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Referred: Finance

wol42sL

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 219 (I.T.)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

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

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

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

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

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

18 (3) the state's location and vast resource base give the state a
19 natural position as a bridge between the rest of the United States, Europe,
20 and Asia; and

21 (4) to take full advantage of the state's location and natural
22 resources, and to develop the possibilities of an aggressive state foreign
23 trade to their fullest, it is critical that the statutes formally provide
24 for establishing a center for international business at the earliest possi-
25 ble time.

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

27 Sec. 14.40.087. ALASKA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS. (a)
28 The University of Alaska shall establish an Alaska Center for Interna-
29 tional Business in an appropriate unit of the university at its

1 Anchorage campus. The Board of Regents, after consultation with the
2 governor, shall select for the center on a statewide basis an advisory
3 board consisting of seven individuals who have demonstrated a strong
4 interest in the development of business and economic relationships
5 between the state and foreign countries. The advisory board, in
6 consultation with the chancellor of the University of Alaska,
7 Anchorage, shall select an executive director.

8 (b) The center, under the direction of the executive director,

9 (1) shall conduct research, including research on market
10 information and market strategies relating to trade by businesses in
11 the state with foreign nations, and, in particular, Asian nations; the
12 research must include

13 (A) making assessments and projections of the poten-
14 tial of various markets for the state's natural resources and
15 technical and informational resources;

16 (B) identifying and analyzing the import requirements
17 of and trade barriers to current and future commodity sales in
18 other nations;

19 (C) identifying the state's trade competitors and
20 assessing the public policy and programs used by the competitors
21 to foster trade with potential markets for the state's goods and
22 services;

23 (D) developing marketing strategies relevant to the
24 state's trade policies with other countries; and

25 (E) investigating foreign investment opportunities in
26 the state;

27 (2) shall cooperate with and may enter into contracts with
28 other state, federal, and municipal agencies, and private institu-
29 tions, to maintain information relevant to the development of

1 international trade and business relationships between the state and
2 other nations of the world;

3 (3) shall encourage an understanding of culture, language,
4 political and economic systems, social and legal systems, and other
5 aspects of foreign countries, particularly in Asia;

6 (4) may charge fees for services provided by the center;
7 the president of the University of Alaska shall separately account for
8 all fees collected under this paragraph; the annual estimated balance
9 in the account may be used by the legislature to make appropriations
10 to the university to carry out the purposes of this section;

11 (5) may conduct instructional programs, publish and dis-
12 tribute public service and information materials, establish or partic-
13 ipate in programs to encourage student participation or to provide
14 benefits to students, and cooperate with other educational institu-
15 tions.

16 (c) The university shall submit an annual report to the legisla-
17 ture on the center's activities. The report must include a summary of
18 the center's revenue and expenditures during the preceding year.

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

22 * Sec. 3. AS 14.40.087, as added by sec. 2 of this Act, is repealed
23 July 1, 1997.

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