



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1976

Source

FCCS HCS CSSB 499

Chapter No.

263

## AN ACT

Relating to compensation, benefits and classifications of public officers and employees; creating the Alaska Salary Commission; and providing for an effective date.

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

\* Section 1. AS 39 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

#### CHAPTER 23. ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION.

Sec. 39.23.010. CREATION OF COMMISSION; COMPOSITION. There is established in the Department of Administration the Alaska Salary Commission consisting of five members appointed by the governor. No member of the commission may be a public officer or employee.

Sec. 39.23.020. TERM OF OFFICE; VACANCIES. (a) Commission members serve at the pleasure of the governor for four-year staggered terms. However, two of the initial members appointed to the commission shall serve one-year terms and the rest shall serve, respectively, for terms of two years, three years and four years, the term to be determined by lot at the first meeting of the commission.

(b) A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as an original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

Sec. 39.23.030. OFFICERS; STAFF. The commission shall select a chairman from among its members annually. The director of the division of personnel and labor relations serves as ex officio secretary to the commission and provides research, technical and administrative services.

Sec. 39.23.040. MEETINGS; QUORUM. (a) A majority of the commission members constitutes a quorum to transact the business of the commission. A majority of the commission

members must approve the commission's recommendations to the legislature.

(b) The commission shall meet at the call of the chairman. Notice of meeting dates shall be mailed to each commission member at least 20 days before the date scheduled for a meeting.

(c) The commission shall meet to discuss its findings and recommendations at least twice before submitting its final report to the legislature under sec. 80 of this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.050. COMPENSATION. Members of the commission are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissions.

Sec. 39.23.060. REVIEW OF COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS; OFFICERS COVERED. The commission shall conduct an on-going review of compensation and retirement benefits for members of the legislature; the governor; the lieutenant governor; commissioners, deputy commissioners, and division directors of each executive department; members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission; members of the Alaska Pipeline Commission; members of the Alaska Transportation Commission; members of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission; and the judiciary, to determine the appropriateness of compensation and benefits.

Sec. 39.23.070. STUDIES; REPORTS. (a) The commission may request reports or studies from any state agency concerning compensation and retirement benefits for officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter. A state agency from which a report or study is requested shall furnish it within a period of time prescribed by the commission.

(b) The commissioner of administration shall make initial recommendations concerning compensation and retirement benefits for the officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.080. RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) Before November 15, 1976, and every two years thereafter, the commission shall submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the governor, the presiding officers of each house of the legislature and the chief justice of the supreme court.

(b) The commission shall give reasonable public notice of its preliminary findings and recommendations, solicit public comments, and give due regard to the public comments, before submitting a final report under (c) of this section.

(c) The commission shall make a final report of its findings and recommendations as to the rate and form of compensation and retirement benefits for the officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter within 10 days after the first regular session of a legislature convenes. The recommendations regarding compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, only if approved by concurrent resolution before the end of a session. The recommendations regarding retirement become effective if enacted into law by the legislature.

(d) The commission may submit to the legislature amendments to the report submitted under (c) of this section.

(e) A commission member who does not concur in the proposed or final recommendations may attach written objections to the commission's report of its findings and recommendations.

Sec. 39.23.090. RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY, GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. (a) No recommendations of the commission may have the effect of reducing the compensation or retirement benefits of any member of the judiciary who is a member of the judiciary on the effective date of the commission's recommendation; or reduce, unless by general law applied to all salaried officers of the state, the compensation and retirement benefits of the governor or lieutenant governor who are in office on the effective date of the commission's recommendation.

(b) The commission may recommend reduction in compensation or retirement benefits for individuals who become members of the judiciary or governor or lieutenant governor after the effective date of the commission's recommendation.

Sec. 39.23.100. FILING WITH LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND CERTIFICATION. The commission shall, upon transmitting its final recommendations to the legislature, file the recommendations in the office of the lieutenant governor, and upon the recommendations becoming effective the commission shall so certify on the copy of the recommendations on file in the office of the lieutenant governor.

Sec. 39.23.110. POLICY OF THE LEGISLATURE. It is the policy of the legislature that the commission determine the salary schedule and retirement benefits for public officers based upon equitable relationships being maintained among state positions.

Sec. 39.23.120. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. The Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) does not apply to proceedings conducted under this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.130. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

(1) "commission" means salary commission;

(2) "judiciary" means justices of the supreme court and judges of the superior and district courts.

\* Sec. 2. AS 16.43.060 is amended to read:

Sec. 16.43.060. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

\* Sec. 3. AS 22.05.140(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) The chief justice and each associate justice are entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in

accordance with AS 39.23. Compensation of the chief justice or of an associate justice may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- \* Sec. 4. AS 22.10.190(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) Each superior court judge is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23. The compensation of a judge may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- \* Sec. 5. AS 22.15.220(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) Each district judge is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23. The compensation of a judge may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- \* Sec. 6. AS 24.15.010 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 24.15.010. LEGISLATIVE PER DIEM. The rate of per diem instead of subsistence for each member of the legislature shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- \* Sec. 7. AS 24.15.020 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 24.15.020. ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SALARIES. Each member of the legislature is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23 to be paid in approximately equal monthly installments. The president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives are each entitled to an additional annual sum prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- \* Sec. 8. AS 24.15.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 24.15.030. ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES. In addition, each member of the legislature is entitled to an annual allowance prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23 for postage, stationery, stenographic services and other expenses.

- \* Sec. 9. AS 39.20.010 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.20.010. ANNUAL SALARY OF GOVERNOR. The annual salary of the governor shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- \* Sec. 10. AS 39.20.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.20.030. ANNUAL SALARY OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The annual salary of the lieutenant governor shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- \* Sec. 11. AS 39.20.080 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 39.20.080. SALARY OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT HEAD AND DEPUTY. (a) The annual salary of the head of each principal executive department of the state shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

(b) The salary of the deputy head of each principal executive department of the state shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

\* Sec. 12. AS 39.35.680(5)(B) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(B) means an elected official of a political subdivision currently serving who elects to pay contributions required of an employee and to be included in the system under sec. 125 of this chapter;

\* Sec. 13. AS 39.35.680(5)(C)(v) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(v) justices and judges of the supreme, superior, and district courts of Alaska; or the governor and lieutenant governor; or the heads, deputy or assistant heads, and division directors of each principal executive department of the state; or the members of the Alaska State Legislature.

\* Sec. 14. AS 42.05.091 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.05.091. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

\* Sec. 15. AS 42.06.090 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.06.090. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA PIPELINE COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service described in AS 39.25 and receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

\* Sec. 16. AS 42.07.071 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.07.071. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. The commissioners are in the exempt service under AS 39.25 and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

\* Sec. 17. The first appointments to the Alaska Salary Commission shall be made within 30 days after the effective date of sec. 1 of this Act.

\* Sec. 18. AS 39.50.200(9) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(LL) Alaska Salary Commission (AS 39.23)

\* Sec. 19. AS 39.25.120(8) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(8) the director and deputy director of the division of tourism in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

\* Sec. 20. Section 19 of this Act is retroactive to July 1, 1975.

\* Sec. 21. Sections 1, 12, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of this Act take effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c). Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of this Act take effect on the effective date of the first recommendations submitted to the legislature under AS 39.23.080(c).

Approved by governor: June 24, 1976  
Actual effective date: Secs. 1, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 20:  
June 25, 1976; Sec. 19 retroactive to July 1, 1975; Secs. 2,  
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 take effect  
on the effective date of the first recommendation of the  
Alaska Salary Commission under AS 39.23.080(c)