

HOUSE BILL NO. 412

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Introduced: 4/27/18

Referred: Transportation

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the Alaska marine highway system; establishing the Alaska Marine**
2 **Highway System Corporation; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 08.88.690 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 08.88.690. Exemptions.** A real estate licensee is exempt from the
6 signature requirements of AS 08.88.600 - 08.88.695 when the licensee provides
7 specific assistance to

8 (1) a corporation that issues publicly traded securities;

9 (2) a business that has a net worth in the previous calendar year of
10 \$2,000,000 or more, if the business requests the exemption from the licensee; or

11 (3) a governmental agency; in this paragraph, "governmental agency"
12 means a department, division, public agency, political subdivision, or other public
13 instrumentality of the state or federal government, including the University of Alaska,
14 the Alaska Railroad Corporation, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, the Alaska

1 Industrial Development and Export Authority, **the Alaska Marine Highway System**
 2 **Corporation**, and other public corporations.

3 * **Sec. 2.** AS 18.56.600 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 18.56.600. Definitions.** In AS 18.56.400 - 18.56.600,

5 (1) "housing" means owner-occupied, single-family housing and
 6 owner-occupied duplexes in which not more than 25 percent of the gross floor area is
 7 or will be devoted to commercial use;

8 (2) "small community" means a community with a population of 6,500
 9 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks, or with a
 10 population of 1,600 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or
 11 Fairbanks; in this paragraph,

12 **(A) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning**
 13 **given in AS 42.50.990;**

14 **(B)** "connected by road" does not include a connection by the
 15 Alaska marine highway system.

16 * **Sec. 3.** AS 19.10.399(7) is amended to read:

17 (7) "highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of
 18 every way that is publicly maintained when a part of it is open to the public for
 19 purposes of vehicular travel, including [BUT NOT LIMITED TO] every street and the
 20 Alaska [STATE] marine highway system **as defined in AS 42.50.990**, but not
 21 vehicular ways or areas;

22 * **Sec. 4.** AS 19.65.011 is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 19.65.011. Comprehensive long-range plan.** The **corporation**
 24 [DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES, IN
 25 CONSULTATION WITH THE ALASKA MARINE TRANSPORTATION
 26 ADVISORY BOARD,] shall prepare a comprehensive long-range plan for the
 27 development and improvement of the Alaska marine highway system and shall [, IN
 28 CONSULTATION WITH THE ALASKA MARINE TRANSPORTATION
 29 ADVISORY BOARD,] revise and update the plan at least every five years. The
 30 **corporation** [DEPARTMENT] shall submit the comprehensive long-range plan and
 31 revisions and updates of the plan to the legislature.

1 * **Sec. 5.** AS 19.65.020(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) A vessel or facility of the Alaska marine highway system constructed or
3 acquired by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities under this chapter
4 or by the corporation may be given a name only by law.

5 * **Sec. 6.** AS 19.65.030(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) The corporation [DEPARTMENT] shall construct, purchase, or lease
7 ferry terminal facilities at locations it selects for the loading and unloading of
8 passengers, and vehicles under their own power, on and off ferries. The corporation
9 [DEPARTMENT] shall repair and maintain these facilities. [CONSTRUCTION AND
10 PURCHASING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ARE GOVERNED BY AS 36.30
11 (STATE PROCUREMENT CODE).]

12 * **Sec. 7.** AS 19.65.030(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) The corporation [DEPARTMENT] may connect ferry terminal facilities
14 with local highway systems.

15 * **Sec. 8.** AS 19.65.030(c) is amended to read:

16 (c) The corporation [DEPARTMENT] may adopt regulations under
17 AS 42.50 governing the use of ferry terminal facilities by the public that it considers
18 necessary and proper in the public interest. The corporation [DEPARTMENT] may
19 charge a fee for the use of ferry terminal facilities, whether the use is under a permit or
20 otherwise, and whether it is by one or more individuals.

21 * **Sec. 9.** AS 19.65.030(d) is amended to read:

22 (d) A person may construct a ferry terminal facility upon obtaining the
23 approval of the corporation [DEPARTMENT] as to its location. A ferry terminal
24 facility constructed by a person other than the corporation [DEPARTMENT] is
25 subject to reasonable regulations governing its use that the corporation
26 [DEPARTMENT] considers necessary and proper in the public interest.

27 * **Sec. 10.** AS 19.65.030(e) is amended to read:

28 (e) A ferry terminal facility may not be constructed without the approval of
29 the corporation [DEPARTMENT].

30 * **Sec. 11.** AS 19.65.035 is amended to read:

31 **Sec. 19.65.035. Transportation of members of the Alaska organized**

militia. To the extent that space is available, the corporation [COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES] shall provide free transportation on vessels of the Alaska marine highway system for a member of the Alaska National Guard, the Alaska Naval Militia, or the Alaska State Defense Force who is en route to or from drill, training, or other official militia activities.

* **Sec. 12.** AS 19.65 is amended by adding a new section to Article 2 to read:

Sec. 19.65.040. Definition. In AS 19.65.011 - 19.65.035, "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010.

* **Sec. 13.** AS 19.65.070 is amended to read:

Sec. 19.65.070. Revenue and debt service accounting. (a) The corporation [ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM] shall account for and remit to the Department of Revenue in accordance with AS 37.10.050 all gross revenue generated from the operation of the Alaska marine highway system during each annual operating cycle. The money shall then be deposited in the Alaska marine highway system fund.

(b) The corporation [ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM] shall prepare a written report, not [NO] later than the 10th day of each regular legislative session, regarding the previous annual operating cycle and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must identify

(1) gross revenue generated during the previous annual operating cycle:

(2) gross revenue generated during the current annual operating cycle and an estimate of gross revenue for the remainder of the current annual operating cycle;

(3) projections of the gross revenue to be generated during the next annual operating cycle; [AND]

(4) the difference between previous gross revenue estimates prepared under this section and the **revenue** [REVENUES] actually generated; **and**

(5) the amount of money that is required to cover the repayment of interest and principal for the debts of the corporation during the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year.

(c) The Department of Revenue shall prepare a written report, **not** [NO] later

1 than the 10th legislative day of each regular legislative session, regarding the earnings
 2 on gross revenue of the Alaska marine highway system that was deposited into the
 3 Alaska marine highway system fund during the prior fiscal year, [AND] projected
 4 earnings on gross revenue of the Alaska marine highway system that is projected to be
 5 deposited into the Alaska marine highway system fund for the current fiscal year and
 6 the next fiscal year, and the amount of cash that is required to cover the
repayment of interest and principal for the debts of the corporation during the
current fiscal year and the next fiscal year. The Department of Revenue shall notify
 7 the legislature that the report is available.
 8

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 10 * **Sec. 14.** AS 19.65.080(b) is amended to read:

11 (b) The corporation [DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND
 12 PUBLIC FACILITIES] may request the legislature to appropriate money from the
 13 Alaska marine highway system fund to the Alaska marine highway system for capital
 14 improvements, if

15 (1) the appropriation under (a) of this section has been made;
 16 (2) the amount in the fund, without regard to the appropriation under
 17 (a) of this section, exceeds the total of gross revenue deposited in the fund and the
 18 general fund appropriations under AS 19.65.060(a)(2) by 10 percent; and
 19 (3) the amount requested for appropriation under this subsection does
 20 not exceed 50 percent of the balance remaining after the appropriation for annual
 21 management and operations is made under (a) of this section.

22 * **Sec. 15.** AS 19.65.100 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

23 (3) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in
 24 AS 42.50.990;
 25 (4) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System
 26 Corporation established by AS 42.50.010.

27 * **Sec. 16.** AS 23.05.360(f) is amended to read:

28 (f) For purposes of holding hearings, the members of the board sit in panels of
 29 three members. The chair designates the panel that will consider a matter. Each panel
 30 must include a representative of management, a representative of labor, and a
 31 representative from the general public. A member of one panel may serve on the other

1 panel when the chair considers it necessary for the prompt administration of
 2 AS 23.40.070 - 23.40.260 (Public Employment Relations Act), [OR] AS 42.40
 3 (Alaska Railroad Corporation Act), **or AS 42.50 (Alaska Marine Highway System**
 4 **Corporation Act).**

5 * **Sec. 17.** AS 23.05.370(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) The agency shall

7 (1) establish its own rules of procedure;

8 (2) exercise general supervision and direct the activities of staff
 9 assigned to it by the department;

10 (3) prepare and submit to the governor an annual report on labor
 11 relations problems it has encountered during the previous year, including
 12 recommendations for legislative action; the agency shall notify the legislature that the
 13 report is available;

14 (4) serve as the labor relations agency under AS 23.40.070 - 23.40.260
 15 (Public Employment Relations Act) and carry out the functions specified in that Act;
 16 and

17 (5) serve as the railroad labor relations agency for the Alaska Railroad
 18 under AS 42.40 (Alaska Railroad Corporation Act), **and as the labor relations**
 19 **agency for the Alaska marine highway system under AS 42.50 (Alaska Marine**
 20 **Highway System Corporation Act),** and carry out the functions specified in **each**
 21 [THAT] Act.

22 * **Sec. 18.** AS 23.40.030 is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 23.40.030. Definition of labor organization.** For the purpose of
 24 AS 23.40.020 - 23.40.040, "labor organization" includes an organization constituted
 25 wholly or partly to bargain collectively or deal with employers, including the state,
 26 [AND] its political subdivisions, **and the Alaska Marine Highway System**
 27 **Corporation,** concerning grievances, terms, or conditions of employment or other
 28 mutual aid or protection in connection with employees.

29 * **Sec. 19.** AS 23.40.040 is amended to read:

30 **Sec. 23.40.040. Collective bargaining agreement.** The **corporation**
 31 [COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES] or an

authorized representative, in accordance with AS 23.40.020 and 23.40.030 [AS 23.40.020 - 23.40.030], may negotiate and enter into collective bargaining agreements under AS 42.50 concerning wages, hours, working conditions, and other employment benefits with the employees of the corporation [DIVISION OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION] engaged in operating the Alaska marine highway [STATE FERRY] system as masters or members of the crews of vessels, or with other employees of the corporation, or their bargaining agent. [A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT IS NOT FINAL WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES.] The corporation [COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES] may make provision in the collective bargaining agreement for the settlement of labor disputes by arbitration. In this section,

(1) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990;

(2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System

* **Sec. 20.** AS 23.40.250(7) is amended to read:

(7) "public employer" means the state or a political subdivision of the state, including, without limitation, a municipality, district, school district, regional educational attendance area, board of regents, public and quasi-public corporation, the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation, housing authority, or other authority established by law, and a person designated by the public employer to act in its interest in dealing with public employees;

* **Sec. 21.** AS 28.90.990(a)(14) is amended to read:

(14) "highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way that is publicly maintained when a part of it is open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel, including [BUT NOT LIMITED TO] every street and the Alaska [STATE] marine highway system but not vehicular ways or areas; in this paragraph, "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990;

* **Sec. 22.** AS 29.35.722 is amended to read:

1 **Sec. 29.35.722. Ownership or operation of certain state facilities**
 2 **prohibited.** The state may not, without the approval of the legislature,

3 (1) convey or transfer the [ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY
 4 SYSTEM, THE] Anchorage or Fairbanks international airports, or any other state
 5 asset, except undeveloped state land as provided in AS 38.05.810 or surplused
 6 property, to an authority; or

7 (2) enter into an agreement with an authority under which the authority
 8 would operate the [ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, THE] Anchorage or
 9 Fairbanks international airports, or any other state facility, system, or function that
 10 employs one or more employees.

11 * **Sec. 23.** AS 35.10.015(d) is amended to read:

12 (d) After June 25, 1976, a ferry may not be constructed, lengthened,
 13 completely renovated, or purchased for use or entered into service by the **Alaska**
 14 **Marine Highway System Corporation** [DIVISION OF MARINE
 15 TRANSPORTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT] as a part of the Alaska marine
 16 highway system that does not include adequate facilities and devices to ensure that the
 17 vessel is accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities and by aged or infirm
 18 passengers. Some staterooms and all restrooms, indoor passageways, outdoor weather
 19 decks, and other public areas aboard the vessel shall be so designed and constructed as
 20 to permit access and use by persons with disabilities and by aged or infirm passengers,
 21 including those persons occupying a wheelchair.

22 * **Sec. 24.** AS 35.10.015(g) is amended to read:

23 (g) In this section,

24 **(1) "Alaska marine highway system" means the marine highway**
 25 **system operated by the corporation;**

26 **(2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System**
 27 **Corporation established by AS 42.50.010;**

28 **(3) "public facilities" includes vessels owned by the corporation**
 29 [STATE AND OPERATED BY THE DIVISION OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION
 30 OF THE DEPARTMENT] as a part of the Alaska marine highway system.

31 * **Sec. 25.** AS 35.27.020(c) is amended to read:

(c) At least one percent or, in the case of a rural school facility, at least one-half of one percent of the construction cost of a building or facility approved for construction by the legislature will be reserved for the following purposes: the design, construction, mounting, and administration of works of art in a school, office building, court building, vessel of the Alaska marine highway system, or other building or facility that is subject to substantial public use.

* **Sec. 26.** AS 35.27.030(1) is amended to read:

(1) "building" or "facility" means a permanent improvement constructed by the department **or the corporation; "building" or "facility" [; THE TERM]**

(A) includes [, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO,]

(i) schools, office buildings, and court buildings;

(ii) other buildings [WHICH] the commissioner determines are designed for substantial public use;

(iii) boats and vessels of the Alaska marine highway system **operated by the corporation**;

(iv) transportation facilities **that** [WHICH] accommodate traveling passengers;

(B) excludes other transportation facilities;

* **Sec. 27.** AS 35.27.030 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(3) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in

(4) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System established by AS 42.50.010.

* **Sec. 28.** AS 36.30.015 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(l) The board of directors of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation shall adopt procedures to govern the procurement of supplies, services, professional services, and construction. The procedures must be based on competitive principles.

* **Sec. 29.** AS 36.30.990(1) is amended to read:

(1) "agency"

(A) means a department, institution, board, commission,

1 division, authority, public corporation, the Alaska Pioneers' Home, the Alaska
 2 Veterans' Home, or other administrative unit of the executive branch of state
 3 government;

4 (B) does not include

5 (i) the University of Alaska;

6 (ii) the Alaska Railroad Corporation;

7 (iii) the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation;

8 (iv) a regional Native housing authority created under
 9 AS 18.55.996 or a regional electrical authority created under
 10 AS 18.57.020;

11 (v) [THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 12 AND PUBLIC FACILITIES, IN REGARD TO THE REPAIR,
 13 MAINTENANCE, AND RECONSTRUCTION OF VESSELS,
 14 DOCKING FACILITIES, AND PASSENGER AND VEHICLE
 15 TRANSFER FACILITIES OF THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY
 16 SYSTEM;

17 (vi)] the Alaska Aerospace Corporation;

18 (vi) [(vii)] the Alaska Retirement Management Board;

19 (vii) [(viii)] the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute;

20 (viii) [(ix)] the Alaska children's trust and the Alaska
 21 Children's Trust Board;

22 (ix) [(x)] the Alaska Industrial Development and Export
 23 Authority;

24 (x) the Alaska Marine Highway System
 25 Corporation;

26 * **Sec. 30.** AS 36.90.049(a) is amended to read:

27 (a) A marine vessel owned by the state or the corporation shall be
 28 maintained and repaired at a shipyard facility located in the state unless the
 29 commissioner of the department that operates the marine vessel or the corporation, if
 30 the corporation owns the marine vessel, determines in writing that there is no
 31 shipyard facility located in the state that is equipped or qualified to perform the

1 particular maintenance or repair required, or, except for a marine vessel owned by
 2 the corporation, after taking into consideration the five percent preference under
 3 AS 36.30.321(a) and the interport differential, that the proposed cost of the
 4 maintenance or repair work is unreasonable. A detailed list of the costs and factors
 5 considered in calculating the interport differential must be provided to each person
 6 who expresses an interest in submitting a bid to perform maintenance or repair work
 7 on a marine vessel owned by the state, except for a marine vessel owned by the
 8 corporation.

9 * **Sec. 31.** AS 36.90.049(b) is amended to read:

10 (b) The competitive bid provisions of AS 36.30 do not apply to a contract for
 11 the maintenance or repair of a marine vessel owned by the state if the contract is
 12 awarded to a shipyard facility in the state, or if the vessel is owned by the
 13 corporation.

14 * **Sec. 32.** AS 36.90.049(c) is amended to read:

15 (c) The commissioner of the department that operates a marine vessel, or the
 16 corporation for a marine vessel of the Alaska marine highway system, shall adopt
 17 regulations establishing the criteria that the department or the corporation shall use
 18 to determine whether the cost of maintenance or repair work at a shipyard facility
 19 located in the state is reasonable under (a) of this section. The commissioner of the
 20 department that operates a marine vessel, or the corporation for a marine vessel of
 21 the Alaska marine highway system, shall designate by regulation the designated
 22 base port for each vessel operated by the department or the corporation; however, the
 23 designated base port for marine vessels of the Alaska marine highway system is
 24 Ketchikan for those vessels primarily serving that portion of the state east of the
 25 longitude of Icy Cape and is Seward for those vessels primarily serving the remainder
 26 of the state. A vessel's designated base port is the vessel's delivery and redelivery port.

27 * **Sec. 33.** AS 36.90.049(e) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

28 (3) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in
 29 AS 42.50.990;

30 (4) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System
 31 Corporation established by AS 42.50.010.

1 * **Sec. 34.** AS 36.90.300(c) is amended to read:

2 (c) In this section,

3 (1) "construction" means the process of building, altering, repairing,
 4 maintaining, improving, demolishing, planning, and designing a public highway, a
 5 structure, a building, a utility, infrastructure, or another public improvement to real
 6 property, but does not mean the routine operation of a public improvement;

7 (2) "consultant" means a person who contracts with a public agency to
 8 provide professional services;

9 (3) "professional services" has the meaning given in AS 36.30.990;

10 (4) "public agency" means a department, institution, board,
 11 commission, division, authority, public corporation, committee, school district,
 12 political subdivision, or other administrative unit of a municipality, of a political
 13 subdivision, or of the executive or legislative branch of state government, including
 14 the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace Corporation, the Alaska Housing
 15 Finance Corporation, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, the
 16 Alaska Energy Authority, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **the Alaska Marine**
 17 **Highway System Corporation**, and a regional educational attendance area.

18 * **Sec. 35.** AS 37.05.210(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) The Department of Administration shall

20 (1) file with the governor and with the legislative auditor before
 21 December 16 a report of the financial transactions of the preceding fiscal year and of
 22 the financial condition of the state as of the end of that year, prepared in accordance
 23 with generally accepted accounting principles and audited by the legislative auditor in
 24 accordance with generally accepted audit standards, with comments and
 25 supplementary data that the Department of Administration considers necessary; this
 26 report shall be printed for the information of the legislature and the public;

27 (2) compile statistics necessary for the budget and other statistics
 28 required by the governor;

29 (3) file a travel and compensation report with the legislature by
 30 January 31 of each year containing detailed information for the previous calendar year
 31 of the salaries, per diem, travel expenses, relocation expenses, and any additional

1 allowances for

2 (A) the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the chiefs of
 3 staff of the governor and lieutenant governor;

4 (B) the president and vice-president of the University of Alaska
 5 and the chancellors of the individual campuses of the university;

6 (C) the commissioners or other executive heads of the principal
 7 departments in the executive branch of state government, and the deputy
 8 commissioners and division directors in those departments; and

9 (D) the executive heads of public corporations created by law,
 10 including the Alaska Railroad Corporation **and the Alaska Marine Highway**
 11 **System Corporation.**

12 * **Sec. 36.** AS 37.05.550(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) There is in the general fund the Alaska marine highway system vessel
 14 replacement fund. The fund consists of money appropriated to it by the legislature.
 15 Money appropriated to the fund does not lapse. The **Alaska Marine Highway System**
 16 **Corporation** [DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE] shall manage the fund. Interest
 17 received on money in the fund shall be accounted for separately and may be
 18 appropriated into the fund annually. The legislature may appropriate money from the
 19 fund for refurbishment of existing state ferry vessels, acquisition of additional state
 20 ferry vessels, or replacement of retired or outmoded state ferry vessels.

21 * **Sec. 37.** AS 37.05.550(c) is amended to read:

22 (c) The **Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation** [DEPARTMENT OF
 23 REVENUE] shall prepare a written report, not [NO] later than the 10th legislative day
 24 of each regular legislative session, regarding the earnings of the Alaska marine
 25 highway system vessel replacement fund during the **previous** [PRIOR] fiscal year and
 26 projected earnings of the Alaska marine highway system vessel replacement fund for
 27 the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year. The **Alaska Marine Highway System**
 28 **Corporation** [DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE] shall notify the legislature that the
 29 report is available.

30 * **Sec. 38.** AS 37.07.120(1) is amended to read:

31 (1) "agency" means a department, officer, institution, board,

1 commission, bureau, division, or other administrative unit forming the state
 2 government and includes the Alaska Pioneers' Home, the Alaska Veterans' Home,
 3 [AND] the University of Alaska, **and the Alaska Marine Highway System**
 4 **Corporation**, but does not include the legislature or the judiciary;

5 * **Sec. 39.** AS 37.10.058(1) is amended to read:

6 (1) "agency" means a board, commission, or agency in the legislative,
 7 judicial, or executive branch, but does not include the University of Alaska, **the**
 8 **Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, or **another** [A] public corporation;

9 * **Sec. 40.** AS 39.20.310 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 39.20.310. Exceptions.** Except as provided in AS 39.20.275,
 11 AS 39.20.200 - 39.20.330 do not apply to

12 (1) members of the state legislature, the governor, the lieutenant
 13 governor, and justices and judges of the supreme and superior courts and of the court
 14 of appeals, but nothing in AS 39.20.200 - 39.20.330 may be construed to diminish the
 15 salaries fixed by law for these officers by reason of absence from duty on account of
 16 illness or otherwise;

17 (2) magistrates serving the state on less than a full-time basis;

18 (3) officers, members of the teaching staff, and employees of the
 19 University of Alaska;

20 (4) persons employed in a professional capacity to make a temporary
 21 and special inquiry, study, or examination as authorized by the governor, the
 22 legislature, or a legislative committee;

23 (5) members of boards, commissions, and authorities who are not
 24 otherwise employed by the state;

25 (6) temporary employees hired for periods of less than 12 consecutive
 26 months;

27 (7) persons employed by the **Alaska Marine Highway System**
 28 **Corporation; this paragraph includes persons employed** [DIVISION OF MARINE
 29 TRANSPORTATION] as masters and members of the crews operating the state ferry
 30 system who are covered by collective bargaining agreements as provided in
 31 AS 23.40.040, except as expressly provided by law;

(8) persons employed by the state who are covered by collective bargaining agreements as provided in AS 23.40.210, except as expressly provided by law.

* Sec. 41. AS 39.20.550(7) is amended to read:

(7) "state" includes the University of Alaska, the Alaska Railroad, **the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, and the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government including public and quasi-public corporations and authorities established by law.

* **Sec. 42.** AS 39.25.110(16) is amended to read:

(16) persons employed by the division of marine transportation, or by the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation, as masters and members of the crews of vessels who operate the state ferry system and who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement provided in AS 23.40.040, and other employees of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation;

* **Sec. 43.** AS 39.25.110(16), as amended by sec. 42 of this Act, is amended to read:

(16) persons employed by the [DIVISION OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION, OR BY THE] Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation [,] as masters and members of the crews of vessels who operate the state ferry system and who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement provided in AS 23.40.040, and other employees of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation;

* **Sec. 44.** AS 39.35.680(22) is amended to read:

(22) "member" or "employee"

(A) means a person eligible to participate in the plan and who is covered by the plan;

(B) includes

(i) an active member;

(ii) an inactive member;

(iii) a vested member;

(iv) a deferred vested member;

(v) a nonvested member;

(vi) a disabled member;

(vii) a retired member;

(viii) an elected public officer under AS 39.35.381;

(C) does not include

(i) former members;

(ii) persons compensated on a contractual or fee basis;

(iii) casual or emergency workers or nonpermanent

employees as defined in AS 39.25.200;

(iv) persons covered by the Alaska Teachers' System except as provided under AS 39.35.131 and persons covered by a university retirement program;

(v) employees of the **Alaska Marine Highway System** [DIVISION OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION] operating the state ferry system who are covered by a union agreement system to which the **Alaska Marine Highway Corporation** [STATE] makes contributions:

(vi) justices of the supreme court or judges of the court of appeals or of the superior or district courts of Alaska;

(vii) the administrative director of the Alaska Court System appointed under art. IV, sec. 16 of the state constitution unless the director becomes a member under AS 39.35.158;

(viii) members of the elected public officers' retirement system (former AS 39.37); and

(ix) contractual employees of the legislative branch of state government under AS 24.10.060(f);

(D) may include employees [OF THE DIVISION OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION] excluded under (C)(v) of this paragraph if [PROVIDED THAT]

(i) the [STATE OF] Alaska **Marine Highway System Corporation** formally agrees to their inclusion through the process of collective bargaining; and

(ii) no collective bargaining agreement has the effect of

1 obligating contributions made by the state under AS 39.30.150 in the
 2 event the state resumes participation in the federal social security
 3 system;

4 * **Sec. 45.** AS 39.35.680 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

5 (44) "Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation" means the
 6 corporation established by AS 42.50.010.

7 * **Sec. 46.** AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

8 (65) the board of directors of the Alaska Marine Highway System
 9 Corporation (AS 42.50.020 - 42.50.060).

10 * **Sec. 47.** AS 39.52.960(2) is amended to read:

11 (2) "agency" means a department, office of the governor, or entity in
 12 the executive branch, including [BUT NOT LIMITED TO] the University of Alaska,
 13 public or quasi-public corporations, boards or commissions, [AND] the Alaska
 14 Railroad Corporation, **and the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation;**

15 * **Sec. 48.** AS 39.90.140(4) is amended to read:

16 (4) "public body" includes an officer or agency of

17 (A) the federal government;

18 (B) the state;

19 (C) a political subdivision of the state including

20 (i) a municipality;

21 (ii) a school district; and

22 (iii) a regional educational attendance area;

23 (D) a public or quasi-public corporation or authority
 24 established by state law including the Alaska Railroad Corporation **and the**
 25 **Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation;** and

26 (E) the University of Alaska.

27 * **Sec. 49.** AS 40.25.110(g) is amended to read:

28 (g) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section to the contrary, the board
 29 of directors of the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **and the Alaska Marine Highway**
 30 **System Corporation,** may establish reasonable fees for the inspection and copying of
 31 public records, including record searches.

1 * **Sec. 50.** AS 40.25.115(g) is amended to read:

2 (g) Each public agency shall establish the fees for the electronic services and
 3 products provided under this section. The governor may cancel the fees established by
 4 a public agency in the executive branch, except the fees of the University of Alaska,
 5 [AND] the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **and the Alaska Marine Highway System**
 6 **Corporation**, if the governor determines that the fees are unreasonably high.

7 * **Sec. 51.** AS 40.25.115(i) is amended to read:

8 (i) A public agency other than a municipality, [OR] the Alaska Railroad
 9 Corporation, **or the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation** shall separately
 10 account for the fees received by the agency under this section and deposited in the
 11 general fund. The annual estimated balance in the account may be used by the
 12 legislature to make appropriations to the agency to carry out the activities of the
 13 agency.

14 * **Sec. 52.** AS 40.25.123(a) is amended to read:

15 (a) The Department of Administration shall supervise and adopt regulations
 16 for the operation and implementation of AS 40.25.110 - 40.25.140 by public agencies
 17 in the executive branch, except the Alaska Railroad Corporation **and the Alaska**
 18 **Marine Highway System Corporation**.

19 * **Sec. 53.** AS 40.25.220(2) is amended to read:

20 (2) "public agency" means a political subdivision, department,
 21 institution, board, commission, division, authority, public corporation, council,
 22 committee, or other instrumentality of the state or a municipality; "public agency"
 23 includes the University of Alaska, [AND] the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **and the**
 24 **Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**;

25 * **Sec. 54.** AS 40.25.350(3) is amended to read:

26 (3) "state agency"

27 (A) means a department, institution, board, commission,
 28 division, authority, public corporation, committee, or other administrative unit
 29 of the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of state government, including
 30 the University of Alaska;

31 (B) does not include the Alaska Railroad Corporation **or the**

Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation

* **Sec. 55.** AS 42 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

Chapter 50. Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation.

Article 1. Establishment and Organization.

Sec. 42.50.010. Establishment of the corporation. The Alaska Marine
Way System Corporation is established as a public corporation and
mentality of the state within the Department of Commerce, Community, and
mic Development. The corporation has a legal existence independent of and
te from the state.

Sec. 42.50.020. Board of directors. (a) The board of directors shall exercise the powers of the corporation.

(b) The board consists of

(1) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development; the commissioner may not designate another person to serve in this position;

(2) the commissioner of transportation and public facilities; and

(3) five members appointed by the governor.

(c) The five members appointed by the governor shall meet the following criteria:

(1) each member shall be a resident of the state;

(2) four of the members shall have experience in business operations, or finance;

(3) one member shall be a member of the general public;

(4) at least four of the five members shall reside in a community in which the corporation maintains a ferry terminal facility for the loading and unloading of passengers and vehicles;

(5) one of the five members shall reside in a community in Southeast Alaska to which the Alaska marine highway system provides services;

(6) one of the five members shall reside in a community in Southcentral Alaska to which the Alaska marine highway system provides services;

(7) one of the five members shall reside in a community in Southwest

1 Alaska to which the Alaska marine highway system provides services; and

2 (8) At least one of the five members shall reside in a community that is
3 described in (5), (6), or (7) of this subsection and that is in the unorganized borough.

4 **Sec. 42.50.030. Terms of office.** Except for the commissioners under
5 AS 42.50.020(b)(1) and (2), the members of the board serve at the pleasure of the
6 governor for staggered terms of five years.

7 **Sec. 42.50.040. Vacancies.** (a) Except for the commissioners under
8 AS 42.50.020(b)(1) and (2), the governor shall fill a vacancy on the board by
9 appointing another person. Notwithstanding AS 39.05.080(4), a member appointed to
10 fill a vacancy serves for the balance of the term for which the member's predecessor
11 was appointed.

12 (b) A vacancy on the board does not impair the authority of a quorum of
13 members to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the board.

14 **Sec. 42.50.050. Compensation and expenses.** (a) An appointed member of
15 the board is entitled to compensation at a rate of \$400 for each day the member is
16 engaged in the actual performance of duties as a member of the board. The board may
17 provide by regulation for compensation for partial days during which an appointed
18 member is engaged in actual performance of duties as a member of the board.

19 (b) In addition to compensation under (a) of this section, an appointed member
20 of the board is entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for state boards and
21 commissions under AS 39.20.180.

22 (c) A member of the board whose term has expired shall serve until a
23 successor has been appointed.

24 **Sec. 42.50.060. Board officers.** The board shall elect from among the
25 members of the board a chair and vice-chair and establish the duties of the chair and
26 vice-chair by regulation.

27 **Article 2. Management.**

28 **Sec. 42.50.100. Management by the board.** (a) The board is responsible for
29 the management of the corporation.

30 (b) In managing the corporation, the board

31 (1) is responsible for the management of the financial and legal

1 obligations of the Alaska marine highway system;

2 (2) shall operate the Alaska marine highway system as a commercial
3 entity that is available to the public for the transportation of goods and passengers at
4 set rates;

5 (3) shall provide for the safe, efficient, and economical transportation
6 of goods and passengers to meet the needs of the state;

7 (4) shall review all state and other land disposal proposals to aid in
8 planning for future development or expansion of transportation services; and

9 (5) shall ensure that the accounting procedures of the corporation meet
10 generally accepted accounting principles consistent with industry standards for
11 comparable transportation systems.

12 **Sec. 42.50.110. Executive officers.** (a) The board shall appoint a chief
13 executive officer and a chief financial officer of the corporation. A member of the
14 board may not be the chief executive officer or chief financial officer. The chief
15 executive officer and chief financial officer serve at the pleasure of the board.

16 (b) In addition to the officers appointed under (a) of this section, the board
17 may appoint other executive officers for the corporation.

18 (c) The board shall set the compensation for an executive officer appointed
19 under this section.

20 **Sec. 42.50.120. Delegation.** (a) The board shall by regulation delegate to the
21 chief executive officer the powers and duties that are necessary or appropriate for the
22 management of the daily affairs and operation of the corporation. The board may by
23 regulation require the exercise of a delegated power or duty to be subject to board
24 approval.

25 (b) The board may delegate the following powers and duties to the chief
26 executive officer or other executive officers designated by the board:

27 (1) leasing, subject to AS 42.50.350, granting easements in, issuing
28 permits for the use of, or conveying other interests in property;

29 (2) establishing specific rates, tariffs, divisions, and contract rate
30 agreements;

31 (3) making routine changes in service levels;

(4) establishing procurement and accounting procedures for the corporation; and

(5) performing procurement activities.

(c) Notwithstanding (a) and (b) of this section, specific board approval is required to

(1) mortgage or pledge corporation assets;

(2) donate property or other assets belonging to the corporation;

(3) act as a surety or guarantor;

(4) adopt a long-range capital improvement and program plan;

(5) adopt annual reports;

(6) effect general comprehensive increases and decreases in rates;

(7) expand or reduce services in a significant way;

(8) expand ferry routes;

(9) select independent auditors and accountants;

(10) enter into collective bargaining agreements;

(11) adopt annual budgets;

(12) begin a capital project with an estimated completion cost of more than \$500,000 or an estimated completion time of more than one year;

(13) exchange, donate, sell, or otherwise convey the entire interest in an asset of the corporation;

(14) exercise the power of eminent domain.

Article 3. Administrative Provisions.

Sec. 42.50.150. Meetings of the board. (a) The chair of the board shall call meetings of the board at least once every three months. The chair or a majority of the members of the board may call other meetings of the board as necessary. The chair shall preside at meetings.

(b) The meetings of the board are open to the public under AS 44.62.310, except as provided by AS 44.62.310 for executive sessions. The board shall provide by regulation for a method of providing reasonable notice to the public of its meetings.

(c) The board shall keep minutes of each meeting.

Sec. 42.50.160. Quorum and voting. (a) Four voting members of the board

1 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

2 (b) Four affirmative votes are required for board action. The board shall
3 provide by regulation for the manner of voting, except that the board may not provide
4 for voting by proxy. The regulations may provide for voting and conferring by
5 telecommunication and electronic devices.

6 **Sec. 42.50.170. Executive sessions.** In addition to the subjects listed in
7 AS 44.62.310(c), the board may hold an executive session to discuss matters relating
8 to the corporation's legal position and to the corporation's acquisition or disposal of
9 assets.

10 **Sec. 42.50.180. Regulations.** (a) The board shall adopt, amend, supplement,
11 revise, or repeal regulations to carry out its functions and the purposes of this chapter.
12 The regulations shall include provisions to safeguard property owned, managed, or
13 transported by the corporation and to protect employees and persons using the
14 corporation's property or services. The adoption of regulations is not subject to
15 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but the board shall comply with
16 AS 42.50.185 and 42.50.190 when adopting regulations.

17 (b) A regulation authorized by (a) of this section must establish a standard of
18 general application for the corporation to implement, interpret, or make specific the
19 law enforced or administered by it or to govern its procedures.

20 **Sec. 42.50.185. Procedures for adopting regulations.** (a) At least 30 days
21 before the adoption of a regulation, the board shall give public notice of the proposed
22 regulation action by publishing a notice in at least three newspapers of general
23 circulation in the state, by posting the notice on the Alaska Online Public Notice
24 System (AS 44.62.175), and by mailing a copy of the notice to each person who has
25 requested notice of the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal of the corporation's
26 regulations. The notice must state the time, place, and nature of the proceedings and
27 must contain a summary of the subject of the proposed regulation. In this subsection,
28 "newspaper of general circulation" has the meaning given in AS 09.35.140(d).

29 (b) On the date and at the time and place designated in the notice required
30 under (a) of this section, the board shall provide each interested person an opportunity
31 to present statements in writing concerning the proposed regulation action and shall

1 give members of the public an opportunity to present oral statements.

2 (c) The board shall consider all relevant matters presented to it before
 3 adopting a regulation. The board may take action on a regulation that varies in content
 4 from the summary provided with the notice of the proposed regulation action if the
 5 subject of the regulation was reflected in the summary and it provided reasonable
 6 notice to the members of the public as to whether their interests could be affected by
 7 the board's action on that subject.

8 (d) If necessary, the board shall establish in the bylaws of the corporation
 9 additional procedures for adopting regulations.

10 **Sec. 42.50.190. Emergency regulations.** (a) The board shall establish in the
 11 bylaws of the corporation a procedure for the adoption of a regulation on an
 12 emergency basis. The board may adopt an emergency regulation only when necessary
 13 for the orderly operation of the Alaska marine highway system. The requirements of
 14 AS 42.50.185 do not apply to actions taken under this section. However, within 10
 15 days after the adoption of a regulation on an emergency basis, the board shall give
 16 notice of its action. The notice must substantially comply with the notice requirements
 17 of AS 42.50.185(a).

18 (b) An action taken under this section remains in effect for not more than 120
 19 days. To prevent an emergency regulation from lapsing, the board may adopt the same
 20 regulation under AS 42.50.185 before the end of the 120-day period.

21 **Sec. 42.50.200. Validity of regulations.** (a) Failure to mail notice to a person
 22 under AS 42.50.185(a) or 42.50.190(a) does not invalidate an action taken by the
 23 board.

24 (b) An interested person may challenge a regulation adopted by the board by
 25 bringing an action in the superior court. In addition to other grounds, a court may
 26 declare the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation invalid

27 (1) for substantial failure by the board to comply with AS 42.50.185 or
 28 42.50.190; or

29 (2) if the regulation was adopted under AS 42.50.190, on the grounds
 30 that the emergency regulation was not necessary for the orderly operation of the
 31 Alaska marine highway system.

Sec. 42.50.210. Application of regulation adoption requirements. Adoption of a regulation is not subject to AS 42.50.180 - 42.50.190 if the regulation

- (1) relates only to the internal management of the corporation;
- (2) relates to specific rates, tariffs, divisions, and contract rate agreements;
- (3) relates to service schedules; or
- (4) is directed to a specifically named person or to a group of persons and does not apply to the general public.

Sec. 42.50.220. Public disclosure of information. (a) Except as provided under (b) of this section, information in the possession of the corporation is public and is open to public inspection at reasonable times under AS 40.25.110.

(b) The corporation may by regulation designate and withhold public disclosure of matters of a privileged or proprietary nature. Those matters include personnel records, communications with and work product of legal counsel, and proprietary information associated with specific shippers, divisions, and contract rate agreements.

Sec. 42.50.230. Internet website. The corporation shall establish or participate with the Department of Administration or another governmental agency in using or creating an Internet website for the corporation. The Internet website must be accessible in all communities in the state that have the capability of accessing the Internet, including communities in the unorganized borough, and must be accessible at the lowest Internet website access speed that is used in the state.

Sec. 42.50.240. Service schedules. Except in the case of an emergency, before the corporation establishes a service schedule for the Alaska marine highway system or changes a service schedule, the corporation shall publish a notice of the proposed service schedule or service schedule change on the Internet website established under AS 42.50.230 for at least 30 days and allow members of the public to comment on the proposed service schedule or service schedule change.

Article 4. Powers and Duties.

Sec. 42.50.250. General powers. In addition to the exercise of other powers authorized by law, the corporation may

- (1) adopt a seal;
- (2) adopt bylaws governing the business of the corporation;
- (3) sue and be sued;
- (4) appoint trustees and agents of the corporation and establish their powers and duties;
- (5) have the Department of Law represent the corporation or have an attorney who is an employee of the corporation represent the corporation;
- (6) make contracts and execute written documents necessary or convenient in the exercise of the corporation's powers and duties;
- (7) acquire by purchase, lease, bequest, devise, gift, exchange, the satisfaction of debts, the foreclosure of mortgages, or other method, personal property, rights, rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and interests in land;
- (8) hold, maintain, use, operate, improve, lease, exchange, donate, convey, alienate, encumber, or otherwise grant a security interest in, or authorize use or dispose of, real property or personal property, subject to other provisions of this chapter;
- (9) contract with and accept transfers, gifts, grants of money or property, or loans from the United States and the state or its political subdivisions, subject to other provisions of federal or state law or municipal ordinances;
- (10) undertake and provide for the management, operation, maintenance, use, and control of all of the property of the corporation, including all real property and personal property of the Alaska marine highway system transferred under this chapter;
- (11) recommend to the legislature and the governor tax, financing, or financial arrangements the corporation considers appropriate for expansion or extension and operation of the Alaska marine highway system;
- (12) maintain offices and ferry terminal facilities at places designated by the corporation;
- (13) apply to the state, the United States, and foreign countries or other proper agencies for the permits, licenses, rights-of-way, or approvals necessary to construct, maintain, and operate transportation and related services, and obtain, hold,

1 and reuse the licenses and permits in the same manner as other operators of ferry
2 vessel systems;

3 (14) set the rates to be charged for services provided by the Alaska
4 marine highway system;

5 (15) determine the routes, schedules, and types of service to be
6 provided by the Alaska marine highway system;

7 (16) enter into contracts, leases, and other agreements with connecting
8 carriers, shippers, and other persons related to the services, activities, operations,
9 property, vessels, and ferry terminal facilities of the corporation;

10 (17) plan for and undertake expansion of the Alaska marine highway
11 system and contract with other modes of transportation service connecting to the
12 Alaska marine highway system;

13 (18) hire and discharge Alaska marine highway system personnel and
14 determine the hours of employment, the compensation and fringe benefits, and the
15 personnel policies affecting the working conditions of employees, except for the
16 general policies describing the function and purposes of an employer;

17 (19) consent to the modification of the rate of interest, to the time of
18 payment of an installment of principal or interest, or to another term of a loan,
19 contract, or agreement to which the corporation is a party;

20 (20) acquire, hold, and dispose of stock, memberships, contracts,
21 general partnership interests, limited partnership interests, or interests in another
22 corporation, association, partnership, joint venture, or other legal entity, and exercise
23 the powers or rights in connection with the interests that are provided in agreements
24 and that are allowed by law concerning the satisfaction of debts;

25 (21) create one or more subsidiary corporations that are partially or
26 wholly owned or controlled by the corporation;

27 (22) undertake and provide for the acquisition, construction,
28 maintenance, equipping, and operation of vessels, ferry terminal facilities, and related
29 programs;

30 (23) enter into agreements with a state agency or other instrumentality
31 of the state;

(24) do all things necessary or desirable to carry out the powers and duties of the corporation granted or necessarily implied in this chapter, other laws of the state, federal government laws, or federal government regulations.

Sec. 42.50.260. Audit. (a) The board shall have the financial records of the corporation audited annually by an independent certified public accountant experienced in marine transportation system accounting.

(b) The corporation shall make all of its financial records available for examination by an auditor appointed by the governor and the legislative audit division established by AS 24.20.241. The disclosure of this information to the public by the auditor or legislative audit division is subject to AS 42.50.220 and the regulations implementing that section.

Sec. 42.50.270. Operations and performance report. (a) Not later than 90 days after the corporation's fiscal year ends, the board shall submit to the governor, senate secretary, and chief clerk of the house of representatives an operations and performance report on the fiscal year that just ended.

(b) The operations and performance report required under (a) of this section must

(1) include the results of the financial audit performed under AS 42.50.260(a) for the fiscal year;

(2) provide the number of passengers and vehicles carried by the vessels of the Alaska marine highway system during the fiscal year;

(3) itemize the costs during the fiscal year of providing each category of service offered by the Alaska marine highway system and the income generated by each category;

(4) provide the status at the end of the fiscal year of vessel and building replacement and maintenance projects under the comprehensive long-range plan required under AS 19.65.011 for the Alaska marine highway system;

(5) describe the activities planned by the corporation for the next fiscal year, including, as applicable,

(A) any expansion, reduction, or diversification of the services that were provided by the Alaska marine highway system on the date of

1 transfer or under this chapter, if the board determines the expansion, reduction,
 2 or diversification represents a significant and permanent change in the level
 3 and nature of services provided; the description must describe the proposed
 4 undertaking in detail and specify

5 (i) the undertaking's financial effect on the corporation;

6 (ii) the undertaking's effect on the level and nature of
 7 services provided by the Alaska marine highway system; and

8 (iii) the reasons the undertaking is necessary or
 9 desirable to achieve the purposes of this chapter;

10 (B) any proposal for an appropriation of money to pay for the
 11 services of the Alaska marine highway system;

12 (C) the exchange, donation, sale, or other conveyance of an
 13 entire interest in an asset of the Alaska marine highway system;

14 (D) acquisition of a vessel;

15 (E) the addition or removal of a port of call; and

16 (F) the lease of corporation land for more than 95 years unless
 17 the corporation reserves the right to terminate the lease if the land is needed for
 18 the Alaska marine highway system;

19 (6) suggestions for legislation relating to the structure, powers, duties,
 20 or operations of the corporation or to the operation, vessels, ferry terminal facilities, or
 21 motor vehicles of the corporation; and

22 (7) at least every five years, revisions and updates to the
 23 comprehensive long-range plan required under AS 19.65.011.

24 (c) In this section, "date of transfer" means the date on which the state
 25 transfers the assets of the Alaska marine highway system to the corporation.

26 **Sec. 42.50.280. Required travel and compensation report.** In addition to the
 27 operations and performance report required under AS 42.50.270, the board shall file a
 28 travel and compensation report with the Department of Administration by January 21
 29 of each year as required under AS 37.05.210.

30 **Sec. 42.50.300. Use of corporation assets.** The corporation shall apply all
 31 money, property, other assets, and credit of the corporation toward activities

1 authorized by this chapter. The corporation may not issue shares of stock, pay
2 dividends, make private distributions of assets, make loans to board members or
3 employees, or engage in business for private benefit. A person having the possession
4 or control of the money, property, or other asset, or the credit of the corporation, may
5 not use the asset or credit for a purpose that is not authorized by this chapter or other
6 law.

7 **Sec. 42.50.310. Maintenance of motor vehicles.** The board shall determine
8 whether the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities or another person will
9 maintain and service the rolling stock of motor vehicles used by the corporation to
10 operate the Alaska marine highway system. If the Department of Transportation and
11 Public Facilities performs the maintenance or service, the corporation shall pay the
12 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities a reasonable price for the
13 maintenance or service.

14 **Sec. 42.50.320. Indemnification.** (a) If the person acted in good faith on
15 behalf of the corporation and within the scope of official duties or powers, the
16 corporation may defend and indemnify a current or former member of the board,
17 employee, or agent of the corporation against all costs, expenses, judgments, and
18 liabilities, including attorney fees, incurred by or imposed on that person in connection
19 with a civil or criminal action in which the person is involved by affiliation with the
20 corporation.

21 (b) The corporation may purchase insurance to protect and hold personally
22 harmless its employees, agents, and board members from an action, claim, or
23 proceeding arising out of the performance, purported performance, or failure of
24 performance, in good faith, of duties for, or employment with, the corporation and to
25 hold its employees, agents, and board members harmless from expenses connected
26 with the defense, settlement, or monetary judgments arising from the action, claim, or
27 proceeding. The purchase of insurance is discretionary with the board, and the
28 insurance is not considered to be compensation to the insured person.

29 **Article 5. Corporation Property.**

30 **Sec. 42.50.350. Property leases, easements, permits, and disposals.** (a) The
31 corporation may lease, subject to (b) of this section, grant easements in or permits for,

1 or otherwise authorize use of portions of corporation property. However, the
2 corporation may not convey its entire interest in any of its property, except as provided
3 by AS 42.50.355, 42.50.370(d), and 42.50.400.

4 (b) If the corporation makes a lease or other disposal of property to a party
5 other than the state, the lease or disposal must be made for fair market value as
6 determined by a qualified appraiser, or made by competitive bidding.

7 **Sec. 42.50.355. Sale of property not necessary for corporation purposes.**

8 (a) The corporation may sell corporation property if the board finds that

9 (1) the property is not necessary for the purposes of the corporation;
10 and

11 (2) the sale is in the best interest of the state.

12 (b) The sale of land is subject to the terms and conditions of this section and
13 AS 42.50.350(b).

14 (c) Before offering property for sale under this section, the corporation shall

15 (1) publish public notice of the proposed sale that includes the finding
16 by the board that the property is not necessary for the purposes of the corporation and
17 that the sale is in the best interest of the state; and

18 (2) provide notice to persons having a leasehold interest in the property
19 proposed to be sold and offer the leaseholders the right of first refusal.

20 (d) The corporation shall separately account for the proceeds from the sale of
21 property under this section and shall report the earnings and balance in the account in
22 the operations and performance report required under AS 42.50.270. The legislature
23 may appropriate money in the account to the corporation for the operation of the
24 corporation. Nothing in this section creates a dedicated fund.

25 **Sec. 42.50.360. Request for property.** The board may identify land that is
26 necessary or useful for present or future purposes of the Alaska marine highway
27 system, and request the commissioner of natural resources to convey the land,
28 including land not contiguous with a ferry terminal facility, if the state owns the land
29 or the land has been tentatively approved for transfer to the state. The request must
30 include a statement of and justification for the present or future corporation use. Upon
31 receipt of a request, the commissioner shall temporarily reserve the land identified in

the request for corporation purposes and defer disposal or lease of that land under other laws to a party other than the corporation. The temporary reservation of land is subject to valid existing rights and remains in effect for 180 days.

Sec. 42.50.370. Conveyance of property. (a) Within 90 days after receiving a request under AS 42.50.360, the commissioner of transportation and public facilities shall, by written decision,

(1) designate the identified property for corporation purposes and, subject to valid existing rights, convey the state's interests in the land to the corporation;

(2) notify the corporation of reasons for refusal to designate the identified land for corporation purposes; or

(3) approve the request in part and convey the part that is approved.

(b) A conveyance of property under this section may be for less than the appraised value of the property, as determined by the commissioner of natural resources.

(c) In the absence of a reservation to the contrary, a conveyance of land under this section gives to the corporation ownership and control of the surface of the land, the material on and under the surface of the land, and the mineral estate in the land, including the right to extract or use timber and other construction materials, sand, gravel, and rock, and the right to tunnel, ditch, recontour, excavate, or otherwise use the land for transportation, transmission, communication, and related purposes of the Alaska marine highway system.

(d) The corporation may reconvey to the state property received under this section that the corporation and the commissioner of natural resources jointly identify as unnecessary or unsuitable for the corporation's purposes.

Sec. 42.50.385. Eminent domain. (a) The corporation may exercise the power of eminent domain under AS 09.55.240 - 09.55.460 to acquire land for corporation purposes consistent with this chapter. Notwithstanding AS 09.55.250, the corporation may acquire a fee simple title when the board determines that ownership of a fee simple title is necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(b) The corporation may file a declaration of taking in the manner provided

1 for the state under AS 09.55.420.

2 (c) The power of eminent domain under this section includes the power to
3 obtain clay, gravel, sand, timber, rock, or other material for the operation of the
4 corporation, the land necessary to obtain the material, and access to the land and
5 material.

6 (d) The governor must approve the exercise of eminent domain before the
7 corporation exercises the power under this section.

8 **Sec. 42.50.400. Vacation of easements.** The corporation may vacate an
9 easement acquired under this chapter by executing and filing a deed in the appropriate
10 recording district.

11 **Sec. 42.50.420. Public use of corporation land.** Upon request of a
12 municipality or the state, the corporation may authorize use of corporation land for
13 public purposes.

14 **Sec. 42.50.430. Acquisition of state property.** The corporation may acquire in
15 its own name property under the control of a state agency that is useful for the
16 corporation's purposes. The corporation may acquire from the Department of
17 Administration state property made available under AS 44.68.110 - 44.68.140.

18 **Sec. 42.50.435. Exchange of land.** The corporation may exchange land with
19 the United States, municipalities, individuals, and corporations, including corporations
20 formed under 43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq. (Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act).

21 **Sec. 42.50.440. Adverse possession; prescriptive easements.** A person may
22 not acquire by adverse possession or prescriptive easement, or in any other manner
23 except by conveyance from or formal vacation by the corporation, title to or an interest
24 in land owned by the corporation or under its jurisdiction.

25 **Article 6. Financial Provisions.**

26 **Sec. 42.50.500. Limitation of liability.** A person does not have a right of
27 action against the state because of a debt, obligation, or liability of the corporation and
28 may satisfy the debt, obligation, or liability only from the assets or revenue of the
29 corporation.

30 **Sec. 42.50.510. Fidelity bond.** The corporation may obtain a fidelity bond in
31 an amount determined by the board for board members and each executive officer

1 responsible for accounts and finances. The bond must be in effect during the entire
 2 tenure in office of the bonded person.

3 **Sec. 42.50.520. Insurance.** In addition to the insurance allowed under
 4 AS 42.50.320(b), if the board determines the insurance purchase prudent, the board
 5 shall protect corporation assets, services, and employees by purchasing liability and
 6 casualty insurance.

7 **Sec. 42.50.530. Revenue.** The corporation shall deposit the revenue generated
 8 by the corporation in the Alaska marine highway system fund created under
 9 AS 19.65.060.

10 **Sec. 42.50.540. Appropriations.** The corporation may request, with the
 11 concurrence of the governor, a direct appropriation or grant from the legislature to
 12 assist in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

13 **Article 7. Bonds.**

14 **Sec. 42.50.600. General provisions.** (a) The corporation may issue bonds by
 15 resolution of the board to provide money to carry out the purposes of the corporation.
 16 The board shall determine the types of bonds that the corporation may issue.

17 (b) Bonds may be issued in one or more series and shall, as provided by the
 18 resolution of the board,

- 19 (1) be dated;
- 20 (2) bear fixed or variable interest at a specified rate or rates per year or
 within a maximum rate;
- 21 (3) be in a specified denomination;
- 22 (4) be in a coupon or registered form;
- 23 (5) carry conversion or registration provisions;
- 24 (6) have a specified rank or priority;
- 25 (7) be executed in the specified manner and form;
- 26 (8) be payable as specified from the sources, in the medium of
 payment, and place or places inside or outside the state;
- 27 (9) be subject to authentication by a trustee or fiscal agent; and
- 28 (10) be subject to terms of redemption with or without premium.
- 29 (c) Bonds may be sold in the manner, on the terms, and at the price the board

determines. Notes shall mature at the time or times determined by the board. Except for bond anticipation notes, notes, or other obligations, bonds shall mature at the time, not exceeding 50 years after their date, determined by the board.

Sec. 42.50.610. Negotiable instruments. Bonds issued under this chapter and interest coupons attached to them are negotiable instruments under the laws of this state, subject only to applicable provisions for registration.

Sec. 42.50.620. Bonds eligible for investment. Bonds issued under this chapter are securities in which all public officers and public bodies of the state and the state's political subdivisions, all insurance companies, trust companies, banking associations, investment companies, executors, administrators, trustees, and other fiduciaries may properly invest funds, including capital in their control or belonging to them. These bonds may be deposited with a state or municipal officer of an agency or political subdivision of the state for any purpose for which the deposit of bonds of the state is authorized by law.

Sec. 42.50.630. Payment of bonds. (a) The principal of and interest on bonds of the corporation are payable from corporation money or assets. Bonds may be additionally secured by a pledge of a grant or contribution from the federal government, a municipality, a corporation, an association, an institution, or a person, or a pledge of money, income, or revenue of the corporation from any source.

(b) Before issuing bonds to provide the financing described in AS 42.50.600 for real or personal property to be owned in whole or in part by an entity other than the corporation, the corporation shall enter into one or more contracts, leases, or other forms of agreement that will, in the judgment of the corporation, provide sufficient consideration to

- (1) pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as they become due;
- (2) create and maintain any reserves for the bond payments that the corporation considers necessary or desirable; and

(3) pay all costs necessary to issue, service, or additionally secure the bonds, including trustee's fees and bond insurance premiums, unless these costs are to be paid from bond proceeds or by a party other than the corporation.

Sec. 42.50.640. Security for bonds. In the discretion of the board, an issue of

1 bonds may be secured by a trust indenture, which may be a trust company, bank or
2 national banking association, with corporate trust powers, located inside or outside the
3 state, or by a secured loan agreement or other instrument or under resolution giving
4 powers to a corporate trustee by means of which the corporation may

5 (1) make and enter into any and all the covenants and agreements with
6 the trustees or the holders of the bonds that the corporation may determine to be
7 necessary or desirable, including covenants, provisions, limitations, and agreements as
8 to

9 (A) the application, investment, deposit, use, and disposition of
10 the proceeds of bonds of the corporation or of money or other property of the
11 corporation or in which it has an interest;

12 (B) the fixing and collection of rentals, charges, fees, or other
13 consideration for, and the other terms to be incorporated in, contracts with
14 respect to the use of any of the corporation's property;

15 (C) the fixing and collection of tariffs, fees, charges, or other
16 consideration for the use or service of the Alaska marine highway system by
17 passengers and other users and freight;

18 (D) the terms and conditions on which additional bonds of the
19 corporation may be issued;

20 (E) the vesting in the trustee of rights and remedies exercisable
21 by the trustee for the protection of the holders of bonds of the corporation and
22 not otherwise in violation of law and the restriction of the rights of an
23 individual holder of bonds of the corporation;

24 (2) pledge, mortgage, or assign money, leases, agreements, assets, or
25 property of the corporation either presently in hand or to be received in the future, or
26 both; and

27 (3) provide for any other matters of like or different character that in
28 any way affect the security or protection of the bonds.

29 **Sec. 42.50.650. Independent financial advisor.** In negotiating the private or
30 public sale of bonds to an underwriter, the board shall retain a financial advisor who is
31 independent from the underwriter.

Sec. 42.50.660. Validity of signatures. If an officer of the corporation whose signature or a facsimile of whose signature appears on bonds or coupons attached to them ceases to be an officer before the delivery of the bond or coupon, the signature or facsimile is valid the same as if the person had remained in office until delivery.

Sec. 42.50.670. Validity of pledge. (a) The pledge of assets or revenue of the corporation to the payment of the principal of or interest on bonds of the corporation is valid and binding from the time the pledge is made, and the assets or revenue are immediately subject to the lien of the pledge without physical delivery or further act. The lien of a pledge is valid and binding against all parties having claims of any kind against the corporation, irrespective of whether those parties have notice of the lien of the pledge.

(b) Nothing in this section prohibits the corporation from selling assets subject to a pledge, except that a sale may be restricted by the trust agreement or resolution providing for the issuance of the bonds.

Sec. 42.50.675. Pledge of the state. The state pledges to and agrees with the holders of bonds issued under this chapter and with the federal agency that loans or contributes funds in respect to a project that the state will not limit or alter the rights and powers vested in the corporation by this chapter to fulfill the terms of a contract made by the corporation with the holders or federal agency, or in any way impair the rights and remedies of the holders until the bonds together with the interest on them with interest on unpaid installments of interest, and all costs and expenses in connection with an action or proceeding by or on behalf of the holders, are fully met and discharged. The corporation is authorized to include this pledge and agreement of the state, insofar as it refers to holders of bonds of the corporation, in a contract with the holders and insofar as it relates to a federal agency, in a contract with the federal agency.

Sec. 42.50.680. Remedies. A holder of bonds issued under this chapter or of coupons attached to them, and a trustee under a trust agreement or resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds, except as restricted by a trust agreement or resolution, either at law or in equity, may

(1) enforce all rights granted under this chapter, the trust agreement or

resolution, or any other contract executed by the corporation under this chapter; and

(2) compel the performance of all duties of the corporation required by this chapter or by the trust agreement or resolution.

Sec. 42.50.690. Credit of state not pledged. (a) The state and its political subdivisions are not liable for the debts of the corporation. Bonds issued under this chapter are payable solely from the revenue or assets of the corporation and do not constitute a

(1) debt, liability, or obligation of the state or of a political subdivision of the state; or

(2) pledge of the faith and credit of the state or of a political subdivision of the state.

(b) The corporation may not pledge the credit or the taxing power of the state or its political subdivisions. Each bond issued under this chapter shall contain on its face a statement that

(1) the corporation is not obligated to pay it or the interest on it except from the revenue or assets pledged for it; and

(2) neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state or of a political subdivision of the state is pledged to the payment of it.

Sec. 42.50.695. Limitation on personal liability. A board member or employee of the corporation is not subject to personal liability or accountability because of the execution or issuance of bonds.

Article 8. Personnel and Labor Relations.

Sec. 42.50.705. Political activities. (a) A person may not use the money or other property of the corporation for political activities. However, board members and employees may communicate with and appear before committees of the United States Congress, the state legislature, and governing bodies of municipalities in connection with matters directly affecting the corporation.

(b) A board member or employee who violates this section is personally subject to a civil penalty assessed by a judge of the superior court in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Any person may bring an action to enforce this section.

Sec. 42.50.710. Corporation employees. (a) Employees of the corporation are

1 employees of the corporation and not of the state. However, employees of the
2 corporation shall be treated as employees of the state for the purposes of AS 23.40 and
3 AS 39.

4 (b) Except as provided in this subsection, employees of the corporation are
5 covered by AS 23.10.050 - 23.10.150 (Alaska Wage and Hour Act). However, the
6 terms of a collective bargaining agreement mutually agreed upon by an organization
7 representing corporation employees and the corporation may provide that
8 AS 23.10.050 - 23.10.150 do not apply to corporation employees to the extent set out
9 in the collective bargaining agreement.

10 **Article 9. Miscellaneous Provisions.**

11 **Sec. 42.50.800. Claims.** (a) If a person has a claim or lawsuit involving
12 activities of the corporation, including actions based on contract, quasi-contract, or
13 tort, the person shall bring the claim or lawsuit against the corporation and may not
14 bring the claim or lawsuit against the state.

15 (b) For the purposes of actionable claims, undertakings, payments of
16 judgments, execution, interest, punitive damages, statutes of limitations, costs, and
17 similar matters related to the presentation and prosecution of claims by and against the
18 corporation, the corporation and its board members and employees have the same
19 rights, privileges, and immunities as the state and state officers.

20 (c) A claim against the corporation is not subject to the provisions of AS 44.77
21 regarding claims against the state.

22 (d) The corporation is not subject to the provisions of AS 44.80.010(1)
23 regarding the state being a party to an action.

24 **Sec. 42.50.810. Exemption from taxation.** (a) Subject to (b) of this section,
25 the property of the corporation, including its assets, income, and receipts, are exempt
26 from all taxes and special assessments of the state or a political subdivision of the
27 state.

28 (b) Promissory notes and the interest and income from them, and all fees,
29 charges, funds, revenue, income, and other money pledged or available to pay or
30 secure the payment of the notes or interest on them, are exempt from taxation by the
31 state or a political subdivision of the state.

(c) This section does not affect or limit an exemption from license fees, property taxes, or excise, income, or other taxes, provided under any other law, nor does it create a tax exemption with respect to the interest of a person other than the corporation.

Sec. 42.50.815. Application of existing laws. Unless specifically provided otherwise in this chapter, the following laws do not apply to the operations of the corporation:

- (1) AS 19.10.300 - 19.10.399;
- (2) AS 30.15;
- (3) AS 35;
- (4) AS 37.10.085;
- (5) AS 38;
- (6) AS 44.62.010 - 44.62.160, 44.62.180 - 44.62.305, and 44.62.320.

Article 10. General Provisions.

Sec. 42.50.990. Definitions. In this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise,

(1) "Alaska marine highway system" means the vessels, ferry terminal facilities, motor vehicles, and other properties that provide public marine transportation in, from, or to the state;

(2) "board" means the board of directors established by AS 42.50.020;

(3) "commissioners" means the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development and the commissioner of transportation and public facilities;

(4) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010;

(5) "employees" means all persons employed by the corporation;

(6) "executive officer" means an executive officer appointed under AS 42.50.110;

(7) "ferry" means a vessel used to carry passengers and vehicles in intrastate or interstate commerce:

(8) "ferry terminal facility" means a facility for loading and unloading

1 passengers and vehicles;

2 (9) "land" means an interest in real property, including tide and
 3 submerged land, and a right appurtenant to the interest;

4 (10) "real property" includes interest in real property;

5 (11) "regulation" means a regulation authorized by AS 42.50.180.

6 **Sec. 42.50.995. Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Alaska Marine
 7 Highway System Corporation Act.

8 * **Sec. 56.** AS 43.40.010(g) is amended to read:

9 (g) The proceeds of the revenue from the tax on all motor fuels, except as
 10 provided in (e), (f) and (j) of this section, shall be deposited in a special highway fuel
 11 tax account in the state general fund. The legislature may appropriate funds from it for
 12 expenditure by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities directly or as
 13 matched with available federal-aid highway money for maintenance of highways and
 14 [,] construction of highway projects, except [AND] ferries and facilities of the
 15 Alaska marine highway system, included in the program provided for in
 16 AS 19.10.150, including approaches, appurtenances and related facilities and
 17 acquisition of rights-of-way or easements, and other highway costs including surveys,
 18 administration, and related matters, and for expenditure by the Alaska Marine
 19 Highway System Corporation for the Alaska marine highway system. All
 20 departments of the state government authorized to spend funds collected from taxes
 21 imposed by this chapter shall perform, when feasible, all construction or
 22 reconstruction projects by contract after the projects have been advertised for
 23 competitive bids, except that, when feasible, arrangements shall be made with political
 24 subdivisions to carry out the construction or reconstruction projects. If it is not feasible
 25 for the work to be performed by state engineering forces, the commissioner of
 26 transportation and public facilities may contract on a professional basis with private
 27 engineering firms for road design, bridge design, and services in connection with
 28 surveys. If more than one private engineering firm is available for the work the
 29 contracts shall be entered into on a negotiated basis. For the purposes of this
 30 subsection, the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation is not a department.

31 * **Sec. 57.** AS 43.40.010 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(m) The legislature may appropriate funds from the special highway fuel tax account identified in (g) of this section to the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation for expenditure by the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation for the Alaska marine highway system.

(n) In this section,

(1) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990;

(2) "Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation" means the corporation established by AS 42.50.010.

* **Sec. 58.** AS 44.12.200(b) is amended to read:

(b) In this section, "state agency" means a department, institution, board, commission, division, authority, public corporation, committee, or other administrative unit of the executive branch of state government, including the University of Alaska, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, [AND] the Alaska Aerospace Corporation, **and the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation.**

* **Sec. 59.** AS 44.19.027 is amended to read:

Sec. 44.19.027. Emergency assistance transportation. If the governor determines that public safety or health conditions in an area of the state require emergency assistance, the governor may use state-owned and state-operated transportation facilities, aircraft, vessels of the Alaska **Marine Highway System Corporation** [MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM], or railroad rolling stock of the Alaska Railroad to deliver compassionate aid for distribution to the affected area, including food, water, fuel, clothing, medicine, and other supplies provided by nonprofit organizations.

* **Sec. 60.** AS 44.21.390(2) is amended to read:

(2) "state agencies" means all departments, divisions, and offices in the executive branch of state government; it does not mean the Alaska Railroad Corporation, the University of Alaska, **the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, or an agency of the judicial or legislative branches of government.

* **Sec. 61.** AS 44.29.300(a) is amended to read:

(a) There is established in the Department of Health and Social Services the

1 Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, consisting of 17 members, as follows:

2 (1) two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the
3 senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority and one of whom shall be a
4 member of the minority;

5 (2) two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the
6 speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the
7 majority and one of whom shall be a member of the minority;

8 (3) 13 members appointed by the governor, as follows:

9 (A) two persons who are employed in the executive branch of
10 state government, one of whom shall represent the Department of Health and
11 Social Services and one of whom shall represent the Department of Education
12 and Early Development;

13 (B) one member of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and
14 Drug Abuse;

15 (C) one member of the Alaska Mental Health Board;

16 (D) one person recommended by the Alaska Federation of
17 Natives, Inc.;

18 (E) one person who is an employee of a secondary school;

19 (F) one person who is active in a youth organization;

20 (G) one person who has experienced the death by suicide of a
21 member of the person's family;

22 (H) one person who resides in a rural community in the state
23 that is not connected to the main road system of the state by road or by the
24 Alaska marine highway system operated by the Alaska Marine Highway
25 System Corporation [TO THE MAIN ROAD SYSTEM OF THE STATE];

26 (I) one person who is a member of the clergy;

27 (J) one person who, when appointed, is at least 16 years of age
28 but not more than 24 years of age;

29 (K) one person who is discharged from, retired from, or
30 engaged in active duty military service in the armed forces of the United
31 States, including the United States Coast Guard, the Army National Guard, the

Air National Guard, or a reserve unit of the armed forces of the United States, or who is a mental health provider, social worker, or other person actively providing a health care service to discharged, retired, or active military personnel; and

(L) one public member.

* **Sec. 62.** AS 44.33.010 is amended to read:

Sec. 44.33.010. Commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development. The principal executive officer of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development is the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development. Except with respect to the commissioner's membership on the board of directors of the Alaska Railroad Corporation **and the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, whenever a statute provides that the commissioner is a member of a board, council, or other similar entity, the commissioner may designate an employee of the department to act in the commissioner's place.

* **Sec. 63.** AS 44.42.020(a) is amended to read:

(a) The department shall

(1) plan, design, construct, and maintain all state modes of transportation and transportation facilities and all docks, floats, breakwaters, buildings, and similar facilities, **except for the Alaska marine highway system**:

(2) study existing transportation modes and facilities in the state to determine how they might be improved or whether they should continue to be maintained:

(3) study alternative means of improving transportation in the state with regard to the economic costs of each alternative and its environmental and social effects:

(4) develop a comprehensive, long-range, intermodal transportation plan for the state;

(5) study alternatives to existing modes of transportation in urban areas and develop plans to improve urban transportation;

(6) cooperate and coordinate with and enter into agreements with

1 federal, state, and local government agencies and private organizations and persons in
2 exercising its powers and duties;

3 (7) manage, operate, and maintain state transportation facilities and all
4 docks, floats, breakwaters, and buildings, including all state highways, vessels,
5 railroads, pipelines, airports, and aviation facilities; **this paragraph does not apply to**
6 **the Alaska marine highway system;**

7 (8) study alternative means of transportation in the state, considering
8 the economic, social, and environmental effects of each alternative;

9 (9) coordinate and develop state and regional transportation systems,
10 considering deletions, additions, and the absence of alterations;

11 (10) develop facility program plans for transportation and state
12 buildings, docks, and breakwaters required to implement the duties set out in this
13 section, including but not limited to functional performance criteria and schedules for
14 completion;

15 (11) supervise and maintain all state automotive and mechanical
16 equipment, aircraft, and vessels, except vessels and aircraft used by the Department of
17 Fish and Game or the Department of Public Safety; for state vehicles maintained by
18 the department, the department shall, every five years, evaluate the cost, efficiency,
19 and commercial availability of alternative fuels for automotive purposes, and the
20 purpose for which the vehicles are intended to be used, and convert vehicles to use
21 alternative fuels or purchase energy efficient vehicles whenever practicable; the
22 department may participate in joint ventures with public or private partners that will
23 foster the availability of alternative fuels for all automotive fuel consumers; **except as**
24 **provided in AS 42.50.310, this paragraph does not apply to the Alaska marine**
25 **highway system;**

26 (12) supervise aeronautics inside the state, under AS 02.10;

27 (13) implement the safety and financial responsibility requirements for
28 air carriers under AS 02.40;

29 (14) inspect weights and measures;

30 (15) at least every four years, study alternatives available to finance
31 transportation systems in order to provide an adequate level of funding to sustain and

1 improve the state's transportation system.

2 * **Sec. 64.** AS 44.42.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 (c) In this section, "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in
4 AS 42.50.990.

5 * **Sec. 65.** AS 44.88.610(a)(2) is amended to read:

6 (2) "connected by road" does not include a connection by the Alaska
7 marine highway system **operated by the Alaska Marine Highway System**
8 **Corporation**.

9 * **Sec. 66.** AS 44.99.020 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 44.99.020. Use of paper.** A state agency shall use both sides of paper
11 when feasible. In this section, "state agency" means a department, institution, board,
12 commission, division, authority, public corporation, or other administrative unit of the
13 executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government, including the University
14 of Alaska, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **the Alaska Marine Highway System**
15 **Corporation**, and legislative committees.

16 * **Sec. 67.** AS 44.99.030(a) is amended to read:

17 (a) Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the following entities may not
18 contract with a person to pay the person money or other thing of value to lobby the
19 state, a municipality of the state, or an agency of the state or municipality:

- 20 (1) Alaska Aerospace Corporation;
- 21 (2) Alaska Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank;
- 22 (3) Alaska Energy Authority;
- 23 (4) Alaska Housing Finance Corporation;
- 24 (5) Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority;
- 25 (6) Alaska Medical Facility Authority;
- 26 (7) Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority;
- 27 (8) Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority;
- 28 (9) Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation;
- 29 (10) Alaska Railroad Corporation;
- 30 (11) [REPEALED]
- 31 (12)] Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute;

(12) [(13)] Alaska Student Loan Corporation;

(13) Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation.

* **Sec. 68.** AS 44.99.040(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) "state or municipal agency" means the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace Corporation, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, the Alaska Energy Authority, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, or a department, institution, board, commission, division, council, committee, authority, public corporation, school district, regional educational attendance area, or other administrative unit of a municipality or of the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of state government, and includes employees of those entities.

* **Sec. 69.** AS 44.99.400 is amended to read:

Sec. 44.99.400. Software copyrights. A state agency may hold the copyright for software created by the agency or developed by a private contractor for an agency, and may enforce its rights to protect the copyright. In this section, "state agency" means a department, institution, board, commission, division, authority, public corporation, committee, or other administrative unit of the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of state government, including the University of Alaska, the Alaska Aerospace Corporation, [AND] the Alaska Railroad Corporation, and the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation.

* **Sec. 70.** AS 46.14.990(21) is amended to read:

(21) "person" has the meaning given in AS 01.10.060 and also includes an agency of the United States, a municipality, the University of Alaska, the Alaska Railroad Corporation, **the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation**, and other departments, agencies, instrumentalities, units, and corporate authorities of the state:

* **Sec. 71.** AS 19.65.110, 19.65.120, 19.65.130, 19.65.140, 19.65.150, 19.65.160, 19.65.170, 19.65.180, 19.65.190, 19.65.195; AS 36.30.015(g), and 36.30.850(b)(28) are repealed.

* **Sec. 72.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION: INITIAL BOARD MEMBERS. (a) By January 1, 2019, the governor

1 shall appoint the five initial board members of the corporation under AS 42.50.020(b)(3) and
2 (c), added by sec. 55 of this Act, for staggered terms as provided by AS 39.05.055.

3 (b) In this section,

4 (1) "board" means the board of directors of the corporation;

5 (2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
6 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act.

7 * **Sec. 73.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
8 read:

9 TRANSITION: INITIAL APPOINTMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS
10 AND DUTIES. (a) By February 1, 2019, the board shall appoint and delegate to the chief
11 executive officer the powers and duties identified in AS 42.50.120(a), added by sec. 55 of this
12 Act.

13 (b) In this section,

14 (1) "board" means the board of directors of the corporation;

15 (2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
16 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act.

17 * **Sec. 74.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18 read:

19 TRANSITION: INITIAL REGULATIONS AND ORDERS. (a) By May 1, 2019, the
20 board shall adopt the initial regulations necessary for the operation of the corporation and the
21 Alaska marine highway system.

22 (b) The board may provide by resolution that regulations and orders in effect on the
23 date of the transfer of Alaska marine highway system property to the corporation remain in
24 effect until amended or repealed by the board. AS 42.50.180 and 42.50.185, added by sec. 55
25 of this Act, do not apply to actions taken under this section.

26 (c) In this section,

27 (1) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990,
28 added by sec. 55 of this Act;

29 (2) "board" means the board of directors of the corporation;

30 (3) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
31 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act.

1 * **Sec. 75.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 2 read:

3 TRANSITION: DEPARTMENT NEGOTIATION, NONRENEWAL, AND
 4 TERMINATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS. (a) Notwithstanding
 5 another provision of this Act, including AS 23.40.040, as amended by sec. 19 of this Act, on
 6 the effective date of this section, the department shall enter into negotiations with a union to
 7 assign the state's interest in the collective bargaining agreement with the union to the
 8 corporation.

9 (b) When the department and a union have reached an agreement under (a) of this
 10 section, the state shall assign the state's interest in the collective bargaining agreement to the
 11 corporation.

12 (c) If, within 30 days after the effective date of this section, the department and a
 13 union cannot reach an agreement under (a) of this section to assign the collective bargaining
 14 agreement to the corporation, the department shall terminate the collective bargaining
 15 agreement at the time and in the manner provided under the terms of the collective bargaining
 16 agreement.

17 (d) In this section,

18 (1) "Alaska marine highway system" means the system, including the vessels,
 19 ferry terminal facilities, motor vehicles, and other property, established by the state that
 20 provides public marine transportation in, from, or to the state;

21 (2) "collective bargaining agreement" means the collective bargaining
 22 agreement entered into between the department and a union;

23 (3) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
 24 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act;

25 (4) "department" means the Department of Transportation and Public
 26 Facilities;

27 (5) "union" means the

28 (A) International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots;

29 (B) Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association; or

30 (C) Inlandboatmen's Union representing the Unlicensed Marine Unit.

31 * **Sec. 76.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to

1 read:

2 TRANSITION: CORPORATION NEGOTIATION OF COLLECTIVE
 3 BARGAINING AGREEMENTS. (a) The corporation shall negotiate and enter into a
 4 collective bargaining agreement with a union after all of the following have occurred:

5 (1) the board has been appointed under sec. 72 of this Act;

6 (2) the chief executive officer has been appointed and delegated powers under
 7 sec. 73 of this Act;

8 (3) the corporation has adopted regulations under sec. 74 of this Act; and

9 (4) the department has assigned an agreement with a union to the corporation
 10 under sec. 75(b) of this Act, and the agreement has later terminated, or the agreement with the
 11 union has terminated under sec. 75(c) of this Act.

12 (b) In this section,

13 (1) "board" means the board of directors of the corporation;

14 (2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
 15 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act;

16 (3) "department" means the Department of Transportation and Public
 17 Facilities;

18 (4) "union" means the

19 (A) International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots;

20 (B) Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association; or

21 (C) Inlandboatmen's Union representing the Unlicensed Marine Unit.

22 * **Sec. 77.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 23 read:

24 TRANSITION: TRANSFER OF ASSETS; ASSUMPTION OF RIGHTS,
 25 LIABILITIES, AND OBLIGATIONS. (a) On June 1, 2019,

26 (1) the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall transfer to the
 27 corporation the vessels, ferry port facilities, real property, and vehicles and other personal
 28 property used for the Alaska marine highway system; the corporation shall take title in its own
 29 name to this property; and

30 (2) the corporation shall assume all rights, liabilities, and obligations of the
 31 Alaska marine highway system.

(b) In this section,

(1) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990, added by sec. 55 of this Act;

(2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act.

* **Sec. 78.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION: OPERATION OF MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM BY CORPORATION. (a) The corporation shall begin operating the Alaska marine highway system on July 1, 2019, or on the date when the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities assigns or terminates the collective bargaining agreements with all of the unions under sec. 75 of this Act, whichever event occurs later.

(b) In this section,

(1) "Alaska marine highway system" has the meaning given in AS 42.50.990, added by sec. 55 of this Act;

(2) "corporation" means the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act;

(3) "union" means the

(A) International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots;

(B) Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association; and

(C) Inlandboatmen's Union representing the Unlicensed Marine Unit.

* **Sec. 79.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

TRANSITION: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS. All contracts, rights, liabilities, bonds, notes, or other obligations of the Alaska marine highway system as owned and operated by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities that are created by or under a law amended or repealed by this Act, and in effect on the effective date of this section, remain in effect notwithstanding this Act's taking effect, with all contracts, rights, liabilities, bonds, notes, or other obligations of the Alaska marine highway system becoming contracts, rights, liabilities, bonds, notes, and other obligations of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act, with the same

1 limitations and provisions as under a contract, right, liability, bond, note, or other obligation
 2 of the former Alaska marine highway system owned and operated by the Department of
 3 Transportation and Public Facilities. In this section, "Alaska marine highway system" has the
 4 meaning given in AS 42.50.990, added by sec. 55 of this Act.

5 * **Sec. 80.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 6 read:

7 TRANSITIONAL PROVISION: REPORT OF TRANSFERRED ASSETS. The
 8 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall prepare or direct the preparation of
 9 all necessary financial reports of the assets to be transferred by it under sec. 77 of this Act as
 10 of the close of business on the day before the effective date of the transfer.

11 * **Sec. 81.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 12 read:

13 TRANSITION: INITIAL REPORTS. (a) Notwithstanding AS 42.50.270(a), added by
 14 sec. 55 of this Act, the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation shall file its first
 15 operations and performance report required under AS 42.50.270, added by sec. 55 of this Act,
 16 within 90 days following the end of its second fiscal year. The report must cover the first two
 17 fiscal years of the corporation.

18 (b) Notwithstanding AS 42.50.280, added by sec. 55 of this Act, the board of
 19 directors of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation shall file its first travel and
 20 compensation report required under AS 42.50.280, added by sec. 55 of this Act, with the
 21 Department of Administration by January 21 of the third calendar year after this Act takes
 22 effect.

23 * **Sec. 82.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 24 read:

25 TRANSITION: INITIAL AUDIT. Notwithstanding AS 42.50.260(a), added by sec. 55
 26 of this Act, the board of directors of the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation
 27 established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this Act, shall have the first audit required
 28 under AS 42.50.260(a), added by sec. 55 of this Act, performed after the second fiscal year of
 29 the corporation. The audits must cover the first and second fiscal years of the corporation.

30 * **Sec. 83.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 31 read:

1 CONDITIONAL EFFECT; NOTIFICATION. (a) Section 43 of this Act takes effect
2 only if the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development notifies the
3 revisor of statutes in writing as required under (b) of this section.

4 (b) The commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development shall
5 notify the revisor of statutes in writing of the date that the Department of Transportation and
6 Public Facilities has assigned to the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation under sec.
7 75 of this Act, or the Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation has entered into under sec.
8 76 of this Act, a collective bargaining agreement with all of the following:

- (1) the International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots;
- (2) the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association; and
- (3) the Inlandboatmen's Union representing the Unlicensed Mar

12 (c) In this section, "Alaska Marine Highway System Corporation" means the Alaska
13 Marine Highway System Corporation established by AS 42.50.010, added by sec. 55 of this
14 Act.

15 * **Sec. 84.** If, under sec. 83 of this Act, sec. 43 of this Act takes effect, it takes effect the day
16 after the date the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development
17 notifies the revisor of statutes under sec. 83 of this Act.

18 * **Sec. 85.** Except as provided in sec. 84 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under
19 AS 01.10.070(c).