

1 IN THE HOUSE.

BY MR. POLLOCK

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 4

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act to amend Chapter 108, Session
7 Laws of Alaska 1949; providing for
8 establishment of an Alaska Statehood
9 Committee; prescribing its powers; making
10 an appropriation; and declaring an
11 emergency."

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

13 Section 1. Section 1 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of Alaska
14 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE. (IN RECOGNITION OF
16 NEAR ATTAINMENT OF STATEHOOD FOR ALASKA AND THE RESPONSIBI-
17 BILITY THAT WILL DEVOLVE UPON THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA IN
18 FRAMING A FUNDAMENTALLY SOUND AND WORKABLE STATE CONSTITU-
19 TION EMBODYING THE BEST PROVISIONS THAT HAVE EVOLVED IN THE
20 INTEREST OF BETTER GOVERNMENT IN THE SEVERAL STATES, AND IN
21 RECOGNITION OF THE MANY PROBLEMS THAT WILL ATTEND
22 TRANSITION FROM TERRITORIAL STATUS TO STATEHOOD) By refer-
23 endum election the people of Alaska have unequivocally
24 manifested their collective desire for Statehood. In
25 recognition of that desire, in the knowledge that Statehood
26 for Alaska has been and is currently and continually being
27 seriously considered by the Federal Congress, and in the
28 ardent belief that Statehood for Alaska is forthcoming in
29 the very near future, it is deemed necessary in the public

1 interest to establish a quasi-official, bi-partisan
2 Committee (, NON-GOVERNMENTAL IN CHARACTER,) to assemble
3 applicable material, to devise methods, make studies, form-
4 ulate policies, and provide recommendations in a timely
5 manner for (1) preparation of a state constitution, (2)
6 preparation of ways and means to meet the obvious
7 contingencies attending transition from Territorial status
8 to Statehood, (3) preparation of an adequate Statehood Bill
9 for presentation by the Delegate to Congress from Alaska to
10 the Federal Congress, and (4) preparation of such
11 statistical data and related material to support the
12 Statehood Bill as is deemed necessary.

13 Section 2. Section 2 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
14 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 Section 2. ALASKA STATEHOOD COMMITTEE. There is
16 hereby (CREATED) reestablished the Alaska Statehood Com-
17 mittee which shall be composed of eleven members selected
18 as follows: (THE GOVERNOR SHALL NOMINATE ELEVEN QUALIFIED
19 ADULT PERSONS, WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF ALASKA, NOT MORE THAN
20 SIX OF WHOM BELONG TO THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY. SAID NAMES
21 SHALL BE VOTED UPON BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE
22 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE IN JOINT
23 SESSION ASSEMBLED, AND CHOSEN OR REJECTED BY A MAJORITY OF
24 THE SAID MEMBERS PRESENT AT SAID SESSION.) Eight members
25 shall be selected from the Territorial Legislature. These
26 members shall be chosen and approved by a majority of the
27 Legislature itself in joint session assembled, to compose
28 an interim Legislative Statehood Committee, four members
29 of which shall be from the Territorial Senate, preferably

1 one from each Judicial Division, and four members of which
2 shall be from the Territorial House of Representatives,
3 preferably one from each Judicial Division. Three members
4 shall be selected for appointment by the Governor and
5 approved by the Territorial Legislature in joint session
6 assembled. In the event of (ANY REJECTIONS,) the rejection
7 of any name submitted by the Governor, he shall submit
8 additional names until all positions on the Statehood
9 Committee are filled. However, should a vacancy thereafter
10 occur, it may be filled by temporary gubernatorial
11 appointment, upon recommendation of the remaining members
12 of the Committee. It shall be the intent of this Act, so
13 far as practical and possible, that the Committee be compos-
14 ed of not more than six members of the same political party.
15 The Delegate to Congress (, HIS IMMEDIATE PREDECESSOR,)
16 and the Governor of Alaska shall in addition be ex-officio
17 members of the Committee.

18 Section 3. Section 3 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
19 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 Section 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE. The
21 Committee is authorized and directed to:

22 (a) Organize and adopt rules for the conduct of its
23 business;

24 (b) Elect from its membership by majority vote an
25 executive officer, qualified to do and conduct the necessary
26 research and otherwise carry out the directives of and
27 represent the Committee in pursuit of its objectives.

28 Authority is hereby granted to engage the services of a
29 qualified person (TO DO THE NECESSARY RESEARCH, ACT AS THE

1 EXECUTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE, AND OTHERWISE REPRESENT THE
2 COMMITTEE IN CARRYING OUT THE DIRECTIVES OF THE
3 COMMITTEE) outside the membership of the Committee if a
4 qualified and otherwise available executive cannot therein
5 be procured. Travel (TO WASHINGTON, D. C. OR OTHER POINTS
6 IN THE STATES AND TO SUCH POINTS IN ALASKA) as may be
7 necessary or advisable is hereby authorized;

8 (c) (HAVE READY, IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONSTITUTION-
9 AL CONVENTION, FULLY DETAILED INFORMATION AND ANALYSES FOR
10 USE BY THE CONVENTION IN PREPARING THE REQUIRED DRAFT OF
11 A CONSTITUTION FOR ALASKA, TO THE END THAT THE PEOPLE MAY
12 HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF PASSING UPON AN ENTIRELY SOUND AND
13 THOROUGHLY PREPARED DOCUMENT;) Prepare an adequate State-
14 hood Bill and/or render all possible assistance to the
15 Delegate to Congress from Alaska in the preparation of such
16 Bill, giving Alaska ample control of her own resources;

17 (d) (SECURE STUDIES AND ANALYSES UPON WHICH THE
18 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION MAY BASE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
19 FIRST STATE LEGISLATURE WITH RESPECT TO ORGANIZATIONAL
20 LEGISLATION NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT INITIAL OPERATIONS OF
21 THE NEW STATE, AND PRESERVE SUCH MATERIAL FOR USE BY THE
22 FIRST LEGISLATURE;) Give wide publicity, dissemination
23 and promulgation to the initial, consolidated, smooth draft
24 of the anticipated Statehood Bill throughout the Territory,
25 and provide for receipt and utilization of suggestions,
26 comments and criticisms in order that the Bill may be
27 considered and altered as deemed necessary by the members
28 in session assembled. As soon as possible thereafter the
29 Committee shall petition the Governor to immediately call

1 for a special referendum election to determine acceptance
2 or rejection by the people of Alaska themselves, and to
3 expeditiously transmit the results thereof and the Statehood
4 Bill itself to the Delegate to Congress from Alaska for
5 appropriate action in securing its passage or that of the
6 best possible enabling legislation by Congress;

7 (e) (OBTAIN INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS WITH RESPECT
8 TO THE BEST WAY OF GETTING OVER THE TRANSITION PERIOD
9 ENTAILED PRIOR TO CONVENING OF THE FIRST STATE LEGISLATURE;)

10 As soon as practicable, prepare and hold in abeyance for
11 transmission to the Constitutional Convention a fully
12 detailed initial draft of a constitution for the State of
13 Alaska, and other recommendations to the Constitutional
14 Convention and the first state legislature, regarding
15 organizational legislation necessary to implement initial
16 operations of the new state and to otherwise prepare for
17 the transition from Territorial status to Statehood;

18 (f) (MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE DELEGATE FROM ALASKA AT
19 THE EARLIEST REASONABLE TIME PERTINENT INFORMATION AND
20 SUGGESTIONS, AND SUCH OTHER ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING PASSAGE
21 OF THE BEST POSSIBLE ENABLING LEGISLATION BY CONGRESS, AS
22 THE COMMITTEE MAY DEEM NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE;) Procure
23 all information and material whatsoever from the former
24 Statehood Committee authorized by the Nineteenth Legislature
25 of the Territory of Alaska, for study and utilization;

26 (g) (EMPLOY SUCH ADDITIONAL HELP AND INCUR SUCH OTHER
27 EXPENSE AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF
28 THIS ACT;) Prepare or cause to be prepared a detailed
29 report showing a comprehensive and realistic comparison for

1 each of the last five years of the operating costs of the
2 Territorial government, the Federal expenditures for all
3 phases of government construction, maintenance, utilities,
4 administrative and related costs and any other financial
5 responsibility which would be assumed by the State of
6 Alaska, as well as the income derived from taxation or any
7 other means, in order that the report will accurately
8 reflect the ability or inability of the Territory to
9 support the recurring expense of Statehood. All supporting
10 data and related information should be attached to and made
11 part of the consolidated report. The services of the
12 members of the Territorial Board of Budget and their
13 respective offices, as well as any other office of the
14 Territory shall be made available to procure necessary
15 information and compile this report.

16 (h) (DO WHATEVER ELSE IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY OR
17 ADVISABLE TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT.) Secure
18 reasonable assistance in the research, procurement,
19 analyses, consolidation and preparation of requested
20 information and reports by the faculty and volunteer
21 students and through utilization of facilities of the
22 University of Alaska;

23 (i) Make a comprehensive study of all previous efforts
24 in the pursuit of Statehood, to determine reasons wherever
25 possible for resistance to former efforts, to devise
26 possible means toward correcting deficiencies, rebutting
27 anti-Statehood arguments, and preparing suitable and
28 adequate exhibits and other relevant data for Congressional
29 hearings on Alaska Statehood;

1 (j) Employ such additional help and incur such other
2 expense as may be required to carry out the purposes of
3 this Act:

4 (k) Do whatever else deemed necessary or advisable
5 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

6 Section 4. Section 4 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
7 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 Section 4. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE. The Committee
9 shall first meet in Juneau as soon after its members have
10 been appointed as can conveniently be arranged, and upon
11 call of the Governor. After it has organized for the
12 conduct of its business, it shall scrutinize the status of
13 the Statehood movement, ascertain what steps to initiate
14 and authorize, and direct that same be taken, (SECURE THE
15 SERVICES OF) appoint an executive officer (AND FIX HIS
16 COMPENSATION), and otherwise do all that may be necessary
17 or advisable at that time. Such first meeting shall not
18 exceed ten days. The Committee may also hold such other
19 meetings not exceeding ten days in duration as a majority
20 of its members may deem necessary. Thereafter, and as soon
21 as practical, (AND NOT LESS THAN SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE
22 DATE SET PURSUANT TO ANY ACT OF CONGRESS FOR THE CONVENING
23 OF AN ALASKA STATEHOOD CONVENTION, AND) upon call of the
24 Governor, with not less than thirty days notice, the
25 Committee shall convene in its principal session in Juneau
26 for a period not exceeding thirty days to consider the
27 information, data and analyses which shall have been
28 assembled at that time and proceed to make its findings,
29 conclusions, report and recommendations for submission to

1 the Delegate to Congress from Alaska and the
2 Federal Congress, and to the Constitutional Convention.
3 (THE COMMITTEE MAY ALSO HOLD SUCH OTHER MEETINGS NOT
4 EXCEEDING TEN DAYS IN DURATION AS A MAJORITY OF ITS
5 MEMBERS MAY DEEM NECESSARY. THE FIRST MEETING AND THE
6 PRINCIPAL SESSION ABOVE REFERRED TO SHALL BE HELD IN
7 JUNEAU, BUT NECESSARY) Intermediate meetings may be held
8 (ELSEWHERE) anywhere in Alaska as the Committee may decide.
9 (IN CONNECTION WITH MEETINGS HELD IN JUNEAU AND THE
10 CONTINUING USE OF ITS PERSONNEL AND STAFF, THE COMMITTEE
11 IS AUTHORIZED TO USE SUCH REASONABLE AMOUNT OF LEGISLATIVE
12 FLOOR SPACE AS IT CAN GET ASSIGNED TO IT FOR SUCH
13 PURPOSES, AND MAY USE SUCH EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES OF THE
14 LEGISLATURE AS IT NEEDS, TOGETHER WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES
15 AND MATERIAL AS IT REQUIRES TO ADEQUATELY PERFORM THE
16 FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES DELEGATED HEREUNDER.)

17 Section 5. Section 5 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
18 Alaska 1949, is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 5. EXPENSES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Members of
20 the Committee shall, for time actually spent at meetings
21 (AND) or otherwise in (PERFORMING) actual performance of
22 their duties (HEREUNDER), be entitled to receive
23 transportation (AND) 1 per diem (IN LIEU OF ACTUAL EXPENSE
24 AND SUCH REASONABLE RATE OF ALLOWANCE FOR TIME LOST FROM
25 OTHER PURSUITS AS THE COMMITTEE, ACTING BY A MAJORITY, MAY
26 AUTHORIZE) and allowances at the same rates provided for
27 members of the Legislature when in actual session
28 assembled.

29 Section 6. Section 6 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of

1 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 Section 6. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON COMMITTEE.

3 Except as otherwise provided in Section 2, any bona fide
4 adult resident of the Territory of Alaska shall be eligible
5 to serve on the Committee notwithstanding employment by, or
6 the holding of any office under, the Federal (GOVERNMENT,
7 THE TERRITORY OR ANY MUNICIPALITY), Territorial or any
8 municipal governments.

9 Section 7. Section 7 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
10 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 Section 7. (DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEE) TENURE OF
12 APPOINTMENT. The Committee shall be appointed for a period
13 of two years or until re-appointed or replaced in compliance
14 with the provisions of Section 2, except that the Committee
15 shall automatically dissolve at such time as the
16 constitution drafted by a Congressionally authorized
17 Constitutional Convention has been approved by vote of
18 the electorate of Alaska, and any part of the appropriation
19 hereinafter made which remains unexpended shall revert to
20 the general fund of the Territory or State.

21 Section 8. Section 8 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
22 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 Section 8. APPROPRIATION AND AUDIT OF FUNDS.

24 (THE SUM OF \$80,000.00, OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE
25 NECESSARY, IS HEREBY APPROPRIATED OUT OF ANY MONEY IN THE
26 TERRITORIAL TREASURY NOT OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED TO CARRY
27 OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT.) An audit of the expenditures
28 against the original appropriation of \$80,000.00 for use of
29 the former Statehood Committee established by the

1 Nineteenth Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, is
2 hereby authorized and directed. Whatever sum thereafter
3 remains of the original appropriation shall be supplemented
4 by appropriation sufficient to establish the original sum
5 of \$80,000.00, from any money in the Territorial Treasury
6 not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the purposes of
7 this Act. There shall be an annual audit of all
8 expenditures of the Statehood Committee.

9 Section 9. Section 9 of Chapter 108, Session Laws of
10 Alaska 1949, is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 Section 9. EMERGENCY. It is the desire of the
12 Legislature and the intent of this Act that its provisions
13 be expeditiously carried out to meet the exigencies created
14 by contemplated action of the Federal Congress regarding
15 Statehood. An emergency is hereby declared to exist, and
16 this Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage
17 and approval.