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AND COLLETTA

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 196

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Commission on Aging; and trans-  
7 ferring the Office on Aging to the Office of the  
8 Governor."

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

10 \* Section 1. AS 47 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 65. COMMISSION ON AGING.

12 Sec. 47.65.010. COMMISSION ON AGING. There is established within  
13 the Office of the Governor the Commission on Aging to replace the  
14 governor's Advisory Committee on Aging.

15 Sec. 47.65.020. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION, TERM OF OFFICE, CHAIR-  
16 PERSON. (a) The commission consists of 11 members.

17 (b) Nine members are appointed by the governor and serve at the  
18 pleasure of the governor. At least six shall be actual consumers of  
19 services under this chapter, including low-income and minority persons  
20 at least in proportion to the number of low-income and minority older  
21 persons in the state. The remaining three shall be broadly representa-  
22 tive of the major public and private agencies and organizations in the  
23 state who are experienced in or have demonstrated particular interest in  
24 the special needs of the aging. These members serve staggered terms of  
25 three years or until their successors are appointed, except that a  
26 member appointed to an unexpired term serves the duration of that term.  
27 On the first board three members serve one-year terms, three members  
28 serve two-year terms, and three members serve three-year terms.

29 (c) The two remaining members are the chairpersons of the senate

1 and house committees on health, education and social services, who serve  
2 as long as they are chairpersons of these committees.

3 (d) A chairperson and a vice-chairperson of the commission shall  
4 be elected from the membership to serve terms of one year. The vice-  
5 chairperson serves as chairperson in the absence of the elected chair-  
6 person.

7 Sec. 47.65.030. MEETINGS; QUORUM. The commission shall meet at  
8 least four times a year; the chairperson working with the director  
9 shall schedule the meetings and may call additional meetings when  
10 necessary. Six members constitute a quorum.

11 Sec. 47.65.040. COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS. (a) Members  
12 receive no compensation for service on the commission; however, members  
13 are entitled to travel expenses and per diem authorized by law.

14 Sec. 47.65.050. DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF THE COMMISSION. (a) The  
15 principal executive officer of the commission is the director of the  
16 Commission on Aging. The director is appointed by the governor as a  
17 partially exempt employee and serves at the pleasure and direction of  
18 the governor for the implementation of programs adopted by the commis-  
19 sion, and to provide full-time management and assistance to the commis-  
20 sion in carrying out its duties. The director shall attend the meetings  
21 of the commission but may not vote.

22 (b) The director shall employ, within the funds appropriated to  
23 the commission, staff necessary to assist him in the performance of his  
24 duties.

25 Sec. 47.65.060. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. (a) The  
26 commission shall

- 27 (1) oversee the duties performed by the Office on Aging;  
28 (2) coordinate and evaluate state programs concerned with the  
29 problems and the needs of the aging, including those dealing with educa-

1 tion, employment, health, welfare, and recreation;

2 (3) administer federal programs relating to the aging re-  
3 quiring state action which are not specifically entrusted to another  
4 state agency;

5 (4) implement new programs and changes in existing programs  
6 for the benefit of the aging in the state;

7 (5) assist private organizations serving the aging;

8 (6) conduct hearings and studies for public input on the  
9 problems facing the aging and the means to best serve their needs;

10 (7) conduct training seminars for persons working with the  
11 aging;

12 (8) help aging Alaskans lead dignified, independent, and  
13 useful lives, and provide special aid to aging persons with low incomes,  
14 members of minority groups, and those who are physically or mentally  
15 handicapped.

16 (b) The commission may aid cities and boroughs by assisting in  
17 establishing local commissions to deal with the problems of the aging,  
18 provided that the respective cities and boroughs contribute equal funds  
19 for the establishment of the local commissions.

20 (c) The commission has no powers or duties with respect to the  
21 Pioneer Homes and the longevity bonus programs.

22 Sec. 47.65.070. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter unless the context  
23 indicates otherwise

24 (1) "commission" means the Commission on Aging; and

25 (2) "director" means the director of the Commission on Aging.

26 \* Sec. 2. The Office on Aging, including its coordinator and staff, is  
27 transferred from the Department of Health and Social Services to the Office  
28 of the Governor.