

Introduced: 2/2/67
Referred: Commerce, State Affairs
and Finance

BY GUESS, BALONE, BRADNER,
FRITZ, GETMAN, HENSLEY, HODMAN,
KENTULA, METCALF, MILLER,
MORAN, ONECK, SASSARA, SMITH,
STEVENS AND YOUNG

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 104

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

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

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

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

19 (b) Furthermore, the economic future of Alaska depends upon
20 developing its international trade. Alaska's economic future is based upon
21 its natural resources. The distances and costs of transportation in commerce
22 with the other states makes it imperative that Alaska develop trade in other
23 areas of the world as well as stimulate trade with the other states, if
24 early and substantial growth is to be attained. Alaska's geographical loca-
25 tion gives it the possibility of becoming a leader in international trade
26 with the countries bordering on the Pacific Ocean. Further, these countries
27 comprise the only existing potential market for the raw materials of the
28 state, and, with the low cost of water transportation, the import of certain
29 finished products from those countries can create a balance of trade. For

HB 104

1 the purpose of helping to preserve the peace as well as of stimulating and
2 expanding trade with the Pacific Basin countries it is necessary that a
3 commission be created.

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

5 **ARTICLE 7. ALASKA-PACIFIC BASIN TRADE COMMISSION.**

6 **Sec. 44.19.700. ALASKA-PACIFIC BASIN TRADE COMMISSION.** There is
7 created an Alaska-Pacific Basin Trade Commission in the Office of the
8 Governor.

9 **Sec. 44.19.710. COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF OFFICE.** (a) The com-
10 mission consists of 19 members who, unless otherwise provided for in
11 (b) of this section, are appointed by the governor for overlapping
12 three-year terms.

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

22 **Sec. 44.19.720. ORGANIZATION AND MEETING OF THE COMMISSION.** Within
23 30 days after the appointment of all members, the commission shall meet
24 at a time and place agreed upon by a majority of the members through
25 correspondence to elect from the membership a chairman, a vice chairman
26 and such other officers as they consider necessary, and to establish
27 policy and rules to govern the commission. Eight members constitute a
28 quorum to do business.

29 **Sec. 44.19.730. COMPENSATION, PER DIEM, AND EXPENSES.** Members of

1 the commission are not entitled to a salary but are entitled to trans-
2 portation allowances and per diem provided for in AS 39.20.180.

3 **Sec. 44.19.740. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.** (a) The commission shall
4 employ an executive director. The executive director shall be profes-
5 sionally trained and experienced in the performance of his duties. The
6 selection of the executive director is subject to the approval of the
7 governor. The commission may delegate to the executive director the
8 functions it considers proper.

9 (b) The executive director shall not have business interests that
10 may be affected, either favorably or unfavorably, by the operation of
11 the commission.

12 **Sec. 44.19.750. DUTIES.** The primary duty of the commission is to
13 formulate specific projects for developing each of the potentially
14 marketable resources in the state, and then to find persons in the
15 Pacific Basin countries to develop and purchase the resources. In the
16 interest of maintaining a balance between imports and exports, the
17 commission also has the duty of assisting entrepreneurs in the Pacific
18 Basin countries to find markets for their products in Alaska. The
19 commission, in accomplishing its duties, shall

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

25 (2) arrange for and hold international conferences in Alaska
26 to discuss specific development or trade projects, to acquaint citizens
27 of countries of the Pacific Basin with development and trade prospects
28 in Alaska.

29 **Sec. 44.19.760. POWERS.** The commission may elect subcommittees

1 of any number of members to collect information and to travel to the
2 countries of the Pacific Basin to carry out its duties.

3 Sec. 44.19.770. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 700 - 780 of this chapter
4 "commission" means the Alaska-Pacific Basin Trade Commission. The
5 commission may make reports to the legislature and may recommend legis-
6 lation relating to projects to develop international trade.

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

9 * Sec. 3. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. Of the commission members appointed at
10 large under AS 44.19.710(b), the governor shall appoint three for an initial
11 term of one year, thres for an initial term of two years, and four for an
12 initial term of three years.

13 * Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect on the day after its
14 passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29