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1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 318 (Rules)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the control of bee disease."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 03 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 47. BEES AND BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT.

10 Sec. 03.47.010. IMPORTATION. The importation into the state of  
11 bees on bee combs and used beekeeping equipment is prohibited. Section  
12 comb honey for human consumption may be imported into the state.

13 Sec. 03.47.020. IMPORTATION OF BEES. All bees imported into the  
14 state shall be accompanied by a health certificate that states that the  
15 bees come from an apiary apparently free of bee diseases and that is  
16 signed by an apiary inspector determined to be qualified by the divi-  
17 sion.

18 Sec. 03.47.030. DUTIES OF THE DIVISION. (a) The division shall  
19 investigate reported cases of diseased bees and cases of diseased bees  
20 discovered by the division.

21 (b) The division shall take action necessary to prevent the spread  
22 of bee diseases. Bees or used beekeeping equipment found to contain the  
23 causative organisms of American foulbrood (*Bacillus larvae*) or European  
24 foulbrood (*Streptococcus pluton*) shall be immediately quarantined and  
25 treated within five days by

26 (1) chamber fumigation using ethylene oxide or other gases  
27 approved by the division;

28 (2) sterilization by boiling in lyewater for at least 15  
29 minutes; or

1 (3) destruction of bees, bee combs, and frames by burning  
2 followed by burying 18 inches deep.

3 (c) Notwithstanding (b) of this section, hive boxes, top and  
4 bottom boards found to contain the causative organisms of American foul-  
5 brood (*Bacillus larvae*) or European foulbrood (*Streptococcus pluton*) may  
6 be salvaged by scorching inside surfaces and edges using a flame to  
7 produce a light brown charring of the wood unless the boxes, top and  
8 bottom boards are in poor condition due to weathering, rotting or ant  
9 tunneling.

10 (d) A quarantine imposed under this section may not be removed  
11 until infected bees and used beekeeping equipment are destroyed or the  
12 division determines through testing that the used beekeeping equipment:  
13 is free of the disease.

14 (e) The division shall adopt regulations necessary to carry out  
15 the purposes of this chapter.

16 Sec. 03.47.040. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

17 (1) "bees" means honey producing insects of the genus *Apis*  
18 and includes the adults, eggs, larvae, pupae, and other immature stages  
19 of the insects;

20 (2) "division" means the division of agriculture, Department  
21 of Natural Resources;

22 (3) "used beekeeping equipment" means equipment that has been  
23 used to feed or house bees, including hive boxes, frames, pollen traps,  
24 queen excluders, inner covers, supers, tops, bottom boards, slatted  
25 racks, and bee combs, or other wooden or plastic beehive parts that have  
26 been in contact with honeybees.