

SENATE BILL NO. 134

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR PASKVAN

Introduced: 3/2/09

Referred: Education, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act adopting and relating to the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional**
2 **Funds Act; relating to the investment of money for charitable purposes by institutions,**
3 **including governmental institutions; and relating to the University of Alaska."**

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

5 * **Section 1.** AS 13 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

6 **Chapter 70. Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds.**

7 **Sec. 13.70.010. Standard of conduct in managing and investing**
8 **institutional funds.** (a) Subject to the intent of a donor expressed in a gift instrument,
9 an institution, in managing and investing an institutional fund, shall consider the
10 charitable purposes of the institution and the purposes of the institutional fund.

11 (b) In addition to complying with the duty of loyalty imposed by law other
12 than this chapter, each person responsible for managing and investing an institutional
13 fund shall manage and invest the fund in good faith and with the care an ordinarily
14 prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

1 (c) In managing and investing an institutional fund, an institution

2 (1) may incur only costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation
3 to the assets, the purposes of the institution, and the skills available to the institution;
4 and

5 (2) shall make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to the
6 management and investment of the fund.

7 (d) An institution may pool two or more institutional funds for purposes of
8 management and investment.

9 (e) Except as otherwise provided by a gift instrument, the following rules
10 apply:

11 (1) in managing and investing an institutional fund, the following
12 factors, if relevant, must be considered:

13 (A) general economic conditions;

14 (B) the possible effect of inflation or deflation;

15 (C) the expected tax consequences, if any, of investment
16 decisions or strategies;

17 (D) the role that each investment or course of action plays
18 within the overall investment portfolio of the fund;

19 (E) the expected total return from income and the appreciation
20 of investments;

21 (F) other resources of the institution;

22 (G) the needs of the institution and the fund to make
23 distributions and to preserve capital; and

24 (H) an asset's special relationship or special value, if any, to the
25 charitable purposes of the institution;

26 (2) management and investment decisions about an individual asset
27 may not be made in isolation but rather in the context of the institutional fund's
28 portfolio of investments as a whole and as a part of an overall investment strategy
29 having risk and return objectives reasonably suited to the fund and to the institution;

30 (3) except as otherwise provided by law other than this chapter, an
31 institution may invest in any kind of property or type of investment consistent with the

1 standards of this section;

2 (4) an institution shall diversify the investments of an institutional fund
3 unless the institution reasonably determines that, because of special circumstances, the
4 purposes of the fund are better served without diversification;

5 (5) within a reasonable time after receiving property, an institution
6 shall make and implement decisions concerning the retention or disposition of the
7 property or to rebalance a portfolio in order to bring the institutional fund into
8 compliance with the purposes, terms, distribution requirements, and other
9 circumstances of the institution and the requirements of this chapter;

10 (6) a person who has special skills or expertise, or is selected in
11 reliance on the person's representation that the person has special skills or expertise,
12 has a duty to use those special skills or that expertise in managing and investing
13 institutional funds.

14 **Sec. 13.70.020. Appropriation for expenditure or accumulation of**
15 **endowment fund; rules of construction.** (a) Subject to the intent of a donor
16 expressed in a gift instrument, an institution may appropriate for expenditure or
17 accumulate so much of an endowment fund as the institution determines is prudent for
18 the uses, benefits, purposes, and duration for which the endowment fund is
19 established. Unless stated otherwise in a gift instrument, the assets in an endowment
20 fund are donor-restricted assets until appropriated for expenditure by the institution. In
21 making a determination to appropriate or accumulate, the institution shall act in good
22 faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise
23 under similar circumstances, and shall consider, if relevant, the following factors:

- 24 (1) the duration and preservation of the endowment fund;
- 25 (2) the purposes of the institution and the endowment fund;
- 26 (3) general economic conditions;
- 27 (4) the possible effect of inflation or deflation;
- 28 (5) the expected total return from income and the appreciation of
29 investments;
- 30 (6) other resources of the institution; and
- 31 (7) the investment policy of the institution.

1 (b) To limit the authority to appropriate for expenditure or accumulate under
2 (a) of this section, a gift instrument must specifically state the limitation.

3 (c) Terms in a gift instrument designating a gift as an endowment, a direction
4 or authorization in the gift instrument to use only "income," "interest," "dividends," or
5 "rents, issues, or profits," or "to preserve the principal intact," or similar words

6 (1) create an endowment fund of permanent duration unless other
7 language in the gift instrument limits the duration or purpose of the fund; and

8 (2) do not otherwise limit the authority to appropriate for expenditure
9 or accumulate under (a) of this section.

10 **Sec. 13.70.030. Delegation of management and investment functions.** (a)
11 Subject to a specific limitation set out in a gift instrument or in law other than this
12 chapter, an institution may delegate to an external agent the management and
13 investment of an institutional fund to the extent that an institution could prudently
14 delegate under the circumstances. An institution shall act in good faith, with the care
15 that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar
16 circumstances, in

17 (1) selecting an agent;

18 (2) establishing the scope and terms of the delegation, consistent with
19 the purposes of the institution and the institutional fund; and

20 (3) periodically reviewing the agent's actions in order to monitor the
21 agent's performance and compliance with the scope and terms of the delegation.

22 (b) In performing a delegated function, an agent owes a duty to the institution
23 to exercise reasonable care to comply with the scope and terms of the delegation.

24 (c) An institution that complies with (a) of this section is not liable for the
25 decisions or actions of an agent to whom the function was delegated.

26 (d) By accepting delegation of a management or investment function from an
27 institution that is subject to the laws of this state, an agent submits to the jurisdiction
28 of the courts of this state in all proceedings arising from or related to the delegation or
29 the performance of the delegated function.

30 (e) An institution may delegate management and investment functions to its
31 committees, officers, or employees as authorized by law other than this chapter.

1 **Sec. 13.70.040. Release or modification of restrictions on management,**
2 **investment, or purpose.** (a) With the donor's consent in a record, an institution may
3 release or modify, in whole or in part, a restriction contained in a gift instrument on
4 the management, investment, or purpose of an institutional fund. A release or
5 modification may not allow a fund to be used for a purpose other than a charitable
6 purpose of the institution.

7 (b) If a restriction contained in a gift instrument on the management or
8 investment of an institutional fund becomes impracticable or wasteful or impairs the
9 management or investment of the fund, or if, because of circumstances not anticipated
10 by the donor, a modification of a restriction will further the purposes of the fund, the
11 court, on application of the institution, may modify the restriction. The institution shall
12 notify the attorney general of the application, who must be given an opportunity to be
13 heard. To the extent practicable, a modification shall be made in accordance with the
14 donor's probable intention.

15 (c) If a particular charitable purpose or a restriction contained in a gift
16 instrument on the use of an institutional fund becomes unlawful, impracticable,
17 impossible to achieve, or wasteful, the court, on application of an institution, may
18 modify the purpose of the fund or the restriction on the use of the fund in a manner
19 consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the gift instrument.

20 (d) If an institution determines that a restriction contained in a gift instrument
21 on the management, investment, or purpose of an institutional fund is unlawful,
22 impracticable, impossible to achieve, or wasteful, the institution, 90 days or more after
23 notification of the attorney general, may release or modify the restriction, in whole or
24 part, if

25 (1) the institutional fund subject to the restriction has a total value of
26 less than \$50,000;

27 (2) more than 20 years have elapsed since the fund was established;
28 and

29 (3) the institution uses the property in a manner the institution
30 reasonably determines to be consistent with the charitable purposes expressed in the
31 gift instrument.

1 **Sec. 13.70.050. Reviewing compliance.** Compliance with this chapter is
2 determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at the time a decision is
3 made or an action is taken.

4 **Sec. 13.70.060. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National**
5 **Commerce Act.** This chapter modifies, limits, and supersedes 15 U.S.C. 7001 - 7031
6 (Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act), but does not modify,
7 limit, or supersede 15 U.S.C. 7001(a) or authorize electronic delivery of a notice
8 described in 15 U.S.C. 7003(b).

9 **Sec. 13.70.070. Application.** If another provision of law or of a governing
10 instrument of an institution applies to an institutional fund but conflicts with this
11 chapter, the other provision governs.

12 **Sec. 13.70.080. Uniformity of application and construction.** In applying and
13 construing this chapter, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity
14 of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

15 **Sec. 13.70.090. Definitions.** In this chapter,

16 (1) "charitable purpose" means the relief of poverty, the advancement
17 of education or religion, the promotion of health, the promotion of a governmental
18 purpose, or another purpose the achievement of which is beneficial to the community;

19 (2) "endowment fund" means an institutional fund, or part of an
20 institutional fund, not wholly expendable by the institution on a current basis under the
21 terms of a gift instrument; the term does not include assets of an institution designated
22 by an institution as an endowment fund for its own use;

23 (3) "gift instrument" means a record, including an institutional
24 solicitation, under which property is granted to, transferred to, or held by an
25 institutional fund;

26 (4) "institution" means

27 (A) a person, other than an individual, organized and operated
28 exclusively for charitable purposes;

29 (B) a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or
30 instrumentality, to the extent that it holds funds exclusively for a charitable
31 purpose; or

1 (C) a trust that had both charitable and noncharitable interests,
2 after all noncharitable interests have terminated;

3 (5) "institutional fund" means a fund held by an institution exclusively
4 for charitable purposes; the term does not include

5 (A) program-related assets;

6 (B) a fund held for an institution by a trustee who is not an
7 institution; or

8 (C) a fund in which a beneficiary who is not an institution has
9 an interest, other than an interest that could arise on a violation or failure of the
10 purposes of the fund;

11 (6) "person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate,
12 trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public
13 corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or
14 another legal or commercial entity;

15 (7) "program-related asset" means an asset held by an institution
16 primarily to accomplish a charitable purpose of the institution and not primarily for
17 appreciation or the production of income;

18 (8) "record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium
19 or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable
20 form.

21 **Sec. 13.70.095. Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Prudent
22 Management of Institutional Funds Act.

23 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.40.280(c) is amended to read:

24 (c) Except as provided by (b) of this section, the monetary gifts, bequests, or
25 endowments that are made to the University of Alaska shall be managed and invested
26 by the Board of Regents. In carrying out its management and investment
27 responsibilities under this subsection, the Board of Regents has the same **powers**
28 **[POWER]** and **[OBLIGATIONS TO CARRY OUT]** duties with respect to the **gifts,**
29 **bequests, and** endowments of the University of Alaska as are provided **or** **[TO AND]**
30 **required [OF THE ALASKA RETIREMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD]** under
31 **AS 37.10.071 and AS 13.70 (Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional**

1 **Funds Act). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, AS 37.10.071 governs**
 2 **the management and investment responsibilities established under this subsection**
 3 **if**

4 **(1) both AS 37.10.071 and AS 13.70 apply to the management and**
 5 **investment responsibilities established under this subsection; and**

6 **(2) AS 37.10.071 conflicts with AS 13.70** [AS 37.10.220].

7 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.40.400(b) is amended to read:

8 (b) The Board of Regents is the fiduciary of the fund. The Board of Regents
 9 shall account for and invest the fund. In carrying out its investment responsibilities
 10 under this subsection, the Board of Regents has the same powers and duties with
 11 respect to the fund as are provided **or** [TO AND] required [OF THE ALASKA
 12 RETIREMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD] under **AS 37.10.071 and AS 13.70**
 13 **(Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act) Notwithstanding any**
 14 **other provision of law, AS 37.10.071 governs the investment responsibilities**
 15 **established under this subsection if**

16 **(1) both AS 37.10.071 and AS 13.70 apply to the investment**
 17 **responsibilities established under this subsection; and**

18 **(2) AS 37.10.071 conflicts with AS 13.70** [AS 37.10.220].

19 * **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 20 read:

21 APPLICABILITY. AS 13.70, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act, applies to an endowment
 22 fund held by an institution on or after the effective date of this Act and to decisions made or
 23 action taken by the institution relating to the endowment fund on or after the effective date of
 24 this Act. In this section, "endowment fund" and "institution" have the meanings given in
 25 AS 13.70.090, enacted by sec. 1 of this Act.