

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. YOUNG

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 129

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating a Legislative Tax Com-
7 mittee, and prescribing its powers and
8 duties; and declaring an emergency."

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

10 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE TAX COMMITTEE: MEMBERSHIP. There
11 is hereby created the Legislative Tax Committee of the Legis-
12 lature of the Territory of Alaska, which shall consist of four
13 Senators and four Representatives who shall be jointly appoint-
14 ed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House with-
15 in ten days after the effective date of this Act, and there-
16 after within ten days following the organization of the Legis-
17 lature at each succeeding session. Whenever possible, the mem-
18 bership shall include at least one member from each Judicial
19 Division and at least two members from each of the two major
20 political parties. Members shall serve until their successors
21 are appointed. When any vacancy exists in the membership of the
22 Committee the President of the Senate shall appoint some other
23 member of the Senate to fill such vacancy if the person previously
24 filling such position was a Senator and the Speaker of the House
25 shall appoint some other member of the House of Representatives
26 to fill such vacancy if the person previously filling such position
27 was a member of the House of Representatives, provided that any
28 such vacancy shall be filled by a person from the same political
29 party and from the same Division as that in which the vacancy

1 occurred, if possible.

2 Sec. 2. DUTIES. It shall be the duty of the Committee to
3 study and investigate the present territorial and local govern-
4 ment tax structure of Alaska, its revenue producing characteris-
5 tics and effects upon the economy of the Territory; its equali-
6 ties and fairness; the enforcement policies and administrative
7 practices thereof; the costs of collection in relationship to
8 the burden of the tax; and shall examine overall administrative
9 matters, fiscal matters and procedural problems of the various
10 departments of the Territorial and local units of government as
11 they relate to tax and financing policy. The Committee shall
12 submit a full report of its finding, conclusions, and recommenda-
13 tions to each Senator, Senator-elect, Representative, and Rep-
14 resentative-elect, and to the Governor, at least thirty days
15 prior to the convening of each regular legislative session. This
16 report shall be deemed public information, and copies thereof
17 shall be available to the public at reasonable cost.

18 Either house of the Alaska Legislature shall have the right
19 and privilege to refer by resolution any tax or financing prob-
20 lems and correlated matters to the committee for study and re-
21 search. When any such matter is referred to the committee, the
22 committee shall make a study of the problem submitted and shall
23 make a report thereon.

24 Sec. 3. POWERS. The Committee shall have the power to
25 organize and adopt rules for the conduct of its business; to
26 hire, from outside the membership of the committee, an executive
27 director and such other research, clerical, and other help as it
28 deems necessary, and to fix their compensation; to hold public
29 hearings on subjects under examination; to contract for the

1 publication of its reports; and to incur such other expense and
2 to do whatever else it may deem necessary or advisable to carry
3 out the purposes of this Act.

4 Sec. 4. COOPERATION OF OFFICIAL AGENCIES. All territorial
5 officers, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and
6 other agencies shall give full cooperation to the Committee and
7 its executive director in the fulfillment of their duties, by
8 collecting and furnishing information, conducting studies and
9 making recommendations. Specifically, the facilities of the
10 legislative chambers and rooms, and the services of the faculty,
11 volunteer students, and facilities of the University of Alaska
12 may be made available to the Committee and its executive director.

13 Sec. 5. MEETINGS: QUORUM. The Committee shall meet im-
14 mediately upon the appointment of all of its members, for the
15 purpose of organizing and fixing the time for its next meeting,
16 which shall be within six months after the adjournment of the
17 legislative session. The Committee shall also meet once no less
18 than four months prior to the convening of the next legislative
19 session, for the purpose of making its final report. The Com-
20 mittee may meet at any other times and at any place within the
21 Territory of Alaska, which they deem necessary. Provided that
22 meetings may be called upon the written petition of two members
23 of the Committee, or upon the call of its chairman. No meeting
24 shall exceed five days duration.

25 Full and complete minutes shall be kept of every meeting,
26 which shall be made part of the final report. Four members shall
27 constitute a quorum.

28 Sec. 6. EXPENSES OF MEMBERS. Members of the Committee
29 shall, for time spent at meetings held in accordance with Sec. 5

1 of this Act, be entitled to receive transportation and per diem
2 and other allowances at the same rates provided for members of
3 the Legislature when in actual session assembled.

4 Sec. 7. APPROPRIATION. Funds for carrying out the provi-
5 sions of this Act shall be set forth in the general appropriation
6 Act.

7 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. An emergency is declared to exist
8 and this Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage
9 and approval or upon its becoming law without such approval.

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