

Introduced by: Stephens
Skogstad, Fandel, Nash
Moore, Walli, Glick &
Carey
Date: Dec. 11, 1984
Vote: 7 YES, 8 NO
Action: DEFEATED

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 84-205

REQUESTING THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS PRIOR TO THE LICENSING OR FUNDING OF ANY AUGMENTED CARE FACILITIES SUCH AS JUVENILE DETENTION HOMES, HALFWAY HOUSES, GROUP HOMES, AND FACILITIES FOR THE EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED.

WHEREAS, the placement of a facility for the care and rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, emotionally disturbed persons, or of persons addicted to alcohol or other drugs is clearly of deep local concern; and

WHEREAS, providing local residents with public hearings prior to licensing or funding would allow the Department of Health and Social Services to become aware of local concerns and factors relevant to a decision on the location of such facilities as well as provide the local residents with clear, reliable information on the proposed facilities and their programs; and

WHEREAS, under AS 47.10.150, the Department of Health and Social Services is empowered to enter into contracts and arrangements with cities regarding plans for construction of juvenile detention facilities and other juvenile institutions; and

WHEREAS, AS 47.30.470, requires the Department of Health and Social Services to promote and encourage activities to educate the public about the effects and treatments for alcoholism and to provide grants for improvement, renovation, or new construction of facilities for alcoholic detoxification, rehabilitation and "halfway house" care; and

WHEREAS, AS 47.30.520, states that a primary purpose in enactment of the Community Mental Health Services Act was to provide a means for participation by local communities in the determination of the need for and the allocation of mental health resources; and

WHEREAS, AS 47.35.010 - .900, empowers the Department of Health and Social Services to license and supervise boarding homes, foster homes, group homes, nurseries, and institutions caring for dependent adults, and requires the department to make certain specific determinations in carrying out such licensing activities which determinations would be inadequate without significant input by local residents on the need for, and location of such facilities; and

WHEREAS, AS 47.37.130, dealing with the treatment of alcoholism and drug abuse, requires that a comprehensive and coordinated program for the treatment of alcoholics and intoxicated persons be established with maximum local community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 47.80 of the Alaska Statutes has established the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted as the interdepartmental planning and coordinating agency for all State departments delivering services to the handicapped, and has charged that council with responsibility to serve as a forum by which issues and benefits regarding current and potential services to handicapped and gifted persons may be discussed;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the Governor of the State of Alaska, the Alaska State Department of Health and Social Services, and the Governor's Council For the Handicapped and Gifted are hereby requested to establish a policy of holding public hearings on the development or placement or funding of facilities for delinquents, the emotionally disturbed, for the treatment of alcoholism and drug abuse, and other similar augmented care facilities and group home facilities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Section 2. That such public hearings be held in close proximity to the location of the proposed facility in order that local residents may provide testimony and be provided with specific reliable information on the scope and nature of the facility proposed.

Section 3. That the Clerk of the Kenai Peninsula Borough shall provide a copy of this resolution to Governor William Sheffield, to the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services, to the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted, and to the peninsula representatives in the State House and Senate.

Section 4. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

~~DEFEATED~~
~~ADOPTED~~ BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON
THIS 11th DAY OF December, 1984.

Marilyn Dimmick, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Acting Borough Clerk