

**HOUSE BILL NO. 30**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE HOLLAND**

**Introduced: 1/22/25**

**Referred: State Affairs, Labor and Commerce**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act establishing the office of entrepreneurship; relating to new businesses in the**  
2 **state; relating to reports concerning procurements by agencies; and relating to initial**  
3 **business license fees for new businesses in the state."**

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 36.30.540 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 36.30.540. Procurement report.** The commissioner shall **annually**  
7 [BIENNIALLY] prepare a report concerning procurements by agencies and notify the  
8 legislature that the report is available. The report must include

9 (1) the records maintained by the commissioner under AS 36.30.510  
10 and the records maintained under AS 36.30.520(a) for the previous [TWO] fiscal **year**  
11 [YEARS];

12 (2) a list of procurements made under this chapter from out-of-state  
13 sources during the previous [TWO] fiscal **year**, [YEARS] together with the total  
14 number of procurement contracts entered into during that period with out-of-state

1 contractors and the total value of these contracts; this paragraph does not apply to  
2 procurements made under AS 36.30.320; and

3 (3) a list of procurements made under this chapter from state sources  
4 during the previous [TWO] fiscal year, [YEARS] together with the total number of  
5 procurement contracts entered into during that period with state contractors and the  
6 total value of these contracts; this paragraph does not apply to procurements made  
7 under AS 36.30.320;

8 **(4) the total number of procurement contracts entered into during**  
9 **the previous fiscal year with new businesses in the state, the total value of these**  
10 **contracts, and details on the demographic and geographic areas of these**  
11 **businesses;**

12 **(5) the percentage of the total number and total value of**  
13 **procurement contracts entered into in the previous fiscal year that were entered**  
14 **into with new businesses in the state; and**

15 **(6) recommendations on improving access to procurement**  
16 **contracts for new businesses in the state, including details on new businesses in**  
17 **the state in statistically underrepresented demographic segments and geographic**  
18 **areas of the state.**

19 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 36.30.540 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 (b) In this section, "new business in the state" has the meaning given in  
21 AS 44.33.859.

22 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 43.70.030(a) is amended to read:

23 (a) The fee for each business license is \$50 a year, except that the fee is

24 **(1)** \$25 if the business is a sole proprietorship and the sole proprietor is

25 **(A)** [(1)] 65 years of age or older when the sole proprietor  
26 applies for the license or will reach 65 years of age at any time during the year  
27 for which the license is issued; or

28 **(B)** [(2)] a disabled veteran; **and**

29 **(2)** **\$0 for an initial business license if the business is a new**  
30 **business in the state as defined in AS 44.33.859.**

31 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 44.33 is amended by adding new sections to read:

1 **Article 13A. Entrepreneurship.**

2 **Sec. 44.33.850. Office of entrepreneurship.** The office of entrepreneurship is  
3 created in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

4 **Sec. 44.33.853. Duties.** The office shall

- 5 (1) employ personnel;
- 6 (2) promote entrepreneurship growth in the state;
- 7 (3) assist stakeholders and organizations supporting entrepreneurship  
8 with enhancing skills and learning opportunities, providing technical support, and  
9 expanding access to resources for entrepreneurs in the state;
- 10 (4) assist new businesses in the state in navigating interactions with the  
11 state.

12 **Sec. 44.33.855. Annual report.** On or before January 1 of each year, the office  
13 shall prepare a report detailing legislation enacted in the previous year that supports,  
14 hinders, or otherwise affects new businesses in the state. The office shall submit the  
15 report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and  
16 notify the legislature that the report is available.

17 **Sec. 44.33.857. New state business development.** (a) Subject to  
18 appropriation, each fiscal year, state agencies shall collectively expend an amount  
19 equal to five percent of the total amount appropriated for economic development  
20 programs in a fiscal year for support organizations or programs that provide services  
21 to new businesses in the state.

22 (b) A state agency shall notify the office of the expenditure of funds under this  
23 section. The notification must include the amount of the expenditure and identify the  
24 organization or program that received the funds.

25 **Sec. 44.33.859. Definitions.** In AS 44.33.850 - 44.33.859,

- 26 (1) "new business in the state" means a business with its principal  
27 place of business in the state that has been in operation for less than five years;
- 28 (2) "office" means the office of entrepreneurship;
- 29 (3) "state agency" means a department, institution, board, commission,  
30 division, authority, public corporation, committee, or other administrative unit of the  
31 executive branch of state government.