1. 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 10 In Re: 11 No. 99-02115-W1B DIXIE LEE CARTER, 12 Adv. No. A99-00085-W1B Debtor(s). 13 14 DIXIE LEE CARTER, _5 MEMORANDUM DECISION RE: Plaintiff(s), DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS 16 vs. 17 ALASKA STUDENT LOAN CORPORATION, 18 a state agency, 19 Defendant(s). 2.0

Debtor/Plaintiff commenced a Chapter 7 proceeding on April 6, 1999. On May 7, 1999 plaintiff commenced this adversary proceeding alleging that her student loan obligation to defendant Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) was dischargeable under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(8) as it imposed an undue hardship on the plaintiff. By stipulation filed January 19, 2000, the parties agreed that, for specific immunity purposes, ASLC is an arm of the State of Alaska.

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T.S. McGREGOR, CLERK
U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

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On August 28, 1999, ASLC filed a Motion to Dismiss alleging that the doctrine of sovereign immunity precludes this court from exercising its jurisdiction over ASLC. Further, that ASLC has not waived its immunity from suit. The matter was argued on February 28, 2000.

HOLDING

This court recently issued its Memorandum Decision in Huffine v. California State University-Chico, et al., cause No. A97-0012-W1B, which has recently been submitted for publication and addresses the same issue as presented here, to wit; does this court have jurisdiction to determine dischargeability of student loan obligations when the defendant is an arm of the state. A thorough analysis of this issue is contained in Huffine.

The evidence in this case consists of the Promissory Note signed by the plaintiff on July 18, 1985. That Note indicates that the student loan in dispute originated under the Alaska Student Loan Program. Although ALASKA STAT. § 14.42(16) (1999) authorizes the defendant to enter into agreements with the federal government and participate in the federal student loan program under the Higher Education Act of 1965, the plaintiff does not deny that the loan in controversy was initiated under the Alaska Student Loan program established by ALASKA STAT. § 14.42.210 (1999). No federal funds were involved and the federal student loan program requirements are not applicable to the particular loan which is the subject matter of this adversary proceeding. Consequently, under the legal analysis set forth in Huffine, supra, the defendant has not in this action waived its immunity from suit in federal courts.

The Motion to Dismiss is granted and an order of dismissal will be entered accordingly.

The Clerk of Court is directed to file this Memorandum Decision and provide copies to counsel. DATED this ______ day of March, 2000. ₁5

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