

Introduced: 4/11/75  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HBEIRNE AND OSTROSKY

2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 225

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 the elimination of architectural  
7 barriers in public buildings and facilities for physi-  
8 cally handicapped, aged or infirm persons; and provi-  
9 ding for an effective date."

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

11 \* Section 1. AS 35.10.015 is amended to read:

12 Sec. 35.10.015. ARCHITECTURAL BARRIER REGULATIONS; ENFORCEMENT.

13 The Department of Public Works shall prepare, promulgate and enforce  
14 [IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING AND PROMULGATING] regulations governing  
15 the construction of public buildings and facilities by or for the state,  
16 including the University of Alaska, and its political subdivisions,  
17 whether financed in whole or in part by federal funds, to insure that  
18 the public buildings and facilities are accessible to, and usable by,  
19 the physically handicapped, aged or infirm. The regulations of the  
20 department shall conform to applicable provisions of federal law or  
21 regulation and [AS FAR AS IT IS FEASIBLE] to the publication entitled  
22 "American Standard Specifications for Making Buildings and Facilities  
23 Accessible to and Usable by the Physically Handicapped" or any amend-  
24 ments to this publication as approved by the American Standards Associa-  
25 tion, Incorporated, under the sponsorship of the National Society for  
26 Crippled Children and Adults and the President's Committee on Employment  
27 of the Physically Handicapped.

28 \* Sec. 2. AS 35.10.015 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (b) In (a) of this section, "public facilities" includes vessels

1 owned by the state and operated by the division of marine transportation  
2 of the Department of Public Works as a part of the Alaska marine highway  
3 system. All ferries owned or operated by the state shall be equipped  
4 with elevators or other passenger lifting equipment, ramps, or other  
5 facilities and devices to ensure that these vessels are accessible to  
6 and usable by physically handicapped, aged or infirm passengers. In  
7 this subsection, "accessible to and usable by" means that a physically  
8 handicapped, aged or infirm passenger can board, disembark and move  
9 between decks and about the public areas aboard a state ferry with  
10 personal comfort and with safety to himself, other passengers and members  
11 of the crew.

12 \* Sec. 3. After the effective date of this Act, no ferry may be con-  
13 structed, lengthened, completely renovated, or purchased, leased or otherwise  
14 acquired for use or entered into service by the division of marine transporta-  
15 tion of the Department of Public Works as a part of the Alaska marine highway  
16 system that does not include elevators or other passenger lifting equipment,  
17 ramps, or other facilities and devices to ensure that the vessel is acces-  
18 sible to and usable by physically handicapped, aged or infirm passengers.  
19 Some staterooms, all public restrooms, indoor passageways and outdoor weather  
20 decks, and other public areas aboard the vessel shall be so designed and  
21 constructed as to permit access and use by physically handicapped, aged or  
22 infirm passengers, including but not limited to those persons occupying a  
23 wheelchair.

24 \* Sec. 4. After the effective date of this Act, no public building or  
25 facility in the state may be planned, designed, financed, constructed, opened  
26 to public use, or otherwise placed in operation unless it meets the standards  
27 established under AS 35.10.015, as amended by this Act. A public building or  
28 facility in existence on the effective date of this Act that does not conform  
29 to the standards prescribed in AS 35.10.015, as amended by this Act, shall be

1 brought into conformity with those standards not later than 10 years after  
2 the effective date of this Act.

3 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-  
4 070(c).

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