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wol42ha

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

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HOUSE BILL NO. 218

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Alaska Center for International
Business; and providing for an effective date."

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

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* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. In connection with the establish-
ment of a center for international business in the University of Alaska,
the legislature finds the following:

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(1) recent fluctuations in the price of crude oil have made
it clear that Alaska must take prompt and decisive action to reduce
its economic dependency upon oil, through the diversification of its
economy;

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(2) it is in the best interests of the state to continue to
promote trade with Asia, Pacific Rim nations, and other countries of
the world;

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(4) to take full advantage of Alaska's location and natural
resources, and to develop the possibilities of an aggressive Alaska
foreign trade to their fullest, it is critical that the statutes
formally provide for establishing a center for international business
at the earliest possible time.

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* Sec. 2. AS 14.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 14.40.087. ALASKA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS. (a)

The University of Alaska shall establish an Alaska Center for

1 International Business in an appropriate unit of the university at its
2 Anchorage campus. The center shall operate under the direction of an
3 advisory board consisting of seven individuals, selected by the Board
4 of Regents after consultation with the governor, who have demonstrated
5 strong interest in the development of business and economic relation-
6 ships between Alaska and foreign countries.

7 (b) The center shall conduct research, including research on
8 market information and market strategies relating to trade by Alaska
9 businesses with foreign nations, and, in particular, Asian nations.
10 The research must include the following:

11 (1) making assessments and projections of the potential of
12 various markets for Alaska natural resources and technical and infor-
13 mational resources;

14 (2) identifying and analyzing the import requirements of
15 and trade barriers to current and future commodity sales in other
16 nations;

17 (3) identifying Alaska's trade competitors and assessing
18 the public policy and programs used by those competitors to foster
19 trade with potential markets for Alaskan goods and services;

20 (4) developing marketing strategies relevant to Alaska's
21 trade policies with other countries; and

22 (5) investigating foreign investment opportunities in
23 Alaska.

24 (c) The center shall cooperate with and may enter into contracts
25 with other state, federal, and municipal agencies, and private insti-
26 tutions, to maintain information relevant to the development of inter-
27 national trade and business relationships between Alaska and other
28 nations of the world.

29 (d) The center shall provide training programs and materials for

1 teachers in the state's school districts to encourage an understanding
2 of culture, language, political and economic systems, social and legal
3 systems, and other aspects of foreign countries, particularly in Asia.

4 (e) The center may charge fees for services it provides to
5 individuals and entities other than the state. The commissioner of
6 administration shall separately account for all fees collected under
7 this subsection that the center deposits in the general fund. The
8 annual estimated balance in the account may be used by the legislature
9 to make appropriations to the center.

10 (f) The center may conduct instructional programs, publish and
11 distribute public service and information materials, establish or
12 participate in programs to encourage student participation or to
13 provide benefits to students, and cooperate and coordinate with other
14 educational institutions.

15 (g) The center shall submit an annual report to the legislature
16 on the center's activities. The report must include a summary of the
17 center's expenditures during the preceding year.

18 (h) In this section, "center" means the Alaska Center for Inter-
19 national Business, established by the University of Alaska under (a)
20 of this section.

21 * Sec. 3. AS 14.40.087, enacted by sec. 2 of this Act, is repealed
22 June 30, 1987.

23 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect July 1, 1987.