

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MESSRS. PEARSON,  
HELLENTHAL AND STRANDBERG

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 159

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a state geographic  
7 board.

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

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Section 1. There is established in the Office of the Govern-  
10 nor a state geographic board consisting of the director, Local  
11 Affairs Agency; curator, State Museum; state librarian; commissioner,  
12 Department of Public Works; commissioner, Department of Natural  
13 Resources; commissioner, Department of Education; director,  
14 division of lands; director, division of highways; and one other  
15 person to be appointed by the governor.

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Sec. 2. The state geographic board has the following powers  
17 and duties:

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(1) to determine the correct and most appropriate names  
of the lakes, streams, places and other geographic features in the  
state and their spelling;

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(2) to pass upon and give names to lakes, streams,  
places, and other geographic features in the state for which no  
single generally acceptable name has been in use;

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(3) to cooperate with local subdivisions of government  
and, with their approval, to change the names of lakes, streams,  
places and other geographic features with the end in view of  
eliminating, as far as possible, duplication of names within the  
state;

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(4) to prepare and publish an official state dictionary

1 of geographic names and to publish the same for sale, either as a  
2 completed whole or in parts when ready; and

3 (5) to serve as the state representatives of the  
4 United States geographic board and to cooperate with that board  
5 to the end that there shall be no conflict between the state and  
6 federal designations of geographic features in the state.

7 Sec. 3. When the state geographic board has given a name to  
8 any lake, stream, place or other geographic feature within the  
9 state, the name chosen is the official name of such geographic  
10 feature and shall be used in all maps, records, documents, and other  
11 publications issued by the state or any of its departments and  
12 political subdivisions.

13 Sec. 4. No person shall in any advertisement or publication  
14 attempt to modify local usage or name unnamed geographic features  
15 without first obtaining the approval of the state geographic  
16 board. In case of a violation of this section, the geographic  
17 board shall promptly announce its disapproval and shall there-  
18 after adopt an official name for such feature.

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