



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Office of the Governor

COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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RESOLUTION 2023-05

**Encouraging the State of Alaska to Purchase Braille Printers
for Shared Department Use**

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights is the State of Alaska’s civil rights enforcement agency; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights enforces the Alaska Human Rights Act, AS 18.80 *et seq.*; and,

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has recorded 14,000 Alaskans reporting total or near blindness; and,

WHEREAS, even with the increase in digital communications, numerous offices of the State of Alaska still distribute printed material to the public for a wide variety of purposes; and,

WHEREAS, braille printers or embossers can allow for written or printed materials to be made accessible to those visually impaired peoples who are fluent in braille; and,

WHEREAS, AS 18.80.255 makes it unlawful for the state, “to refuse or deny to a person any local, state, or federal funds, services, goods, facilities, advantages, or privileges because of physical or mental disability;” and,

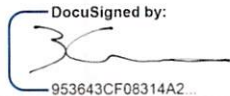
WHEREAS, the state’s Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Program’s policy statement provides that “no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded, by reason of such disability, from participation in or be denied the benefits of the service, programs, or activities of a state agency; or be subjected to discrimination by any such agency.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights calls on the Governor to work with the department heads to procure a small number of braille printers or embossers that would allow for state agencies to create braille documents when necessary. The Commission recognizes the unreasonable cost-benefit balance of providing every state office, or even every department, with a braille printer or embosser, and instead encourages the Governor to

work with the departments to procure a limited number of these devices to be made available for shared use between all executive branch agencies in a geographic locale when the agency needs to provide braille documents.

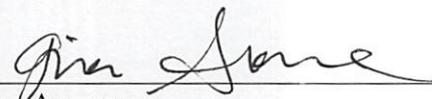
Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of Alaska and the Governor's cabinet members.

ADOPTED in Anchorage, Alaska, this 22nd day of August, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

953643CF08314A2

Zackary Gottshall
Chairperson
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 2023-05 is a true and accurate copy of the language adopted by the Commission on August 22, 2023.


Gina Aumuvae
Secretary
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights