

By: Hank Hove  
Karen Parr  
Eileen Cummings  
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Introduced: 02/24/00  
Advanced: 02/24/00  
Adopted: 04/13/00

ORDINANCE NO. 2000-17

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, in accordance with AS 44.47.450, the Fairbanks North Star Borough contracts with the State of Alaska to administer a program to assist in providing child care for the children of low and moderate income families; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 the voters of the Fairbanks North Star Borough approved the exercise of limited health and social services powers, which include the power to receive and pass-through health and social services grants and assist in raising any required community match; and

WHEREAS, early childhood care has a long lasting impact on how people develop their ability to learn and their capacity to regulate their own emotions; and

WHEREAS, offering residents educational materials about the long-term benefits of good prenatal and early childhood care will benefit families and the entire community for generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough:

Section 1. This ordinance is not of a general and permanent nature and shall not be codified.

Section 2. The Mayor shall appoint an Early Childhood Development Commission which shall consist of nine (9) members confirmed by the Assembly.

Section 3. The responsibilities of the commission shall be to:

1. Work on formulating messages that reinforce the concept that the first years in a child's life are critical to their emotional, physical and mental development, and explore means of getting that message out so that the public may avail themselves of the information if they so choose; and

2. Work with appropriate entities within the community on a voluntary basis to disseminate essential information about early brain development ; and
3. Develop a local strategy for voluntarily placing greater emphasis and value upon sound parenting and the critical importance of the parents in early childhood education; and
4. Seek sources of funding to further the voluntary education campaign to improve quality of early care and education programs and make recommendations to the assembly on use of any funds thus obtained for pass-through; and
5. Develop partnerships with churches, non-profits, charitable and religious organizations, business, the education community and government that furthers the stated goals of developing the message on early childhood development and disseminating it to appropriate communities within the borough that choose to avail themselves of the information.

Section 4. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on the first borough business day following its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2000.

/s/ Richard J. Solie, Jr.  
Richard J. Solie, Jr.  
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

/s/ Mona Lisa Drexler  
Mona Lisa Drexler, CMC  
Municipal Borough Clerk

Ayes: Williams, Veazey, Parr, Webb, Young, Beck, Cummings, Hutchison, Holm,  
Noes: Prax, Solie