

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 68(STA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/18/97  
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS WARD, Wilken

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the Task Force on Privatization; and providing for an  
2 effective date."

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

4 \* **Section 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT.** (a) The legislature finds that

5 (1) the annual cost of state government is exceeding the annual revenue of the  
6 state;

7 (2) there may be functions of state government that could be performed more  
8 efficiently by individuals or businesses in the private sector;

9 (3) other states are considering privatization of some of their governmental  
10 functions;

11 (4) more information is needed before the legislature can determine whether  
12 privatization is a feasible alternative for this state to pursue in controlling its fiscal problems.

13 (b) The legislature intends to consider all reasonable methods to deal with the state  
14 revenue shortfall.

1     \* **Sec. 2.** TASK FORCE ON PRIVATIZATION ESTABLISHED. (a) There is established  
2 in the legislative branch the Task Force on Privatization consisting of

3             (1) two members appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be a public  
4 member selected from a list of nominees submitted by labor organizations that represent state  
5 employees;

6             (2) two members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate; one  
7 member shall be a member of the majority and one member shall be a member of the  
8 minority;

9             (3) two members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of  
10 the house; one member shall be a member of the majority and one member shall be a member  
11 of the minority;

12             (4) two public members appointed by the president of the senate; and

13             (5) two public members appointed by the speaker of the house.

14             (b) The task force shall select a chair and vice-chair from among its members.

15     \* **Sec. 3.** COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS. The public members of the Task  
16 Force on Privatization are not eligible for compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel  
17 expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

18     \* **Sec. 4.** MEETINGS; OATH. (a) The Task Force on Privatization shall meet as  
19 frequently as the task force determines necessary to perform its work and may meet during  
20 the interim as well as during legislative sessions. The task force may meet and vote by  
21 teleconference.

22             (b) The chair of the task force may administer an oath to a witness appearing before  
23 the task force.

24     \* **Sec. 5.** DUTIES. The Task Force on Privatization shall

25             (1) review and evaluate the policies and recommendations of the other states  
26 that are studying or have implemented recommendations to privatize any of their governmental  
27 functions;

28             (2) review state contracting policy and procedures, including competitive  
29 bidding procedures;

30             (3) identify functions of our state government that could economically and  
31 appropriately be privatized, if any;

1 (4) solicit public comment about its subjects of consideration;

2 (5) submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the governor  
3 and the legislature by November 15, 1997, concerning state contracting policy and procedures  
4 and privatization of state government functions in the Department of Transportation and Public  
5 Facilities, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Health and Social Services;  
6 the report shall suggest legislation that may be needed to accomplish the recommendations;  
7 and

8 (6) submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the governor  
9 and the legislature by November 15, 1998, concerning privatization of government functions  
10 of state agencies not addressed in the first report; the report shall suggest legislation that may  
11 be needed to accomplish the recommendations.

12 \* **Sec. 6.** This Act is repealed on December 1, 1998.

13 \* **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).