

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 26(TRA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/25/26

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MINA, Burke, Bynum, Eischeid, Josephson, Mears, Story, Holland

SENATOR Kawasaki

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 metropolitan planning organizations, local**
6 **governments, communities, tribal entities, and public and community transit**
7 **operators, including ferry operators and the Alaska Railroad Corporation;**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (14) inspect weights and measures;

4 (15) at least every four years, study alternatives available to finance
5 transportation systems in order to provide an adequate level of funding to sustain and
6 improve the state's transportation system;

7 (16) allot space to and manage space in state buildings for the various
8 departments according to need and available space;

9 **(17) develop a statewide public and community transit plan in**
10 **coordination with metropolitan planning organizations, local governments,**
11 **communities, tribal entities, and public and community transit operators,**
12 **including ferry operators and the Alaska Railroad Corporation.**

13 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.42.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (c) In this section, "tribal entity" means a tribe that the United States Secretary
15 of the Interior recognizes as an Indian tribe under 25 U.S.C. 5130 and 5131 (Federally
16 Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994), and a subdivision, subsidiary, or business
17 enterprise wholly owned by one or more tribes.