

## HB 170: ENERGY INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM & FUND: AIDEA

## **Summary of Changes (Version A to Version B)**

Please note that this analysis is not an authoritative interpretation of changes to the bill.

The bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

- Long title for the bill is amended to include additional topics, as noted below.
- **Section 1 added** which creates an analyst position employed in a professional capacity by the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA).
- Section 2 added which allows AEA to hire one analyst to assist underserved communities with the technical development of projects and applications for funding from the Alaska Energy Independence Fund and Program.
- **Section 3 added** to change the makeup of the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) and AEA board to allow the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives to each appoint two of the five public members, reducing the number of public members appointed by the Governor to one.
- **Section 4 added** to state the public members of the AIDEA and AEA board will serve four-year terms, rather than two, and that the members can only be removed for cause, rather than serving at the pleasure of the governor.
- Section 5 added to state that if a vacancy occurs in the membership of the AIDEA and AEA board, the respective appointing official shall immediately appoint a member for the unexpired portion of the term, rather than the governor appointing the new member.
- **Section 11** is amended as follows:

AS 44.88.450 is amended by changing the advisory board make up. In Version A of the bill, the advisory board was made up of the governor (or designee) and four public members appointed by the governor with expertise in finance, marketing of financial products, construction science and efficiencies, and/or renewable energy, electric transportation, and other sustainable energy development.

In Version B, the advisory board is made up of the governor (or designee) and eight

members appointed by the governor: one who represents a tribe, tribal nonprofit organization or consortium, or regional housing authority; one who represents an Alaska Native corporation, one who represents an Alaska nonprofit corporation specializing in cold climate housing research; one who has experience in renewable energy, electric transportation, or similar sustainable energy development; and four members who have experience in finance, marketing of financial products, construction science and efficiencies, renewable energy, electric transportation, and other sustainable energy development.

**AS 44.88.454 is amended** by the addition of a new subsection (a) which states the authority shall consider the energy policies of the state and described in AS 44.99.115 in managing the operations of the Alaska energy independence program and fund.

AS 44.88.456 is amended by the addition of a new subsection (e) which requires at least 35 percent of active loans and other forms of financing for sustainable energy development made under the alaska energy independence program to be made in communities that receive (or have residents who receive) power cost equalization under AS 42.45.100-42.45.150.

• Section 13 is added which provides transition language related to the AIDEA and AEA board as a result of the changes to the AIDEA and AEA board make up amended in Sections 3-5 of this Act.