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Mischel/Kirsch
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CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 290(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES AUSTERMAN, Joule, Thompson, Foster, Edgmon, Gara, Herron, Tuck,
Peggy Wilson, Muñoz, Seaton

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act creating the endow Alaska grant program in the Department of Commerce,
Community, and Economic Development to encourage community philanthropy."

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

* **Section 1.** AS 44.33 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Article 2A. Endow Alaska Grant Program.

Sec. 44.33.150. Grants for community philanthropy. The endow Alaska grant program is established in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. To encourage community philanthropy in the state, the department may identify a statewide lead philanthropic entity that meets the requirements of AS 44.33.160 and grant the entity state funds that the entity may annually award to a community foundation or community foundation affiliate as endow Alaska grants to increase endowed funds, the purpose of which would be unrestricted.

Sec. 44.33.160. Eligibility requirements for lead philanthropic entities and

grant recipients. (a) To be eligible under AS 44.33.150, a lead philanthropic entity must be

(1) a nonprofit entity exempt from federal income taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) (Internal Revenue Code);

(2) a statewide organization whose principal function is to make grants in the state; and

(3) a community foundation.

(b) Only a community foundation or a community foundation affiliate is eligible for a grant under AS 44.33.150 - 44.33.190.

Sec. 44.33.170. Evaluating applications and awarding of grants. (a) When evaluating applications for grants, the board of the lead philanthropic entity shall consider relevant factors including

(1) the need for financial assistance;

(2) the potential for future philanthropic activity in the community or geographic area that will benefit from the grant;

(3) the percentage of matching funding proposed;

(4) the opportunity to establish new community foundations or community foundation affiliates;

(5) the geographic diversity of the communities or geographic areas that will benefit from the grants; and

(6) other relevant factors as determined by the board.

(b) The board of the lead philanthropic entity may award endow Alaska grants to a community foundation or a community foundation affiliate that

(1) provides all information the board requires, including evidence of the existence of the community foundation or the community foundation affiliate;

(2) demonstrates, in a manner approved by the board, the ability to match state funding at a ratio of at least one-to-one; and

(3) provides a spending policy for distributing grant money to organizations within the community or geographic area as defined by the community foundation or the community foundation affiliate.

Sec. 44.33.180. Limitations on grant amounts, awards, and administrative

1 **costs.** Endow Alaska grants are limited as follows:

2 (1) grants may not exceed \$25,000 annually for each foundation or
3 community foundation affiliate unless the grant will be used to benefit multiple
4 boroughs or a region;

5 (2) only five percent of the grant funds received by the lead
6 philanthropic entity may be used for administrative purposes by the lead philanthropic
7 entity;

8 (3) state general funds may not be used as matching funds under
9 AS 44.33.170(b) to qualify for a grant through the endow Alaska grant program.

10 **Sec. 44.33.190. Definitions.** In AS 44.33.150 - 44.33.190,

11 (1) "community foundation" means a tax-exempt, nonprofit,
12 autonomous, publicly supported, philanthropic institution in the state composed
13 primarily of permanent funds established by many separate donors for the long-term
14 diverse, charitable benefit of the residents of a defined geographic area;

15 (2) "community foundation affiliate" means a group of five or more
16 community leaders or advocates organized for the purpose of increasing philanthropic
17 activity in an identified community or geographic area in the state who have
18 established or intend to establish a community foundation affiliate endowment within
19 an existing community foundation;

20 (3) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community,
21 and Economic Development;

22 (4) "lead philanthropic entity" means an entity identified by the
23 department under AS 44.33.150 that meets the requirements of AS 44.33.160.