

Offered: 5/16/87  
Referred: Rules

5-0464P

Original sponsors: Coghill, Bennett,  
Faiks, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 94 (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 adopting a mineral policy for the state; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 44.99 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 44.99.110. DECLARATION OF STATE MINERAL POLICY. The legis-  
11 lature, acting under art. VIII, sec. 1 of the Constitution of the  
12 State of Alaska, in an effort to further the economic development of  
13 the state, to maintain a sound economy and stable employment, and to  
14 encourage responsible economic development within the state for the  
15 benefit of present and future generations through the proper conserva-  
16 tion and development of the abundant mineral resources within the  
17 state, including metals, industrial minerals, and coal, declares as  
18 the mineral policy of the state that

19 (1) mineral exploration and development be given fair and  
20 equitable consideration with other resource uses in the multiple use  
21 management of state land;

22 (2) mineral development be encouraged through reasonable  
23 and consistent nonduplicative regulations and administrative stipu-  
24 lations;

25 (3) mineral development and the entry into the market place  
26 of mineral products be considered in developing a statewide transpor-  
27 tation infrastructure system;

28 (4) mineral development be encouraged through appropriate  
29 public information and education, scientific research, technical

1 studies, and University of Alaska program involvement;

2 (5) economic development with respect to the state mineral  
3 industry be encouraged with Pacific Rim nations.

4 \* Sec. 2. (a) Within 10 months after the effective date of this Act,  
5 each department, board, commission, or agency of the state shall review its  
6 statutory authority, its administrative regulations, and its procedures  
7 applicable to mineral exploration and development to determine whether  
8 there are deficiencies or inconsistencies that must be addressed in order  
9 to comply with the policy enacted in sec. 1 of this Act. This section does  
10 not apply to area plans, site specific plans, coastal zone management  
11 plans, local plans, or other plans already adopted by the state.

12 (b) Each department, board, commission, or agency of the state shall  
13 forward its comments and recommendations to the commissioner of natural  
14 resources. The commissioner of natural resources shall assemble the com-  
15 ments and recommendations and forward them unedited to the governor and the  
16 legislature within the first 60 days of the Second Session of the Fifteenth  
17 Alaska State Legislature.

18 (c) If inconsistencies or deficiencies are identified under (a) of  
19 this section, a state department, board, commission, or agency should work  
20 with mining interests, coastal resource service areas, the public, and  
21 other resource users to propose solutions to the inconsistencies or defi-  
22 ciencies.

23 \* Sec. 3. The enactment of the state mineral policy is not intended to  
24 affect the state's consideration of rents and royalties on mineral lands.  
25 The commissioner of natural resources, who is currently preparing to re-  
26 spond to the supreme court's recent ruling on state mineral rents and  
27 royalties, is directed to consider the range of policy options and make  
28 suitable mineral rent and royalty recommendations to the Second Session of  
29 the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature.

1 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).