

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



Rep. Ashley Carrick
State Capitol, Room 406
907-465-4976
Rep.Ashley.Carrick@akleg.gov

Official Business

HB 278 Summary of Changes

Alaska Ireland Trade Commission
Version 34-LS1299\I to Version 34-LS1299\T

Section 1: Various changes to the commission (AS 44.33.440) and its operations, including:

Subsection (a) has conforming changes that delete the “Department of Commerce Community and Economic Development” and replace it with “department.” Department is later defined on page 3, lines 9-10 of the CS under a new subsection (j).

Subsection (b) is changed to increase the term lengths of commission members from two to three years.

Subsection (f) relating to the authority of the department to accept donations is changed to provide additional clarity and adds a new requirement that donations be disclosed (discussed further under *new subsection (h)*).

Specifically, this section specifies that the department may accept a grant, donation, or gift from a public or private source for (1) per diem and travel expenses, and (2) other assistance that the department or commission may require to carry out its mission.

New Subsection (g) specifies that members of the commission are voluntary, serve without compensation, and are not entitled to per diem or travel expenses authorized under the Executive Budget Act.

New Subsection (h) changes the reporting requirements. In the previous version of this bill, the report to the legislature required under former section 2 of the bill was only a one-time report. Subsection (h) changes the reporting requirement to an annual report to the Legislature.

In addition to reporting on the commission’s “findings, results, and recommendations,” this new annual report requires that the commission disclose all of its donors and include the same information that candidates are required to disclose for APOC reports.

New Subsection (i) specifies that the commission may not contract for services or support to prepare its annual report unless someone makes a donation for that purpose.

New Subsection (j) defines the department as the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

Section 2: Former section 2 relating to a one-time report to the legislature is deleted and replaced with new language relating to the initial appointments and staggered terms for commission members. Required for longer-term lengths.

Section 3: Unchanged, immediate effective date.