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IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR SMITH

SENATE BILL NO. 188

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment of the Alaska Waters Resources Council; providing for the composition, appointment, meetings, payment of travel and other necessary expenses, duties and powers of the Alaska Waters Resources Council; and providing for an effective date."

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

Section 1. In order to further the utilization, development, and conservation of all water resources of the State of Alaska for the maximum benefit of its people, the promotion and protection of public health and public welfare, and to conserve such waters for public water supplies, propagation of fish and aquatic life and wild life, recreational purposes and agricultural, industrial and other legitimate uses, there is hereby created the Alaska Water Resources Council, hereinafter called the "Council".

Sec. 2. The Council shall be composed of five members as follows: the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game, the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Welfare, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, or their designee from within their departments; and the Executive Assistant to the Governor. Any person designated pursuant to this section, shall have the powers and be subject to the duties and responsibilities

1 of the officer appointing him. The Council is directed to carry  
2 out the functions and duties conferred on it by this Act.

3 No additional compensation shall be allowed any member of  
4 the Council for services rendered in such capacity. Actual and  
5 necessary travel and other expenses incurred by members in the  
6 discharge of their official duties as members of the Council shall  
7 be paid out of any funds which are or may be made available for  
8 the purposes of this Act. The Council shall organize and select  
9 one of its members representing a department to serve as chairman  
10 of the Council. Chairmanship of the Council shall be rotated  
11 regularly on an annual basis among its members representing  
12 departments. The department furnishing the chairman shall provide  
13 such clerical assistance as may be necessary to discharge the  
14 duties of the Council. However, technical, legal or other  
15 services shall be performed in so far as practicable by personnel  
16 of state operating departments, agencies and offices.

17 The Council shall hold at least four regular meetings each  
18 calendar year and shall keep a record of its proceedings which  
19 shall be open to the public for inspection. Special meetings  
20 may be called by the chairman and must be called by him upon  
21 receipt of a written request thereof signed by two or more  
22 members of the Council. Written notice of the time and place of  
23 each meeting shall be delivered to the office of each member of  
24 the Council. A majority of the members of the Council shall  
25 constitute a quorum.

26 Sec. 3. The Council shall have and may exercise the follow-  
27 ing powers and duties:

28 a. To make findings and recommendations as to state  
29 water resource policy, coordination, planning and development

1 including legislative proposals to the Governor and other state  
2 departments, agencies and offices.

3           b. To encourage and assist governmental agencies and  
4 private interests with the development of water resources of the  
5 state.

6           c. To review, study and recommend water development  
7 plans of governmental agencies and private interests.

8           d. To hold public hearings for the purpose of obtain-  
9 ing evidence and information relative to water resource problems,  
10 and to have the power to subpoena witnesses and records therefor.

11           e. To adopt rules and regulations for implementing or  
12 effectuating the powers and duties of the Council under the  
13 provisions of this Act.

14           Sec. 4. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage  
15 and approval or on the day it becomes law without such approval.

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