

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 330(TRA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/16/94
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES GREEN, Sanders, Nordlund
SENATORS Kerttula, Salo, Little, Ellis, Pearce, Kelly

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the use of natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel in state-
2 owned vehicles and to the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities'
3 authority to participate in joint ventures related to natural gas."

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

5 * **Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. (a) The legislature finds that**

6 (1) it is in the best interest of the people of the state to implement a plan for
7 using natural gas as a fuel for motor vehicles operated by the state in nonattainment areas
8 within the state as determined under federal air quality standards imposed under 42 U.S.C.
9 7401 - 7625 (Clean Air Act of 1990);

10 (2) in order to meet the stricter federal motor vehicle emissions standards the
11 state could either use a fuel additive or use an alternative fuel like natural gas; fuel additives
12 have been found unacceptable, therefore, it is a far better choice for the state to use natural
13 gas as an alternative motor vehicle fuel;

14 (3) the federal government intends to purchase over 10,000 natural gas vehicles

1 before the end of the century;

2 (4) natural gas has been successfully used as a motor vehicle fuel in several
3 regions of the state and in various types of motor vehicles.

4 (b) It is the purpose of this Act to require the use of natural gas in the state motor
5 vehicle fleet and to implement the use of natural gas in nonattainment areas of the state when
6 natural gas is available as a motor fuel.

7 * Sec. 2. AS 44.42.020(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) The department shall

9 (1) plan, design, construct, and maintain all state modes of
10 transportation and transportation facilities and all docks, floats, breakwaters, buildings,
11 and similar facilities;

12 (2) study existing transportation modes and facilities in the state to
13 determine how they might be improved or whether they should continue to be
14 maintained;

15 (3) study alternative means of improving transportation in the state with
16 regard to the economic costs of each alternative and its environmental and social
17 effects;

18 (4) develop a comprehensive, long-range intermodal transportation plan
19 for the state;

20 (5) study alternatives to existing modes of transportation in urban areas
21 and develop plans to improve urban transportation;

22 (6) cooperate and coordinate with and enter into agreements with
23 federal, state, and local government agencies and private organizations and persons in
24 exercising its powers and duties;

25 (7) manage, operate, and maintain state transportation facilities and all
26 docks, floats, breakwaters, and buildings, including all state highways, vessels,
27 railroads, pipelines, airports, and aviation facilities;

28 (8) study alternative means of transportation in the state, considering
29 the economic, social, and environmental effects of each alternative;

30 (9) coordinate and develop state and regional transportation systems,
31 considering deletions, additions, and the absence of alterations;

1 (10) develop facility program plans for transportation and state
2 buildings, docks, and breakwaters required to implement the duties set out in this
3 section, including but not limited to functional performance criteria and schedules for
4 completion;

5 (11) supervise and maintain all state automotive and mechanical
6 equipment, aircraft, and vessels, except vessels and aircraft used by the Department of
7 Fish and Game or the Department of Public Safety; for state vehicles maintained by
8 the department, the department shall annually evaluate the cost, efficiency, and
9 commercial availability of natural gas for automotive purposes, and the purpose
10 for which the vehicles are intended to be used, and convert or purchase vehicles
11 to utilize natural gas whenever practicable; the department may participate in
12 joint ventures with public or private partners that will foster the availability of
13 natural gas for all automotive fuel consumers;

14 (12) supervise aeronautics inside the state, under AS 02.10;

15 (13) complete and maintain a current inventory of public facilities,
16 including a projection of the serviceability of the facilities and projections of
17 replacements and additions to facilities needed to provide the level of services
18 programmed by the various user agencies, for municipalities with populations of less
19 than 12,000 and for unincorporated communities, and perform those duties on a
20 cooperative basis with larger municipalities;

21 (14) adopt energy performance standards for public facilities of the
22 state, the construction of which begins after July 1, 1980; the standards shall be based
23 on thermal and lighting energy standards established by the American Society of
24 Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers as adapted for application in
25 high latitude, cold climate environs;

26 (15) provide planning assistance, including but not limited to energy
27 audits and related technical services, to school districts and regional educational
28 attendance areas to develop and implement

29 (A) standards for the design, construction, and operation of rural
30 educational facilities; and

31 (B) energy conservation measures for rural educational facilities.