

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 278(STA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES COSTELLO, McCabe, Edgmon, Hall, Vance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act establishing the Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission; and providing for an  
2 effective date."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 44.33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Article 7A. Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission.**

6 **Sec. 44.33.440. Alaska-Ireland Trade Commission.** (a) The Alaska-Ireland  
7 Trade Commission is established in the department.

8 (b) The commission consists of five members appointed by the governor. The  
9 members of the commission serve staggered three-year terms at the pleasure of the  
10 governor.

11 (c) The purpose of the commission is to

12 (1) advance bilateral trade and investment between the state and  
13 Ireland;

14 (2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to the state

1 and Ireland;

2 (3) promote business and academic exchanges between the state and  
3 Ireland;

4 (4) encourage mutual economic support between the state and Ireland;

5 (5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of the state and  
6 Ireland; and

7 (6) address other issues as determined by the commission.

8 (d) The commission shall elect a chair from among its members. A majority of  
9 the members of the commission constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

10 (e) The commission shall provide public notice of a meeting at least seven  
11 days before the meeting.

12 (f) If the department obtains the information required under (h)(1) of this  
13 section, the department may accept a grant, donation, or gift from a public or private  
14 source to pay for

15 (1) per diem and travel expenses of the commission; or

16 (2) other assistance and support the department or commission requires  
17 to carry out the purposes of this section.

18 (g) Except as permitted under (f)(1) of this section, members of the  
19 commission serve without compensation and are not entitled to per diem and travel  
20 expenses authorized by law under AS 39.20.180.

21 (h) By the 30th day of each regular legislative session, the department shall  
22 prepare a report, deliver the report to the governor, senate secretary, and chief clerk of  
23 the house of representatives, and notify the legislature that the report is available. The  
24 report must include

25 (1) information on the grants, donations, and gifts accepted under (f) of  
26 this section in the previous year, including

27 (A) the date and amount or value of each grant, donation, and  
28 gift;

29 (B) the total amount or value of all grants, donations, and gifts;

30 (C) the name and address of each person who made a grant,  
31 donation, or gift, and the dates and total amount or value of the grants,

1 donations, or gifts; and

2 (D) for grants, donations, or gifts in excess of \$50 in the  
3 aggregate during the previous year, the principal occupation and employer of  
4 the person who made the grant, donation, or gift; and

5 (2) the commission's findings, results, and recommendations.

6 (i) The department or commission may not contract for writing services or  
7 support to prepare the report required under (h) of this section unless a grant, donation,  
8 or gift is made for that purpose under (f) of this section.

9 (j) In this section, "department" means the Department of Commerce,  
10 Community, and Economic Development.

11 \* **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
12 read:

13 INITIAL APPOINTMENT; STAGGERED TERMS. Notwithstanding  
14 AS 44.33.440(b), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, the members of the Alaska-Ireland Trade  
15 Commission appointed under AS 44.33.440(b), enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, are appointed to  
16 initial terms as follows:

17 (1) one member shall serve a one-year term;

18 (2) two members shall serve two-year terms; and

19 (3) two members shall serve three-year terms.

20 \* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).