

Original sponsor: Kerttula

Offered: 5/3/79

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

2 FREE CONFERENCE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 14

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 44.33 is amended by adding new sections to read:

10 ARTICLE 9. ALASKA AGRICULTURAL ACTION COUNCIL.

11 Sec. 44.33.400. CREATION OF COUNCIL. (a) There is established in
12 the Department of Commerce and Economic Development the Alaska Agricul-
13 tural Action Council. The council is composed of five members appointed
14 by the governor. The chairman of the council is to be designated by the
15 governor from among 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 coun-
19 cil 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. 44.33.405. 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 coun-
29 cil serve without compensation but are entitled to receive per diem

1 and travel expenses from council funds.

2 Sec. 44.33.410. 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. 44.33.415. 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. 44.33.420. 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 of natural resources regarding the classification of
24 state land having a potential for agricultural use;

25 (6) act as administrator of the Delta agricultural develop-
26 ment project and any other agricultural development project authorized
27 under AS 44.33.425;

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

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

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

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

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

11 Sec. 44.33.425. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. (a) Before
12 January 15 of each year the council shall report to the governor and the
13 legislature concerning the activities of the council during the current
14 fiscal year. The report shall contain recommendations for the develop-
15 ment of agriculture in the state during the next fiscal year.

16 (b) An agricultural development project recommended under (a) of
17 this section may not be implemented unless authorized by law. The
18 report required by (a) of this section shall include recommended legis-
19 lation 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 cooperation of all state agencies involved in the implementation of the
28 agricultural development project.

29 Sec. 44.33.450. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.33.400 - 44.33.450,

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

(2) "Delta agricultural development project" means the state-funded program to develop agricultural land located in the Big Delta, Tanana Loop region 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 44.33.400(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. AS 39.50.200(9) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(QQ) Alaska Agricultural Action Council.

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

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