



Senator Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

Serving Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright & Badger Road

Senate Bill 195 Version A

“An Act relating to slow onset disasters; and relating to the Alaska Disaster Act.”

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1: Amends AS 26.23.010 to add an additional purpose of the Alaska Disaster Act to ensure that disaster plans under this chapter assist in mitigating slow onset disasters.

Section 2: Amends AS 26.23.040(a) to add a provision that would enable the identification of potential slow onset disasters and measures to mitigate them within the state emergency plan.

Section 3: Amends AS 26.23.040(c) to add climate scientists to the list of groups that shall be consulted by both state and local disaster planners in the preparation and maintenance of the state emergency plan.

Section 4: Amends AS 26.23.040(e) to include climate scientists among the register of people with the skills important in disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Section 5: Amends AS 26.23.050(a) to ensure that funds will always be available to deal with slow onset disasters.

Section 6: Amends AS 26.23.071(b) to add two additional public members who must be experts in climatology or slow onset disasters to the Alaska State Emergency Response Commission.

Section 7: Amends AS 26.23.073(d) to add one additional member to each local emergency planning committee who is an expert in climatology or slow onset disasters, bringing the number of members from seven to eight.

Section 8: Amends AS 26.23.073(e) to reflect there will be eight members on each local emergency planning committee.

Section 9: Amends AS 26.23.073(g) to give each local emergency planning committee the additional responsibility to evaluate the susceptibility of their district to slow onset disasters and a plan to mitigate them.

Section 10: Amends AS 26.23.075(a) to ensure that an emergency plan under this section must include a plan to mitigate slow onset disasters.

Section 11: Updates the definition of disaster to include slow onset disasters in AS 26.23.900(2)

Section 12: Adds a new paragraph to AS 26.23.900 to further define what natural occurrences are considered slow onset disasters.