

SENATE BILL NO. 278

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR OLSON

Introduced: 2/13/06

Referred: Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act creating the Alaska Climate Change Task Force; and providing for an effective**
2 **date."**

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

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

6 ALASKA CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE. (a) The Alaska Climate Change
7 Task Force is established. The purpose of the task force is to

8 (1) assess the current and potential impacts of climate warming trends on the
9 citizens, natural resources, and the economy of the state, in particular, the adverse effects on
10 natural resource development, forest safety, fish and game utilization, and transportation and
11 community infrastructures;

12 (2) estimate costs to the state and its citizens of adverse effects associated with
13 climate warming; and

14 (3) make recommendations to the legislature and the administration on

1 measures that would address or mitigate the near and long-term effects of climate change.

2 (b) The task force consists of 13 members, as follows:

3 (1) two state senators appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom
4 shall be a member of the minority;

5 (2) two state representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of
6 representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the minority;

7 (3) the following members appointed jointly by the president of the senate and
8 the speaker of the house of representatives:

9 (A) one member from the University of Alaska with expertise in arctic
10 and sub-arctic geophysics or climatology;

11 (B) one member from the University of Alaska with expertise in arctic
12 and sub-arctic ecology or fisheries;

13 (C) one member with expertise in arctic engineering;

14 (D) one member of the Alaska Federation of Natives;

15 (E) one member of the Alaska Conservation Alliance; and

16 (4) one ex-officio member, the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee,
17 from each of the following departments:

18 (A) Department of Natural Resources;

19 (B) Department of Fish and Game;

20 (C) Department of Environmental Conservation;

21 (D) Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

22 (c) The task force shall

23 (1) select a chairperson, collect information, research reports and expert
24 opinion, and conduct at least eight hearings throughout the state to fulfill its purpose;

25 (2) make a preliminary report to the legislature on March 1, 2007, on findings
26 of immediate concern;

27 (3) make a final written report to the legislature on January 10, 2008, with its
28 findings and recommendations; and

29 (4) be available for legislative hearings on its recommendations.

30 * **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this Act is repealed June 1, 2008.

31 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).