

Introduced: 4/26/69
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SASSARA

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 407

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Alaska Conservation Commission."

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

8 * Section 1. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE 9D. ALASKA CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

10 Sec. 44.19.748. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The legislature recognizes
11 that the quality of man's existence is dependent on the quality of his
12 environment. It further recognizes that our natural resources are
13 responsible for the quality of our environment and constitute the
14 greatest wealth of all of the citizens of this state. Today these
15 priceless resources are endangered by the rapid industrialization of
16 the state and by the continuing development of the oil, timber, mining
17 and fishing industries. Each year our accelerating growth and expand-
18 ing economy compound the need for more efficient control of the utiliza-
19 tion of our natural resources. Because of the ecological relationships
20 of one resource to another, because of the interrelationships of pollu-
21 tion problems and because of resource injury and destruction, the
22 legislature finds that there is a need for new approaches to preserve
23 the quality of the total environment. One of these approaches is
24 embodied in the creation of the Alaska Conservation Commission.

25 Sec. 44.19.750. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMISSION. (a) There is
26 created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Conservation Commission.

27 (b) The governor shall select the members of the commission from
28 the organizations in the state having membership in excess of 100 per-
29 sons residing in the state and having as their main purpose and goal

1 the conservation of natural resources. Each organization shall submit
2 the names of three persons and the governor shall select one person
3 from each of the organizations submitting names. The members of the
4 commission serve at the pleasure of the governor and their appointments
5 are not subject to legislative confirmation.

6 Sec. 44.19.752. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office of each
7 member is three years. All vacancies shall be filled for the balance
8 of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments.

9 Sec. 44.19.754. COMPENSATION. The members of the commission may
10 not receive compensation for their services, but they shall receive
11 the same travel pay and per diem as provided by law for other commis-
12 sions and boards.

13 Sec. 44.19.756. CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN. The members of the
14 commission shall elect from among themselves a chairman and vice-chair-
15 man. The chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the commis-
16 sion.

17 Sec. 44.19.758. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at such
18 times and places it considers necessary.

19 Sec. 44.19.760. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The duties of the
20 commission are

21 (1) to serve as an advisory body for the governor on matters
22 affecting the natural resources of the state for the purposes of main-
23 taining ecological balance among the resources and maintaining the
24 quality of the environment at its present level or higher;

25 (2) to formulate and recommend needed changes in standards
26 for air and water pollution control and natural resource utilization
27 and preservation to the legislature;

28 (3) to make recommendations to the governor and to the state
29 departments and agencies regarding natural resource use and preserva-

1 tion, including preventative and restorative methods of resource devel-
2 opment, and pollution control.

3 Sec. 44.19.762. REPORTS. (a) The commission shall make an
4 annual report to the legislature and governor within five days after
5 the convening of each annual session of the legislature. The report
6 shall include a comprehensive description of the activities and ac-
7 complishments of the federal, state and local governments, and private
8 organizations and businesses in the conservation, development and
9 utilization of natural resources during the preceding fiscal year, and
10 an evaluation of the activities and accomplishments in terms of the
11 objective of conservation of the natural resources of the state and the
12 preservation of the environmental quality of the state.

13 (b) The report required under (a) of this section shall contain
14 the recommendations for legislative and administrative action as the
15 commission considers necessary and desirable to achieve the continuing
16 objectives of natural resource conservation and environmental quality
17 preservation.
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