

Offered: 3/6/87
Referred: Finance

5-0305B

Original sponsors: Brown, Koponen
and Goll

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 41 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the confidentiality of certain
7 oil and gas information; and providing for an effective
8 date."

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

10 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. (a) The legislature finds that

11 (1) the best interests of the state will be served if oil and
12 gas well data and information are not held confidential for periods longer
13 than two years;

14 (2) increasing the amount of oil and gas well data and informa-
15 tion available to citizens of the state and to the state's oil and gas
16 industry will improve competition and encourage more companies to become
17 involved in oil and gas exploration and production in the state;

18 (3) the predictable release of oil and gas well data and infor-
19 mation will expedite oil and gas exploration and production and enhance the
20 state's economic interests;

21 (4) drilling operations will be safer and more efficient if oil
22 and gas well data and information are available from nearby wells; and

23 (5) a better overall understanding of Alaska's subsurface
24 resources and geology will be promoted if oil and gas well data and infor-
25 mation are made available to the public.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 31.05.035(c) is amended to read:

27 (c) The reports and information required in (a) of this section
28 shall be kept confidential for 24 months following the 30-day filing
29 period unless the owner of the well gives written permission to

1 release the reports and information at an earlier date. If the com-
2 missioner of natural resources finds that the required reports and
3 information filed under (b) of this section before July 1, 1987,
4 contain significant information relating to the valuation of unleased
5 land in the same vicinity, the commissioner shall keep the reports and
6 information confidential for a reasonable time after the disposition
7 of all affected unleased land, unless the owner of the well gives
8 written permission to release the reports and information at an
9 earlier date. Well location, depth, status and production data and
10 production reports required by the commission to be filed subsequent
11 to the 30-day filing period is [SHALL BE CONSIDERED] public informa-
12 tion and may [SHALL] not be classified confidential. Production data,
13 as used in this subsection, means volume, gravity, and gas-oil ratio
14 of all production of oil or gas after the well begins regular produc-
15 tion.

16 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.