

Original sponsor: Kerttula

Offered: 4/26/79
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 14 am

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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 Department of Commerce and Economic Development 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 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 coun-
9 cil 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) as directed by the governor, act as administrator of the
26 Delta agricultural development project if that project is approved as
27 part of a plan for the development of agriculture under AS 44.19.550 and
28 act as administrator of any other project approved under AS 44.19.550;

29 (7) contract for the clearing, draining and breaking of

1 agricultural land located in the Delta agricultural development project;

2 (8) contract with the owners of land prepared for agricul-
3 tural use under (7) of this section for reimbursement to the state of
4 the cost of the clearing, draining and breaking of the land;

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

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

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

12 Sec. 44.19.545. DESIGNATION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

13 (a) Before January 15 of each year the council shall report to the
14 governor and the legislature concerning the activities of the council
15 during the current fiscal year. The report shall contain a plan for the
16 development of agriculture in the state during the next fiscal year.
17 The plan for the development of agriculture must include the following
18 specific items as well as findings and recommendations on each item:

19 (1) the type of agricultural development to be accomplished;

20 (2) if state land is to be developed for agricultural produc-
21 tion, a description of the boundaries of the land to be developed; and

22 (3) the specific tasks to be performed by appropriate state
23 agencies to the extent the tasks are identifiable at that time.

24 (b) After legislative approval of the plan under AS 44.19.550, the
25 governor shall implement the plan for the development of agriculture as
26 approved. The governor may direct appropriate state agencies to perform
27 any task to implement the plan not specifically prohibited in the resolu-
28 tion approving the plan.

29 Sec. 44.19.550. LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL. Either house of the legis-

1 lature may disapprove the plan for the development of agriculture re-
2 quired by AS 44.19.545 by a simple resolution. If the plan for the
3 development of agriculture is not approved or conditionally approved by
4 the legislature or disapproved by either house within 30 days after
5 presentation to the legislature, it is disapproved. The legislature may
6 by concurrent resolution approve the plan for the development of agricul-
7 ture with conditions concerning matters included in the plan, and the
8 conditional approval becomes effective upon certification to the legisla-
9 ture by the council that the council has accepted the conditions and
10 modified the plan for the development of agriculture in accordance with
11 the conditions. State money may not be spent on an agricultural develop-
12 ment project until the approval required by this section has been ob-
13 tained.

14 Sec. 44.19.560. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.19.520 - 44.19.560,

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

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

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

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

28 * Sec. 3. AS 39.50.200(9) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to
29 read:

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(QQ) Alaska Agricultural Action Council.

* Sec. 4. This Act terminates July 1, 1984.

* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1979.