

Introduced: 3/6/65
Referred: Commerce and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MESSRS. DITMAN, RADER,
GUESS, JOSEPHSON, KERTTULA,
LEFEVRE, STEVENS AND GRAVEL

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 207

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating an Alaska-Pacific Basin
7 Trade Commission; and providing for an
8 effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. PURPOSE. (a) Human beings are likely to con-
11 tinue to exist on the earth only if the people of the world can
12 learn to amicably settle international disputes. Throughout the
13 history of the world, battles for markets have been a major cause
14 of war; but, as former President Eisenhower has said, "There is no
15 alternative to peace." The alternative to learning how to trade
16 peaceably with our neighbors is the unacceptable alternative of
17 annihilation. Alaska, as a people and as a sovereign state, has
18 a moral obligation to contribute as much as it can contribute to
19 international understanding and to overcoming parochial, legal,
20 and traditional trade barriers with its neighbors.

21 (b) Furthermore, the economic future of Alaska depends
22 upon developing its international trade. Alaska's economic future
23 is based upon its natural resources. The distances and costs of
24 transportation in commerce with the other states makes it impera-
25 tive that Alaska develop trade in other areas of the world as well
26 as stimulate trade with the other states, if early and substantial
27 growth is to be attained. Alaska's geographical location gives it
28 the possibility of becoming a leader in international trade with
29 the countries bordering on the Pacific Ocean. Further, these

1 countries comprise the only existing potential market for the
2 raw materials of the state, and, with the low cost of water trans-
3 portation, the import of certain finished products from those
4 countries can create a balance of trade. For the purpose of help-
5 ing to preserve the peace as well as of stimulating and expanding
6 trade with the Pacific Basin countries it is necessary that a
7 commission be created.

8 * Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE 7. ALASKA-PACIFIC BASIN TRADE COMMISSION.

10 Sec. 44.19.700. ALASKA-PACIFIC BASIN TRADE COMMISSION.

11 There is created an Alaska-Pacific Basin Trade Commission in
12 the Office of the Governor.

13 Sec. 44.19.710. COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF OFFICE. (a)

14 The commission consists of 15 members who, unless otherwise
15 provided for in (b) of this section, are appointed by the
16 governor for overlapping three-year terms.

17 (b) The governor shall appoint the president of the
18 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
19 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress as ex officio
20 members of the commission. The remaining members of the
21 commission shall be appointed from citizens of the United
22 States who, because of their knowledge and experience con-
23 cerning commerce, labor, management, mining, fishing, timber,
24 tourism, banking, transportation, education or other appro-
25 priate vocations, can be expected to contribute significantly
26 to the achievement of the purposes for which the commission
27 is created.

28 Sec. 44.19.720. ORGANIZATION AND MEETING OF THE
29 COMMISSION. Within 30 days after the appointment of all

1 members, the commission shall meet at a time and place agreed
2 upon by a majority of the members through correspondence to
3 elect from the membership a chairman, a vice chairman and
4 such other officers as they consider necessary, and to
5 establish policy and rules to govern the commission. Eight
6 members constitute a quorum to do business.

7 Sec. 44.19.730. COMPENSATION, PER DIEM, AND EXPENSES.
8 Members of the commission are not entitled to a salary but
9 are entitled to transportation allowances and per diem pro-
10 vided for in AS 39.20.180.

11 Sec. 44.19.740. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. (a) The commission
12 shall employ an executive director. The executive director
13 shall be professionally trained and experienced in the per-
14 formance of his duties. The selection of the executive
15 director is subject to the approval of the governor. The
16 commission may delegate to the executive director the func-
17 tions it considers proper.

18 (b) The executive director shall not have any business
19 interests that may be affected, either favorably or unfavor-
20 ably, by the operation of the commission.

21 Sec. 44.19.750. DUTIES. The primary duty of the com-
22 mission is to formulate specific projects for developing each
23 of the potentially marketable resources in the state, and
24 then to find persons in the Pacific Basin countries to
25 develop and purchase the resources. In the interest of
26 maintaining a balance between imports and exports, the com-
27 mission also has the duty of assisting entrepreneurs in the
28 Pacific Basin countries to find markets for their products
29 in Alaska. The commission, in accomplishing its duties, shall

1 (1) invite citizens of foreign countries to visit
2 Alaska informally to become acquainted with the state, meet
3 its businessmen, labor leaders, and government officials, for
4 the purpose of increasing mutual understanding on a personal
5 basis between citizens of foreign countries and Alaskans;

6 (2) arrange for and hold international conferences
7 in Alaska to discuss specific development or trade projects,
8 to acquaint citizens of countries of the Pacific Basin with
9 development and trade prospects in Alaska.

10 Sec. 44.19.780. POWERS. The commission may elect sub-
11 committees of any number of members to collect information
12 and to travel to the countries of the Pacific Basin to carry
13 out its duties.

14 Sec. 44.19.779. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 700-780 of this
15 chapter "commission" means the Alaska-Pacific Basin Trade
16 Commission. The commission may make reports to the legis-
17 lature and may recommend legislation relating to projects
18 to develop international trade.

19 Sec. 44.19.780. SHORT TITLE. Secs. 700-780 of this
20 chapter may be cited as the Alaska-Pacific Basin Trade
21 Commission Act.

22 * Sec. 3. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. Of the commission members
23 appointed at large under AS 44.19.710(b), the governor shall
24 appoint three for an initial term of one year, three for an in-
25 itial term of two years, and four for an initial term of three
26 years.

27 * Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect on the day
28 after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law
29 without such approval.