

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 136

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Legislative
7 Council; repealing Ch. 177, SLA 1957, and
8 Ch. 69, SLA 1953, as amended by Ch. 74,
9 SLA 1955 and Ch. 140, SLA 1957; authorizing
10 appropriations; and providing for an
11 effective date."

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

13 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ESTABLISHED. The Alaska
14 Legislative Council is established as a permanent interim com-
15 mittee and service agency of the legislature. The establishment
16 of the council recognizes the need of the legislature for fulltime
17 technical assistance in accomplishing the research, reporting, bill
18 drafting, examination and revision of statutes, and general admin-
19 istrative services essential to the development of sound legis-
20 lation in the public interest.

21 Sec. 2. MEMBERSHIP. The legislative council is composed of
22 the president of the senate and four other senators appointed by
23 him, and the speaker of the house of representatives and four
24 other representatives appointed by him. The appointing authority
25 in each house shall appoint at least one member from among the
26 districts comprising each of the senate districts, A, E, J and N
27 as described in Section 2, Article XIV of the state constitution,
28 and at least one member from each of the two major political
29 parties. The appointing authority of each house shall make and

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1 announce the appointment or reappointment of members of the
2 council within thirty days after the convening of the first
3 regular session of each legislature.

4 Sec. 3. MEMBERSHIP. Members serve for the duration of the
5 legislature during which they are appointed and, if they are re-
6 elected to or their term of office extends into the next succeed-
7 ing legislature, continue to serve until reappointed or their
8 successors are appointed.

9 Sec. 4. VACANCIES. When a vacancy occurs in the appointive
10 membership of the council the presiding officer of the house in-
11 curring the vacancy shall fill the vacancy within 30 days. If the
12 office of the president of the senate or speaker of the house of
13 representatives becomes vacant and a vacancy occurs among the
14 appointed members of the council, the remaining council members
15 from the house incurring the vacancy shall appoint a new member.
16 Legislators appointed to fill vacancies shall represent the same
17 senate-at-large district and be a member of the same political
18 party as the member vacating the seat, when possible.

19 Sec. 5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF. The council hires
20 an executive director and determines his salary. The executive
21 director shall serve as the executive officer of the council in
22 the accomplishment of its functions. He serves at the direction
23 and at the pleasure of the council. He is authorized to employ
24 and determine the compensation of the members of the professional
25 and clerical staffs of the agency within the limitation of the
26 budget approved by the council. The executive director and the
27 members of the professional staff shall maintain the integrity of
28 the council's functions and services on the behalf of the legis-
29 lative branch by refraining from joining or supporting any

1 partisan political organization, faction or activity which would
2 tend to undermine the essential non-partisan nature of their
3 functions and services. However, this section does not restrict
4 the executive director or members of the professional staff from
5 expressing private opinion, registering or voting.

6 Sec. 6. POWERS. The legislative council shall have the
7 following powers:

8 (1) To organize and adopt rules for the conduct of its
9 business;

10 (2) To hold public hearings, administer oaths, issue
11 subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses and production of
12 any papers, books, accounts, documents, and testimony, and to
13 cause the deposition of witnesses to be taken in a manner pre-
14 scribed by court rule or law for taking depositions in civil
15 actions when consistent with the powers and duties assigned to
16 the council by this act.

17 (3) To call upon all state officials, agencies and
18 institutions to give full cooperation to the council and its
19 executive director by collecting and furnishing information, con-
20 ducting studies and making recommendations;

21 (4) To maintain and operate the state legislative
22 reference library for the use of the legislature and other state
23 agencies;

24 (5) To exercise control and direction over all legis-
25 lative space, supplies, and equipment and permanent legislative
26 help between legislative sessions;

27 (6) To produce, publish, distribute and to contract
28 for the printing of such reports, memoranda and other materials
29 it finds necessary to the accomplishment of its work; and

1 (7) To take appropriate action for the pre-convening
2 and post-session work of each legislative session including the
3 employment one week in advance of each session of not more than
4 10 temporary legislative employees whose continuing employment
5 shall be subject to legislative approval when the session con-
6 venes.

7 Sec. 7. REVISION OF STATUTES. The council has the authority
8 to clarify, classify, arrange, renumber, coordinate, edit,
9 correct, annotate, index, copyright, codify and revise all laws
10 of the state. It may specify the format, size and style of type,
11 paper stock, number of volumes, and method and quality of binding
12 of any codification or revision; and may contract, within the
13 limit of appropriations, for services necessary to the accomplish-
14 ment of this work. Contracts for publication and distribution
15 of any code or revision are to be accomplished by the Department
16 of Administration in coordination with the council. The council
17 is authorized to receive sufficient copies of any code or
18 revision for its own work and for exchange for those of other
19 states and jurisdictions. Any code or revision prepared by the
20 council under authority of this act is to be referred to the
21 legislature for enactment or adoption.

22 Sec. 8. INTERSTATE COOPERATION. The council may encourage
23 and arrange conferences with officials of other states and of
24 other units of government; carry forward the participation of
25 this state as a member of the Council of State Governments, and
26 propose cooperation between this state and other states. It
27 shall function as the Alaska Commission on Interstate Cooperation
28 in carrying out the program of the Council of State Governments
29 as it relates to Alaska.

1 Sec. 13. BUDGETS. The council shall submit a budget of
2 its anticipated needs for each fiscal year to the finance com-
3 mittees of the legislature. The executive director shall
4 annually submit an estimated budget to the governor for informa-
5 tion purposes in the preparation of the executive budget. The
6 council staff shall also assist, as needed, in preparing a budget
7 of the anticipated annual needs of the legislature.

8 Sec. 14. APPROPRIATIONS. Appropriations for carrying out
9 the provisions of this Act shall be set forth in the general
10 appropriation bill or such other bills as may be necessary. The
11 council is authorized to direct the executive director to trans-
12 fer amounts from one appropriation to another if such transfer
13 is deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the council; pro-
14 vided, that in no event shall the total amount of the authorized
15 appropriation be exceeded. All expenditures of the council are
16 subject to audit.

17 Sec. 15. REPEAL. Ch. 177, SLA 1957, and Ch. 69, SLA
18 1953, as amended by Ch. 74, SLA 1955 and Ch. 140, SLA 1957 are
19 repealed.

20 Sec. 16. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act shall take effect im-
21 mediately upon its passage and approval or upon its becoming law
22 without such approval.

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