

# *Alaska State Legislature*

Session Address:  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Phone (907)465- 4087  
House District 32



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## *Representative Louise Stutes*

### *Speaker of the House*

#### **Sectional Analysis for HB 63**

##### **Section 1:**

Changes 19.05.030 by adding two duties to the Department of Transportation. 19.05.030 (8) which requires the Department to review and respond to recommendations by the Marine Operations Board and (9) to report whether or not the Alaska Marine Highway is meeting performance goals.

##### **Section 2:**

Requires the Board to create comprehensive long term and short-term plans and provides them the framework detailing what should be included in the plans. Requires the Department to submit both the short-term and long-term plans, revisions, and updates to the legislature and the governor and make the plans available to the public.

##### **Section 3:**

Changes the name of the board from "Marine Transportation Advisory Board" (MTAB) to "Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board".

##### **Section 4:**

Repeals AS 19.65.120(a) and is reenacted to do the following:

- (a) Creates a nine-member board instead of twelve, which includes the deputy commissioner of transportation and public facilities and requires each member to be an Alaska resident.
  - (1) Requires one member to be a recognized union employee from the Alaska Marine Highway, to be appointed by the governor.

- (2) Requires one member from an Alaska native organization or tribe, appointed by the governor
- (3) Requires six members of the public:
  - (A) That have experience in marine business and procurement practices, marine personnel management, commercial service options, ship maintenance, construction, and repair, fleet strategy, reliability, and regulatory compliance, or risk management
  - (B) Two of which are appointed by the governor, two by the speaker of the house and two by the president of the senate.

#### **Section 5:**

Creates staggered six-year terms on the board instead of three-year terms, with exception of the deputy commissioner. If a vacancy arises, it allows for a new appointment to be made to serve out the remaining term of the vacant seat.

#### **Section 6:**

Exempts the deputy commissioner from being removed from the board.

#### **Section 7:**

Requires the board to provide orientation about the Alaska Marine Highway System to the newly appointed members. Also allows for regional development associations to make recommendations for appointments to the board.

#### **Section 8:**

Requires the Department to provide information at the request of the board in a timely manner.

#### **Section 9:**

The board will provide recommendations to the commissioner of the department. (f) creates a mechanism for reporting if the recommendations are not followed. (g) allows the board to create a taskforce consisting of non-board members to investigate matters relevant. (h) Requires the board to annually make recommendations regarding preparation of the “STIP” to the department.

#### **Section 10:**

Changes the name of the board from “Marine Transportation Advisory Board” (MTAB) to “Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board”.

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#### **Section 11:**

Amends 44.42.050(a) to require the commissioner to incorporate the comprehensive long-term plan recommended by the board into the long-range plan required under the statute.

#### **Section 12:**

Repeals 19.65.120(B)

#### **Section 13:**

Once this bill is enacted, this section directs the terms of members of the current Marine Transportation Advisory Board to expire on the effective date and sets new staggered terms for the members of the Alaska Marine Highway Operations Board.