

**SENATE BILL NO. 163**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

Introduced: 1/29/16

Referred: Resources, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act relating to the nomination and designation of state water as outstanding**  
2   **national resource water; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4    \* **Section 1.** AS 46 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5           **Sec. AS 46.03.085. Outstanding national resource water.** (a) Water of the  
6           state may not be designated as outstanding national resource water as specified in 40  
7           C.F.R. Part 131.12 except by an act of the legislature.

8           (b) The department shall accept nominations of water for designation as  
9           outstanding national resource water.

10          (c) Any resident of the state may provide a nomination.

11          (d) The department may adopt regulations that establish the process for  
12          submittal of the nomination and additional information. The department will provide  
13          public notice of all nominations and will establish a mechanism to allow any resident  
14          of the state to provide additional information.

1 (e) Within 10 days after the convening of each legislature, the commissioner  
2 shall transmit to the legislature for consideration a list of nominations and related  
3 material that were received by September 1 of the previous year.

4 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 46.03.900 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

5 (38) "outstanding national resource water" means water bodies that  
6 have been determined by the legislature to be important, unique, or sensitive  
7 ecologically.

8 \* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
9 read:

10 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Environmental Conservation  
11 may adopt regulations necessary to implement this Act. The regulations take effect under  
12 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of this Act.

13 \* **Sec. 4.** Section 3 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).