

**SENATE BILL NO. 334**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/6/98

Referred: Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to guidelines and standards for state training programs; and  
2 relating to the Alaska Human Resource Investment Council."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 44.19.620(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The Alaska Human Resource Investment Council is established in the  
6 Office of the Governor. The council consists of the following nine voting members  
7 [, NOT TO EXCEED 26]:

8 (1) the lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee;

9 (2) [THE COMMISSIONERS OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC  
10 DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS, EDUCATION,  
11 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, AND LABOR, OR EACH RESPECTIVE  
12 COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE;

13 (3)] one representative from the University of Alaska;

14 (3) [(4) FOUR ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF

1 EDUCATION, WITH ONE FROM LOCAL PUBLIC EDUCATION, ONE FROM  
 2 SECONDARY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ONE FROM A POSTSECONDARY  
 3 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTION, AND ONE FROM ADULT BASIC  
 4 EDUCATION;

5 (5)] four representatives of business and industry, with at least one  
 6 representative from the private industry councils appointed under 29 U.S.C. 1512 and  
 7 subject to reconstitution under 29 U.S.C. 1515;

8 (4) one representative [(6) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES] of  
 9 organized labor whom [THAT] the governor shall appoint from lists of nominees  
 10 submitted by recognized state labor organizations; the governor may reject a list  
 11 submitted under this paragraph and request that another list be submitted;

12 (5) [(7) AT LEAST] one representative from an organization  
 13 representing employment and training needs of Alaska Natives; and

14 (6) [(8) AT LEAST] one representative of a community-based service  
 15 organization [;

16 (9) AT LEAST ONE REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS PERSONAL  
 17 OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES;  
 18 AND

19 (10) AT LEAST ONE AND UP TO FOUR ADDITIONAL MEMBERS  
 20 OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ENSURE A PRIVATE SECTOR MAJORITY AND  
 21 REGIONAL AND LOCAL REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNCIL].

22 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 44.19.621(a) is amended to read:

23 (a) Members of the Alaska Human Resource Investment Council other than  
 24 the member [THOSE] listed in AS 44.19.620(a)(1) [AND (2)] are appointed by the  
 25 governor and serve at the pleasure of the governor.

26 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 44.19.621(b) is amended to read:

27 (b) The voting members of the council other than those listed in  
 28 AS 44.19.620(a)(1) [AND (2)] serve for staggered four-year terms and may serve until  
 29 a successor is appointed. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made in the same  
 30 manner as the original appointment and for the balance of the unexpired term.

31 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 44.19.626 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

1 (d) The council shall oversee training programs operated by the state or  
2 operated under contract with the state. The council shall require a training program  
3 listed in (f) of this section to meet the requirements of this subsection. The council  
4 shall, by regulation, establish appropriate penalties for programs and individuals who  
5 fail to meet the requirements of this subsection. The council may recommend to the  
6 legislature changes to enhance the effectiveness of the training programs it oversees  
7 under this section. A training program funded with money appropriated by the  
8 legislature must

9 (1) spend not more than 15 percent of the annual appropriation for the  
10 program on administrative costs of the program;

11 (2) be operated by an institution that holds a valid authorization to  
12 operate issued under AS 14.48 by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  
13 if the program is a postsecondary educational program operated by a postsecondary  
14 educational institution subject to regulation under AS 14.48;

15 (3) require the entity that operates the program to evaluate the program  
16 by keeping track of the persons who receive training under the program for at least one  
17 year after the person completed the program;

18 (4) require that, in the case of a program that pays the tuition costs of  
19 training for an individual, if the individual fails to successfully complete the program,  
20 the individual must repay the tuition costs;

21 (5) maintain a minimum registration of 15 students in each course or  
22 training activity unless the council determines that a smaller number of students is  
23 appropriate given the nature of the training provided and issues a waiver of this  
24 requirement.

25 (e) The council shall adopt standards for the evaluation of training programs  
26 listed in (f) of this section with regard to the following:

27 (1) the percent of former participants who have a job one year after  
28 leaving the training program;

29 (2) the median wage of former participants seven to 12 months after  
30 leaving the program;

31 (3) the percent of former participants who were employed after leaving

1 the training program who evaluate the training received under the program as very  
2 related to their jobs or somewhat related to their jobs seven to 12 months after leaving  
3 the training program;

4 (4) the percent of former participants of a training program who  
5 indicate that they were satisfied with or somewhat satisfied with the overall quality of  
6 the training program;

7 (5) the percent of employers who indicate that they were satisfied with  
8 the quality of the work of new employees who had recently completed the training  
9 program;

10 (6) a comparison between the number of former participants of a  
11 training program with reported employment seven to 12 months after leaving the  
12 training program and the employment experience of similar individuals who did not  
13 participate in the training program;

14 (7) a comparison between the hourly wage of former participants of a  
15 training program with reported employment seven to 12 months after leaving the  
16 program and the hourly wage of similar individuals who did not participate in the  
17 training program.

18 (f) The following training programs are subject to the provisions of (d) and (e)  
19 of this section:

20 (1) in the Department of Administration: Alaska Professional  
21 Development Institute, providing continuing education and training for employed  
22 workers;

23 (2) in the Department of Community and Regional Affairs or operated  
24 by the department:

25 (A) One Stop Career Center, assisting people to find work and  
26 to reduce dependence on public assistance;

27 (B) local government assistance training and development,  
28 including the rural utility business advisory program;

29 (C) Job Training Partnership Act programs, assisting  
30 communities in moving toward a self-sustainable economy and providing  
31 training;

1 (D) state training and employment program (AS 23.15.620),  
2 providing training and employment services for people who are unemployed or  
3 likely to become unemployed, fostering new jobs, and increasing training  
4 opportunities for workers severely affected by fluctuations in the state economy  
5 or adversely affected by technology advances in the workplace;

6 (E) energy operations, providing training in management and  
7 administration of electric utilities and bulk fuel storage systems;

8 (3) in the Department of Corrections:

9 (A) Correctional Academy, training individuals applying for a  
10 correctional officer position;

11 (B) inmate programs, providing vocational technical training and  
12 education courses for inmates preparing to be released from a correctional  
13 facility;

14 (C) correctional industries program, providing inmates with jobs  
15 while they are incarcerated;

16 (4) in the Department of Education or operated by the department:

17 (A) adult basic education program;

18 (B) School-to-Work;

19 (C) vocational education and Tech Prep;

20 (D) Alaska Career Information System;

21 (E) high school completion project;

22 (F) Kotzebue Technical Center operations;

23 (G) Alaska Vocational Technical Center operations;

24 (H) vocational rehabilitation client services, providing assistance  
25 and training to individuals in need of rehabilitative training to learn a skill to  
26 become employable;

27 (I) Governor's Committee on the Employment of People with  
28 Disabilities, working on employment issues;

29 (J) Work Incentive Project;

30 (K) human resource development for department staff training  
31 to enhance work skills to provide services to disabled clients of the department;

1 (5) in the Department of Environmental Conservation:

2 (A) remote maintenance worker program, providing training and  
3 technical assistance to communities to keep drinking water and sewage disposal  
4 systems running, and providing on-the-job training to local operators;

5 (B) water and wastewater operator training and assistance;

6 (C) federal drinking water operator training and certification;

7 (6) in the Department of Health and Social Services: Alaska works  
8 programs;

9 (7) in the Department of Labor:

10 (A) employment services, including job development, assisting  
11 individuals in finding employment, and assisting employed individuals in  
12 finding other employment;

13 (B) unemployment insurance grants provided under the federal  
14 training relocation assistance program;

15 (C) Alaska works programs, assisting with the welfare-to-work  
16 program;

17 (D) state training employment program, coordinated with the  
18 Department of Community and Regional Affairs;

19 (8) in the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs: educational  
20 benefits for members of the Alaska National Guard and the Alaska Naval Militia;

21 (9) in the Department of Public Safety:

22 (A) fire service training to maintain emergency training skills  
23 for existing fire fighter staff and volunteers and individuals interested in  
24 becoming fire fighters;

25 (B) Public Safety Training Academy, training trooper recruits;

26 (10) in the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities:

27 (A) engineer-in-training program, providing on-the-job training  
28 for apprentice engineers to enable them to gain the experience necessary to be  
29 certified;

30 (B) statewide transportation improvement program, offered by  
31 the United States National Highway Institute;

1 (C) local technical assistance program, transferring technical  
2 expertise to local governments;

3 (D) Native technical assistance program, transferring technical  
4 expertise to Native governments;

5 (E) border technology exchange program, to coordinate highway  
6 issues with the Yukon Territory.

7 (g) In this section, "training program" means a training program subject to  
8 oversight by the council under this section.

9 \* **Sec. 5. TRANSITION FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE ALASKA HUMAN RESOURCE**  
10 **INVESTMENT COUNCIL.** (a) On the effective date of this Act, the membership on the  
11 Alaska Human Resource Investment Council shall be reconstituted as provided in this Act.  
12 In the case of members serving as representatives of organized labor, the governor shall  
13 designate the individual who shall remain a member of the council under the provisions of this  
14 Act. In the case of members serving in other capacities, if there is more than one member  
15 appointed in a membership category that is reduced in number by this Act, the governor shall  
16 designate the individual who shall remain a member of the council.

17 (b) For members of the council who will continue to serve on the council after this  
18 Act takes effect other than the member listed under AS 44.19.620(a)(1), at the end of a  
19 member's term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the length of time that ensures that  
20 the terms of members of the council are staggered as described in AS 39.05.055. In  
21 determining the length of term to which a replacement member shall be appointed, the  
22 governor shall ensure that the terms of office of members appointed under AS 44.19.620(a)(3)  
23 end in different years.