HOUSE BILL NO. 26

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE STORY

Introduced: 1/19/23
Referred: House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act renaming the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council as the Council for Alaska Native Languages; and relating to the Council for Alaska Native Languages."

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

*** Section 1.** AS 44.33.520(a) is amended to read:

(a) The **<u>Council for Alaska Native Languages</u>** [ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION AND ADVISORY COUNCIL] is established in the department for the purpose of recommending the establishment or reorganization of programs to support the preservation, restoration, and revitalization of Alaska Native languages.

*** Sec. 2.** AS 44.33.520(c) is amended to read:

(c) The governor shall appoint to the council established in this section **<u>seven</u>** [FIVE] voting members who are professional language experts and who represent diverse regions of the state. In addition, one member of the senate appointed by the

president of the senate and one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives shall serve on the council as nonvoting members. In appointing the nonvoting members of the council, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint a member of the bush caucus, if a bush caucus exists. In this subsection, "bush caucus" means a group of legislators that represents rural areas of the state.

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

TRANSITION. As soon as practicable after the effective date of sec. 2 of this Act, the governor shall appoint to the Council for Alaska Native Languages the two additional voting members created by sec. 2 of this Act.