

Introduced: 2/14/72
Referred: State Affairs
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HAUGEN

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 645

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the governance of the Department
7 of Highways; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 44.44 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 44.44.005. HIGHWAY COMMISSION. (a) The Department of
11 Highways is administered by a highway commission composed of five
12 persons appointed by the governor and confirmed by a majority of the
13 legislature in joint session. The term of office is six years.
14 Members serve at the pleasure of the governor.

15 (b) One commissioner shall be appointed from the state at large,
16 and one from each judicial district. No more than three of the members
17 may be registered members of the same political party.

18 (c) Members of the commission are entitled to an annual salary
19 and to the usual travel and per diem allowances for members of state
20 boards as provided by law.

21 * Sec. 2. AS 44.44.010 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 44.44.010. DIRECTOR [COMMISSIONER] OF HIGHWAYS. The
23 [PRINCIPAL] executive officer of the Department of Highways is the
24 director [COMMISSIONER] of highways. The director is appointed by the
25 highway commission subject to the approval of the governor. He acts
26 as the principal administrative officer of the department and serves
27 at the pleasure of the commission. The director shall be a registered
28 professional engineer experienced and skilled in state highway adminis-
29 tration, construction, and maintenance. He serves as an ex officio

1 member of the commission without vote.

2 * Sec. 3. AS 44.44.020 is amended to read:

3 Sec. 44.44.020. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION
4 [DEPARTMENT]. The commission [DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS] is charged with
5 (1) the duties involved in the construction, maintenance, and operation
6 of state highways, roads, bridges, traffic signs and signals, and other
7 like facilities; and (2) the supervision and maintenance of all state
8 automotive and mechanical equipment excluding aircraft and vessels.

9 * Sec. 4. AS 44.44.030 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 44.44.030. CONTRACTS FOR DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES.
11 If it is not feasible for the staff of the Department of Highways to
12 perform design and engineering services or surveys, the director [COM-
13 MISSIONER] may contract with a private engineering firm for design and
14 engineering services or surveys on a negotiated basis after reasonable
15 public notice is given. The prices submitted or negotiated shall
16 be available for public inspection upon request.

17 * Sec. 5. The governor shall initially appoint to the highway commission
18 two members for six-year terms, two members for four-year terms, and one
19 member for a two-year term.

20 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect on July 1, 1972.