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Referred: Resources
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 313 (HESS)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Fisheries Research Center in
7 the University of Alaska; and providing for an effec-
8 tive date."

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

10 * Section 1. POLICY AND FINDINGS. (a) It is the policy of the state to
11 provide facilities, improvements, and services to use, develop, and conserve
12 fishery resources for the maximum benefit of the people of the state and the
13 nation.

14 (b) The legislature finds that

15 (1) long-term research is essential to the wise use, development,
16 and conservation of fishery resources; investments are not now made in long-
17 term fishery research because of the common property nature of fishery
18 resources and because of the structure of the United States fishing industry;
19 a Fisheries Research Center will fulfill the need to coordinate and conduct
20 long-term research on fishery resources in the waters of the state and off-
21 shore from the coast of the state;

22 (2) there are at least 19 organizations involved in research and
23 management of Alaska fisheries; a center to gather, coordinate, and dissemi-
24 nate scientific data and information produced by these organizations is
25 needed;

26 (3) the establishment of a Fisheries Research Center in Alaska will
27 reduce reliance on out-of-state sources in the management of fisheries in the
28 waters of the state and offshore from the coast of the state.

29 * Sec. 2. AS 16 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

1 CHAPTER 12. FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER.

2 Sec. 16.12.010. FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER ESTABLISHED. There is
3 established the Fisheries Research Center in the University of Alaska.

4 Sec. 16.12.020. PURPOSES. The purposes of the center are to

5 (1) conduct research and to gather, organize, and disseminate
6 scientific information on fishery resources in the waters of the state
7 and offshore from the coast of the state that will encourage the wise
8 use, development, and conservation of fishery resources for subsistence,
9 commercial, and recreational purposes;

10 (2) improve coordination and communications among fishermen,
11 seafood processors, members of the scientific and fishery management
12 communities, and the public;

13 (3) serve as the principal center in the state for conducting
14 and coordinating research for the long-term improvement of the Alaska
15 and United States seafood industry and the encouragement of the develop-
16 ment of fishery resources in the waters of the state and offshore from
17 the coast of the state; and

18 (4) encourage cooperation among federal and state agencies,
19 the University of Alaska, and organizations that are involved in research
20 concerning the fishery resources in the waters of the state and offshore
21 from the coast of the state.

22 Sec. 16.12.030. BOARD OF TRUSTEES. (a) A board of trustees of
23 the center is established to establish policy and provide guidance to
24 the university in the operation of the center.

25 (b) The board consists of

26 (1) the commissioner of fish and game, or the commissioner's
27 representative;

28 (2) the president of the University of Alaska, or the
29 president's representative;

1 (3) the Alaska regional director of the National Marine
2 Fisheries Service, or the director's representative;

3 (4) four members recommended by the governor and appointed by
4 the president of the University of Alaska.

5 (c) At least four members of the board shall be state residents.

6 (d) Members of the board are appointed for three-year terms and
7 may be reappointed.

8 Sec. 16.12.040. DUTIES. (a) The primary functions of the center
9 are to conduct research and provide information services related to
10 fisheries.

11 (b) The center shall

12 (1) conduct general and applied research;

13 (2) provide information services to interested organizations
14 and individuals; and

15 (3) provide support services to cooperating organizations and
16 agencies.

17 Sec. 16.12.050. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. (a) The board shall estab-
18 lish a Research Advisory Committee. The Research Advisory Committee
19 shall

20 (1) advise the board on the scientific activities of the
21 center, and assist in the scientific evaluation of the center's programs;

22 (2) encourage the development of cooperative research programs
23 at the center;

24 (3) report to the board on the need for research to solve
25 fishery resource problems.

26 (b) The board shall establish a User Advisory Committee. The User
27 Advisory Committee shall

28 (1) advise the board on the information needs of various
29 fishery resource user groups, and assist in the development of the

1 center's institutional goals and the review of progress toward attain-
2 ment of those goals;

3 (2) encourage the development of cooperative programs at the
4 center between user groups and scientific personnel;

5 (3) report to the board on the need for new information on
6 fishery resources.

7 Sec. 16.12.060. ANNUAL REPORT. The Board of Regents of the
8 University of Alaska shall prepare an annual report on the activities of
9 the center and submit the report to the legislature by the 20th day of
10 each regular session. The report shall include a description of the
11 work and activities conducted by the center.

12 Sec. 16.12.180. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

13 (1) "board" means the Board of Trustees of the Fisheries
14 Research Center;

15 (2) "center" means the Fisheries Research Center.

16 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
17 070(c).

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