

Original sponsor: Kerttula

Offered: 3/13/79
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 14 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to agricultural development; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

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

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

10 ARTICLE 7A. ALASKA AGRICULTURAL ACTION COUNCIL.

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

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

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

24 Sec. 44.19.525. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS. (a) Members of the
25 council who are not state officers or employees are entitled to per
26 diem and travel expenses provided for boards and commissions under
27 AS 39.20.

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

and travel expenses from council funds.

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

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

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

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

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

(b) The council has the duty to

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

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

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

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

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

(6) act as administrator of the Delta agricultural development project and any other project authorized under AS 44.19.545;

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

(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. DESIGNATION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

11 (a) Before January 15 of each year the council shall report to the
12 governor and the legislature concerning the activities of the council
13 during the current fiscal year. The report shall contain recommenda-
14 tions for the development of agriculture in the state during the next
15 fiscal year.

16 (b) An agricultural development project recommended in (a) of this
17 section may not be implemented unless authorized by law. The report
18 required by (a) of this section shall include recommended legislation
19 which

20 (1) sets out the type of agricultural development to be
21 accomplished and, if state land is to be developed for agricultural
22 production, describes the boundaries of the land to be developed;

23 (2) defines specific tasks to be performed by appropriate
24 state agencies to the extent the tasks are identifiable at that time;
25 and

26 (3) grants to the council sufficient authority to insure
27 adequate cooperation of all other state agencies involved in the imple-
28 mentation of the project.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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