

1 IN THE HOUSE BY MR. STRANDBERG

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 254

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the governance of the  
7 Department of Highways; and providing for an  
8 effective date."

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

10 \* Section 1. AS 44.44 is amended by adding a new section to  
11 read:

12 Sec. 44.44.005. HIGHWAY COMMISSION. (a) The Depart-  
13 ment of Highways is administered by a highway commission com-  
14 posed of seven persons appointed by the governor and con-  
15 firmed by a majority of the legislature in joint session.  
16 The term of office is six years. Members serve at the  
17 pleasure of the governor.

18 (b) One commissioner shall be appointed from the state  
19 at large, one from the first judicial district, one from the  
20 second judicial district, and two each from the third and  
21 fourth judicial districts. The members appointed from the  
22 third and fourth judicial districts shall be appointed from  
23 different areas within those districts. No more than four of  
24 the members may be registered members of the same political  
25 party.

26 (c) Members of the commission are entitled to an annual  
27 salary and to the usual travel and per diem allowances for  
28 members of state boards as provided by law.

29 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.44.010 is amended to read:

1           Sec. 44.44.010. DIRECTOR [COMMISSIONER] OF HIGHWAYS.  
2           The [PRINCIPAL] executive officer of the Department of High-  
3           ways is the director [COMMISSIONER] of highways. The direc-  
4           tor is appointed by the highway commission subject to the  
5           approval of the governor. He acts as the principal adminis-  
6           trative officer of the department and serves at the pleasure  
7           of the commission. The director shall be a registered pro-  
8           fessional engineer experienced and skilled in state highway  
9           administration, construction, and maintenance. He serves as  
10          an ex officio member of the commission without vote.

11       \* Sec. 3. AS 44.44.020 is amended to read:

12           Sec. 44.44.020. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COM-  
13           MISSION [DEPARTMENT]. The commission [DEPARTMENT OF HIGH-  
14           WAYS] is charged with (1) the duties involved in the con-  
15           struction, maintenance, and operation of state highways,  
16           roads, bridges, traffic signs and signals, and other like  
17           facilities; and (2) the supervision and maintenance of all  
18           state automotive and mechanical equipment excluding aircraft  
19           and vessels.

20       \* Sec. 4. AS 44.44.030 is amended to read:

21           Sec. 44.44.030. CONTRACTS FOR DESIGN AND ENGINEERING  
22           SERVICES. If it is not feasible for the staff of the  
23           Department of Highways to perform design and engineering  
24           services or surveys, the director [COMMISSIONER] may contract  
25           with a private engineering firm for design and engineering  
26           services or surveys on a negotiated basis after reasonable  
27           public notice is given. The prices submitted or negotiated  
28           shall be available for public inspection upon request.

29       \* Sec. 5. The governor shall initially appoint three members



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1 for six-year terms, two members for four-year terms, and two  
2 members for two-year terms.

3 \* Sec. 6. This Act takes effect on July 1, 1964.

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