Alaska State Legislature House of Representatives

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CS for House Bill 34 version O

"An Act relating to the implementation of laws, regulations, and executive orders; relating to reporting required before implementation of laws, regulations, and executive orders; making state acceptance of certain federal funds contingent on the creation and transmittal to the legislature of certain written economic analyses; making compliance with state laws, regulations, and executive orders contingent on the creation and transmittal to the legislature of certain written economic analyses; and relating to the information that must be included with certain notices provided for the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation."

Federally matched and unfunded mandates have cost the state millions of dollars through their implementation. Often, Alaska is forced to blindly follow new federal laws, regulations or executive orders without information detailing the economic impacts the federal mandates will have on the state. Committee Substitute for House Bill 34(JUD) will ask the federal government to provide an economic impact analysis of the effects on the state, local government and communities, and private industry before complying with and accepting any federal funds associated with a new federal law, regulation, or executive order. If no such report is provided within 90 days, the appropriate state agency will generate the economic impact report and present the findings to the Legislature. Additionally, economic analyses will be drafted for any state law, regulation, or executive order showing the impacts to the state and each community, industry, and local governments.

CSHB 34(JUD) also broadens the responsibility and powers of the Administrative Regulation Review Committee by allowing the committee to submit their comments on regulations to the lieutenant governor prior to filing the regulations. The lieutenant governor will then have the option to send the regulations back to the agency responsible for crafting them for further review. Finally, CSHB 34(JUD) will require additional information citing the impacts of regulations to the public and municipalities to be included with the public notice.

With the economic analyses and enhanced regulation review procedures provided in CSHB 34(JUD), the state and private industry will better understand the economic ramifications of new federal and state mandates and be better equipped to make decisions surrounding the acceptance of federal funds.