

| | Alaska Criminal Justice Commission | Controlled Substance Advisory Committee |
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| Statutes | AS 44.19.641-.647 | AS 11.71.100-.120 |
| Term | Limited, sunseting July 1, 2017 | Ongoing |
| Where | In the Office of the Governor | In the Department of Law |
| Authority | Advisory only | Advisory, but statute provides that if the committee recommends a change to a CS schedule, the the governor shall introduce legislation in accordance with committee's recommendation. |
| Frequency | Minimum of quarterly meetings. | Minimum of two meetings a year. |
| Who calls | Members of the Commission. | At the call of the Attorney General |
| Organization | Chair is elected for a one year term. | Chaired by Attorney General. |
| Staffing | Alaska Judicial Council | Statute is silent, but presumably DOL |
| Overlapping memberships | Attorney General; Department of Public Safety; active duty member of local law enforcement | Attorney General; Department of Public Safety; peace officer |
| Memberships unique to each organization | Department of Corrections; Mental Health Trust Authority; judges representing appellate and trial courts; Public Defender; representative of Alaska Native community as designated by Alaska Native Justice Center Board; a victims' advocate; and non-voting representatives from the Alaska House and the Senate. | Department of Health and Social Services; Board of Pharmacy; a physician; a psychiatrist; and two unaffiliated individuals appointed by the governor. |
| To whom or what does it recommend action | Shall make annual reports to the Legislature. May recommend legislative or administrative action. | Shall make recommendations to governor, certain state agencies (expressly DOL, DPS, and implicitly DHSS), Court System, Board of Pharmacy, and the Legislature |
| Authority | Advisory only. | Advisory, except that if committee recommends a change to a CS schedule, the the governor shall introduce bill in accord with committee's recommendation. |
| Status | The Commission has been meeting once monthly since September 2014. Members also participate in workgroups. Relevant subjects under discussion are: alternatives to incarceration (pretrial diversion/deferred disposition, therapeutic courts, electronic monitoring) and the reclassification of some felony crimes of simple possession. | First meeting is May 18, 2015. |

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| Overlapping specific mandates | <p>Consider “ whether the schedules for controlled substances in AS 11.71.140--11.71.190 are reasonable and appropriate.”</p> <p>Consider “the adequacy, availability, and effectiveness of treatment and rehabilitation programs.”</p> <p>In evaluating effect of sentencing laws and criminal justice practice and making recommendations for change, consider alternatives to traditional forms of incarceration.</p> | <p>“Advise the governor of the need to add, delete, or reschedule substances in the schedules in AS 11.71.140 - 11.71.190.”</p> <p>“Evaluate the effectiveness of programs in the state providing treatment and counseling for persons who abuse controlled substances.”</p> <p>Recommend programs to the Alaska Court System as alternatives to the prosecution or imprisonment of offenders who have no prior criminal record involving controlled substance offenses and who are charged with crimes involving controlled substances.</p> |
| Potentially overlapping mandates | <p>Evaluate the effect of sentencing laws and criminal justice practices to determine if they provide for protection of the public, community condemnation of the offender, the rights of victims of crimes, the rights of the accused and the person convicted, restitution from the offender, and the principle of reformation. Formulate recommendations for improvement, taking into account various factors, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Relevant laws ○ Sentencing practices; ○ Crime and incarceration rates, including the rate of violent crime and <i>the abuse of controlled substances</i>, in this state compared to other states, ○ Best practices adopted by other states that have proven to be successful in reducing recidivism; ○ The relationship between sentencing priorities and correctional resources. | <p>Review and evaluate enforcement policies and practices of the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Law with regard to crimes involving controlled substances, and recommend modifications of those policies and practices consistent with the committee's assessment of the probable danger of particular controlled substances.</p> <p>Review budget requests and recommend amounts for appropriations to the governor and the legislature for departments and agencies responsible for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) enforcing criminal laws pertaining to controlled substances; (B) providing treatment and counseling of persons who abuse controlled substances; and (C) regulating the legitimate handling of controlled substances. |