

Original sponsor: Kerttula

Offered: 3/5/79  
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 14

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to agricultural development; and providing for an effective date."

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

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

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ARTICLE 7A. ALASKA AGRICULTURAL ACTION COUNCIL.

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Sec. 44.19.520. CREATION OF COUNCIL. (a) There is established in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Agricultural Action Council. The council is composed of five members appointed by the governor. The chairman of the council is to be designated by the governor from among the members.

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(b) The council may invite representatives from the United States Soil Conservation Service, the United States Forest Service, or from other federal agencies to participate in the deliberations of the council in an advisory capacity.

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(c) The term of a member of the council is four years. Vacancies are filled in the same manner as original appointments, but a member appointed to fill a vacancy serves for the unexpired term of the member he succeeds.

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Sec. 44.19.525. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS. (a) Members of the council who are not state officers or employees receive \$55 for each day in meeting, and are entitled to per diem and travel expenses provided for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.

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(b) State officers or employees appointed as members of the council serve without compensation but are entitled to receive per diem

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1 and travel expenses from council funds.

2 Sec. 44.19.530. MEETINGS. The council shall schedule regular  
3 meetings during the year, and may hold special meetings upon the call of  
4 the chairman or four members of the council.

5 Sec. 44.19.535. QUORUM. Three members of the council constitute a  
6 quorum. An affirmative vote of at least three members is necessary to  
7 approve any action of the council.

8 Sec. 44.19.540. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL. (a) The  
9 council has the power to

10 (1) adopt and amend bylaws for the management and regulation  
11 of its affairs; and

12 (2) maintain an office at any place or places in the state.

13 (b) The council has the duty to

14 (1) hold public hearings in areas of the state considered for  
15 agricultural development;

16 (2) evaluate the need for farm conservation plans for land  
17 under agricultural production in the state;

18 (3) serve as coordinator for gathering information and data  
19 relating to agriculture;

20 (4) recommend appropriate activities for the promotion of  
21 agriculture in the state;

22 (5) provide technical information and make recommendations to  
23 the commissioner regarding the classification of state land having a  
24 potential for agricultural use;

25 (6) act as administrator of the Delta agricultural develop-  
26 ment project;

27 (7) contract for the clearing, draining and breaking of  
28 agricultural land located in the Delta agricultural development project;

29 (8) contract with the owners of land prepared for agricul-

1 tural use under (7) of this section for reimbursement to the state of  
2 the cost of the clearing, draining and breaking of the land;

3 (9) contract for the construction of access roads in the  
4 Delta agricultural development project;

5 (10) conduct studies and carry out experimental and pilot  
6 projects to develop markets for agricultural products produced in the  
7 state; and

8 (11) recommend legislation to the governor to improve agri-  
9 cultural development in the state.

10 Sec. 44.19.545. REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL. Before June 30 of each  
11 year the council shall report to the governor concerning the activities  
12 of the council during the current fiscal year. The report shall contain  
13 recommendations for the development of agriculture in the state during  
14 the next fiscal year. If the council recommends that state land be  
15 developed for agricultural use the report shall

16 (1) define specific tasks to be performed during the next  
17 fiscal year by appropriate state agencies to the extent those tasks are  
18 identifiable at that time; and

19 (2) contain recommendations to the governor of actions he may  
20 take to insure adequate cooperation of all state agencies involved in  
21 the implementation of the development.

22 Sec. 44.19.550. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.19.520 - 44.19.550,

23 (1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department  
24 of Natural Resources;

25 (2) "council" means the Alaska Agricultural Action Council;

26 (3) "Delta agricultural development project" means the state-  
27 funded program to develop agricultural land located in the Big Delta,  
28 Tanana Loop region of the state for the production of small grains and  
29 other related agricultural products.

1 \* Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the terms of office specified for members of  
2 the Alaska Agricultural Action Council in AS 44.19.520(c), enacted in sec. 1  
3 of this Act, the terms of the first appointees shall be one member serving a  
4 term ending June 30, 1980, one member serving a term ending June 30, 1981,  
5 one member serving a term ending June 30, 1982, one member serving a term  
6 ending June 30, 1983, and one member serving a term ending June 30, 1984.

7 \* Sec. 3. This Act terminates July 1, 1984.

8 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect July 1, 1979.

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