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IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 161

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act creating a division of state library in the Department of Education; establishing the position of state librarian; transferring the Alaska Historical Library to the division of state library; abolishing the Division of Library Services; and repealing Ch. 16, SLA 1955."

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

Section 1. CREATION OF DIVISION. There is hereby created a division of state library within the Department of Education. All state-supported libraries shall hereafter be part of the state library system coordinated by the division of state library.

Sec. 2. STATE LIBRARIAN APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES. The commissioner of education shall appoint a state librarian who shall be in charge of the division of state library, and who shall serve under the general policy direction of the commissioner of education. The state librarian is responsible for the effective development and control of the division of state library and shall consolidate the activities of all libraries in Alaska which are supported by state appropriations, including those libraries maintained by the various departments and agencies of the state government. The state librarian shall make every effort to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort in all libraries within the division of state library, and shall assist the various depart-

1 ments and agencies of the state in the recruitment and training of  
2 needed library personnel, and shall further establish standard  
3 rules for the acquisition and processing of departmental collec-  
4 tions. The state librarian shall administer the federal funds  
5 provided through the Library Services Act, P.L. 85-580, and shall  
6 attempt to develop community libraries in areas which cannot be  
7 served by existing libraries within the area.

8 Sec. 3. STATE LIBRARIAN: QUALIFICATIONS. In order to be  
9 eligible for appointment as state librarian, an individual must be  
10 a citizen of the United States and must hold either a certificate  
11 or a diploma from a school of library service, and have at least  
12 10 years of professional library experience, five of which have  
13 been spent in administrative positions.

14 Sec. 4. ADMINISTRATION OF STATE GRANTS IN AID. The State of  
15 Alaska shall provide associations incorporated under the laws of  
16 the state for the purpose of maintaining public libraries with  
17 financial assistance for purchasing books and magazines for public  
18 libraries, such assistance not to exceed \$350.00 in any one fiscal  
19 year to each association. The state librarian shall administer  
20 this program.

21 Sec. 5. DIRECT SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS. The state librarian  
22 shall provide direct library services to individuals only in  
23 sparsely settled areas where the establishment of community  
24 libraries is not practical.

25 Sec. 6. TRANSFER OF ALASKA HISTORICAL LIBRARY: APPOINTMENT;  
26 DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF LIBRARIAN. a. The Alaska Historical  
27 Library as created under Secs. 37-12-1 through 37-12-5, ACLA 1949  
28 is hereby separated from the Historical Museum function and is  
29 transferred to the division of state library and is redesignated

1 as the Alaska State Historical Library and remains as the federal  
2 depository library. The Alaska State Historical Library shall be  
3 located in the state capital.

4 b. A librarian shall be appointed by the state librarian in  
5 consultation with the commissioner of education to be in charge  
6 of the historical library. The librarian shall collect and pro-  
7 cess all printed and written material of Alaska historical inter-  
8 est and shall select, procure, and process all the federal publi-  
9 cations pertaining to Alaska. The historical librarian shall  
10 further collect and process all publications of the State of  
11 Alaska, and shall provide library reference services for the  
12 state government, the state legislature, the people of Alaska and  
13 other interested persons who send inquiries. These services shall  
14 be carried out in conjunction and in cooperation with the various  
15 libraries maintained by the state agencies. Under the general  
16 policy direction of the state librarian, and within the limits of  
17 available appropriations, the librarian shall have the authority  
18 to do such things as are necessary to carry out the intent of this  
19 section.

20 c. In order to be eligible for appointment as librarian  
21 under this section, an individual shall be a citizen of the United  
22 States, shall have a B.S.L.S. degree from an accredited institu-  
23 tion, and have at least 10 years of professional experience in  
24 research and reference library work, five of which has been spent  
25 in administrative positions, and shall have a knowledge of Russian  
26 languages.

27 Sec. 7. Ch. 16, SLA 1955 is repealed.  
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