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**SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 155(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/12/24

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES STAPP, Tomaszewski, Coulombe, Galvin, Groh, Saddler, Cronk, Wright, McCabe, Josephson, Dibert, Rauscher

SENATORS Kawasaki, Myers, Dunbar, Bjorkman, Merrick, Shower, Bishop, Claman, Stevens, Wielechowski, Gray-Jackson, Stedman, Tobin, Hughes, Kaufman

**A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act establishing the Alaska Military Affairs Commission; relating to the duties and  
 2 powers of the Alaska Military Affairs Commission; relating to the Joint Armed Services  
 3 Committee; relating to judge advocates; relating to military facility zones; relating to  
 4 the appointment of an assistant adjutant general; and providing for an effective date."

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

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

8 LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the legislature that the mayors and public  
 9 members appointed to the Alaska Military Affairs Commission be geographically distributed  
 10 to represent as many different communities across the state as possible.

11 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 24.20.650(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) The committee is composed of

13 (1) five members of the senate, at least one of whom is a member of  
 14 the minority, appointed by the president of the senate;

1 (2) five members of the house of representatives, at least one of whom  
2 is a member of the minority, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

3 (3) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
4 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
5 representatives after considering the recommendations of the Alaska chapters of each  
6 of the following organizations:

7 (A) the Association of the United States Army;

8 (B) the Air and Space Forces [FORCE] Association;

9 (C) the Navy League of the United States;

10 (D) the Marine Corps Association;

11 (4) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
12 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
13 representatives after considering the recommendation of the Seventeenth Coast Guard  
14 District Auxiliary;

15 (5) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
16 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
17 representatives after considering the recommendation of the mayor of the Municipality  
18 of Anchorage;

19 (6) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
20 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
21 representatives after considering the recommendation of the mayor of the Fairbanks  
22 North Star Borough;

23 (7) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
24 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
25 representatives after considering the recommendation of the adjutant general of the  
26 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs; and

27 (8) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is  
28 appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
29 representatives after considering the joint recommendations of the Alaska Federation  
30 of Natives and the Alaska Municipal League.

31 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 26.05.180(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) The headquarters of the Alaska National Guard is composed of an Army  
 2 National Guard component, an Air National Guard component and a Naval Militia  
 3 component. The Army National Guard component and the Air National Guard  
 4 component shall each be commanded by an assistant adjutant general appointed by the  
 5 adjutant general with the concurrence of the governor. **The adjutant general may,**  
 6 **when appointing an assistant adjutant general, give preference to a person who**  
 7 **has served at least five years in the Alaska Army National Guard or the Alaska**  
 8 **Air National Guard.** An assistant adjutant general shall, while holding office, have  
 9 the grade of brigadier general or a lower grade that the adjutant general may prescribe.  
 10 On initial appointment, an assistant adjutant general must hold a **federally recognized**  
 11 **[FEDERALLY-RECOGNIZED]** field-grade commission **[WITH AT LEAST FIVE**  
 12 **YEARS SERVICE IN THE ALASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OR IN THE**  
 13 **ALASKA AIR NATIONAL GUARD].**

14 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 26.05.385(d) is amended to read:

15 (d) A person may not serve as a judge advocate under the code of military  
 16 justice unless the person is a commissioned officer of the organized militia of a state  
 17 or of an active or reserve component of the armed forces or another uniformed service  
 18 of the United States, is a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a  
 19 state, and is currently

20 (1) certified or designated as a judge advocate in the Judge Advocate  
 21 General's Corps of the United States Army, Air Force, **Space Force**, Navy, or Marine  
 22 Corps or designated as a law specialist as an officer of the United States Coast Guard,  
 23 or a reserve component of one of them; or

24 (2) certified as a nonfederally recognized judge advocate, under the  
 25 code of military justice, by the senior judge advocate of the commander of the force in  
 26 the component of the militia of the state of which the accused is a member, as  
 27 competent to perform the military justice duties required by the code of military  
 28 justice; if a judge advocate is not available, the certification may be made by the  
 29 senior judge advocate of the commander of another force in the militia of the state, as  
 30 the convening authority directs.

31 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 26.30.900(3) is amended to read:

1 (3) "facility" means a facility of

2 (A) an Alaska military or civilian agency serving a subdivision  
3 of the Alaska National Guard, the United States Army, the United States Navy,  
4 the United States Marine Corps, the United States Air Force, **the United**  
5 **States Space Force**, or the United States Coast Guard, including reserve units  
6 of those entities;

7 (B) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; or

8 (C) a public corporation within the Department of Military and  
9 Veterans' Affairs;

10 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

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

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

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

16 (1) the lieutenant governor, who shall serve as chair of the  
17 commission;

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

20 (3) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic  
21 development or the commissioner's designee;

22 (4) three members who are mayors, or their designees, from  
23 municipalities with installations of the armed forces of the United States within the  
24 municipal boundaries, appointed by the governor; the governor shall appoint members  
25 under this paragraph so that

26 (A) the installations, collectively, represent different branches  
27 of the armed forces of the United States; and

28 (B) each member represents a different geographic region, to  
29 the extent possible;

30 (5) two public members with extensive military experience or  
31 expertise, each representing a different branch of the armed forces of the United

1 States, appointed by the governor;

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

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

6 **Sec. 44.19.860. Meetings, quorum, and administrative support.** (a) A  
7 majority of the voting members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the  
8 purpose of conducting business and exercising the powers of the commission. The  
9 commission shall meet quarterly and at other times determined by the chair.

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

13 (c) The Office of the Governor shall provide administrative support to the  
14 commission.

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

16 (1) provide advice, counsel, and actionable recommendations on  
17 military issues, and economic and industrial development related to military issues, to  
18 the governor, state agencies, the legislature, communities, and the state's congressional  
19 delegation;

20 (2) provide recommendations to expand and grow the current presence  
21 of the armed forces in the state, including new bases, expanded missions, and  
22 increased training;

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

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

27 (5) assist and advise communities and the state in the design and  
28 execution of programs that enhance communities' relationships with installations of  
29 the armed forces of the United States and defense-related businesses, including in the  
30 areas of public school education, in-state higher education and training, cultural and  
31 recreational community assets, and housing and energy affordability;

1 (6) advocate for the state in matters related to military expansion  
 2 decision making by emphasizing the state's strategic location on the globe and existing  
 3 infrastructure and work to build community support in the state for the armed forces of  
 4 the United States;

5 (7) prepare and maintain a strategic plan to

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

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

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

11 (D) consider all current and anticipated base realignment and  
 12 closure criteria affecting bases in the state;

13 (8) report to the Joint Armed Services Committee and any special  
 14 committee of the legislature relating to military and veterans' affairs, if one exists at  
 15 the time the report is due, issues on the commission's activities over the previous  
 16 calendar year; the commission shall provide the report in an electronic format and  
 17 deliver the report by January 31 each year;

18 (9) seek the opinions of each member of the Alaska delegation in  
 19 Congress on the assistance, advice, advocacy, counsel, plans, and recommendations  
 20 provided under this section.

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

23 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

24 (15) Alaska Military Affairs Commission (AS 44.19.851) - June 30,  
 25 2030.

26 \* **Sec. 8.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
 27 read:

28 ALASKA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION; STAGGERED TERMS. (a)  
 29 Notwithstanding AS 44.19.857, added by sec. 6 of this Act, and AS 39.05.055, the seats on  
 30 the Alaska Military Affairs Commission established in AS 44.19.851, added by sec. 6 of this  
 31 Act, shall be initially filled as follows:

- 1                   (1) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(4) shall serve one-year terms;  
2                   (2) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(5) shall serve two-year terms;  
3    and  
4                   (3) the member appointed under AS 44.19.854(6) shall serve a three-year  
5    term.  
6           (b) Members appointed to the Alaska Military Affairs Commission under  
7    AS 44.19.854(1) - (3), added by sec. 6 of this Act, begin membership on the commission on  
8    the effective date of sec. 6 of this Act.  
9    \* **Sec. 9.** Sections 2 - 5 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).