

HOUSE BILL NO. 155

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES STAPP, Tomaszewski, Coulombe, Galvin, Groh, Saddler, Cronk, Wright, McCabe, Josephson, Dibert, Rauscher

Introduced: 4/10/23

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

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the Alaska Military Affairs Commission; and relating to the duties**
2 **and powers of the Alaska Military Affairs Commission."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

5 **Article 5A. Alaska Military Affairs Commission.**

6 **Sec. 44.19.851. Alaska Military Affairs Commission.** The Alaska Military
7 Affairs Commission is established in the Office of the Governor.

8 **Sec. 44.19.854. Commission membership.** The commission is composed of
9 nine members, as follows:

10 (1) the lieutenant governor, who shall serve as chair of the
11 commission;

12 (2) the adjutant general of the Department of Military and Veterans'
13 Affairs or the adjutant general's designee;

14 (3) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic

1 development or the commissioner's designee;

2 (4) three members who are mayors, or their designees, from
3 municipalities with military installations within the municipal boundaries, nominated
4 by an organization that represents municipal governments in the state and appointed
5 by the governor; if, within 60 days after a seat under this paragraph becomes vacant,
6 an organization that represents municipal governments in the state fails to nominate
7 one or more persons to fill the seat, the governor may appoint any qualified person; an
8 organization that represents municipal governments in the state shall nominate, and
9 the governor shall appoint, members under this paragraph so that, collectively, the
10 military installations represent different branches of the armed services;

11 (5) two public members with extensive military experience or
12 expertise, each representing a different branch of the armed services, appointed by the
13 governor;

14 (6) one public member with statewide business or economic
15 development experience, appointed by the governor.

16 **Sec. 44.19.857. Terms.** Members appointed under AS 44.19.854(4) - (6) serve
17 staggered terms of three years until reappointed or replaced and may be reappointed.

18 **Sec. 44.19.860. Meetings and quorum.** (a) A majority of the voting members
19 of the commission constitutes a quorum for the purpose of conducting business and
20 exercising the powers of the commission. The commission shall meet quarterly and at
21 other times determined by the chair.

22 (b) Members of the commission serve without compensation but are entitled
23 to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under
24 AS 39.20.180.

25 **Sec. 44.19.863. Duties of the commission.** The commission shall

26 (1) provide advice, counsel, and actionable recommendations on
27 military issues, and economic and industrial development related to military issues, to
28 the governor, state agencies, the legislature, communities, and the state's congressional
29 delegation;

30 (2) provide recommendations to expand and grow the current presence
31 of the armed forces in the state, including new bases, expanded missions, and

1 increased training;

2 (3) plan for state infrastructure needs to support military objectives;

3 (4) recommend methods to improve private and public employment
4 opportunities for the families of current and former members of the military who
5 reside in the state;

6 (5) assist communities in the design and execution of programs that
7 enhance the community's relationship with military installations and defense-related
8 businesses;

9 (6) advocate for the state in matters related to military expansion
10 decision making by emphasizing the state's strategic location on the globe and existing
11 infrastructure and work to build community support in the state for the armed services;

12 (7) prepare and maintain a strategic plan to

13 (A) protect the state's existing military missions;

14 (B) position the state to be competitive for new and expanded
15 military missions;

16 (C) promote the long-term viability and prosperity of the
17 military and industries related to national defense in the state; and

18 (D) consider all current and anticipated base realignment and
19 closure criteria affecting bases in the state.

20 **Sec. 44.19.866. Definition.** In AS 44.19.851 - 44.19.866, "commission" means
21 the Alaska Military Affairs Commission.

22 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

23 (15) Alaska Military Affairs Commission (AS 44.19.851) - June 30,
24 2030.

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

27 ALASKA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION; STAGGERED TERMS. (a)
28 Notwithstanding AS 44.19.857, added by sec. 1 of this Act, and AS 39.05.055, the seats on
29 the Alaska Military Affairs Commission established in AS 44.19.851, added by sec. 1 of this
30 Act, shall be initially filled as follows:

31 (1) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(4) shall serve one-year terms;

1 (2) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(5) shall serve two-year terms;

2 and

3 (3) the member appointed under AS 44.19.854(6) shall serve a three-year

4 term.

5 (b) Members appointed under AS 44.19.854(1) - (3) begin membership on the Alaska

6 Military Affairs Commission on the effective date of this Act.