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Referred: Labor and Commerce,  
Resources and Finance

6-0096A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SZYMANSKI AND ELIASON

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SENATE BILL NO. 40

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Resource Development Dispute  
Resolution Task Force; 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. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

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(1) it is in the best interest of the state to encourage respon-  
sible economic diversification;

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(2) economic development and diversification can be compatible  
with environmental protection;

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(3) conflicts between industry, the public, and the state are  
costly and time-consuming, and the resolution of problems through consensus  
and cooperative agreements is preferable to resolution by adversarial  
methods;

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(4) to be effective, dispute resolution legislation must be  
developed cooperatively and through consensus by representatives of all of  
the affected interests.

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\* Sec. 2. TASK FORCE CREATED. (a) The Resource Development Dispute  
Resolution Task Force is established to

(1) examine the need for institutionalizing a dispute resolution  
system in the state that would be useful to all industrial project develop-  
ments;

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(2) study all possible dispute resolution approaches and recom-  
mend the best method for resolving disputes between industrial and environ-  
mental interests that arise from the development of industrial projects;

1           (3) consider the possibility of establishing industrial project  
2 advisory groups that

3                   (A) are project-specific;

4                   (B) fairly represent the individuals and groups that are  
5 directly or indirectly involved in the project;

6                   (C) are formed before the projects have applied for their  
7 permits;

8                   (D) operate throughout the life of the project, if appro-  
9 priate;

10                  (E) actively provide advice on all aspects of the project;

11           (4) review the experiences of other states in order to develop  
12 legislation for project-specific dispute resolution;

13           (5) study legislation that would provide the best possible  
14 options in the state for an institutionalized environmental and industrial  
15 dispute resolution system.

16           (b) The membership of the task force consists of

17                   (1) one senator appointed by the president of the senate;

18                   (2) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the  
19 speaker of the house of representatives;

20                   (3) the following persons appointed by the governor:

21                           (A) two members from the executive branch; and

22                           (B) one member of the public;

23                   (4) two representatives of local government in the state, in-  
24 cluding a representative from the rural part of the state, selected by the  
25 board of directors of the Alaska Municipal League;

26                   (5) two representatives of industry in the state, including a  
27 representative of a renewable resource industry, selected by the Resource  
28 Development Council;

29                   (6) two representatives of the environmental community in the

1 state selected by the Alaska Environmental Assembly.

2 (c) On the first day of the Second Session of the Sixteenth Alaska  
3 State Legislature, the task force shall provide the legislature with a  
4 report of its recommendations and suggested legislation that it determines  
5 to be necessary or appropriate to implement the recommendations.

6 \* Sec. 3. This Act is repealed June 30, 1990.

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