

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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*REPRESENTATIVE ANDY JOSEPHSON*

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## **HB23: Applicability, Alaska State Commission for Human Rights**

### **Sectional Analysis: CSHB23(L&C) (Version I) 34-LS0249\I**

- Sec. 1** Changes the name of the Commission to the Alaska State Commission for **Civil** Rights.
- Sec. 2** Adds a new subsection to the statute governing appointments to the commission, stipulating that the governor can only remove a commissioner for cause. Cause could include incompetence, neglect, misconduct, or public or private statements that undermine the commission's work.
- Sec. 3** Changes the timing and method of the commission's annual report to the legislature. Instead of the week before convening, the report would be due on November 15. Also, the report could be delivered electronically instead of requiring paper copies.
- Sec. 4** Adds a defense against a discrimination claim if the employer is a religious organization and the employee is hired for a religious purpose.
- Sec. 5** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, allowing municipal civil rights commissions.
- Sec. 6** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, in the definition of "commission" in the enabling statutes.
- Sec. 7** Changes the definition of "employer" in the commission's enabling statutes to include all employers except for nonprofit social and fraternal organizations. The change broadens coverage to employees of other nonprofit employers.
- Sec. 8** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, describing the role of the executive director.
- Sec. 9** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, describing referrals from the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics to the commission.
- Sec. 10** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, regarding the list of public officials required to make financial disclosures.
- Sec. 11** Conforming language to the change in Sec. 1, regarding applicability of the Administrative Procedures Act.

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