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Referred: Commerce, State
Affairs and Finance

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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 91

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Department of Consumer Protec-
7 tion."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 44 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 47. DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.

11 Sec. 44.47.010. COMMISSIONER OF CONSUMER PROTECTION. The
12 principal executive officer of the Department of Consumer Protection
13 is the commissioner of consumer protection.

14 Sec. 44.47.020. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.
15 The Department of Consumer Protection shall

16 (1) conduct studies, investigations and research and advise
17 the executive and legislative branches in matters affecting consumer
18 interests;

19 (2) coordinate consumer services carried on by departments
20 and agencies;

21 (3) further consumer education, inform the public, through
22 appearances before federal and state committee, commission or depart-
23 ment hearings or otherwise, of such policies, decisions or legislation
24 as are beneficial or detrimental to consumers;

25 (4) inform the governor and attorney general of violations
26 of laws or regulations affecting consumers its investigations or
27 studies reveal;

28 (5) study and report all matters referred to it by the
29 governor.

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Sec. 44.47.030. POWERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.
The Department of Consumer Protection may

(1) appear, through the commissioner or a person designated by him, for and in behalf of the people of the state before boards, commissions, departments or agencies of the state in a hearing or matter affecting the rights of the consuming public or in a proceeding seeking an increase of rates or costs of services or commodities, and shall be considered an aggrieved party for the purpose of judicial or administrative review of a decision or ruling in any such proceedings in which it has appeared;

(2) call upon any department, board, commission or officer of the state or of a political subdivision of the state for information it desires in the course of its duties; and

(3) hold public hearings and establish rules of procedure governing the conduct of its hearings which shall be made available in printed form to each witness before his testimony.