



Representative Ashley Carrick

Alaska State House ~ District 35, West Fairbanks

Chair, House State Affairs ~ Co-Chair, House Transportation
Member, House Labor, and Commerce ~ Member, Tribal Affairs

House Bill 124 Sponsor Statement Ver. A (34-LS0411\A)

The AIDEA Accountability Act

The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) is a state-owned corporation with the mission to “promote, develop, and advance economic growth by providing various means of financing and investment.” This means that AIDEA is involved with a wide variety of development projects, from smaller, less controversial ones to larger and more controversial ones. As a young state, Alaska needs entities like AIDEA to help build our state, but we also need to make sure that those entities are acting in the public interest.

The AIDEA Accountability Act includes various policy changes to increase legislative oversight and encourage public participation to ensure that AIDEA works in the public interest. Specific reforms include:

- Legislative confirmation for AIDEA board members.
- Designating a seat on the AIDEA board for someone from an environmental advocacy organization.
- Adding two seats on the AIDEA board for members that are appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Senate President.
- Codifying public testimony requirements for the AIDEA Board and increases the timeline for public notice requirements for board meetings.
- Requiring Legislative approval for AIDEA projects over \$10 million
- Increasing annual reporting requirements to the Legislature.
- Subjecting AIDEA to the Alaska Public Records Act.

The intent of the AIDEA Accountability Act is not to limit responsible development in Alaska, but rather it is an effort to ensure that AIDEA acts within the public interest as it fulfills its mission to develop Alaska. I hope you will join me in supporting this effort to ensure accountability and transparency for AIDEA and support HB 124.

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