

Introduced: 3/2/71
Referred: Resources, State
affairs and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FINK

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 237

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing an Alaska Public Land Law Review
7 Commission."

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 27. ALASKA PUBLIC LAND LAW REVIEW COMMISSION.

11 Sec. 38.27.010. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. It is the purpose of
12 this Act to establish a commission to study existing state and federal
13 statutes and regulations relating to the classification and adminis-
14 tration of public land, in order to develop recommendations for a
15 coordinated and comprehensive land use plan for the state, governing
16 the wise and beneficial use, in the public interest, of all state and
17 federal public land in the state, and to facilitate communication with
18 other states as to federal public land classification and review.

19 Sec. 38.27.020. CREATION OF THE COMMISSION. There is created
20 the Alaska Public Land Law Review Commission to exercise the duties
21 and powers conferred upon it by this chapter.

22 Sec. 38.27.030. COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION. (a) The commission
23 consists of 19 persons, appointed by the governor and confirmed by a
24 majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. The com-
25 mission shall include five representatives from the general public,
26 two representatives from federal agencies, and one representative
27 from each of the following fields:

- 28 (1) oil and gas;
29 (2) planning and zoning;

- 1 (3) mining;
- 2 (4) ecology;
- 3 (5) banking;
- 4 (6) conservation;
- 5 (7) recreation;
- 6 (8) commercial fishing;
- 7 (9) education;
- 8 (10) labor;
- 9 (11) public utilities;
- 10 (12) industry.

11 (b) The commission shall select one of its members to serve as
12 chairman.

13 (c) The commission shall meet at such times and places as circum-
14 stances require.

15 (d) Ten members constitute a quorum, but a smaller number, as
16 determined by the commission, may conduct hearings.

17 Sec. 38.27.040. COMPENSATION AND PER DIEM. Members of the com-
18 mission serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and
19 travel expenses authorized by law for other boards and commissions.

20 Sec. 38.27.050. STAFF AND LIAISON PERSONNEL. (a) The commission
21 may employ sufficient staff necessary to carry out the provisions of
22 secs. 10 - 80 of this chapter.

23 (b) The commission shall request the head of each federal depart-
24 ment or independent agency which has an interest in or responsibility
25 with respect to the retention, management, or disposition of federal
26 public land in the state, to appoint a liaison officer to work closely
27 with the commission and its staff in performing its duties under sec. 60
28 of this chapter.

29 Sec. 38.27.060. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. (a) The commission

1 shall

2 (1) study the existing statutes and regulations governing
3 the retention, management, and disposition of federal and state public
4 land in the state;

5 (2) review the policies of federal, state, and local agencies
6 concerning public land within their respective jurisdictions, as they
7 relate to the retention, management, and disposition of that land;

8 (3) compile data necessary to evaluate and determine the
9 various demands on existing public land;

10 (4) recommend modifications in existing policies, laws,
11 regulations and practices consistent with the purposes of sec. 10 of
12 this chapter;

13 (5) coordinate efforts with other states for a wise and
14 beneficial classification of federal land.

15 (b) The commission shall, not later than January 15, 1973,
16 submit a report to the governor and the legislature. The commission
17 shall cease to exist six months after submission of its report.

18 Sec. 38.27.070. POWERS OF COMMISSION. (a) The commission shall
19 hold public hearings on matters important to its duties under secs. 10
20 80 of this chapter. It shall give at least 30 days public notice
21 before the date of each hearing. The commission may receive testimony
22 from any party in interest who appears before it and compel the atten-
23 dance of witnesses; however, presence of witnesses may not be required
24 at a hearing held outside the state in which the witness is found,
25 resides, or transacts business.

26 (b) The commission is authorized to secure from any state
27 department, agency, or commission any information it considers neces-
28 sary to carry out its duties under this chapter. Information protected
29 by statute as confidential shall be held confidential by the commission.

1 Sec. 38.27.080. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 10 - 80 of this chapter

2 (1) "commission" means the Alaska Public Land Law Review
3 Commission;

4 (2) "public land" means all unoccupied state and federal
5 land not privately owned in the state and otherwise known as the public
6 domain.