery*, Vol. 37, No. 6: 361-397, November/December, 1992

The Birth Center

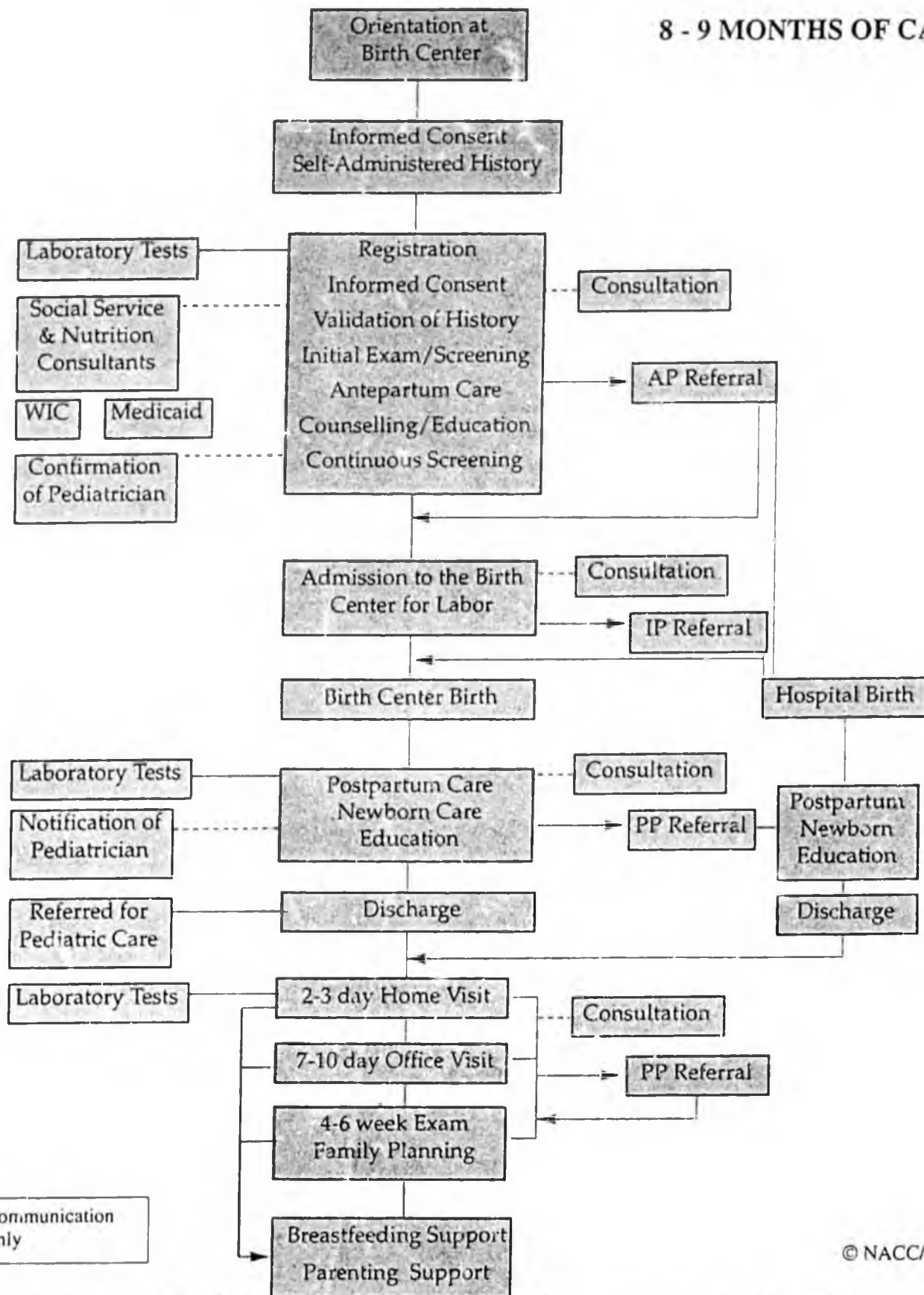
Primary Care in an Integrated Health Care System

Ancillary Services

Birth Center/Primary Care

Hospital/Acute Care

8 - 9 MONTHS OF CARE



..... = communication only



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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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Volume 321:1804-1811

December 28, 1989

Number 26

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Outcomes of care in birth centers. The National Birth Center Study

JP Rooks, NL Weatherby, EK Ernst, S Stapleton, D Rosen, and A Rosenfield

Abstract

We studied 11,814 women admitted for labor and delivery to 84 free-standing birth centers in the United States and followed their course and that of their infants through delivery or transfer to a hospital and for at least four weeks thereafter. The women were at lower-than-average risk of a poor outcome of pregnancy, according to many but not all of the recognized demographic and behavioral risk factors. Among the women, 70.7 percent had only minor complications or none; 7.9 percent had serious emergency complications during labor and delivery or soon thereafter, such as thick meconium or severe shoulder dystocia. One woman in six (15.8 percent) was transferred to a hospital; 2.4 percent had emergency transfers. Twenty-nine percent of nulliparous women and only 7 percent of parous women were transferred, but the frequency of emergency transfers was the same. The rate of cesarean section was 4.4 percent. There were no maternal deaths. The overall intrapartum and neonatal mortality rate was 1.3 per 1000 births. The rates of infant mortality and low Apgar scores were similar to those reported in large studies of low-risk hospital births. We conclude that birth centers offer a safe and acceptable alternative to hospital confinement for selected pregnant women, particularly those who have previously had children, and that such care leads to relatively few cesarean sections.

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 - ▶ [Rosenfield, A.](#)
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Source Information

Center for Population and Family Health, School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York.

Juneau Family Birth Center

The JFBC midwives have attended **392** (as of September 30, 2003) births since opening in April 1998. This number includes all women who started their labor intending to deliver at the birth center or at home.

1998 77 women served

30 women prenatal care only

6 hospital support

41 births attended **Births in Juneau 407**

11 home births

27 birth center births

3 hospital transports

0 cesarean sections

1999 118 women served

36 women prenatal care only

5 hospital support

79 births attended (18.8% of Juneau births-421)

17 home births

46 birth center births

16 hospital transports

9 cesarean sections

2000 101 women served

39 women prenatal care only

5 hospital support

68 births attended (16.2% of Juneau births-421)

12 home births

48 birth center births

8 hospital transports

7 cesarean sections

2001 118 women served
 45 prenatal care only
 10 hospital support
73 births attended (17% of Juneau births-435)
 9 home births
 56 birth center births
 8 hospital transports
 4 cesarean sections

2002 125 women served
 42 prenatal care only
 14 hospital support
83 births attended (20.5% of Juneau births-405)
 14 home births
 55 birth center births
 14 hospital transports
 6 cesarean sections

2003 140 women served (as of September 30, 2003)
 6 hospital support
48 births attended
 4 home births
 33 birth center births
 7 hospital transports
 6 cesarean sections

Total births attended to as of September 30, 2003 by JFBC midwives - 392

Total women served by the birth center- 700

Statistics as of August 24, 2003

Number of women transported in labor	56	15.5%
Number of cesarean sections	32	8.2%
(Number of cesarean sections nation wide		28%)
Number of transports of mom postpartum	6	1.8%
Number of transports of baby postpartum	7	1.8%
Baby deaths at birth	0	
Baby deaths before 6 weeks	2	
One of heart problems at 5 weeks		
One of a birth defect incompatible with life		
Homebirths	67	17.3%
Breastfeeding rate for the first 6 weeks		98%
(Most of our moms breastfeed for years, but we have no official way of tracking this)		
Average baby weight		8 lbs

COST DIFFERENTIAL FOR BIRTHING CENTERS AND HOSPITALS IN ALASKA

ANCHORAGE

Geneva Woods Birth Center	\$1200.00
Providence Hospital	\$3460.00(1)
Alaska Regional	\$3475.00(2)

JUNEAU

Juneau Family Birth Center	\$1200.00
Bartlett Regional Hospital	\$2695.00-\$3850.00 (mom) plus \$1170.00-\$1755 (baby) (3)

FAIRBANKS

Alaska Family Health & Birth Center	\$1200.00
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	\$2500.00-\$3500.00 (4)

1. Quote is for Providence Hospital, uncomplicated delivery and 24 hour stay after delivery. Epidural anesthesia is \$1300.00 additional. Cesarean section is \$7104.00 for 3 day stay, not including anesthesia or physician charges.
2. Cesarean section at Alaska Regional is \$7206.00.
3. Bartlett Regional Hospital does not have all-inclusive pricing. They quote a range of prices and everything from an IV to oxygen and medication is an additional charge. Cesarean section in Juneau costs \$7203.00-\$8295.00 (mom) with an additional charge for the baby of \$1995.00-\$2310.00.
4. Fairbanks Memorial does not have all-inclusive pricing and charges for labor and delivery by the hour. Baby is an additional charge, as is any medication, oxygen, etc. Cesarean section is approximately \$8,000.00.