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Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR
MARINE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT

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CS HOUSE BILL NO. 665

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska Marine Transportation
7 Advisory Board."

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

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* Section 1. AS 19 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

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CHAPTER 75. ALASKA MARINE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD.

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Sec. 19.75.010. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The state ferry system,
operated by the division of marine transportation in the Department of
Transportation and Public Facilities, its management, officers, crews,
vessels, terminals, routes and other facilities and services, is a
moving highway commonly known as the Alaska Marine Highway. It is a
substitute for a network of roads and highways along and through the
maritime areas of the state where geography makes the construction and
maintenance of a traditional highway system economically unfeasible,
environmentally unsound, and impractical from an engineering standpoint.
It is the purpose of this chapter to provide users of the state ferry
system and the taxpayers of the state with a ferry service operated and
managed as a public service for their benefit under a fair and reason-
able tariff schedule, and to ensure that marine transportation services
will be rendered equitably, economically and efficiently to all users.
It is also the purpose of this chapter to make certain that the state
ferry system is properly developed and operated, in coordination with
other transportation modes and services, to assure the traveling public
complete and dependable marine transportation services, and that the
state ferry system is operated in the public interest.

1 Sec. 19.75.020. ALASKA MARINE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD.

2 There is created within the Department of Transportation and Public
3 Facilities the Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board.

4 Sec. 19.75.030. MEMBERSHIP AND VACANCIES. The board consists of
5 five members appointed by the governor. At least three members must be
6 from communities in the state served by the marine highway system. The
7 appointment of each member is subject to confirmation by a majority of
8 the legislature. Members serve at the pleasure of the governor for
9 five-year terms. They must be residents of the state and qualified
10 voters at the time of their appointment and shall comply with the re-
11 quirements of AS 39.50 (conflict of interest). The members first
12 appointed shall have terms of one, two, three, four, and five years
13 respectively. Each member shall hold office for the term of his appoint-
14 ment and until his successor has been appointed and qualified. A
15 member is qualified for reappointment. A vacancy in a membership
16 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled in the same
17 manner as the original appointment but only for the unexpired term.
18 Each member, before entering upon his duties, shall take and subscribe
19 to an oath to perform the duties of his office faithfully, impartially
20 and justly to the best of his ability. A record of the oath shall be
21 filed with the Office of the Governor.

22 Sec. 19.75.040. COMPENSATION. The members of the board serve
23 without compensation, but are entitled to travel and per diem expenses
24 as provided in AS 39.20.180.

25 Sec. 19.75.050. OFFICERS, MEETINGS, RULES, AND QUORUM. (a) The
26 members shall elect one of their number as chairman.

27 (b) The board shall prescribe its own rules of procedure. It
28 shall meet at a time and place determined by the chairman, and at other
29 times and places as the chairman, or a majority of the board members,

1 considers necessary. The board shall hold meetings to provide an oppor-
2 tunity for the public to comment on any proposed tariff increases or
3 scheduling changes.

4 (c) The powers of the board are vested in the members, and three
5 members of the board constitute a quorum. Action may be taken and
6 motions and resolutions adopted by the board at any meeting by the
7 affirmative vote of at least three members. A vacancy in the membership
8 of the board does not impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the
9 powers and perform all the duties of the authority.

10 Sec. 19.75.060. DUTIES. The board shall advise the governor and
11 the legislature and make recommendations regarding the operation, in-
12 cluding schedules and tariffs, management, and planning and construction
13 of facilities, of the marine highway system. Before March 1 of each
14 year, the board shall submit to the governor and the legislature a
15 comprehensive report describing the operations, recommendations made,
16 and expenditures for the preceding year.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 39.50.200(9) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to
18 read:

19 (NN) Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board.

20 * Sec. 3. AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

21 (6) Alaska Marine Transportation Advisory Board --
22 June 30, 1982.