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Referred: Labor & Commerce
and Judiciary

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1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 191

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to employment preference for state
7 residents; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 36.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 36.10.005. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. (a) The legislature
11 finds that

12 (1) the rate of unemployment among residents of the state
13 is one of the highest in the nation;

14 (2) the state has a compelling interest in reducing the
15 level of unemployment among its residents;

16 (3) the construction industry in the state accounts for
17 approximately 10 percent of the available employment;

18 (4) construction workers receive approximately 30 percent
19 of all unemployment benefits paid by the state;

20 (5) historically, the rate of unemployment in the construc-
21 tion industry in the state is higher than the rate of unemployment in
22 other industries in the state;

23 (6) it is appropriate for the state to consider the welfare
24 of its residents when it funds construction activity;

25 (7) it is in the public interest for the state to allocate
26 public funds for capital projects in order to reduce unemployment
27 among its resident construction workers;

28 (8) in-migration of nonresident construction workers con-
29 tributes to or causes the high unemployment rate among resident

1 construction workers because nonresident workers compete with resi-
2 dents for the limited number of available construction jobs; and

3 (9) the state has a special interest in seeing that the
4 benefits of state construction spending accrue to its residents.

5 (b) The legislature further finds that there is a legitimate and
6 compelling governmental interest and that the public health and wel-
7 fare will suffer if state residents are not afforded employment pref-
8 erence in state-funded construction-related work.

9 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
10 10.070(c).