

1 IN THE SENATE

BY RADER, RODEY AND KERTTULA

2 SENATE BILL NO. 369

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a rental assistance program in
7 pipeline impacted areas where acute housing shortages
8 exist; and providing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 18 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 57. RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

12 Sec. 18.57.010. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. The legislature
13 finds that in pipeline impacted areas of the state there may exist an
14 inadequate supply of decent, safe, and sanitary dwelling units at rentals
15 which families of low income can afford without depriving themselves of
16 other necessities of life, and that housing shortages in these areas will
17 probably abate when pipeline construction is completed. The purpose of
18 this Act is to authorize a rental assistance program for low income
19 persons in these areas, within the limits of state appropriations for
20 this purpose, for the duration of pipeline construction.

21 Sec. 18.57.020. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM. If the commissioner
22 of commerce finds that in a pipeline impacted area of the state the
23 vacancy rate of rental housing is so low that there is a substantial
24 impairment of free choice in rental housing, he shall implement a rental
25 assistance program in that area in accordance with the provisions of this
26 chapter.

27 Sec. 18.57.030. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS CHAPTER.

28 (a) When the commissioner makes a finding under sec. 20 of this chapter
29 that rental assistance is needed in a pipeline impacted area of the

1 state, the department shall

2 (1) develop by regulation, with the cooperation of the Depart-
3 ment of Health and Social Services, eligibility and level of need
4 standards for rental assistance in the area affected;

5 (2) adopt by regulation a scale of maximum rents, including
6 utility charges under which rental assistance may be provided under this
7 chapter.

8 (b) The department may

9 (1) enter into contracts with owners of residential housing in
10 the area determined under sec. 20 of this chapter to be in need of
11 rental assistance to pay a rent supplement on behalf of the eligible
12 tenant in an amount and for the period of time the department determines
13 necessary, considering the need of the tenant, the amount appropriated
14 to the department for rental assistance, and the purposes of this
15 chapter. The department may not contract with an owner of residential
16 housing unless

17 (A) the housing which is the subject of the proposed
18 contract is certified to the department by an appropriate official,
19 if any, to be in compliance with provisions in the applicable law,
20 regulation, code, or ordinances governing minimum standards of
21 fitness for human habitation, if any; and

22 (B) the rent charged by the owner for the housing which
23 is the subject of the proposed contract is not in excess of rents
24 for similar residential rental housing in the area in which assis-
25 tance is made available;

26 (2) adopt regulations in addition to those required by this
27 chapter for the implementation of this chapter, including regulations
28 governing applications, terms and conditions of contracts, and other
29 matters determined by the commissioner to be necessary to carry out the

1 purposes of this chapter.

2 Sec. 18.57.040. ASSISTANCE NOT CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING OTHER
3 BENEFITS. Amounts paid on behalf of tenants under this chapter may not
4 be considered in determining the amount of welfare or other public
5 assistance otherwise authorized by law.

6 Sec. 18.57.050. APPLICABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT.
7 Regulations adopted under this chapter and determinations by the commis-
8 sioner under sec. 20 of this chapter may be appealed under the Adminis-
9 trative Procedure Act (AS 44.62).

10 Sec. 18.57.060. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

11 (1) "department" means the Department of Commerce;

12 (2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of commerce.

13 * Sec. 2. This Act expires July 1, 1980.

14 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1975.

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