

Introduced: 3/11/67
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 289

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the clearing of agricultural
7 land."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 38 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 7. CLEARING AND DRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL LAND.

11 Sec. 38.07.010. SELECTION AND LEASE. (a) The director of the
12 division of agriculture may select areas of state land classified as
13 agricultural and contract for the land to be cleared or drained or
14 both at state expense. In this selection and contracting, the director
15 shall be guided by the recommendations of the U. S. Soil Conservation
16 Service.

17 (b) The land thus cleared or drained shall be put up for competi-
18 tive lease in lots of not less than 320 acres each.

19 Sec. 38.07.020. PROVISIONS OF LEASE. (a) The lease in sec.
20 10(b) of this chapter shall be for 10 years with an option for a
21 five-year renewal.

22 (b) Before a lessee can apply for ownership of the land, he
23 must crop the land for at least seven years. If a lessee does not
24 crop the land for at least seven years during his lease, the land shall
25 be open again for competitive lease.

26 (c) All rent the lessee has paid on the lease less interest on
27 appraised value, is to be applied toward the purchase price.

28 (d) There shall be included in the lease agreement a provision
29 prohibiting more than one farm unit on each half section of land.

1 **Sec. 38.07.030. OWNERS AND LESSEES INCLUDED.** (a) An owner of
2 agricultural land, or a lessee from the state of agricultural land, in
3 the general vicinity of the land to be cleared or drained under sec.
4 10(a) of this chapter may apply to the director of the division of
5 agriculture to have his land cleared or drained or both along with the
6 state land. The applicant's land shall be included in the contract of
7 land to be cleared or drained if, in the discretion of the director,
8 the inclusion is feasible and furthers the agricultural policies of
9 the division.

10 (b) The cost of clearing privately-owned land shall be borne by
11 the landowner. For this purpose, he may borrow money according to the
12 requirements and provisions of the Alaska Agricultural Loan Act
13 (AS 03.10).

14 (c) The cost of clearing land leased from the state, including
15 but not limited to school, university, and mental health land, shall
16 be borne by the state. The lessee shall repay the cost over a 10-year
17 period at five per cent interest.

18 **Sec. 38.07.040. LAND CERTIFICATES.** The contracts in sec. 10(a)
19 of this chapter may provide for payment by the state in the form of
20 land certificates which shall be equivalent to cash in the purchase
21 of land from the state.

22 **Sec. 38.07.050. REGULATIONS.** The division of agriculture shall,
23 guided by recommendations of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service,
24 promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this
25 chapter.

26 **Sec. 38.07.060. DEFINITIONS.** In this chapter

27 (1) "cleared", "clear", and "clearing" mean the preparation
28 of the land for planting;
29

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

(2) "cropped" means the management of a domestic planting including harvest.