

HOUSE BILL NO. 175

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURKE

Introduced: 4/9/25

Referred: Labor and Commerce, Resources

A BILL**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the term of the chair of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska; and**
2 **relating to the qualifications of members of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 42.04.010(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) The commission shall annually elect one of its members to serve as chair
6 for the following fiscal year. When a vacancy occurs in the office of chair, the
7 commission shall elect one of its members to serve the remaining term as chair. The
8 term as chair is one year. **A member of the commission may not continue to serve**
9 **as chair after the member's term of office as a commissioner expires, even if the**
10 **member continues to hold office under AS 42.04.020(b) until a successor is**
11 **appointed and qualified.** The chair may be elected to not more than three successive
12 terms as chair. After a year of not serving as chair, the commissioner is eligible for
13 election as chair again.

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 42.04.020(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) The commission consists of five commissioners appointed by the governor
 2 and confirmed by the legislature in joint session. **At least one member of the**
 3 **commission must, at the time of appointment, reside in a rural community served**
 4 **by an electric utility that receives power cost equalization under AS 42.45.100 -**
 5 **42.45.150.** To qualify for appointment as a commissioner, a person must

6 (1) be a member in good standing of the Alaska Bar Association with
 7 at least five years of actual experience in the practice of law;

8 (2) be a professional engineer registered under AS 08.48; or

9 (3) have a degree from an accredited college or university with a major
 10 in finance, economics, accounting, business administration, or public administration
 11 and at least five years of actual experience in the field associated with the degree.

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

14 TRANSITION: REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA MEMBERS. An
 15 individual who is a member of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska on the day before the
 16 effective date of this Act continues to serve on the Regulatory Commission of Alaska until the
 17 member's term expires and a successor is appointed and qualified. The governor shall make
 18 appointments for vacancies that occur on or after the effective date of this Act in accordance
 19 with AS 42.04.020(a), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act.