
From: The Raven <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2024 10:32 AM
To: House Finance
Subject: Alaska sunset commission

Finance co-chair Foster and commity members. As a previous Accountant V for the DOA and CPA I fully support the Alaska Sunset Commission (ASC). Given the "illegal" use of the pfd to pay for the operating & capital budget it is high time for reform! There exists significant opportunity for improved efficiencies. The House started the budget process with a pfd of \$2,273 on April 11th, then the Senate budget came in at \$1,613. This process adds funding at Alaskans expense with no real measurable goals!

Please support the ASC.

Sincerely

Dorothy V Webster

From: Susan A [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2024 1:40 PM
To: House Finance
Subject: HB 190

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 190 (HB 190), which aims to establish the Alaska Sunset Commission. While I appreciate the intent behind this bill, I believe that it poses several challenges and risks that need careful consideration.

Bureaucratic Burden:

The creation of a new commission adds an additional layer of bureaucracy to our state government during a time we have a financial crisis at hand.

The commission's reviews may require administrative resources and time, potentially slowing down decision-making processes.

We should be cautious about introducing more complexity without clear benefits.

Potential Impact on Agencies and Programs:

Discontinuing state entities based solely on commission recommendations could harm essential services. While efficiency is important, some programs serve critical functions even if they are not highly efficient.

Balancing efficiency with maintaining necessary services is crucial.

Political Considerations:

There is a risk that the commission's decisions could become politically charged.

We must ensure that evaluations are objective and free from bias or favoritism.

Transparency in the commission's processes is essential to maintain public trust.

Proposed Alternatives:

Enhance Existing Oversight Mechanisms:

Instead of creating a new commission, we could strengthen existing oversight mechanisms.

Regular evaluations of state entities can be conducted by relevant committees within the legislature.

This approach maintains transparency while avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy.

Collaborate with Stakeholders:

Before discontinuing any agency or program, we should engage with stakeholders, including affected communities and experts.

Their input can help us make informed decisions that balance efficiency and service provision.

Review Sunset Commission Models in Other States:

We can learn from other states' experiences with sunset commissions. Some states have successfully implemented similar bodies, while others have faced challenges.

Let's study best practices and tailor our approach accordingly.

In conclusion, while the goal of improving government efficiency is commendable, HB 190 requires further scrutiny. I urge you to consider the potential drawbacks and explore alternative approaches. Our state's citizens deserve a thoughtful and well-informed decision-making process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your commitment to serving our community.