

HOUSE BILL NO. 257

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES MCKAY, Saddler, Carpenter, Josephson, Sumner, Rauscher, Coulombe,
Tomaszewski**

Introduced: 1/16/24

Referred: Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act requiring the Department of Natural Resources to make Cook Inlet seismic**
2 **survey data available to certain persons; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 41.08.020(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) In addition **to the requirements of (a) of this section**, the division of
6 geological and geophysical surveys shall [:]

7 (1) collect, record, evaluate, and distribute data on the quantity,
8 quality, and location of underground, surface, and coastal water of the state;

9 (2) publish or have published data on the water of the state;

10 (3) require the [FILING WITH IT OF THE] results and findings of
11 surveys of water quality, quantity, and location **to be filed with the division**;

12 (4) require [OF] water well contractors **to file with the division** [,
13 THE FILING WITH IT OF] basic water and aquifer data normally obtained, including
14 [BUT NOT LIMITED TO] well location, estimated elevation, well driller's logs,

1 pumping tests and flow measurements, and water quality determinations;

2 (5) accept and spend funds for the purposes of this section,
3 AS 41.08.017, and 41.08.035 and enter into agreements with individuals, public or
4 private agencies, communities, private industry, state agencies, and agencies of the
5 federal government;

6 (6) collect, evaluate, and distribute geologic data on seismic events and
7 engineering geology of the state;

8 (7) identify potential seismic hazards that might affect development in
9 the state;

10 (8) inform public officials and industry about potential seismic hazards
11 that might affect development in the state; **and**

12 **(9) make available to a qualified person without charge seismic**
13 **survey and other geophysical data in possession of the department that relates to**
14 **land inside the Cook Inlet sedimentary basin, unless the data is**

15 **(A) required to be kept confidential under AS 31.05.035(c)**
16 **or AS 43.55.025(f); or**

17 **(B) well data from a well on private land that the owner of**
18 **the oil or gas resource has not provided permission to release to the**
19 **public.**

20 * **Sec. 2.** AS 41.08.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

21 (c) In this section, "qualified person" means an accredited domestic research
22 institution, a person actively exploring for, developing, or producing oil, gas, or
23 minerals in the state, or another person to whom the provision of seismic survey and
24 other geophysical data would serve the best interests of the state as determined by the
25 department.

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