

Amicus Curiae Brief to Be Filed by CAP

Because of the tremendous impact on the high school education of thousands of Eskimo, Indian, and Aleut children, Rural Alaska Community Action Program's Board of Directors recently voted to file an Amicus Curiae Brief, (friend of the court), in the Molly Hootch Case, a class action suit against Alaska State-Operated Schools.

Superior Court Judge, James Singleton, ruled in January in favor of the state on the first count of the case which concerned denial of constitutional rights.

Rural CAP's Deputy Director, Phil Smith, reported that he had been working closely with Alaska Legal Services who had originally filed the brief in behalf of Molly Hootch and re-

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Amicus Curiae

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ported that this action was to show that statewide rural organizations are concerned that the state does have a constitutional right to provide secondary education not in schools hundreds of miles away, but rather in their own home communities.

Although the initial court proceedings were not favorable, we sincerely hope that our action, as well as other similar action will prompt a more favorable ruling.

Smith reported that other points of the brief were not reviewed; one deals with the fact that there are isolated rural communities that do have secondary schools, while other similar isolated communities do not.