

HOUSE BILL NO. 465

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KOTT, Kerttula, Dahlstrom, Elkins

Introduced: 2/13/06

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to marine safety and security; and providing for an effective date."**

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

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

5 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Alaska Marine Safety and Security
6 Act.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Article 2A. Maritime Safety and Security.**

9 **Sec. 44.35.200. Alaska marine safety and security act.** (a) The Department
10 of Military and Veterans' Affairs shall cooperate with and support the Marine
11 Exchange of Alaska's automated secure vessel tracking system and the Exchange's
12 maritime center to track the locations of vessels navigating Alaska water to
13 complement and augment the United States Coast Guard and marine industry safety
14 and security initiatives and other like services.

15 (b) Subject to financial support provided by the Department of Military and

1 Veterans' Affairs for the purpose, the Marine Exchange of Alaska's maritime center
2 shall

3 (1) expand the operation of the Exchange's existing automated secure
4 vessel tracking system network operations center to seven days a week and 24 hours a
5 day; and

6 (2) provide vessel tracking and after hours monitoring and support
7 services to

8 (A) enhance the safety and security of marine operations
9 conducted by the Alaska marine highway system and the Department of Fish
10 and Game vessels;

11 (B) assist the maritime security and disaster response functions
12 of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs' Division of Homeland
13 Security and Emergency Management; and

14 (C) increase the environmental monitoring and response
15 capability of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

16 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
17 read:

18 **AUTHORIZATION FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.** The Department of Military and
19 Veterans' Affairs may provide funding to the nonprofit Marine Exchange of Alaska to support
20 the following marine safety, security, and environmental protection functions:

21 (1) construction, maintenance, and operation of five automated identification
22 system receiving sites in Alaska;

23 (2) tracking the movements of all Alaska marine highway system passenger
24 vessels for safety and security and to meet regulatory requirements not presently being met;

25 (3) tracking the movements of all Alaska Department of Fish and Game
26 enforcement vessels for safety and security;

27 (4) tracking the movements of all high-capacity passenger vessels, tank
28 vessels engaged in the Trans Alaska Pipeline System trade, other crude oil and product tank
29 vessels, liquefied natural gas carriers, and anhydrous ammonia carriers transiting Alaska
30 water;

31 (5) tracking the movements of other marine vessels, such as container ships,

1 refrigerated cargo carriers, fish processing vessels, and dry bulk carriers in Alaska water;

2 (6) tracking the movements of non-self-propelled tank barges transiting
3 Alaska coastal water and the inland rivers of the state for safety, security, and pollution
4 prevention or response purposes;

5 (7) tracking of vessels that may provide assistance to vessels in distress to
6 prevent loss of life and environmental damage;

7 (8) tracking the location of vessels to provide risk assessment information to
8 the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation for identifying appropriate measures
9 to minimize the threat of maritime incidents;

10 (9) tracking of certain vessels for which pilotage is exempted in specified state
11 waters to ensure compliance with the applicable state laws;

12 (10) tracking of vessels operating in Glacier Bay National Park to ensure
13 environmentally sound maritime operations;

14 (11) maintenance and staffing of a marine exchange network operations center
15 in Juneau that will remain open seven days a week and 24 hours a day and will maintain,
16 operate, and monitor the vessel tracking system that will provide assistance to state and
17 federal agencies and the maritime industry in safety, security, efficiency, environmental
18 protection, and emergency response;

19 (12) maintenance and operation of a network of automatic identification
20 system base stations and satellite-based long range and identification tracking systems that
21 shall provide information on vessels' positions using a secure, Internet-based service to the
22 Alaska marine highway system, the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, the
23 Department of Fish and Game, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of
24 Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, and the Department of Environmental
25 Conservation; and

26 (13) monitoring operations of Alaska marine highway system and Department
27 of Fish and Game vessels to ensure safe operations of these vessels and aid emergency
28 response to other vessels operating in state water.

29 * **Sec. 4.** Section 3 of this Act is repealed July 1, 2008.

30 * **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2006.