

Concern voiced on Native health service pay scale

Senator Ted Stevens, in a letter to the acting Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, expressed his concern over the disparity of pay in the Alaska Native Health Service.

The Senator stated: "Because of the disparity of pay among the General Service, Wage Grade, and private sector salaries, the A. N.H.S. is faced with high personnel turnover, and recruitment problems, that can potentially jeopardize the health and well-being of many Alaskan Natives. Wages offered by the A.N.H.S. cannot compete with salaries offered by private institutions, and furthermore, professional

health workers with the A. N. H. S. earn less than laborers of the same hospital that are paid on the Wage Grade schedule."

Stevens said that he had just received two extensive pay studies from the Alaska Area Native Health Service, and urged the Commission to study the reports, as the extensive information contained in the studies justified the need for a special pay rate under Section 5303 of Title 5, of the United States Code. The Senator concluded by saying that he looked forward to receiving an analysis of the matter in the near future from the Commission.