

Introduced: 4/14/77
Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY PARR, BRADLEY AND LETHIN

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 471

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the decentralization of the execu-
7 tive branch of the state government; and providing for
8 an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 44 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 7. DECENTRALIZATION OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

12 Sec. 44.07.010. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that
13 there is a growing tendency to centralize decision making at the top
14 levels of the principal executive departments, that such centralization
15 results in increased numbers of intermediaries between commissioners and
16 the state officers and employees who directly render services to the
17 public, that this results in inefficient, time-consuming, expensive, and
18 often unnecessary review and approval procedures and discourages the use
19 of initiative by state officers and employees. The legislature further
20 finds that centralization results in an overly-large number of state
21 officers and employees in the state capital and a corresponding in-
22 sufficiency at the regional, district and local offices where services
23 are directly rendered to the public. The legislature finds it necessary
24 and in the public interest to mandate a decentralization of decision-
25 making authority to regional, district and local offices and to limit
26 the number of state officers and employees in the headquarters offices
27 in the state capital.

28 Sec. 44.07.020. EFFECTIVE DATE OF DECENTRALIZATION. After June 30
29 1981 no more than 15 per cent of the total number of state employees

1 may be employed in the headquarters offices of the principal executive
2 departments in the state capital.

3 Sec. 44.07.030. DETERMINATION BY THE GOVERNOR. Within 180 days of
4 the effective date of this chapter the governor shall prescribe, for
5 each department of the executive branch, the number of employees who may
6 be employed in the state capital. The governor may from time to time
7 amend this directive.

8 Sec. 44.07.040. DEPARTMENTAL PLANS. (a) Each department shall
9 prepare a plan for the phased decentralization of its activities to meet
10 the ceiling imposed by the governor. Each plan shall include:

11 (1) the location of each regional, district, or local office
12 now established or to be established;

13 (2) the scope of authority of the state officer or employee
14 in charge of the office;

15 (3) the scope of the decision-making authority reserved to
16 the commissioner or his immediate subordinates in the state capital; and

17 (4) recommendations for legislation needed to carry out the
18 provisions of this chapter.

19 (b) Plans required under (a) of this section shall be submitted to
20 the First Session, Eleventh Legislature, no later than 10 days after it
21 convenes.

22 Sec. 44.07.050. REPORT BY THE GOVERNOR. The budget submitted by
23 the governor for fiscal year 1980 and fiscal year 1981 shall be accom-
24 panied by a report of the progress made in implementing this chapter.

25 Sec. 44.07.060. BUDGET PREPARATION. No budget for 1982 or suc-
26 ceeding fiscal years may propose to employ more than 15 per cent of the
27 total number of state employees in the principal executive departments
28 in the state capital.

29 Sec. 44.07.070. REGIONAL, DISTRICT OR LOCAL OFFICES IN THE STATE

1 CAPITAL. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the establishment of a
2 regional, district or local office of a principal executive department
3 in the state capital if there is a clear functional division between it
4 and the headquarters office. Employees in the regional, district or
5 local office shall not be counted against the ceiling prescribed by the
6 governor under sec. 30 of this chapter.

7 Sec. 44.07.080. EXCLUSION OF DEPARTMENTS. Departments of the
8 executive branch which on the effective date of this chapter have their
9 headquarters offices located in a city other than the state capital are
10 excluded from the computation of total number of state employees under
11 sec. 30 of this chapter.

12 Sec. 44.07.090. INCLUSION OF DIVISIONS. Divisions which on the
13 effective date of this chapter are located in a city other than the
14 state capital shall be included in departmental plans for phased decen-
15 tralization of activities required by sec. 40 of this chapter.

16 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1977.

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