

**HOUSE BILL NO. 221**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES KOPP, Edgmon, Ortiz, Story, Fields, Kreiss-Tomkins, Foster, Hannan, Claman, Zulkosky, LeDoux, Lincoln, Spohnholz, Hopkins, Johnston, Tarr, Tuck, Stutes**

**Introduced: 1/27/20**

**Referred: House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs, Community & Regional Affairs**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act providing for state recognition of federally recognized tribes; and providing for**  
2 **an effective date."**

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

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 23.20.520(13) is amended to read:

5 (13) "federally recognized tribe"

6 (A) means a tribe that is recognized by the United States  
7 Secretary of the Interior to exist as an Indian tribe under **25 U.S.C. 5131** [25  
8 U.S.C. 479A] (Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994);

9 (B) includes any subdivision, subsidiary, or business enterprise  
10 wholly owned by a federally recognized tribe;

11 **\* Sec. 2.** AS 44.03.030 is amended to read:

12 **Sec. 44.03.030. Construction of AS 44.03.010 - 44.03.040 [CHAPTER].**

13 **AS 44.03.010 - 44.03.040 do [THIS CHAPTER DOES] not limit or restrict**

14 (1) the jurisdiction of the state over a person or subject inside or

1 outside the state that is exercisable by reason of citizenship, residence, or another  
2 reason recognized by law;

3 (2) jurisdiction over or ownership of other water or land under other  
4 water inside or forming part of the boundaries of the state;

5 (3) legislative jurisdiction of the United States over an area to which  
6 legislative jurisdiction is ceded by the state and **that** [WHICH] remains in the  
7 ownership of the United States.

8 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 44.03.040 is amended to read:

9 **Sec. 44.03.040. Reconciliation with other statutes. AS 44.03.010 - 44.03.040**  
10 **do** [THIS CHAPTER DOES] not alter the geographic area to which a statute of the  
11 state applies if the statute specifies the area precisely in miles or by another numerical  
12 designation of distance or position. Nothing in the statute or in **AS 44.03.010 -**  
13 **44.03.040** [THIS CHAPTER] is a waiver or relinquishment of jurisdiction over or  
14 ownership by the state of an area to which jurisdiction or ownership extends under  
15 another provision or rule of law.

16 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 44.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Article 2. Intergovernmental Relations with Tribes.**

18 **Sec. 44.03.100. Recognition of tribes.** The state recognizes the special and  
19 unique relationship that the United States government has with federally recognized  
20 tribes and specifically recognizes the relationship between the United States  
21 government and federally recognized tribes in the state. The state recognizes all tribes  
22 in the state that are federally recognized under 25 U.S.C. 5130 and 5131. Nothing in  
23 this section diminishes the United States government's trust responsibility or other  
24 obligations to federally recognized tribes in the state or creates a concurrent trust  
25 relationship between the state and federally recognized tribes. In this section,  
26 "federally recognized tribe" has the meaning given in AS 23.20.520.

27 \* **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).