

1 IN THE HOUSE BY MR. STRANDBERG AND MR. BLODGETT

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 66

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating a state Department of
7 Highways; providing for its functions and
8 powers; and providing for an effective
9 date."

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

11 Section 1. DEPARTMENT CREATED: APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS.

12 There is hereby created as a principal department a Department
13 of Highways headed by a state Highway Commission composed of
14 seven commissioners appointed by the governor and subject to
15 confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in
16 joint session. The commissioners serve at the pleasure of the
17 governor and are subject to recall. No more than four of the
18 seven commissioners may be registered members of the same
19 political party. The terms of the commissioners shall be
20 staggered so that two new commissioners shall be appointed each
21 biennium with three new commissioners appointed every third
22 biennium. One commissioner shall be appointed from the state at
23 large; one from the First Judicial District; one from the
24 Second Judicial District; and two each from the Third and Fourth
25 Judicial Districts. The two commissioners appointed from the
26 Third and Fourth Judicial Districts shall be appointed from
27 different areas within those districts. Members of the commis-
28 sion shall receive an annual salary and be entitled to the usual
29 travel and per diem allowances for members of state boards and

1 commissions as provided by law.

2 Sec. 2. COMMISSION: POWERS AND DUTIES. The state Highway
3 Commission is vested with the duties, powers and responsibilities
4 involved in the construction, maintenance, and operation of all
5 state highways, ferries, roads, bridges, traffic signs and sig-
6 nals and the use and custody of state property and equipment
7 heretofore assigned to the Department of Public Works as the
8 successor to the Alaska Highway and Public Works Department per
9 Sec. 19, Ch. 64, SLA 1959.

10 Sec. 3. DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS. The commission, subject to
11 the approval of the governor, appoints a director of highways to
12 act as the principal administrative officer of the department and
13 serve at its pleasure. The director shall be a registered pro-
14 fessional engineer experienced and skilled in state highway
15 administration, construction and maintenance. He is responsible
16 for the general administration of the department and its programs
17 subject to the approval of the commission. Under the supervision
18 of the commission he shall have complete charge of selecting and
19 establishing the state highway system. He serves as an ex officio
20 and non-voting member of the commission.

21 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect July 1, 1961.

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