

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
House Community & Regional Affairs Committee

Rep. Cathy Muñoz, Co-Chair



Rep. Bob Herron, Co-Chair

HCR 21 – Creating an Economic Development Planning Commission



Presentation to the House Finance Committee



Current Statewide Processes

- Alaska Forward
 - Led by the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development (ARDORs), other members
 - \$500K Denali Commission money for Phase I
 - Currently working on Phase II funding
- Legacy
 - Governor Palin's Administrative Order
 - Project has morphed under Governor Parnell
 - Anticipate alignment of Legacy behind Alaska Forward
- Other regional, industry-specific efforts




Commission Membership

- One State Representative
- One State Senator
- Two Public Members
- Two Public Members
- One Public Member
- One Public Member
- DCCED Commissioner
- L&WFD Commissioner
- President of APED

Appointment Authority

- ← House Speaker
- ← Senate President
- ← House Finance Co-Chairs
- ← Senate Finance Co-Chairs
- ← House Minority Leader
- ← Senate Minority Leader
- ← By Resolution
- ← By Resolution
- ← By Resolution

Goal of HCR 21 is to provide Legislature with direct input and collaboration with private sector on subjects of economic development.



Kinds of Opportunities Commission May Identify

- Could identify financial tools to target particular areas of economic development:
 - Loan programs, incentive/tax programs
 - Target particular industry clusters, geographic regions, or other policy goals
- Enables the Legislature to address identified needs by preparing legislation in advance of sessions.
- Possible restructuring of departmental participation in economic development:
 - public corporation to work on economic development issues
 - new department
 - new division



HCR 21 – Timeline

- March, 2010: AK Forward Phase I Report
- April 30, 2010: Commission Begins Work
- Spring 2010: AK Forward Phase II Launches
- January 30, 2011: First Legislative Report Deadline
- December 15, 2011: Second Report Deadline
- June 30, 2012: Sunset



Identified Need for Cooperation on Statewide Economic Development

- “Lack of an overall Alaska Strategic plan for Economic Development is a barrier to expanded AIDEA participation in major projects.”
– AIDEA Strategic Plan
- “There is a lack of statewide planning, leadership, and coordination. Although Alaska has a large number and variety of economic development entities, their focus is local or regional, rather than statewide, and this limits their effectiveness.”
– Alaska Forward: Phase I Situational Analysis Executive Summary
- Calling for a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Alaska and supporting both the “Alaska Forward” project and the Governor’s “Legacy” plan.
– Alaska State Chamber of Commerce 2010 Position Paper