

Introduced: 3/22/66  
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2 SENATE BILL NO. 323

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to revisions of the law on  
7 legislative operation and services involving  
8 expenditures and expenditure controls; and  
9 providing for an effective date."

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

11 \* Section 1. AS 24.05 is amended by adding a new section to  
12 read:

13 Sec. 24.05.175. LEGISLATOR ORIENTATION. On the after-  
14 noon of the day before the first session of a legislature  
15 convenes the legislative council shall hold an orientation  
16 session in the house chamber for new and returning members of  
17 the legislature. The council shall solicit the assistance of  
18 returning legislators and representatives of the executive  
19 and judicial branches in developing and presenting the  
20 orientation program. The program may include but need not be  
21 limited to an explanation of the uniform rules, legislative  
22 procedure, organization and operation of the three branches  
23 of government, and administrative matters. Members signing  
24 the orientation roll call are entitled to per diem for  
25 attendance at the orientation session.

26 \* Sec. 2. AS 24.05.210 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

27 Sec. 24.05.210. LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS AND  
28 EXPENDITURES. (a) The estimate of the general operating  
29 expenses of the legislative branch shall be included in the

1 budget submitted to the finance committees by the legislative  
2 council with information copies to the governor at the time  
3 the executive budget is being prepared. The legislative audit  
4 committee shall follow the same procedure in preparing the  
5 estimate of its expenses.

6 (b) Consistent with the constitutional separation of  
7 powers the money appropriated by law for the operation of the  
8 legislature and its agencies is disbursed on vouchers signed  
9 by bonded certifying officers of the legislature. This certi-  
10 fication is the final requirement for payment or disbursement.

11 (c) The books and records of the legislature shall be  
12 audited annually by a competent private firm selected by the  
13 legislative audit committee and a copy of the audit report is  
14 to be sent to the governor. The books and records of a fiscal  
15 nature are public records and subject to examination at any  
16 time.

17 \* Sec. 3. AS 24.10.040 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

18 Sec. 24.10.040. LEGAL COUNSEL. The legislature may  
19 budget for the hiring of independent legal counsel to advise  
20 the majority and minority of each house on a contractual  
21 basis during legislative sessions. Money appropriated for  
22 this purpose shall be apportioned equally between the houses  
23 and between the party caucuses and the selection of each  
24 counsel is the sole responsibility of the majority and  
25 minority caucuses respectively. A counsel is hired on a  
26 contractual basis, he must be admitted to practice law in  
27 Alaska, and is responsible to the majority or minority group  
28 appointing him. The majority and minority leaders shall  
29 advise the legislative certifying officer in writing of the

1 appointment and termination of legal counsel and countersign  
2 claims submitted by counsel for payment for his services  
3 within the limit of money made available for this contractual  
4 service.

5 \* Sec. 4. AS 24.15.050 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

6 Sec. 24.15.050. TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE. (a) Each  
7 member of the legislature for the purpose of coming from his  
8 home and returning to his home from the capital for the  
9 purpose of attending a regular or special session is entitled  
10 to receive a sum of money equal to the published air tariff  
11 for a round trip from his home to the capital. In addition,  
12 for the purpose of coming to and returning from a session,  
13 each member is entitled to an amount of money equal to the  
14 cost of transporting 200 pounds of excess baggage by air from  
15 his home to the capital and return. The transportation and  
16 excess baggage allowances may be paid in advance of a session  
17 to a member requesting it.

18 (b) Each member of the legislature in attendance during  
19 a session is entitled to receive a state transportation re-  
20 quest form for a round trip from the capital to his home and  
21 return for each 30 calendar days of a regular session in  
22 order that he may advise with his constituents on pending  
23 legislation. The transportation request form is issued to a  
24 member upon his request, is issued only for each 30 full days  
25 of the session, and must be used by the member within 10  
26 days its issuance. A transportation request form issued  
27 under this subsection may be used only during the session in  
28 which it was issued.

29 (c) In addition to the session travel authorized by

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(a) and (b) of this section, a member of an interim committee or a legislator authorized by the legislature or either house of the legislature to travel is entitled to the use of a state transportation request form issued to him by a legislative certifying officer or he may elect to make claim in advance for the equivalent of the published tariffs for the authorized trip.

(d) For each day or fraction of a day of travel to and from sessions and for other travel time required on official legislative business a member is entitled upon signing of a claim voucher to the regular legislator per diem.

(e) This section governs all travel and per diem for members of the legislature traveling on legislative business. Legislator travel and per diem authorized by this section are not governed by AS 39.20.180.

\* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1966.