

Original sponsor: Rules Committee by request
of the Governor

Offered: 5/14/77
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 45

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 radiation protection."

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

8 * Section 1. AS 18.60 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 ARTICLE 5. RADIATION PROTECTION.

10 Sec. 18.60.475. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT. (a) The de-
11 partment shall

12 (1) adopt regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of
13 secs. 475 - 545 of this chapter;

14 (2) develop comprehensive policies and programs for the
15 evaluation and determination of hazards associated with the use of
16 radiation sources and their amelioration;

17 (3) encourage, participate in, and conduct studies, investi-
18 gations, training, research and demonstrations relating to the control
19 of radiation hazards, the measurement of radiation, the effects on
20 health of exposure to radiation and related problems it considers
21 necessary or advisable for the discharge of its duties;

22 (4) collect and disseminate health education information
23 relating to radiation protection;

24 (5) review plans and shielding specifications for radiation
25 sources;

26 (6) inspect radiation sources, their shielding and immediate
27 surroundings, and records concerning their operation for the determi-
28 nation of possible radiation hazard;

29 (7) contract with other state agencies to assist them in

1 performing functions which require expertise in determining and reducing
2 the hazards of radiation.

3 (b) The department may keep confidential data obtained as a
4 result of registration or investigation.

5 Sec. 18.60.485. RADIATION SOURCES. Radiation sources shall be
6 shielded, transported, handled, used, and kept to prevent users and
7 other persons from being exposed to concentrations of radionuclides or
8 levels of radiation exceeding those limits established by the department
9 in regulations.

10 Sec. 18.60.495. NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATION AND ORDER OF ABATEMENT.
11 When the department finds, after inspection and examination of a source
12 of radiation as constructed, operated, or maintained, that there has
13 been a violation of a provision of secs. 475 - 545 of this chapter, it
14 shall notify the person causing or permitting the violation of the
15 nature of the violation and order the person to stop it.

16 Sec. 18.60.505. AUTHORITY OF DEPARTMENT IN CASES OF EMERGENCY.
17 When the department finds that an emergency exists requiring immediate
18 action to protect the public health or welfare from radiation, it may
19 issue an order reciting the existence of an emergency and requiring that
20 action be taken to meet the emergency. The order is effective immedi-
21 ately. A person to whom an order is directed shall comply with it
22 immediately, but on application to the department shall be given a
23 hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62). After a
24 hearing, the department may affirm, revoke, or modify the order.

25 Sec. 18.60.515. ASSISTING OTHER AGENCIES. The department shall,
26 on the request of another state agency, contract with that agency to
27 assist it in performing functions which require expertise in determining
28 or reducing the hazards of radiation. This assistance may include
29 conducting inspections and investigations and providing technical

1 assistance.

2 Sec. 18.60.525. EXCEPTIONS. (a) Sections 475 - 485 of this
3 chapter do not limit the intentional exposure of patients to radiation
4 for the purpose of diagnosis or therapy, or medical research, when
5 conducted as authorized by law and in accordance with accepted radiation
6 safety principles.

7 (b) Section 475(a)(5) and (6) of this chapter do not apply to the
8 private use of radiation sources in the home.

9 Sec. 18.60.535. PENALTIES. A person who violates a regulation,
10 standard, or order of the department adopted or issued under secs. 475 -
11 545 of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is
12 punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not
13 more than one year, or by both. Each day upon which a violation occurs
14 constitutes a separate offense.

15 Sec. 18.60.545. DEFINITIONS. In secs. 475 - 545 of this chapter

16 (1) "department" means the Department of Health and Social
17 Services;

18 (2) "electronic product" means a manufactured product which

19 (A) when in operation contains or acts as part of an
20 electronic circuit and emits, or in the absence of effective
21 shielding or other controls would emit, electronic product radi-
22 ation; or

23 (B) is intended for use as a component, part, or acces-
24 sory of a product described in (A) of this paragraph and which when
25 in operation emits, or in the absence of effective shielding or
26 other controls would emit, electronic product radiation;

27 (3) "electronic product radiation" means any ionizing or non-
28 ionizing, electromagnetic or particulate radiation, or a sonic, infra-
29 sonic, or ultrasonic wave which is emitted from an electronic product as

1 the result of the operation of an electronic circuit in the product;

2 (4) "radiation sources" means both electronic product and
3 nuclear radiation sources;

4 (5) "radionuclide" means any atom which may spontaneously
5 emit particles or gamma radiation or may emit X-radiation following
6 orbital electron capture or may undergo spontaneous fission;

7 (6) "state agency" or "agency of the state" means a state
8 department or agency, whether in the legislative, judicial, or executive
9 branch, including such entities as the Alaska State Housing Authority;
10 "state agency" or "agency of the state" does not include the University
11 of Alaska, a municipality, or an agency of a municipality.

12 * Sec. 2. AS 44.65 is amended by adding a new section to read:

13 Sec. 44.65.060. RESTRICTION ON CONTRACTING WITH OR EMPLOYING EX-
14 PERTS ON RADIATION HAZARDS. (a) No state agency other than the Depart-
15 ment of Health and Social Services may

16 (1) contract, other than with the Department of Health and
17 Social Services, to have services performed which require expertise in
18 determining or reducing the hazards of radiation; or

19 (2) employ a person whose duties require expertise in deter-
20 mining or reducing the hazards of radiation.

21 (b) As used in this section, "state agency" or "agency of the
22 state" means a state department or agency, whether in the legislative,
23 judicial, or executive branch, including such entities as the Alaska
24 State Housing Authority; "state agency" or "agency of the state" does
25 not include the University of Alaska, a municipality, or an agency of a
26 municipality.

27 * Sec. 3. AS 46.03.250 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

28 Sec. 46.03.250. AUTHORITY. The department shall adopt regulations
29 establishing standards governing the discharge of radionuclides to the

1 air, water, land, and subsurface land of the state.

2 * Sec. 4. AS 46.03.260 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

3 Sec. 46.03.260. USE OF ATOMIC RADIATION. A person who conducts an
4 operation which results in the discharge of radionuclides to the air,
5 water, land or subsurface land of the state must obtain a permit from
6 the department before commencing the discharge.

7 * Sec. 5. AS 46.03.290 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

8 Sec. 46.03.290. AUTHORITY OF DEPARTMENT IN CASES OF EMERGENCY.

9 (a) When the department finds that an actual or imminent discharge of
10 radionuclides to the air, water, land or subsurface land of the state
11 poses an immediate threat to the public health or welfare, or the
12 environment of the state, it may issue an order declaring an emergency
13 and directing a person or persons to take action the department believes
14 necessary to meet the emergency, and protect the public health, welfare,
15 or environment.

16 (b) A person to whom an order is directed shall comply with it
17 immediately, but on application to the department shall be given a
18 hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62). Thereafter
19 the department may affirm, revoke or modify the order.

20 (c) During a period of emergency declared under (a) of this
21 section, each state agency, including, when appropriate, the Department
22 of Military Affairs under the authority conferred by AS 26.20, shall
23 take whatever action the department finds necessary to meet the emer-
24 gency, and to protect the public health, welfare, or environment.

25 * Sec. 6. AS 46.03.900 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

26 (23) "radionuclide" means any atom which may spontaneously
27 emit particles or gamma radiation or may emit X-radiation following
28 orbital electron capture or may undergo spontaneous fission.

29 * Sec. 7. Regulations adopted under authority of statutes repealed or

1 amended by this Act shall remain in effect until repealed by the Department
2 of Environmental Conservation in consultation with the Department of Health
3 and Social Services.

4 * Sec. 8. Section 1 of this Act does not confer authority on the Depart-
5 ment of Health and Social Services or limit the authority of the Department of
6 Labor to adopt regulations concerning radiation exposure in the occupational
7 setting.

8 * Sec. 9. AS 46.03.020(10)(F), 46.03.270, 46.03.280, 46.03.300, 46.03.-
9 310, 46.03.840, 46.03.900(7), 46.03.900(8), 46.03.900(16), and 46.03.900(17)
10 are repealed.

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