

Original sponsor: Rules Committee by
request of the Governor

Offered: 6/8/78
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 722 am S

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to science and technology."

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

8 * Section 1. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE 4. ALASKA COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

10 Sec. 44.19.181. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

11 (1) there exist in this state scientific and technological
12 research capabilities which have the potential to contribute signi-
13 ficantly to the processes of state government, to industry, and to the
14 public welfare;

15 (2) the scientific and technological capabilities of the
16 state should be available to assist in issue analysis and fact finding
17 necessary for governmental policy-making activities; however, adequate
18 mechanisms have not been developed in Alaska either to articulate the
19 informational needs of policy makers to the research community or to use
20 the existing resources available from the public, the academic commun-
21 ity, and the private sector;

22 (3) expenditures on science and technology are not adequately
23 coordinated in the state to achieve the highest and best use of research
24 dollars;

25 (4) there are gains to be realized by establishing a co-
26 ordinating and funding mechanism between those who formulate and ad-
27 minister state policy and the Alaska scientific and technological com-
28 munity for the purpose of assuring the availability of more and better
29 information for future issue analysis and formulation and execution of

1 policy.

2 Sec. 44.19.191. COUNCIL ESTABLISHED. (a) There is established in
3 the Office of the Governor the Alaska Council on Science and Technology.
4 The council consists of seven members who are appointed by the governor
5 upon the recommendations of the state's scientific, engineering, and
6 related communities and organizations. Appointees to the council shall
7 be confirmed by a majority of the legislature. Members have overlapping
8 three-year terms, except that, of the first members, two have terms of
9 one year, two have terms of two years, and three have terms of three
10 years. Two members shall be selected from different executive depart-
11 ments of state government having significant research activities, two
12 members shall be selected from the Alaska academic community, two mem-
13 bers shall have significant activities or direct interests in research
14 and shall be selected from the general public, and one member shall be
15 selected from the staff of the legislature. The council shall elect one
16 of its members as chairman. A chairman may be elected for successive
17 terms as chairman and serves until his successor is designated. Four
18 members constitute a quorum.

19 (b) Council members receive no compensation but are entitled to
20 the travel and per diem provided by law for members of boards or com-
21 missions.

22 Sec. 44.19.201. PURPOSE, POWERS, AND DUTIES. (a) The purpose of
23 the council is to review and recommend the scientific and technological
24 research needs of state government, to issue research grants and con-
25 tracts, to oversee the issued grants and contracts, to promote high
26 standards of research for the priorities proposed by the council, and to
27 address stated legislative or administrative requests for research.

28 (b) The council may

29 (1) apprise itself of local, state, federal, and private

1 research programs, activities, and needs;

2 (2) convene committees, task forces, conferences, public
3 hearings, and other meetings necessary to carry out the council's pur-
4 poses;

5 (3) award research grants and contracts on a fair and com-
6 petitive basis and administer those grants and contracts;

7 (4) enter into agreements creating one or more systems of
8 information exchange with any appropriate research funding sources;

9 (5) at the request of any state agency, enter into and ad-
10 minister, but not perform, the research under research grants and con-
11 tracts funded by that state agency;

12 (6) investigate the need for and when necessary establish ad-
13 visory committees for reviewing its program;

14 (7) request and receive from any agency of the state govern-
15 ment the assistance and data needed to carry out the requirements of
16 this section;

17 (8) hire an executive director and staff that may be neces-
18 sary to implement secs. 181 - 221 of this chapter.

19 (c) The council shall

20 (1) develop methods of surveying research needs of the state,
21 based on the present and future information needs of policy makers,
22 state agencies, and the public at large;

23 (2) annually review the research needs and propose priorities
24 for funding;

25 (3) annually submit to the governor and the legislature the
26 findings of the council, including a listing, description, ranking, and
27 justification of research needs, and a commentary on significant re-
28 search activities of the preceding year funded by the state and includ-
29 ing the relationship of such research to the state's needs and priorities;

1 (4) promote and enhance standards for research activities for
2 which the council has administrative oversight;

3 (5) establish review procedures for research proposals;

4 (6) at the request of either the governor or the legislature,
5 advise in a timely fashion on inquiries concerning scientific investiga-
6 tion or comment;

7 (7) evaluate and forward to appropriate agencies and persons
8 products of research activities funded by the council; the council shall
9 prepare comments to accompany research reports summarizing the applica-
10 tions, importance, or further research needs demonstrated by the find-
11 ings of council-supported research;

12 (8) coordinate its data and information needs with other
13 research organizations in order to avoid unnecessary duplication;

14 (9) not conduct any research itself other than that necessary
15 to further the purpose of the council as provided in (a) of this sec-
16 tion;

17 (10) supply to any person or agency requesting assistance the
18 available information on past or present research activities for which
19 the council has information, except that the council shall not release
20 information which may endanger the acceptance of any research proposal
21 which is at the time competing with other proposals for funding.

22 Sec. 44.19.221. RECORDS, REPORTS. (a) The council shall have its
23 financial records audited by an independent certified public accountant.
24 The internal auditor and legislative auditor shall jointly prescribe the
25 form and content of the financial records of the council and shall be
26 afforded access to these records at any time.

27 (b) Before January 15 of each year, the council shall submit to
28 the governor and the legislature a comprehensive report describing
29 operations and expenditures and the status of grants and contracts for

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the last preceding fiscal year.

(c) The provisions of AS 09.25.110 - 09.25.120 apply to the council.

Sec. 44.19.231. DEFINITION. In secs. 181 - 231 of this chapter, "council" means the Alaska Council on Science and Technology established in sec. 191 of this chapter.

Sec. 44.19.241. TITLE. Sections 181 - 221 of this chapter may be cited as the Science and Technology Act.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.66.010(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(6) Alaska Council on Science and Technology -- June 30, 1983.

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