



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1968

Source

Chapter No.

HCSSB 216 am

137

## AN ACT

Relating to hearing and trial in eminent domain proceedings.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

\* Section 1. Subdivision (h)(2) of Rule 72 of the Rules of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

(2) Hearing before master. A master appointed by the court to ascertain the amount to be paid by the plaintiff to each owner or other person interested in the property shall report to the court pursuant to Rule 53(d) (1). If all parties object to the appointment of a master, they may have a trial by jury or, if the jury is waived by all parties to the action, a trial without a jury, by filing a demand for it within the time allowed for answer or within the additional time which the court may set.

\* Sec. 2. Subdivision (d)(2) of Rule 72 of the Rules of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

(2) Form. Each notice shall state the court, the title of the action, the name of the defendant to whom it is directed, that the action is to condemn property, a description of his property sufficient for its identification, the interest to be taken, the authority and necessity for the taking, and the use for which the property is to be taken. The notice must show the location, route and termini of any easement or right-of-way sought to be condemned.

The notice shall also state that the defendant may serve upon the plaintiff's attorney an answer within twenty (20) days after service of the notice, that a failure to serve an answer constitutes a consent to the taking and to the authority of the court to proceed to hear the

action and to fix the compensation, and that at a designated time and place the court will conduct a hearing to determine the authority and necessity for the taking.

The notice shall further state that the defendant, without filing an answer, may serve on plaintiff's attorney a notice of appearance designating the property in which he claims to be interested; that thereafter he will receive notice of all proceedings affecting it; that regardless of whether the defendant appears or answers, he may present evidence as to the amount of compensation to be paid for his property at the hearing or trial of the issue of just compensation; that regardless of whether he appears or answers he may share in the distribution of the award; that if neither an appearance nor an answer is filed the court will proceed to hear the action and to fix the compensation without further notice; and that if neither an appearance nor an answer is filed before ten (10) days after the jury's verdict is returned or the master's report is filed, judgment by default will be taken against the defendant for the relief demanded in the complaint.