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4/6/11

SENATE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR OLSON**Introduced:****Referred:****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act establishing in the Office of the Governor an advisory council for the
2 preservation, restoration, and revitalization of Alaska Native languages."

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

4 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 **LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.** The legislature finds that the preservation of Alaska
7 Native languages is a critical component in the sustenance of cultural identity. The legislature
8 further finds that Alaska Native languages are vital in maintaining traditional knowledge and
9 understanding.

10 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

11 **Article 6. Alaska Native Language Preservation Council.**

12 **Sec. 44.19.860. Alaska Native Language Preservation Council.** The Alaska
13 Native Language Preservation Council is established in the Office of the Governor for
14 the purpose of recommending the establishment or reorganization of programs to

1 support the preservation, restoration, and revitalization of Alaska Native languages.
2 The council shall advise the governor on programs, policies, and projects to provide
3 for the cost-effective preservation, restoration, and revitalization of Alaska Native
4 languages in the state. The council shall meet as often as is necessary to carry out the
5 purposes of the council and shall prepare periodic advisory reports for the governor
6 and make recommendations for the governor's and the legislature's consideration.

7 **Sec. 44.19.865. Membership; terms.** (a) The governor shall appoint to the
8 council established in AS 44.19.860 five voting members who have expertise in
9 Alaska Native languages and who represent diverse areas of the state. In addition, one
10 member of the senate appointed by the president of the senate and one member of the
11 house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives shall
12 serve on the council as nonvoting members.

13 (b) The members appointed by the governor shall serve at the pleasure of the
14 governor for three-year terms. The governor may reappoint a member for not more
15 than three consecutive terms.

16 (c) Members of the council shall serve without compensation but are entitled
17 to per diem and travel expenses as provided under AS 39.20.180.