

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS LYNG, BARNES, STEPOVICH,
AND EGAN
SENATE BILL NO. 115

2
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled; "An Act to create the Alaska Rural Develop-
7 ment Board; defining its purposes,
8 organization, powers and duties; and estab-
9 lishing a Rural Development Fund."

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

11 SHORT TITLE

12 Section 1. This Act may be cited as the "Alaska Rural
13 Development Act of 1955."

14 PURPOSE

15 Sec. 2. The purpose and intent of this Act is to
16 co-ordinate existing programs of the Territorial Government and
17 to plan, inaugurate and operate additional programs for the pur-
18 pose of promoting the improvement of the health, welfare, security
19 and economic well-being of Alaskans residing in rural and remote
20 areas of the Territory.

21 DEFINITIONS

22 Sec. 3. As used in this Act, the following terms shall
23 be defined as follows:

24 (a) "Rural" shall mean any unincorporated place having a
25 population of not more than 500 persons.

26 (b) "Remote area" shall mean any sub-region, area or lo-
27 cality of the Territory which is not accessible by roads connected
28 with the main highway system of the Territory, by ~~the main air~~
29 ~~routes of scheduled airlines,~~ the line of the Alaska Railroad, by

1 regular ports of call of the steamship lines operating between
2 Alaska and the continental United States.

3 CREATION OF THE ALASKA RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

4 Sec. 4. In order to carry out the purposes and policy of
5 this Act, there is hereby created a board to be known as the
6 Alaska Rural Development Board, hereinafter referred to as the
7 "Board."

8 MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:

9 Sec. 5. The Board shall be composed of the Governor as
10 Chairman and six members as follows: Commissioner of Labor,
11 Superintendent of Public Works, Commissioner of Health, Commis-
12 sioner of Education, Director of Public Welfare, and Director of
13 Civil Defense. The members of the Board shall serve without
14 compensation, in addition to that received for their other
15 official duties, but they shall be reimbursed from the funds of
16 the Board for travel, subsistence and other necessary expenses
17 incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the
18 Board.

19 RELATIONS OF THE BOARD TO OTHER AGENCIES OF THE TERRITORY

20 Sec. 6. The Board shall invite the cooperation and
21 participation of all other Territorial agencies, including the
22 University of Alaska, in the planning and execution of programs
23 for the construction of public works and economic development in
24 rural and remote areas under the terms of this Act.

25 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

26 Sec. 7. To promote the general purposes of this Act,
27 the Board shall have the following powers and duties:

28 (1) To define precisely the areas of Alaska which shall be
29 considered rural and remote under the terms of this Act, and to
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0 initiate surveys and investigations of the social and economic
2 conditions of these areas to determine the need for expansion of
4 economic opportunities and the improvement of living conditions and
6 community life;

8 (2) To coordinate the administration of any emergency relief,
10 surplus food distribution, or other public assistance programs
12 other than the regular relief and assistance programs of the
14 Territorial and Federal governments;

16 (3) To formulate and conduct a program of public work for
18 the construction of basic facilities which will contribute to the
20 improvement of the standards of living, health, welfare and
22 economic security while providing employment, earnings and income
24 in the rural areas;

26 (4) To formulate a coordinated program to promote a
28 broadening and diversification of the economic base of the rural
30 areas;

32 (5) To promote programs for the training and education of
34 the residents of these areas directed to expanding their oppor-
36 tunities for employment and improvement of living conditions;

38 (6) To make application for, to contract with, and accept
40 from the Federal government or other public or private agencies,
42 gifts, grants or other assistance made available for the purposes
44 of this Act. Such assistance to be used subject to any reasonable
46 limitations imposed upon them;

48 (7) To acquire real and personal property and to dispose of
50 such property by transfer to other Territorial agencies, or by
52 sale or gift to other public agencies or non-profit associations
54 as may properly serve the purposes of this Act;

56 (8) To direct the administration of the Rural Development

1 Fund, hereinafter created, in accordance with, and to effectuate
2 the purposes of this Act, and to make allotment or transfer money
3 to other Territorial agencies;

4 (9) To employ necessary manual, clerical, supervisory or
5 professional personnel on a wage, salary or fee basis;

6 (10) To hold meetings at such time and place as the chairman
7 may designate, but not less than one meeting shall be held in
8 each calendar quarter of the year. The chairman shall keep a
9 record of all Board proceedings and other official acts;

10 (11) To make rules and regulations to carry out the purposes
11 of this Act.

12 FUND CREATED. EXPENSES OF THE BOARD.

13 Sec. 8. There is hereby created a fund, designated as the
14 Rural Development Fund to be administered by the Alaska Rural
15 Development Board. The Territorial Treasurer shall be custodian
16 of the Fund. Payments from the Fund for expenses and other
17 disbursements necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act
18 shall be made upon vouchers approved by the Chairman. Moneys for
19 the Fund shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

20 INTERPRETATION OF ACT

21 Sec. 9. It is intended that the provisions of this Act
22 shall be construed as supplemental to all other laws of Alaska
23 not in conflict with this Act.