

Offered: 4/25/86  
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 468 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Railbelt energy council; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

10 (1) state energy policy should change from a policy of assuming  
11 responsibility for providing low cost power to a policy of assisting the  
12 private sector to provide adequate power at reasonable cost;

13 (2) state funds available for energy development should be used  
14 as leverage to assist in financing projects that utilities cannot finance  
15 themselves;

16 (3) utilities should be encouraged to assume the responsibility  
17 of generating regional power rather than relying on the state;

18 (4) energy planning and financing must be efficient and cost-  
19 effective;

20 (5) the Railbelt energy fund should be used as leverage to  
21 develop power sources that will meet investment criteria.

22 \* Sec. 2. COUNCIL CREATED. (a) The Railbelt energy council is estab-  
23 lished to

24 (1) recommend how Railbelt energy funds can best be directed to  
25 meet the future energy needs of southcentral Alaska;

26 (2) recommend the best unified options for planning, financing,  
27 constructing, and managing power facilities;

28 (3) cooperate with the Alaska Power Authority to examine the  
29 feasibility and desirability of smaller Susitna hydroelectric projects;

1 (4) determine whether a regional utility organization can oper-  
2 ate to the best interests of utility consumers;

3 (5) examine alternatives and recommend the best method for  
4 meeting projected Railbelt electrical energy demand;

5 (6) recommend whether the 1987 legislature should approve sub-  
6 mission of an application for a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission li-  
7 cense for a project in the Susitna River basin;

8 (7) recommend how to restructure the board of directors of the  
9 Alaska Power Authority to improve its effectiveness and efficiency;

10 (8) recommend the optimum time for installing the third 45  
11 megawatt unit at the Bradley Lake project;

12 (9) recommend whether it is preferable to install a new power  
13 intertie between Anchorage and Kenai or to upgrade the existing line; and

14 (10) recommend how best to improve and utilize Alaska's long term  
15 energy plan under AS 44.83.224.

16 (b) Membership on the council consists of two members appointed by  
17 the governor, one of whom must represent an energy supplier; two senators  
18 appointed by the president of the senate; two members of the house of  
19 representative appointed by the speaker of the house; and one representa-  
20 tive from each of the seven Railbelt utilities.

21 (c) By February 15, 1987, the council shall report its recommenda-  
22 tions to the legislature.

23 \* Sec. 3. This Act is repealed June 30, 1987.

24 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-  
25 10.070(c).