

BY MRS. RYAN
BY REQUEST

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 102

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Department of
7 Public Lands; amending Sections 3, 6, 7,
8 8 and 12, and subsection 9(a)(1), Chapter
9 126 SLA 1953; and setting an effective
10 date."

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

12 Section 1. That Section 3, Chapter 126 Session Laws of
13 Alaska 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

14 Sec. 3. The Land Commissioner shall have a knowledge
15 of public lands matters and a background of experience in
16 recreational and park administration and in two or more of
17 the following fields: appraisement, taxation, public land
18 law, land registration, or Land or Public Survey Office pro-
19 cedures or administration. He shall be appointed solely on
20 the grounds of fitness to perform the duties of the office.

21 Sec. 2. That Section 6, Chapter 126 Session Laws of Alaska
22 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

23 Sec. 6. The salary of the Land Commissioner shall be
24 ~~(\$9,000.00)~~ \$12,000.00 per annum, payable in equal monthly
25 installments.

26 Sec. 3. That Section 7, Chapter 126 Session Laws of Alaska
27 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

28 Sec. 7. Prior to entering upon the performance of his
29 duties, the Land Commissioner shall execute a corporate

1 surety bond to the Territory in the sum of (\$100,000)
2 \$10,000 conditioned upon faithful performance of his duties
3 under this Act and upon prompt and faithful accounting for
4 all monies collected by him or his deputies, assistants,
5 employees or agents. The said bond shall be approved by the
6 Territorial Treasurer and filed in the office of the Ter-
7 ritorial Auditor. The premium upon said bond shall be pay-
8 able from any monies appropriated for operation of the De-
9 partment of Public Lands.

10 Sec. 4. That Section 8, Chapter 126 Session Laws of Alaska
11 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

12 Sec. 8. The principal office of the Land Commissioner
13 shall be established and located in the same location as the
14 (7TH REGIONAL) principal office of the Area 4 Office of the
15 Bureau of Land Management of the Department of the Interior.
16 Such branch offices as are essential for the efficient ad-
17 ministration of this Act may be established at other places
18 in the Territory.

19 Sec. 5. That subsection 9(a)(1), Chapter 126 Session Laws
20 of Alaska 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

21 (1) (PENDING SUBMISSION TO THE 22ND ALASKA LEGISLATURE
22 OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION MENTIONED IN SUBSECTION B, SECTION
23 11 HEREOF, AND ADJOURNMENT OF THAT BODY, NO LEASES OF TER-
24 RITORIAL LANDS, WHETHER OWNED BY OR RESERVED TO THE TER-
25 RITORY OF ALASKA, SHALL BE ENTERED INTO FOR A LONGER TERM
26 THAN TWO YEARS, EXCEPT ON A SUBSTANTIAL SHOWING THAT A
27 LONGER TERM WILL BE CLEARLY IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST: PROVIDED,
28 THAT THIS LIMITATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ANY LANDS ADMINISTER-
29 ED OR CONTROLLED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA OR ITS BOARD OF

1 REGENTS.) Leases hereafter (SO) granted (FOR A TWO YEAR
2 TERM OR LESS) shall create an equitable right in the lessee
3 (subject to a showing by him, satisfactory to the Land Com-
4 missioner, of compliance with terms of the lease) which
5 right shall entitle the lessee, on written application that
6 must be in the Commissioner's office 60 days before the ex-
7 piration date of such lease, to renew such lease under then
8 existing law and regulations covering the leasing of lands
9 owned by or reserved to said Territory, and under terms and
10 conditions mutually agreed upon by the Land Commissioner and
11 lessee. The renewal right here authorized shall, once only,
12 be available to such lessees on a preference basis before
13 the land theretofore so leased shall be available to others.
14 From the date of enactment hereof leases here contemplated
15 and entered into by said Territory as lessor (FOR A TERM OF
16 TWO YEARS OR LESS) shall contain appropriate language to
17 inform the lessee of the provisions of this subsection.
18 Sec. 6. That Section 12, Chapter 126 Session Laws of Alaska
19 1953, be amended so as to read as follows:

20 Sec. 12. The Land Commissioner is hereby empowered to
21 accept, in the name of the Territory of Alaska, by deed of
22 sale, gift or devise, or by judgment or operation of law any
23 lands of whatsoever nature; to accept in the name of said
24 Territory, and within the limits of applicable law to exer-
25 cise administrative jurisdiction over, lands granted, trans-
26 ferred or reserved to or for the benefit of the said Ter-
27 ritory by the United States or any instrumentality thereof;
28 (EXCEPT THAT NOTHING IN THIS ACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO DE-
29 PRIVE THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA OF

1 ANY OF ITS EXISTING DUTIES, FUNCTIONS OR POWERS. THE
2 AUTHORITY CONFERRED ON THE COMMISSIONER BY THIS SECTION SHALL
3 INCLUDE SPECIFICALLY THE AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT IN THE NAME OF
4 SAID TERRITORY ANY LANDS GRANTED OR TRANSFERRED TO SAID TER-
5 RITORY FOR PUBLIC PARK OR RECREATION PURPOSES AND TO EXER-
6 CISE ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION THEREOVER.) and to accept
7 in the name of the Territory any lands granted or trans-
8 ferred to the Territory for public, recreation or any other
9 purposes, including but not limited to the authority to
10 acquire land and to construct, improve, maintain, and operate
11 recreation facilities, and to exercise administrative juris-
12 isdiction thereover. Nothing in this Act shall be construed
13 to deprive the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska
14 of any of its existing duties, functions or powers.

15 Sec. 7. That this Act shall take effect and be in force from
16 and after its passage, and it is so enacted.
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