CONFERENCE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 33

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/14/99
Sponsor(s): SENATOR WARD
REPRESENTATIVE Kohring

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to contracts for the performance of certain state functions previously performed by state employees and to the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. (a) The legislature finds that
(1) the annual cost of state government is exceeding the annual revenue of the state;
(2) the State of Alaska, other states, and the federal government have successfully and substantially reduced government spending and increased government efficiency by contracting with third parties to perform particular state or government functions;
(3) there may be functions of our current state government that can be performed more efficiently by any or all of the following entities:
   (A) nongovernmental or private organizations;
   (B) local government or regional service organizations;
(4) there may be functions that state government should not continue to perform, but should leave to the federal government;
(5) there may be state government functions that should be consolidated or otherwise performed more efficiently;
(6) there exist state government functions that would be inappropriate to contract out to nongovernmental agencies.

(b) The legislature finds it is in the best interest of the state to make a formal determination of which state government functions can and should be transferred entirely to private entities or to local government agencies and whether the state should stop performing some functions for the federal government. The legislature also finds that it is in the best interest of the state to determine which state government functions can be consolidated or otherwise made more efficient.

(c) The legislature intends to make the determination set out in (b) of this section in order to reduce dependency on state governmental revenues for the delivery of government services.

* Sec. 2. COMMISSION ON PRIVATIZATION AND DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES. (a) There is created in the legislative branch of the state government the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services. The commission shall consist of 11 members, as follows:

(1) one member of the senate appointed by the president of the senate who shall serve as co-chair;
(2) one member of the house appointed by the speaker of the house who shall serve as co-chair;
(3) one member appointed by the Alaska Municipal League;
(4) two public members appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom shall be a representative of a Native corporation established under 43 U.S.C. 1601-1628 (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act);
(5) two public members appointed by the speaker of the house, one of whom shall be a representative of a Native corporation established under 43 U.S.C. 1601-1628 (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act);
(6) one member appointed by the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce;
(7) one member appointed by the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations;
(8) one member from the minority caucus of the house appointed by the speaker of the house;
(9) one member from the minority caucus of the senate appointed by the president of the senate.

(b) The commission may appoint an advisory council to assist it in carrying out its duties.

* Sec. 3. COMPENSATION. (a) The public members of the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services appointed under sec. 2(a) of this Act are not eligible for compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

(b) Members of the advisory council appointed under sec. 2(b) of this Act are not eligible for compensation, per diem, or payment of travel or other expenses by the state.

* Sec. 4. MEETINGS. The Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services shall meet as frequently as the commission determines necessary to perform its work. The commission may meet and vote by teleconference.

* Sec. 5. DUTIES. (a) The Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services shall

(1) review and evaluate the policies and recommendations of other states that are studying or have implemented recommendations to transfer the provision of government services to other entities;

(2) review state contracting policy and procedures, including competitive bidding procedures;

(3) identify state government functions capable of more efficient performance in the delivery of government services, and determine whether those identified functions could most effectively be provided by

(A) transferring to the private sector or contracting out;

(B) transferring to local governments or regional service organizations;

(C) the federal government;

(D) consolidation or other efficiency changes; or
(E) a combination of the approaches under (A) - (D) of this paragraph;

(4) identify state government functions that should be eliminated;

(5) identify present state government services that are most effectively and efficiently delivered by the state and that should remain a responsibility of the state;

(6) solicit public comment about the delivery of state government services.

(b) By January 1, 2000, the Commission on Privatization and Delivery of Government Services shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the governor and the legislature. The report must include suggested legislation that may be needed to accomplish the recommendations. The report must specify which state

(1) functions should be transferred to the private sector or contracted out;

(2) functions should be transferred to local governments or regional service organizations;

(3) agencies or functions should be consolidated or otherwise made more efficient;

(4) functions should be performed by the federal government;

(5) functions should be eliminated as functions of state government.

* Sec. 6. This Act is repealed on January 1, 2000.

* Sec. 7. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).