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STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST: _____

Bill Version: CS SB 182 CAR
Publish Date: 3-25-87

Revision Date: March 23, 1987

Agency Affected: Natural Resources
BRJ: Petroleum Management

Title: State Oil and Gas Lease Sales

Sponsor: Senate Oil & Gas Special Committee
Requester: Senate Oil & Gas Committee

Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	**	**	**	**	**	**
CONTRACTUAL	**	**	**	**	**	**
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	*	*	*	*	*	*
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS :

- * Earlier offering of exempt acreage sales resulting from this bill will result in earlier receipt of bonus and rental payments and, in the event of a discovery, earlier receipt of royalties and taxes.
- ** Some savings in contractual and travel costs related to public meetings could occur, depending on the location of the exempt sale and the public's interest.

Prepared by: Carol Wilson Phone: 465-2400
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 3/23/87

Approved by Commissioner: Judith M. B... Date: 3/24/87
Agency: Natural Resources

- Distribution (by preparer):
- Legislative Finance
 - Legislative Sponsor
 - Requestor
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - Impacted Agency(ies)
 - Senate Secretary

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

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March 24, 1987

The Honorable Bettye Fahrenkamp, Chair
Senate Special Committee on Oil and Gas
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fahrenkamp:

Subject: Senate Bill 182, which would allow the Department of Natural Resources to streamline procedures for exempt acreage oil and gas lease sales.

Position: The Department of Natural Resources supports this bill, with a slight change in wording, because it would promote early exploration of state lands previously leased or adjacent to existing oil and gas leases or discoveries. Early exploration of exempt acreage will result in earlier receipt of lease bonus and rental payments and, in the event of a discovery, earlier receipt of royalties and taxes.

Background: Exempt acreage oil and gas lease sales are allowed under AS 38.05.180(d). To qualify, acreage must have previously been subject to an oil and gas lease, contiguous to land under an oil and gas lease, or adjacent to land where a commercial oil or gas discovery has been made.

Exempt sales need not be listed on the formal five-year leasing schedule presented to the Legislature each January. Exempt sales are requested by the oil and gas industry when a genuine interest in leasing and exploring the area exists.

The department receives at least two or more requests for exempt sales each year. Before an exempt acreage sale can be held, just as for all other state oil and gas lease sales, Division of Oil and Gas staff are required by AS 38.05.035(e) to prepare a written finding that the proposed sale is in the state's best interest.

Since exempt sales are for previously leased acreage or for areas adjacent to leased acreage, written findings for the already leased areas are revised slightly to serve as the

Backup CSSB 1820 + 2

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exempt acreage sale finding. However, since exempt acreage written findings are prepared by existing staff, they can only be completed as time is available.

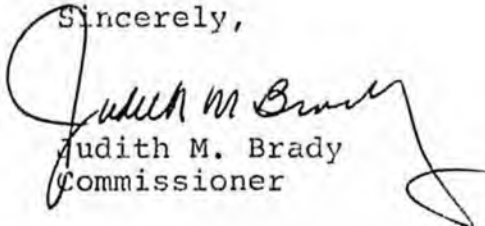
This bill would allow the findings previously prepared for the general sale area, if completed within 36 months of the exempt sale, to meet the best interest finding requirement for the proposed exempt sale.

Recommendation: Delete lines 13 and 14, page 2 and the word "or" at the end of line 12, page 2. This will clarify the intent of the bill.

Conclusion: By streamlining the exempt sale process, additional exempt sales could be offered each year and less time would elapse between the sale request and the sale. Early exploration of exempt acreage land would be encouraged. Public notice requirements would still be in effect, as would all other oil and gas lease sale requirements.

Please let me know if you would like additional information about our oil and gas lease sale process.

Sincerely,



Judith M. Brady
Commissioner

cc: Committee Members
George Sullivan
Rod Swope
Commissioner Collinsworth, DF&G
Commissioner Kelso, DEC