

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1991

Source

SCS CSHCR 17(CRA)

Legislative Resolve No.

40



Establishing a Task Force on Governmental Roles.

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

WHEREAS both the federal and state governments have reduced assistance to municipalities and shifted responsibilities to municipalities; and

WHEREAS state agency operating funds appropriated by the legislature have increased by 19 percent over the past five years; and

WHEREAS state funds appropriated by the legislature to municipalities have been reduced by 40 percent over the last five years; and

WHEREAS during the last five years the number of state employees has increased and the number of municipal employees has decreased; and

WHEREAS an effort is needed to sort out responsibilities for providing governmental services in the most efficient and effective manner; and

WHEREAS the idea of undertaking a review of the roles of federal, state, and municipal government in providing services is not new, but a system for providing the review has not been instituted; and

WHEREAS the legislature needs information on the relationship between the federal,

state, and municipal government to ensure that residents of the state have necessary services at reasonable costs;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Task Force on Governmental Roles is established with the following primary purposes:

(1) to define local, state, and federal governmental roles taking into account differences between urban and rural areas and differences between organized boroughs, the unorganized borough, and regional educational attendance areas;

(2) to examine the roles of the federal, state, and municipal governments in providing services and to determine whether changes ought to be made in those roles and recommend legislation needed to accomplish those changes;

(3) to consider methods of providing funding for governmental services, including the existing revenue sharing program and municipal assistance program, and make recommendations for improved funding mechanisms;

(4) to identify needed governmental services and consider methods to ensure those services are efficiently provided;

(5) to compare the relationship between local, state, and federal governments in Alaska with that in other states and make suggestions regarding implementation of successful models and innovative ideas;

(6) to classify various public services by appropriate levels of government responsibility and evaluate the classification for efficient service delivery, local control, constitutional responsibilities, ability of government to pay for the services, and other pertinent criteria;

(7) to recommend corrections for existing inconsistencies, overlap, or duplication of governmental functions, and establish a proposed time frame for implementing the corrections;

(8) to recommend alternatives for providing services and evaluate cost and funding options;

(9) to recommend changes to local government structures and mandatory powers; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of 13 members as follows:

(1) two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of

the House;

(3) two persons representing the executive branch, appointed by the Governor;

(4) four persons representing different areas of the state and different municipalities, appointed by the Alaska Municipal League;

(5) one person representing an unincorporated community in the unorganized borough, appointed by the Alaska Federation of Natives;

(6) two public members appointed by the Governor; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall elect from among themselves a chair and a vice-chair and that, within funds made available for the purpose, the task force may hire staff and, subject to approval by the Legislative Council, contract for services to perform its duties under the procurement procedures adopted by the council; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that each member of the task force appointed by the Alaska Municipal League should receive per diem and travel expenses from the municipality the member represents, except that the task force may, in cases of necessity and within funds made available for the purpose, approve the payment to a member of per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30, 1992; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report include recommendations that ensure budget reductions be shared equitably between the state and the municipal governments; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is terminated on June 30, 1992.