

ALASKA STATE HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES
House State Affairs Committee



House Bill HB 397

"An Act relating to eliminating vacant positions in the classified and partially exempt service of the state; and providing for an effective date."

Sponsor Statement

The proposed amendment to AS 39.25 establishes a mechanism for the elimination of vacant positions within the classified or partially exempt service. By requiring the director of personnel to identify and eliminate such positions annually, we aim to ensure that our state government operates efficiently and effectively, while giving transparency in the budget process.

House Bill 397 directs the Department of Administration's Director of Personnel to eliminate all unfilled positions in the classified or partially exempt service that have been open for over 364 days. Certain circumstances are exempted from the vacancy criteria, such as positions that have been occupied at any time during the preceding 364 days, those hired to fill the position even if employment begins in the following fiscal year, and individuals eligible to return to the position under AS 39.25.158.

House Bill 397 will eliminate vacant positions, streamline operations, and provide transparency in the Budget process. House Bill 397 will also enable us to redirect resources towards priority areas such as public services and infrastructure development.