



LAWS OF ALASKA

1975

Source

HCS CSSB 120

Chapter No.

66

AN ACT

Relating to day care facilities; and providing for an effective date.

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

* Section 1. FINDINGS OF FACT; PURPOSE. The legislature finds that a need exists in the state for the provision of adequate day care facilities for families with low income. Adequate child care facilities allow the parent or guardian to work outside the home and in many cases to avoid the need for welfare and other forms of public assistance. The purpose of this Act is to establish in the Department of Community and Regional Affairs a program to aid low income families in urban and rural areas of the state in providing adequate care for their children.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.47 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 6. DAY CARE ASSISTANCE.

Sec. 44.47.180. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The department shall

(1) implement and administer a program to assist in providing day care for the children of low income families according to the requirements of secs. 180 - 230 of this chapter;

(2) establish standards of eligibility for day care benefits;

(3) contract with day care facilities for the care of children of eligible families;

(4) establish procedures to periodically review the needs of families receiving day care benefits;

(5) provide notification to the local government body of the request for a contract with a day care facility.

(b) The department may

(1) adopt regulations necessary for the performance of its duties under secs. 180 - 230 of this chapter;

(2) contract with local agencies to perform its duties under secs. 180 - 230 of this chapter;

(3) solicit recommendations from local governing bodies regarding local agencies which may provide contractual services under this section.

Sec. 44.47.185. LOCAL PARTICIPATION. When a contract is made under sec. 180(b)(2) of this chapter between the department and a local agency within an incorporated borough or city of the state, the incorporated borough or city shall pay the costs of administering the contractual duties within its jurisdiction.

Sec. 44.47.190. CONDITIONS OF RECEIPT OF BENEFITS. Benefits may be paid for the care of children of a low income family only if a parent or guardian, because of the day care, is freed to work or to attend school. In no event shall benefits be paid for the care of children of a family where one parent or guardian is not working or attending school and is physically and mentally capable of caring for the children.

Sec. 44.47.200. ELIGIBILITY OF FAMILIES FOR BENEFITS. The department shall determine the eligibility of families for day care benefits on the basis of the following factors:

(1) net income of the family including salary, alimony, child support, retirement benefits, social security, and any other source of income;

(2) number of children in the family;

(3) whether there is one parent or guardian solely responsible for the care of the family;

(4) whether the family receives aid to families with dependent children and is eligible for day care service under aid to families with dependent children;

(5) other factors found relevant by the department.

Sec. 44.47.210. CONTRIBUTIONS BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN. The department shall develop a sliding fee scale based on the factors listed in sec. 200 of this chapter for purposes of determining the amount to be contributed by the parent or guardian for child care. The contribution of the parent or guardian shall be paid to the day care facility.

Sec. 44.47.220. PAYMENT TO CHILD CARE FACILITIES.
(a) The department will contract with the day care facility selected by the parent or guardian for the care of the children;

(b) Benefits shall be paid by the department directly to the facility providing the child care; payments shall be made promptly upon receipt of a billing from a facility.

Sec. 44.47.230. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 180 - 230 of this chapter

(1) "day care facility" means a center or home licensed by the Department of Health and Social Services or recognized by the federal government for the care of children.

(2) "department" means the Department of Community and Regional Affairs;

(3) "child" means a person up to the mandatory school age.

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c).