



LAWS OF ALASKA

1978

Source

SCS CSHB 722 am S

Chapter No.

101

AN ACT

Relating to science and technology.

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

* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

(1) there exist in this state scientific and technological research capabilities which have the potential to contribute significantly to the processes of state government, to industry, and to the public welfare;

(2) the scientific and technological capabilities of the state should be available to assist in issue analysis and fact finding necessary for governmental policy-making activities; however, adequate mechanisms have not been developed in Alaska either to articulate the informational needs of policy makers to the research community or to use the existing resources available from the public, the academic community, and the private sector;

(3) expenditures on science and technology are not adequately coordinated in the state to achieve the highest and best use of research dollars;

(4) there are gains to be realized by establishing a coordinating and funding mechanism between those who formulate and administer state policy and the Alaska scientific and technological community for the purpose of assuring the availability of more and better information for future issue analysis and formulation and execution of policy.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

ARTICLE 3B. ALASKA COUNCIL ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY.

Sec. 44.19.181. COUNCIL ESTABLISHED. (a) There is established in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Council on Science and Technology. The council consists of seven members who are appointed by the governor upon the recommendations of the state's scientific, engineering, and related communities and organizations. Appointees to the council shall be confirmed by a majority of the legislature. Members have overlapping three-year terms, except that, of the first members, two have terms of one year, two have terms of two years, and three have terms of three years. Two members shall be selected from different executive departments of state government having significant research activities, two members shall be selected from the Alaska academic community, two members shall have significant activities or direct interests in research and shall be selected from the general public, and one member shall be selected from the staff of the legislature. The council shall elect one of its members as chairman. A chairman may be elected for successive terms as chairman and serves until his successor is designated. Four members constitute a quorum.

(b) Council members receive no compensation but are entitled to the travel and per diem provided by law for members of boards or commissions.

Sec. 44.19.182. PURPOSE, POWERS, AND DUTIES. (a) The purpose of the council is to review and recommend the scientific and technological research needs of state government, to issue research grants and contracts, to oversee the issued grants and contracts, to promote high standards of research for the priorities proposed by the council, and to address stated legislative or administrative requests for research.

(b) The council may

(1) apprise itself of local, state, federal, and private research programs, activities, and needs;

(2) convene committees, task forces, conferences, public hearings, and other meetings necessary to carry out the council's purposes;

(3) award research grants and contracts on a fair and competitive basis and administer those grants and contracts;

(4) enter into agreements creating one or more systems of information exchange with any appropriate research funding sources;

(5) at the request of any state agency, enter into and administer, but not perform, the research under research grants and contracts funded by that state agency;

(6) investigate the need for and when necessary establish advisory committees for reviewing its program;

(7) request and receive from any agency of the state government the assistance and data needed to carry out the requirements of this section;

(8) hire an executive director and staff that may be necessary to implement secs. 181 - 189 of this chapter.

(c) The council shall

(1) develop methods of surveying research needs of the state, based on the present and future information needs of policy makers, state agencies, and the public at large;

(2) annually review the research needs and propose priorities for funding;

(3) annually submit to the governor and the legislature the findings of the council, including a listing, description, ranking, and justification of research needs, and a commentary on significant research activities of the preceding year funded by the state and including the relationship of such research to the state's needs and priorities;

(4) promote and enhance standards for research activities for which the council has administrative oversight;

(5) establish review procedures for research proposals;

(6) at the request of either the governor or the legislature, advise in a timely fashion on inquiries concerning scientific investigation or comment;

(7) evaluate and forward to appropriate agencies and persons products of research activities funded by the council; the council shall prepare comments to accompany research reports summarizing the applications, importance, or further research needs demonstrated by the findings of council-supported research;

(8) coordinate its data and information needs with other research organizations in order to avoid unnecessary duplication;

(9) not conduct any research itself other than that necessary to further the purpose of the council as provided in (a) of this section;

(10) supply to any person or agency requesting assistance the available information on past or present research activities for which the council has information, except that the council shall not release information which may endanger the acceptance of any research proposal which is at the time competing with other proposals for funding.

Sec. 44.19.184. RECORDS, REPORTS. (a) The council shall have its financial records audited by an independent certified public accountant. The internal auditor and legislative auditor shall jointly prescribe the form and

Chapter 101

content of the financial records of the council and shall be afforded access to these records at any time.

(b) Before January 15 of each year, the council shall submit to the governor and the legislature a comprehensive report describing operations and expenditures and the status of grants and contracts for the last preceding fiscal year.

(c) The provisions of AS 09.25.110 - 09.25.120 apply to the council.

Sec. 44.19.188. DEFINITION. In secs. 181 - 189 of this chapter, "council" means the Alaska Council on Science and Technology established in sec. 181 of this chapter.

Sec. 44.19.189. SHORT TITLE. Sections 181 - 189 of this chapter may be cited as the Science and Technology Act.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(6) Alaska Council on Science and Technology --
June 30, 1983.