

Original sponsor: Labor and Commerce
Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE LABOR AND
COMMERCE COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 160 (L&C)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Alaska neighborhood re-
7 vitalization initiative."
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
9 * Section 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of AS 44.33.436 - 44.33.439, added
10 by sec. 2 of this Act, is to promote neighborhood revitalization and devel-
11 opment through local initiatives of the state's communities with the assis-
12 tance of financial institutions and the state.
13 * Sec. 2. AS 44.33 is amended by adding new sections to read:
14 ARTICLE 6B. NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.
15 Sec. 44.33.436. NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT
16 FUND. There is created the neighborhood revitalization and develop-
17 ment fund, to be administered by the commissioner. The commissioner
18 shall deposit to the credit of the fund
19 (1) grants and contributions to the fund; and
20 (2) appropriations to the fund.
21 Sec. 44.33.437. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The commissioner may
22 use money in the fund to make grants to
23 (1) nonprofit development corporations that qualify for
24 assistance from the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation organized
25 under 42 U.S.C. 8101-8107 (Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act),
26 for neighborhood housing services, neighborhood revitalization, and
27 economic development projects in a community; and
28 (2) persons and organizations that qualify for assistance
29 under the Alaska Main Street Program established under this section.

1 (b) The department shall establish a community-based Alaska Main
2 Street Program to provide technical assistance and training to
3 accomplish community and economic revitalization and development of
4 older business districts and neighborhoods. The program must use
5 techniques developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation
6 that are designed to stimulate business reinvestment, restore building
7 facades, retain existing small businesses, strengthen the local tax
8 base, create employment opportunities, promote new commercial
9 opportunities in the business district, and help to stimulate a
10 renewed sense of community pride.

11 (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations necessary to carry
12 out the department's functions under AS 44.33.436 - 44.33.439.

13 (d) The commissioner shall provide for an annual audit of the
14 grants to nonprofit development corporations made under this section.

15 Sec. 44.33.438. LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES. Money appropriated
16 to the neighborhood revitalization and development fund from the
17 Railbelt energy fund may not be expended by the commissioner unless at
18 least 90 percent of the amounts expended from the Railbelt energy fund
19 appropriation are made for projects in

20 (1) communities located within 25 miles of the right-of-way
21 of the Alaska Railroad; or

22 (2) communities within a borough through which the right-
23 of-way of the Alaska Railroad passes.

24 Sec. 44.33.439. DEFINITIONS. In AS 44.33.436 - 44.33.439

25 (1) "commissioner" means the commissioner of commerce and
26 economic development;

27 (2) "community" means

28 (A) a municipality; and

29 (B) a place that is not incorporated as a city and in

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

which 100 or more persons reside as a social unit;

(3) "department" means the Department of Commerce and Economic Development;

(4) "fund" means the neighborhood revitalization and development fund established in AS 44.33.436;

(5) "Railbelt energy fund" means the fund established by AS 37.05.520.

* Sec. 3. AS 44.33.520 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(31) administer the neighborhood revitalization and development program under AS 44.33.436 - 44.33.439.