

Introduced: 1/14/85
Referred: Judiciary and
Finance

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1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 43

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing a Legislative Research Agency;
7 and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 24.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 ARTICLE 5. LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AGENCY.

11 Sec. 24.20.575. LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AGENCY. (a) There is
12 established a permanent research staff with a research director, to be
13 known as the Legislative Research Agency. The establishment of the
14 agency recognizes the need for nonpartisan, objective research to
15 support the legislature in its decision making.

16 (b) A permanent interim committee is established to set policies
17 for the agency. The committee consists of the president of the
18 senate, the speaker of the house, the minority leader of the senate,
19 the minority leader of the house, and the chair and vice-chair of the
20 Legislative Council. If a presiding officer is chair or vice-chair of
21 the Legislative Council, another member of the Legislative Council
22 from that house shall be appointed by the presiding officer as a
23 member of the committee.

24 (c) The director and members of the professional and clerical
25 staff may not join or support a partisan political organization. This
26 prohibition does not prevent the director or members of the staff from
27 joining social organizations, expressing private opinion, registering
28 as to party, or voting.

29 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with

1 AS 01.10.070(c).