

HOUSE BILL NO. 238

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KOHRING, Foster

Introduced: 4/2/03

Referred: House Special Committee on Ways and Means, State Affairs, Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act merging the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department**
2 **of Natural Resources and naming the resulting entity the Department of Natural**
3 **Resources and Conservation; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

8 (1) in the current period of shrinking state revenue, it is imperative that state
9 government be operated efficiently;

10 (2) substantial administrative savings can be realized by combining units of
11 state government; and

12 (3) the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of
13 Environmental Conservation can be effectively combined into a single department that will
14 result in a substantial, ongoing reduction in state expenditures.

1 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.17.005 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 44.17.005. Offices and departments.** There are in the state government
3 the following principal offices and departments:

4 (1) Office of the Governor

5 (2) Department of Administration

6 (3) Department of Law

7 (4) Department of Revenue

8 (5) Department of Education and Early Development

9 (6) Department of Health and Social Services

10 (7) Department of Labor and Workforce Development

11 (8) Department of Community and Economic Development

12 (9) Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

13 (10) Department of Natural Resources **and Conservation**

14 (11) Department of Fish and Game

15 (12) Department of Public Safety

16 (13) [REPEALED

17 (14) REPEALED

18 (15)] Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

19 **(14)** [(16) DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
20 CONSERVATION

21 (17) REPEALED

22 (18)] Department of Corrections.

23 * **Sec. 3.** AS 44.37 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 **Sec. 44.37.005. Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.**

25 Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the Department of Environmental
26 Conservation and the Department of Natural Resources are merged and the functions
27 and duties of both departments shall be performed by a single department to be named
28 the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

29 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).