

Introduced: 2/10/75  
Referred: Labor & Management  
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BRADNER AND MILLER

CS  
2 HOUSE BILL NO. 135

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to an annual cost-of-living and price  
7 survey; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 44.31.020(4) is amended to read:

10 (4) annually gather, analyze and publish data reflecting the  
11 cost of living in the various election districts of the state in  
12 accordance with sec. 30 of this chapter [UPON REQUEST OF THE DIRECTOR  
13 OF PERSONNEL UNDER AS 39.27.030 - 39.27.040].

14 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.31 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 Sec. 44.31.030. COST-OF-LIVING AND PRICE SURVEY. (a) It is the  
16 purpose of this section to provide a basic cost-of-living monitoring  
17 system for Alaska as a guide to labor and management in determining  
18 appropriate levels of compensation. Furthermore, the development of a  
19 cost and price monitoring system or index is useful to consumer protec-  
20 tion agencies and in presenting the interests of Alaska consumers  
21 before federal, state and local legislative and administrative bodies.

22 (b) Subject to legislative appropriation, the department shall  
23 contract with the Institute of Social, Economic and Government Research  
24 of the University of Alaska, or some other recognized, independent  
25 research agency expert in economic analysis, to conduct an annual cost-  
26 of-living survey for each election district in the state employing the  
27 data developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States  
28 Department of Labor. This survey shall reflect the increases or  
29 decreases in the cost-of-living in each election district by employing

1 the current base year established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for  
2 Anchorage, Alaska. This survey shall be made available to the public  
3 free-of-charge or at nominal cost and annually submitted to the  
4 director of the division of personnel, Department of Administration,  
5 under AS 39.27.030, and to the members of the legislature not later than  
6 60 days before the convening of each regular session of the legislature.

7 (c) The agency conducting the survey under (b) of this section also  
8 shall publish data in whatever other form it considers useful for  
9 consumer interest purposes, subject to legislative appropriation.

10 (d) In this section, "election district" means an election  
11 district designated in the governor's proclamation of reapportionment  
12 and redistricting of December 7, 1961 and retained as to the House of  
13 Representatives by the governor's proclamation of September 3, 1965.

14 \* Sec. 3. AS 39.27.030 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

15 Sec. 39.27.030. ANNUAL SALARY SURVEY. (a) The director shall  
16 conduct an annual salary survey in the manner prescribed by secs. 30 - 40  
17 of this chapter, and make recommendations in base pay and classification  
18 ranges to be applied to all classes of positions in the state's  
19 classified and partially exempt service.

20 (b) The cost-of-living survey conducted under AS 44.31.030 shall  
21 be employed by the director as a guide for establishing pay step  
22 differentials in each election district.

23 (c) The director, in compiling the survey required under (a) of  
24 this section shall reflect the competitive position of the state, first,  
25 by comparing state salary levels with the salary levels of comparable  
26 classes in private industry, in other governmental agencies throughout  
27 the state, and in other states constituting the prime recruiting areas,  
28 using "bench-mark" classes based on the principle of like pay for like  
29 work, from as many employment categories as is necessary to reflect

1 accurately the competitive position of the state salary levels with  
2 those of other employees under this subsection; and secondly, by  
3 comparing fringe benefits in the state service with other governmental  
4 agencies and major employers throughout the state.

5 (d) The director shall use a method of formal statistical analysis  
6 in arriving at the conclusions drawn by the annual salary survey.

7 (e) The director shall, on a regular basis, report to the state  
8 public employees association and to the Legislative Affairs Agency by  
9 providing a summary of the information accumulated during the data-  
10 gathering process; he shall consult with the public employees association  
11 and the Legislative Affairs Agency and consider its findings before  
12 his final recommendations.

13 (f) The Legislative Affairs Agency, through the legislative  
14 council, shall, on a regular basis, review the work of the division of  
15 personnel to assure that the director is proceeding in accordance with  
16 law.

17 \* Sec. 4. The cost-of-living survey conducted under AS 44.31.030 shall  
18 continue to be conducted by election districts as defined in AS 44.31.030(d)  
19 until the University of Alaska's Institute of Social, Economic and Government  
20 Research determines that there are districts more appropriate for the  
21 analysis of economic data. A change, if any, in districts may be submitted  
22 by the institute to the first session of a legislature, no later than 10  
23 days after that legislature convenes. The legislature may, by concurrent  
24 resolution, reject the proposed economic analysis districts; if the legisla-  
25 ture has not acted on the proposal within 45 days of its submission, the  
26 proposal becomes effective. If the legislature rejects the proposal,  
27 AS 44.31.030(d) remains in effect. If the proposal is permitted to become  
28 law it constitutes an amendment to AS 44.31.030(d), and the revisor of  
29 statutes shall incorporate the amendment into that section and change

1 references to "election districts" in AS 44.31.030 and AS 39.27.030 to  
2 "state economic analysis districts".

3 \* Sec. 5. The first cost-of-living survey under AS 44.31.030 is not due  
4 until December 1, 1976.

5 \* Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with  
6 AS 01.10.070(c).

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