

Presented by: Assembly Human
Resources Committee
Introduced: 07/12/93
Drafted by: B.R.C./D.D.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1654

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE STATE OF ALASKA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO ISSUE REGULATIONS SPECIFYING WHICH HEALTH PRACTITIONERS MAY PERFORM MEDICAL SCREENING OF PUBLIC INEBRIATES.

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau recognizes that providing for the health and safety of persons incapacitated by alcohol while in protective custody is essential, and

WHEREAS, Alaska statutes concerning the care of persons incapacitated by alcohol require at AS 47.37.170(c): "[a] person who voluntarily appears or is brought to an approved public treatment facility shall be examined by a licensed physician or other qualified health practitioner as soon as possible. The department shall, by regulation, determine which health practitioners may be authorized to perform the examination," and

WHEREAS, the department has not issued any regulations which determine which health practitioners other than licensed physicians may be authorized to perform the examination, and

WHEREAS, licensed physicians are not available at all facilities which receive persons incapacitated by alcohol, but registered nurses are available, and

WHEREAS, in particular, correctional facilities which receive incapacitated persons who are combative do not have licensed physicians on staff, but do have registered nurses on staff who are capable of performing the required medical screening, and

WHEREAS, it would assist all appropriate health care facilities to have the Department of Health and Social Services of the State of Alaska issue regulations which specify which health care professionals may perform the screening required, and

WHEREAS, registered nurses should be included as one of the health care professionals who may perform the examinations which are required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. That the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services is encouraged to issue regulations defining appropriate health care practitioners for medical screening of persons incapacitated by alcohol, and to include registered nurses as qualified health care practitioners under AS 47.37.170(c).

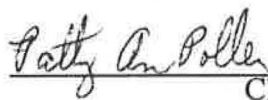
2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 12th day of July, 1993.



Mayor

Attest:



Clerk