

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 152 (FINANCE)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/8/91

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES BROWN, Ulmer, Koponen, Ellis, B.Davis

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to housing; expanding the board of directors of the Alaska Housing
2 Finance Corporation; relating to the management of the Alaska Housing Finance
3 Corporation; creating the Alaska State Housing Planning Commission and establishing its
4 duties; and providing for an effective date."

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

6 * **Section 1. FINDINGS.** The legislature finds that

7 (1) housing programs in the state are not consolidated and are spread among many state
8 agencies, offices, and divisions, and that a coordinated state housing policy to provide clear direction
9 for addressing housing needs does not exist;

10 (2) there is only limited statistical data on housing needs and, as a result, housing
11 programs are designed with little quantitative information regarding the real needs of Alaskans;

12 (3) low-income and rural housing needs in the state are critical and have not been met
13 with existing housing resources even while it is estimated that nearly 33 percent of Alaskans are
14 considered to be low-income residents; and

1 (4) in order to ensure that all Alaskans are afforded the opportunity to live in safe,
2 sanitary, and energy efficient housing, coordination of the state's varied and disparate housing program
3 initiatives is required.

4 * Sec. 2. AS 18.56.030(a) is repealed and reenacted to read:

5 (a) The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors appointed by the governor
6 as follows:

7 (1) the commissioner of revenue, the commissioner of commerce and economic
8 development, and the commissioner of community and regional affairs;

9 (2) one member who represents the financial community;

10 (3) one member who is licensed as a real estate broker under AS 08.88.171(a);

11 (4) one member who represents the interests of regional housing authorities;

12 (5) two members, one of whom is a rural resident of the state, who represent
13 persons having special housing needs;

14 (6) one public member.

15 * Sec. 3. AS 18.56.030(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) If a member described in (a)(1) [OR (2)] of this section is unable to attend a meeting
17 of the board, the member may, by an instrument in writing filed with the board, designate a
18 deputy or assistant to act in the member's place at the meeting. For all purposes of this chapter,
19 the designee is a member of the board at the meeting.

20 * Sec. 4. AS 18.56.030(c) is amended to read:

21 (c) The board members described in (a)(2) - ~~(6)~~ [AND (a)(3)] of this section serve
22 two-year terms.

23 * Sec. 5. AS 18.56.030(e) is amended to read:

24 (e) The members of the board described in ~~(a)(2) - (6)~~ [(a)(3)] of this section receive
25 \$100 compensation for each day spent on official business of the corporation and may be
26 reimbursed by the corporation for actual and necessary expenses at the same rate paid to
27 members of state boards under AS 39.20.180.

28 * Sec. 6. AS 18.56.090 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (b) The board shall, in consultation with the Alaska State Housing Planning Commission,
30 provide housing assistance funding to public agencies and private nonprofit organizations to
31 finance the design, construction, development, rehabilitation, or improvement of housing for

1 persons of low and moderate income and for housing in remote, underdeveloped, or blighted
2 areas of the state, including special needs housing. The funding may take the form of deferred
3 loans, interest rate subsidies, building subsidies, participation financing through housing
4 partnerships, or other forms of assistance as provided in regulations adopted by the board. The
5 regulations shall be prepared in consultation with the Alaska State Housing Planning
6 Commission. The regulations must, at a minimum, provide procedures to (1) establish priorities
7 and criteria for funding of housing assistance proposals; (2) establish the types of funding
8 assistance; (3) evaluate competing proposals; (4) approve the award of assistance; and (5) monitor
9 the use of funds and the progress of the program activity. In this subsection, "public agency"
10 includes a state agency or authority, a municipality, or a regional housing authority and "special
11 needs housing" means housing, including emergency shelters, designed to meet the needs of those
12 with specific and special housing needs, including supportive services, including the elderly,
13 individuals with a disability, the mentally ill, and the homeless.

14 * Sec. 7. AS 44.33 is amended by adding new sections to read:

15 ARTICLE 10. ALASKA STATE HOUSING PLANNING COMMISSION.

16 Sec. 44.33.850. ALASKA STATE HOUSING PLANNING COMMISSION. (a) The
17 Alaska State Housing Planning Commission is established in the Department of Commerce and
18 Economic Development. The commission consists of the members of the boards of directors of
19 the Alaska State Housing Authority and the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. The
20 commission shall elect a chair and other officers from among its members.

21 (b) The members of the commission may receive the compensation and per diem they
22 would be entitled to as members of their respective boards when conducting the business of the
23 commission.

24 (c) Notwithstanding that the commissioner of commerce and economic development is
25 a member of the boards of directors of the Alaska State Housing Authority and the Alaska
26 Housing Finance Corporation, the commissioner shall occupy only one seat on the commission.

27 Sec. 44.33.855. MEETINGS OF COMMISSION. (a) The commission shall meet at least
28 once a year at the call of the chair. Seven members are a quorum.

29 (b) The commission may meet and transact business by electronic media if

30 (1) public notice of the time and locations where the meeting will be held by
31 electronic media has been given in the same manner as if the meeting were held in a single

1 location;

2 (2) participants and members of the public in attendance can hear and have the
3 same right to participate in the meeting as if the meeting were conducted in person; and

4 (3) copies of pertinent reference materials, statutes, regulations, and audio-visual
5 materials are reasonably available to participants and to the public.

6 (c) A meeting by electronic media as provided in this section has the same legal effect
7 as a meeting in person.

8 (d) For the purposes of this chapter public notice of 24 hours or more is adequate notice
9 of a meeting of the commission.

10 Sec. 44.33.860. DUTIES OF COMMISSION. The commission shall

11 (1) coordinate all housing programs administered by state agencies and develop
12 a state housing policy; in implementing this paragraph, the commission shall examine and define
13 state budget needs for housing and shall prepare a proposed coordinated state housing budget
14 with priorities identified for legislative consideration; a state agency that administers a housing
15 program or performs a housing-related function shall assist the commission in the performance
16 of these duties;

17 (2) prepare a Five-Year Housing Plan for the state; the plan shall be released
18 annually and address expected housing problems and needs for the state for the proximate five-
19 year period; the plan must identify housing initiatives, provide a coordinated response to the
20 expected problems and needs, and guide the coordinated state housing budget required by (1) of
21 this section; in the preparation of this plan, the commission shall annually hold hearings and
22 solicit and receive public comments;

23 (3) prepare and periodically update a housing needs assessment of housing and
24 financing availability, including an assessment of needs in rural, underdeveloped, or blighted
25 areas of the state.

26 Sec. 44.33.865. DEFINITION. In AS 44.33.850 - 44.33.865, "commission" means the
27 Alaska State Housing Planning Commission.

28 * Sec. 8. Subject to the governor's removal power, a member of the board of directors of the Alaska
29 Housing Finance Corporation under AS 18.56.030(a)(3) as it read before the effective date of this Act,
30 whose term of office expires after June 30, 1991, shall:

31 (1) retain membership on the board of directors until the member's term, as it existed

1 before the effective date of this Act, expires; and

2 (2) occupy the position set out in AS 18.56.030, as amended by sec. 2 of this Act, that
3 corresponds to the position the member held on the board of directors before the effective date of this
4 Act.

5 * Sec. 9. In making original appointments under AS 18.56.030(a), as amended by sec. 2 of this Act,
6 the governor shall appoint one of the members appointed under AS 18.56.030(a)(5) to an initial one-year
7 term.

8 * Sec. 10. This Act takes effect July 1, 1991.