

Introduced: 4/1/69  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 303

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 an environmental quality control  
7 commission."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 44.29 is amended by adding new sections to read:

10 ARTICLE 3. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION.

11 Sec. 44.29.100. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The legislature recognizes  
12 that the quality of man's life is irrevocably related to the quality of  
13 his environment. It further recognizes that clean air, clean water,  
14 unspoiled lands, and an overall healthy and pleasant environment are  
15 part of the inalienable heritage of the citizens of the state and con-  
16 stitute their greatest wealth and most important resources. Today  
17 these priceless resources are increasingly threatened. Each year, our  
18 accelerating growth and expanding economy compound the need for more  
19 efficient control of pollution, whether of air, water or land. Because  
20 of the ecological relationships of one resource to another and because  
21 of the interrelationships of pollution problems, the legislature finds  
22 that there is a need for coordinated efforts and solutions to combat  
23 pollution and maintain the quality of the total environment. This  
24 coordination can best be achieved by vesting coordinating authority over  
25 the fields of pollution and resource development in an Environmental  
26 Quality Control Commission.

27 Sec. 44.29.110. THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL COMMISSION.

28 There is created in the Department of Health and Welfare the Environ-  
29 mental Quality Control Commission composed of the Commissioners of

1 the Departments of Health and Welfare, Natural Resources, Fish and Game  
2 and Economic Development and three members appointed by the governor,  
3 one of whom shall be appointed from a list of three persons submitted  
4 by the COAST Commission and the remaining two shall be appointed from a  
5 list of five persons submitted by conservation and sportsman organizations

6 Sec. 44.29.120. TERM OF OFFICE. The term of office for the  
7 appointed members is four years. The first members appointed serve as  
8 follows: one member shall serve for two years, one for three years, and  
9 one for four years. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall request  
10 additional names to be submitted by the COAST Commission or the Alaska  
11 Conservation Society, and he shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired  
12 term.

13 Sec. 44.29.130. COMPENSATION. The members of the commission may  
14 not receive compensation for their services, but are entitled to per  
15 diem and travel expenses authorized by law for other boards and com-  
16 missions.

17 Sec. 44.29.140. CHAIRMAN. The commission shall organize and  
18 select one of its members to serve as chairman of the commission. The  
19 chairmanship of the commission shall be rotated regularly on an annual  
20 basis. The chairman shall be chief executive of the commission.

21 Sec. 44.29.150. PERSONNEL. The commission shall employ sufficient  
22 personnel to carry out the provisions of secs. 100 - 170 of this chapter

23 Sec. 44.29.160. MEETINGS AND QUORUM. The commission shall hold at  
24 least four meetings each calendar year and shall keep a record of its  
25 proceedings which shall be open to the public for inspection. Special  
26 meetings may be called by the chairman and must be called by him upon  
27 receipt of a written request signed by two or more members of the com-  
28 mission. Written notice of the time and place of each meeting shall be  
29 delivered to the office of each member of the commission. A majority of

1 the members of the commission constitute a quorum.

2 Sec. 44.29.170. POWERS. (a) The commission shall have the power  
3 to

4 (1) establish a prime value for each of the state's natural  
5 resources and direct the development of a resource so that it is main-  
6 tained consistent with the prime value established for it by the com-  
7 mission;

8 (2) oversee the development of all natural resources in the  
9 state for the purposes of maintaining ecological balance among the  
10 resources and maintaining the quality of the environment at its present  
11 level or higher;

12 (3) formulate and recommend needed changes in standards for  
13 air and water pollution control and land use to the legislature;

14 (4) make recommendations to the governor and to the state  
15 departments and agencies regarding pollution control, including pre-  
16 ventative and restorative methods and land use regulations;

17 (5) hold public hearings for the purpose of obtaining evi-  
18 dence and information relative to environmental quality problems;

19 (6) adopt regulations to implement and effectuate the pur-  
20 poses of secs. 100 - 170 of this chapter.

21 (b) The commission shall have all other powers necessary for and  
22 consistent with carrying out the purposes and duties of secs. 100 - 170  
23 of this chapter within the standards established by the legislature for  
24 air and water purity and land use.