

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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A BILL INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Offered: 2/5/71
Referred: State Affairs
and Health, Welfare &
Education

IN THE SENATE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

SENATE BILL NO. 94
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTH LEGISLATURE—FIRST SESSION
A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the involvement of youth in government; and providing for an effective date."

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

*Section 1. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 9D. INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Sec. 44.19.748. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION. There is created in the Office of the Governor, the Governor's Commission on the Involvement of Youth in Government.

Sec. 44.19.750. COMPOSITION AND CHAIRMAN. The commission consists of six members, drawn from leaders in the fields of public affairs, education, the sciences, the professions, other fields of private endeavor, and from the state service. The members are appointed by the governor. One member shall be designated by the governor as chairman of the commission.

Sec. 44.19.752. COMPENSATION AND PER DIEM. Members of the commission serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for other boards and commissions.

Sec. 44.19.754. FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION. (a.) The commission shall establish procedures to enable it to recommend annually to the governor a group of outstanding young men and women from whom the governor may select both governor's interns and youth voting members of state boards and commissions. The commission in establishing these procedures shall enlist the aid of the citizenry involved including students, teachers, individuals actively working with youth, and those involved in formulating youth programs. Following adoption of the procedures, the commission may accept applications from individuals and nominations from Alaska sources for consideration.

(b) Recommendations of the commission will be limited to young persons who

(1) have demonstrated unusual ability, high moral character, outstanding motivation, and a broad capacity for leadership;

(2) show exceptional promise of future development;

(3) are dedicated to the institutions of the United States and the State of Alaska and the broad values of our American civilization; and

(4) will have attained the age of 18 but not the age of 26 prior to the beginning of their service as governor's interns. The commission may recommend any individual under 21 years of age for service on a board or commission.

Sec. 44.19.756. GOVERNOR'S INTERNS. Interns will be appointed to serve one year on the staff of the office of the governor and may be assigned responsibilities in that office or in the offices of the commissioners of the principal departments of state government. The year of service will begin on or about July 1 of the year of selection. Governor's interns shall be in the partially exempt service. Salaries shall be individually established by the state division of personnel on the basis of the prior experience of each intern and the responsibilities of the position.

Sec. 44.19.758. APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS. (a) Notwithstanding AS 39.05.100 or any provision of law relating to age, the governor may appoint any resident of Alaska to any board or commission listed in this section if the

Also Raps Revenue Sharing Procedures—

Sen. Hensley Accuses State of Doing Almost Nothing for Bush

Except for welfare, the State government has taken almost no role in the development and planning in the rural villages of Alaska, according to State Senator William L. Hensley (D-Kotzebue).

In a speech before a Democratic Luncheon, February 10, Hensley said most government input into the villages has been by the federal government, while the state has ignored or impeded rural development. He called for a change.

"The villagers who have been served primarily by the federal government over the years cannot see the state as a helpful agent of change and improvement for village Alaska." He cited the development of fish cooperatives in Kotzebue, Emmonak and Bethel, with little input on the part of the state.

"In fact, Governor Hickel fought the development of the Bethel area cooperative. There was little planning assistance provided by the state."

Hensley documented the emergence of a new type of young person in the villages.

"We have reached the stage in which it is possible for some of the young to pull themselves from a subsistence life, that takes up all their time, to other pursuits in government that allow them to assist the villagers with whom they live who cannot bridge the chasm between an ancient way of life and the modern world."

These young people pursue public life and are working to help their people. It is them, he feels, who helped him to topple the "Terror from Teller" and

gain his State Senate seat.

"Unfortunately, in the Miller administration, bush programs—both state and federal—languished, and the tenor of the last administration was not favorable to the bush. We saw this all the way from our lack of negotiations with the state on the land claims issue to the administration's fighting and hindering the efforts of federal programs such as the OEO funded agencies."

Despite this, he said, such federally pushed programs as Alaska Village Electric Program, Head Start, RURAL CAP, regional development corporations and the various contracted AFN programs have made a significant difference in the expectations of the people in rural areas.

"In my opinion, the mandate of the Egan administration is clear: it is the development of jobs and improvement of the economy." To Hensley, this means development of economic activities such as mining, geological studies, development of fisheries, fish processing, reindeer processing, research and development in many areas.

"Unfortunately, the state is not geared to accomplish the goals of the rural areas in terms of structure." He recommends the Egan administration reexamine its policies on bush development, the question of local government, the diversity of federal and state programs, the possibilities for post land claims settlement activity.

"I would also recommend that the legislature assume the responsibility that was given to it by the Constitution and spend a day or two as an assembly of

the unorganized boroughs discussing the issue of what to do about regional local government in the unorganized areas."

He recommends changes in regional government structure to allow planning and coordination of programs and leadership development in the rural regions; a restructuring of Local Affairs Agency and Rural Development Agency; changes "in the revenue sharing program to allow a more equitable sharing by the newly formed village governments that have organized under state law in the past three or four years."

"In my opinion, it should be a policy of the state that the entire state have access to radio communications so that everyone will know what's happening within the state and around the world."

On the land claims issue, Hensley criticized the per capita distribution aspect of a bill introduced in the House by Congressman Wayne Aspinall—a bill he said was the long awaited statement of the position of the head of the important House Interior Committee.

"In other states where per capita distributions have been made in a settlement, there has been virtually no development and there has been pure disaster in these situations..." He feels sure AFN will oppose this.

"We know that the oil companies are finally active in the pursuit of a settlement because they have as much to gain or more so than we and the state. They know that until the underlying Native title is extinguished that they will be faced with suits."

Letters from Here and There

Interior Airways, Inc.
Box 3029
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
February 9, 1971

Dear Mr. Rock:

Interior Airways is grateful for the words of appreciation by your correspondent at Anaktuvuk Pass, Jack Morry, in your February 3rd edition.

The emergency airlift of fuel to that village recently was an outstanding example of how important, and sometimes apparently impossible, tasks can be accomplished for the common good without selfish motive, through the cooperation of government and private industry.

When a clear and critical need was recognized at Anaktuvuk, the combined forces of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior Airways and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company were mobilized and the job was done. It was a difficult job, under extremely difficult circumstances; but it was accomplished. We are proud to have been a part of it.

I also would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Fairbanks, Anaktuvuk Pass, Bettles and Sagwon who participated in this operation, and helped to make it a success. The willing cooperation of all who had a hand in the airlift is typical of the attitude we have come to expect in Alaskans.

May it ever be thus.

Sincerely yours,
Neil Bergt
Executive Vice President
Interior Airways, Inc.

resident is recommended by the commission.

(b) Appointments authorized by (a) of this section may be made to the State Geographic Board, the Rural Affairs Commission, the Alaska Safety Council, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women, the Yukon-Taiya Commission, the Governor's Planning Council on the Administration of Criminal Justice, the Pioneer's Homes Advisory Board, the Alaska State Board of Education, the Advisory Board on Alcoholism, the Northwestern Alaska Development Committee, the Alaska Board of Fish and Game, and other state boards or commissions where special qualification set by law are not required.

(c) A young person recommended by the commission may be appointed to boards or commissions with special qualifications for membership if the proposed nominee, except for his age, meets the required qualifications as set by law.

(d) Any individual appointed to a board or commission under this section is entitled to the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of other members. No additional seat on a board or commission is created by virtue of secs. 748-750 of this chapter.

*Sec. 2. AS 39.05.060 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.05.060. APPOINTMENT, QUALIFICATIONS, AND TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF DEPARTMENTAL BOARD, COUNCILS, OR COMMISSIONS. Each member of the Local Boundary Commission, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Employment Security Advisory Council, Alaska State Housing Authority, Board of Fish and Game, Board of Tourism, Commission for Northern Operations of Rail Transportation and Highways, (AND) the Board of Directors for State-Operated Schools, and the Governor's Commission on the Involvement of Youth in Government shall be a citizen of the United States. The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge and ability in the field of action of the department for which appointed, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership. Appointments are subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. Initial appointments of members are as follows: (1) in the case of three-member boards, for one, two and three years; (2) in the case of five-member boards, for one, two, three, four and five years; (3) in the case of six-member boards, two members serve for one year, two for two years, and two for three years; (4) in the case of eight-member boards, two members serve for one year, two for two years, two for three years, two for four years and two for five years. Initial terms date from February 1 before appointment. A vacancy occurring during a term of office is filled in the same manner as the original appointment is made and for the balance of the unexpired term. Each member holds office at the pleasure of the governor notwithstanding the member's term.

*Sec. 3. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.