

SENATE BILL NO. 33

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR WARD

Introduced: 1/21/99

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

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 and control excess growth in government.

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) three members appointed by the governor; one shall be a public member
4 selected from a list of nominees submitted by labor organizations that represent state
5 employees primarily engaged in building or other trades, and one shall be a public member
6 selected from a list of nominees submitted by labor organizations that represent state
7 employees that are not primarily engaged in building or other trades;

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

10 (3) three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of
11 the house; two shall be members of the majority, and one shall be a member 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 president of the senate shall select a member from among those appointed to
15 the task force by the president of the senate to serve as co-chair of the task force. The
16 speaker of the house of representatives shall select a member from among those appointed to
17 the task force by the speaker of the house of representatives to serve as co-chair of the task
18 force.

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

22 * **Sec. 4.** MEETINGS. The Task Force on Privatization shall meet as frequently as the
23 task force determines necessary to perform its work. The task force may meet and vote by
24 teleconference.

25 * **Sec. 5.** DUTIES. The Task Force on Privatization shall

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

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

31 (3) identify functions of our state government that could economically and

- 1 appropriately be privatized, if any;
- 2 (4) solicit public comment about its subjects of consideration; and
- 3 (5) submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the governor
- 4 and the legislature by January 1, 2001, concerning privatization of government functions of
- 5 state agencies; the report must suggest legislation that may be needed to accomplish the
- 6 recommendations.
- 7 * **Sec. 6.** This Act is repealed on January 1, 2001.
- 8 * **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).