

Introduced: 1/16/81  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY PARR AND STIMSON

2 SENATE BILL NO. 93

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the decentralization of the execu-  
6 tive branch of the state government; and providing for  
7 an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that there is  
10 a growing tendency to centralize decision making at the top levels of the  
11 principal executive departments, that this centralization results in in-  
12 creased numbers of intermediaries between commissioners and the state  
13 officers and employees who directly render services to the public, and that  
14 this results in inefficient, time-consuming, expensive, and often unneces-  
15 sary review and approval procedures and discourages the use of initiative by  
16 state officers and employees. The legislature further finds that central-  
17 ization results in an overly large number of state officers and employees in  
18 the state capital and a corresponding insufficiency at the regional, dis-  
19 trict, and local offices where services are directly rendered to the public.  
20 The legislature finds it necessary and in the public interest to mandate a  
21 decentralization of decision-making authority to regional, district, and  
22 local offices and to limit the number of state officers and employees in the  
23 headquarters offices in the state capital.

24 \* Sec. 2. AS 44 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

25 CHAPTER 18. DECENTRALIZATION OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

26 Sec. 44.18.010. EFFECTIVE DATE OF DECENTRALIZATION. After  
27 June 30, 1985 no more than 15 percent of the total number of state  
28 employees may be employed in the headquarters offices of the principal  
29 executive departments in the state capital.

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1           **Sec. 44.18.020. DETERMINATION BY THE GOVERNOR.** Within 180 days  
2 of the effective date of this Act the governor shall prescribe, for  
3 each department of the executive branch, the number of employees who  
4 may be employed in the state capital. The governor may from time to  
5 time amend this directive.

6           **Sec. 44.18.030. DEPARTMENTAL PLANS.** Each department shall  
7 prepare a plan for the phased decentralization of its activities to  
8 meet the ceiling imposed by the governor. Each plan shall include:

9           (1) the location of each regional, district, or local office  
10 now established or to be established;

11           (2) the scope of authority of the state officer or employee  
12 in charge of the office;

13           (3) the scope of the decision-making authority reserved to  
14 the commissioner or his immediate subordinates in the state capital;  
15 and

16           (4) recommendations for legislation needed to carry out the  
17 provisions of this chapter.

18           **Sec. 44.18.040. REPORT BY THE GOVERNOR.** The budget submitted by  
19 the governor for fiscal year 1984 and fiscal year 1985 shall be accom-  
20 panied by a report of the progress made in implementing this chapter.

21           **Sec. 44.18.050. BUDGET PREPARATION.** No budget for 1986 or suc-  
22 ceeding fiscal years may propose to employ more than 15 percent of the  
23 total number of state employees in the principal executive departments  
24 in the state capital.

25           **Sec. 44.18.060. REGIONAL, DISTRICT, OR LOCAL OFFICES IN THE STATE**  
26 **CAPITAL.** Nothing in this chapter prohibits the establishment of a  
27 regional, district, or local office of a principal executive department  
28 in the state capital if there is a clear functional division between it  
29 and the headquarters office. Employees in the regional, district, or

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local office may not be counted against the ceiling prescribed by the governor under AS 44.18.020.

Sec. 44.18.070. EXCLUSION OF DEPARTMENTS. Departments of the executive branch which on the effective date of this Act have their headquarters offices located in a city other than the state capital are excluded from the computation of total number of state employees under AS 44.18.020.

Sec. 44.18.080. INCLUSION OF DIVISIONS. Divisions which on the effective date of this Act are located in a city other than the state capital shall be included in departmental plans for phased decentralization of activities required by AS 44.18.030.

\* Sec. 2. Plans required under AS 44.18.030 shall be submitted to the First Session, Thirteenth Legislature, no later than 10 days after it convenes.

\* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1981.