

**HOUSE BILL NO. 11**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES GRUENBERG, SEATON, CISSNA, TUCK, PETERSEN, GUTTENBERG, AND GATTO**

**Introduced: 1/20/09**

**Referred: Resources, Judiciary**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act requiring state oil and gas leases to be construed in favor of the state and**  
2 **against the interpretation offered by the person challenging the state's interpretation of**  
3 **the lease."**

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

5 **\* Section 1.** AS 38.05.180 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (hh) When interpreting a lease entered into under this section, ambiguous  
7 language shall be construed in favor of the state and against the interpretation offered  
8 by the person challenging the state's interpretation.

9 **\* Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
10 read:

11 **APPLICABILITY.** Section 1 of this Act applies to the interpretation of a lease entered  
12 into or amended after the effective date of this Act.