

Introduced: 1/15/76
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
2 REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

3 HOUSE BILL NO. 579
4 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
5 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

6 A BILL

7 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a local environmental enhancement
8 program; and providing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 46.03 is amended by adding a new section in Article
11 8 to read:

12 Sec. 46.03.850. ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM. (a) There
13 is established as a special account in the general fund an "Environ-
14 mental Enhancement Account", into which shall be deposited

15 (1) money received in out-of-court settlements arising
16 from violations of any law, regulation, permit or order issued or admini-
17 stered by the department;

18 (2) money received through awards of damages in civil
19 actions of fines assessed in criminal actions brought by or on behalf
20 of the department, to the extent those awards are not used to restore
21 the damaged environment under sec. 780 of this chapter; and

22 (3) money received from any federal, state or other govern-
23 mental unit, or from any person, donated or granted to the state
24 for use under (b) of this section.

25 (b) The legislature may appropriate from the environmental
26 enhancement account to the department money to be used to aid poli-
27 tical subdivisions of the state and citizen groups in implementing
28 projects which will enhance the local environment. Projects eligible
29 for assistance under this section include, but are not limited to

- 1 (1) collection and disposal of litter and debris;
2 (2) local beautification efforts;
3 (3) vegetation or revegetation of roadways, parks or other
4 public areas;
5 (4) protection and enhancement of historic or cultural
6 sites.

7 (c) The department shall adopt regulations governing the granting
8 of assistance under (b) of this section. Preference in the award
9 of grants under (b) shall be given to those political subdivisions
10 and citizen groups (1) which cannot, without substantial hardship,
11 undertake local environmental enhancement projects without assistance
12 through the environmental enhancement account; and (2) in areas of
13 the state where environmental damage has occurred as a result of
14 violations of this chapter. The environmental enhancement account
15 may not be used to fund more than 90 per cent of the cost of a project.

16 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1976.
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