

Original sponsor: Bradner and Miller

Offered: 4/18/75
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE LABOR AND
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR 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 accor-
12 dance with sec. 30 of this chapter [UPON REQUEST OF THE DIRECTOR OF
13 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 to conduct an annual cost-of-living survey
25 throughout the state. This survey shall reflect the increases or
26 decreases in the cost of living in each economic analysis district and
27 shall be related to the current base year established by the Bureau of
28 Labor Statistics for Anchorage, Alaska. This survey, including an
29 explanation of the methodology used, shall be made available to the

1 public at nominal cost and annually submitted to the director of the
2 division of personnel, Department of Administration, under AS 39.27.030,
3 and to the members of the legislature not later than 60 days before the
4 convening of each regular session of the legislature.

5 (c) The institute shall publish the data collected under (b) of
6 this section in whatever other form it considers useful for consumer
7 interest purposes, subject to legislative appropriation.

8 (d) In this section, "economic analysis district" means an elec-
9 tion district designated in the governor's proclamation of reapportion-
10 ment and redistricting of December 7, 1961 and retained as to the house
11 of representatives by the governor's proclamation of September 3, 1965.

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 AS 39.27.030 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

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

18 (b) The cost-of-living survey conducted under AS 44.31.030 shall
19 be employed by the director as a guide for establishing pay step differ-
20 entials in each economic analysis district, as defined by AS 44.31.030(d).

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

1 paring fringe benefits in the state service with other governmental
2 agencies and major employers throughout the state.

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

5 (e) The director shall, on a regular basis, report to all bar-
6 gaining agencies representing public employees in the state and to the
7 Legislative Affairs Agency by providing a summary of the information
8 accumulated during the data-gathering process; he shall consult with all
9 bargaining agencies representing public employees in the state and the
10 Legislative Affairs Agency before his final recommendations.

11 (f) The Legislative Affairs Agency, through the Legislative
12 Council, shall, on a regular basis, review the work of the division of
13 personnel relating to the annual salary survey to ensure that the
14 director is proceeding in accordance with law.

15 * Sec. 4. The cost-of-living survey conducted under AS 44.31.030 shall
16 continue to be conducted for the economic analysis districts as defined in
17 AS 44.31.030(d) until the University of Alaska's Institute of Social, Econo-
18 mic and Government Research determines that a redefinition of districts would
19 make them more appropriate for the analysis of economic data. A change, if
20 any, in districts may be submitted by the institute to the first session of a
21 legislature, no later than 10 days after that legislature convenes. The
22 legislature may, by concurrent resolution, reject the proposed economic
23 analysis districts; if the legislature has not acted on the proposal within
24 45 days of its submission, the proposal becomes effective. If the legisla-
25 ture rejects the proposal, AS 44.31.030(d) remains in effect. If the pro-
26 posal is permitted to become law it constitutes an amendment to AS 44.31.-
27 030(d), and the revisor of statutes shall incorporate the amendment into that
28 section and change references to "election districts" in AS 44.31.030 and
29 AS 39.27.030 to "state economic analysis districts".

1 * Sec. 5. The first cost-of-living survey under AS 44.31.030 is not due
2 until November 1, 1976.

3 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
4 070(c).

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