

HOUSE BILL NO. 26

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MINA, Burke, Bynum, Eischeid, Josephson, Mears, Story, Holland

Introduced: 1/22/25

Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, Transportation

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the duties of the Department of Transportation and Public**
2 **Facilities; and relating to a statewide public and community transit plan."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 44.42.020(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The department shall

6 (1) plan, design, construct, and maintain all state modes of
7 transportation and transportation facilities and all docks, floats, breakwaters, buildings,
8 and similar facilities;

9 (2) study existing transportation modes and facilities in the state to
10 determine how they might be improved or whether they should continue to be
11 maintained;

12 (3) study alternative means of improving transportation in the state
13 with regard to the economic costs of each alternative and its environmental and social
14 effects, including public, tribal, and community transit programs;

1 (4) develop a comprehensive, long-range, intermodal transportation
2 plan for the state, **including public, tribal, and community transit programs**;

3 (5) study alternatives to existing modes of transportation in urban,
4 **rural, and remote** areas and develop plans to improve [URBAN] transportation
5 **systems through coordination with local governments and tribal entities**;

6 (6) cooperate and coordinate with and enter into agreements with
7 federal, state, and local government agencies and private organizations and persons in
8 exercising its powers and duties;

9 (7) manage, operate, and maintain state transportation facilities and all
10 docks, floats, breakwaters, and buildings, including all state highways, vessels,
11 railroads, pipelines, airports, and aviation facilities;

12 (8) study alternative means of transportation in the state, considering
13 the economic, social, and environmental effects of each alternative;

14 (9) coordinate and develop state and regional transportation systems,
15 considering deletions, additions, and the absence of alterations;

16 (10) develop facility program plans for transportation and state
17 buildings, docks, and breakwaters required to implement the duties set out in this
18 section, including but not limited to functional performance criteria and schedules for
19 completion;

20 (11) supervise and maintain all state automotive and mechanical
21 equipment, aircraft, and vessels, except vessels and aircraft used by the Department of
22 Fish and Game or the Department of Public Safety; for state vehicles maintained by
23 the department, the department shall, every five years, evaluate the cost, efficiency,
24 and commercial availability of alternative fuels for automotive purposes, and the
25 purpose for which the vehicles are intended to be used, and convert vehicles to use
26 alternative fuels or purchase energy efficient vehicles whenever practicable; the
27 department may participate in joint ventures with public or private partners that will
28 foster the availability of alternative fuels for all automotive fuel consumers;

29 (12) supervise aeronautics inside the state, under AS 02.10;

30 (13) implement the safety and financial responsibility requirements for
31 air carriers under AS 02.40;

- 1 (14) inspect weights and measures;
- 2 (15) at least every four years, study alternatives available to finance
- 3 transportation systems in order to provide an adequate level of funding to sustain and
- 4 improve the state's transportation system;
- 5 (16) allot space to and manage space in state buildings for the various
- 6 departments according to need and available space;
- 7 **(17) develop a statewide public and community transit plan in**
- 8 **cooperation with public and community transit operators, local governments,**
- 9 **communities, and tribal entities.**