

Introduced: 3/1/73  
Referred: Commerce, Judiciary  
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MEEKINS AND GARDINER

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 288

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Department of Consumer Protection."

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

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

9 CHAPTER 48. DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.

10 Sec. 44.48.010. COMMISSIONER OF CONSUMER PROTECTION. The principal  
11 executive officer of the Department of Consumer Protection is the  
12 commissioner of consumer protection.

13 Sec. 44.48.020. DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.  
14 The Department of Consumer Protection shall

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

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

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

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

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

29 Sec. 44.48.030. POWERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.

1 The Department of Consumer Protection may

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

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

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