

S B

5 3 5

Alphy Morris 3795
Sen. Finance

Introduced: 3/27/80
Referred: Commerce, Community &
Regional Affairs and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 535

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for a Task Force on Fire Prevention
7 and Control; and providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. TASK FORCE ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL. The Alaska Task
10 Force on Fire Prevention and Control is established in the Department of
11 Community and Regional Affairs.

12 * Sec. 2. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The Alaska Task Force on Fire Prevention and
13 Control consists of nine members appointed by the governor, without regard to
14 political affiliation, to be selected as follows:

15 (1) one member from the Alaska State Firefighters Association from
16 a list of nominees provided by the association;

17 (2) one member from the International Association of Firefighters
18 from a list of nominees provided by the association;

19 (3) one member from the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association from a list
20 of nominees provided by the association;

21 (4) one member representative of the insurance industry;

22 (5) a contractor or architect licensed under AS 08.18;

23 (6) a commissioner or executive officer of a regional native
24 housing authority created under AS 18.55.996;

25 (7) an educator from the state public school system;

26 (8) one public member; and

27 (9) one member representative of the Alaska Municipal League from
28 a list of nominees provided by the league.

29 (b) There shall be at least one member from each judicial district.

1 * Sec. 3. OBJECTIVES. The objectives of the task force are to

2 (1) identify and provide a detailed account of the fire loss
3 problem in the state, including causal factors;

4 (2) identify and define the present roles and relationships of the
5 agencies in the state which are involved in fire protection activities at the
6 local, regional, state and federal levels;

7 (3) recommend organizational or operational modifications to
8 improve the effectiveness of the state's fire protection system;

9 (4) provide documentation that will assist all government agencies
10 and fire fighting services in effectively meeting their fire protection
11 responsibilities.

12 * Sec. 4. CHAIRMAN. The members of the Task Force on Fire Prevention and
13 Control shall elect a chairman from the membership of the task force.

14 * Sec. 5. PROJECT DIRECTOR. The Task Force on Fire Prevention and Con-
15 trol shall hire an executive director to function as an impartial investi-
16 gator and project director. The executive director shall be under the direc-
17 tion of the chairman and may, with the approval of the chairman, employ
18 additional staff as necessary.

19 * Sec. 6. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS. The Task Force on Fire Prevention and
20 Control shall meet at least once every three months. The first meeting shall
21 be held not later than 60 days following the appointment of the nine members
22 to the task force. Public hearings and meetings shall be held in areas of
23 the state that are representative of its urban and rural fire protection
24 problems.

25 * Sec. 7. COMPENSATION. The members of the Task Force on Fire Prevention
26 and Control serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and
27 travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissions.

28 * Sec. 8. DUTIES. The Task Force on Fire Prevention and Control shall

29 (1) request and review information concerning the causes and

1 nature of fire losses in the state;

2 (2) hold public hearings and meetings to determine the extent of
3 public awareness of existing fire protection systems;

4 (3) study the activities of the various fire protection agencies
5 in the state;

6 (4) submit an annual report with recommendations for the improve-
7 ment of fire prevention and control in the state to the governor and the
8 legislature; the first annual report shall be submitted by January 1, 1982;
9 and

10 (5) by January 1, 1984, submit to the governor and the legislature
11 its final report which shall identify those interim report recommendations
12 which have been implemented, evaluate the practical effects of the implemen-
13 tation of the recommendations, and make further recommendations on the im-
14 provement of fire prevention and control.

15 * Sec. 9. This Act terminates on June 30, 1984.

16 * Sec. 10. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
17 070(c).

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

BILL ANALYSIS

ASSIGNMENT DATE _____

UNASSIGNED 4-1-80

DEPARTMENT Public Safety	SPONSOR (PRINCIPAL) Commerce Committee	BILL NO. SB 535
DEPARTMENT POSITION Support		
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR <i>Ronald A. Hendrie</i> DATE 4/1/80	COMMISSIONER <i>William R. Nix</i> DATE 4/1/80	
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE USE		
<input type="checkbox"/> POSITION NOTED <input type="checkbox"/> POSITION APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> POSITION DISAPPROVED		
BY: _____ DATE: _____		
SUMMARY		
(1) RELATED BILLS (SIMILAR OR CONFLICTING) 1. CS HB 863 (2) OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL 2. Refer to comments		
(2) a. ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL Alaska Fire Chiefs Association Alaska State Firefighters Association		(2) b. ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL Unknown
(3) PROGRAM EFFECTS OF BILL No discernible program effects during the task force study phases other than, upon request, occasional staff time and travel required to provide input concerning our programs and services/activities, including our observations as to the fire problem, to the task force. Eventual short and long term program effects would depend on what recommendations, for the improvement of fire prevention and control, were made and implemented.		
(4) FISCAL IMPACT: <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FISCAL ANALYSIS ATTACHED (<i>Informal</i>)		
(5) AMENDMENTS PROPOSED: None		

(6) COMMENTS:

In our opinion the task force study and report(s), comprehensively and properly conducted and executed, is vital to a long needed analysis and improvement of the state's fire protection system. Without an approach of this type meaningful improvement of the state's fire environment is not favorable and our delivery system cost effectiveness is highly suspect.

Among the objectives of the task force would be the identification and defining of the present roles and relationships of the various agencies in the state which are involved in fire protection activities at the local, regional, state and federal levels. There is considerable overlap and duplication of effort without any viable means of coordination.

In addition to the Department of Public Safety, numerous state agencies, e.g. Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Department of Health & Social Services, Department of Administration, Department of Labor, Department of Education amongst others, are involved in varying levels of fire protection programs.

A state focused fire prevention and control master plan is needed and indicated. The task force could and should be the catalyst for this direly needed effort if this legislation is passed.

For additional background material, including the scope of the issue, attached is a copy of A Prospectus of Alaska's Fire Protection (January 4, 1980), a report furnished to Governor Hammond by Mr. Thomas W. Monk, Legislative Chairman, Alaska State Firefighters Association.