

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. PUCKALEW BY REQUEST

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 227

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the position of medical
7 examiner; defining his duties and providing
8 for his compensation."

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

10 Section 1. APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER. The Terri-
11 torial Commissioner of Health is hereby authorized to appoint
12 one or more medical examiners for each of the several precincts
13 and recording districts in Alaska whenever, in the discretion of
14 such Commissioner of Health, the administration of justice shall
15 require. Medical examiners shall be physicians licensed to prac-
16 tice in Alaska or physicians licensed elsewhere in the United
17 States who are employed as physicians by the Territory of Alaska
18 or by any agency of the United States Government in Alaska.
19 Appointments shall be for a term not to exceed one year and no
20 compensation or fee shall be paid such examiner, except as pro-
21 vided in Sec. 3, herein.

22 Section 2. DUTIES OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER AND UNITED STATES
23 COMMISSIONER. Whenever any person dies unattended by a physician,
24 or whenever no physician is prepared to execute the certificate
25 of death prescribed by Ch. 119, SLA 1949, the United States Com-
26 missioner, ex officio Coroner, for the precinct in which such
27 death occurs, may, by written order, direct the medical examiner,
28 if an examiner has been appointed for such precinct, to view the
29 remains of such deceased person and to perform such further post

1 mortem examination, including an autopsy, as may, in the opinion
2 of such medical examiner, be necessary to make a proper deter-
3 mination of the cause of death and to execute the prescribed death
4 certificate. Upon the completion of such examination, the ex-
5aminer shall, without further delay, submit a report of his
6 findings and conclusions to the United States Commissioner who
7 ordered the examination. If the findings and conclusions of the
8 medical examiner, together with other information available to
9 the United States Commissioner, warrant, the United States
10 Commissioner shall order an inquest pursuant to Ch. 24, Title 66,
11 ACLA 1949; otherwise he shall enter an order dispensing with
12 such inquest and shall record the said certificate of death as
13 prescribed by law.

14 Section 3. FEES. The medical examiner shall be reimbursed
15 for his services in the same manner and in the same amount as is
16 paid to physicians providing similar services to coroners pursu-
17 ant to Ch. 24, Title 66, ACLA 1949.

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