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IN THE SENATE
SENATE BILL NO. 61
BY RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the powers and duties of the Commissioner of Public Works and the Commissioner of Public Safety; repealing and re-enacting Sec. 50-1-4, ACLA 1949 as amended by Ch. 144, SLA 1953, Ch. 152, SLA 1955 and Ch. 152, SLA 1957; and providing for an effective date."

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

Section 1. Sec. 50-1-4, ACLA 1949 as amended by Ch. 144, SLA 1953, Ch. 152, SLA 1955 and Ch. 152, SLA 1957 is repealed and re-enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 50-1-4. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS. a. In addition to other duties imposed by law, the Commissioner of Public Works shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To adopt and designate a uniform standard for the manufacture, display, erection and location of all signs, signals, sign boards, guide posts and other traffic devices necessary to the safe and orderly guidance of traffic.

(2) To erect and maintain upon the public highways such signs and other devices as he deems necessary.

(3) To designate main traveled roads and highways as arterial highways as appears to him necessary.

1 (4) To order any public road or highway, or
2 portion thereof, closed entirely or closed as to certain
3 classes of vehicles when for any reason the use or continued
4 use thereof would cause damage or be dangerous to traffic
5 thereon or when the same is being constructed, altered, re-
6 paired or maintained in such a manner as to require restric-
7 tion of traffic; provided, that whenever practicable, reason-
8 able notice of an order closing or restricting a road or
9 highway shall be given to the traveling public before the
10 order becomes effective.

11 b. The Commissioner of Public Works shall also
12 have the authority to make and promulgate rules and regula-
13 tions:

14 (1) Preventing the restriction, obstruction
15 or stoppage of normal traffic upon any of the roads or high-
16 ways.

17 (2) Prohibiting any person from committing,
18 either wilfully or carelessly, any act directly or indirectly
19 causing injury or damage to any road, highway, trail, bridge
20 or ferry.

21 (3) Governing the size, weight and load limits
22 of all vehicles or combinations of vehicles operating upon the
23 public roads and highways or using the bridges and ferries,
24 including the issuance or withholding of special permits for
25 excessive sizes, weights and loads, and limiting or prescrib-
26 ing conditions of operation of such vehicle or vehicles when
27 necessary to assure against undue damage to the road founda-
28 tions, surfaces or structures, and prescribing special fees
29 therefore.

1 c. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall have
2 the authority to promulgate rules and regulations governing:

3 (1) The rules of the road, including the
4 operation of motor vehicles upon roads and highways.

5 (2) The operation of bicycles upon roads,
6 trails or paths.

7 (3) The required equipment to be carried upon
8 vehicles. To maintain uniformity with national standards,
9 the Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to adopt the
10 standards approved by the American Society of Automotive
11 Engineers as they presently exist or as they may hereafter
12 be amended.

13 (4) The inspection of motor vehicles, and the
14 removal of motor vehicles from the highways when same are
15 found to be in a defective or unsafe condition.

16 (5) The parking, standing or stopping of
17 motor vehicles.

18 (6) The conduct of pedestrians upon roadways.

19 d. The Commissioner of Public Safety may promulgate
20 regulations requiring that minimum motor vehicle equipment
21 requirements in effect at the time of sale be installed in an
22 operable condition by motor vehicle manufacturers or sales
23 agencies.

24 e. The Department of Public Safety may publish in
25 pamphlet form, the rules and regulations promulgated here-
26 under, traffic laws governing the operation of motor vehicles,
27 driver's licensing and motor vehicle licensing and dealer laws,
28 and accident reporting and safety responsibility statutes, to
29 be distributed free of charge to the motoring public through

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officers or agencies designated for the purpose. The cost of producing the pamphlets shall be jointly shared by the Department of Public Works, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Public Safety.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without such approval.