

**HB**

**427**

**HFIN**

**FILE**



# Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives  
Community & Regional Affairs

## SPONSOR SUMMARY

### HOUSE BILL 427

The Local Boundary Commission acts on petitions for city and borough incorporation, annexation, detachment, dissolution, merger and consolidation. The Commission's role is to objectively consider arguments for and against such proposals, taking areawide and statewide needs into consideration. The Commission is one of five boards or commissions with origins in the Alaska constitution.

The Commission consists of five members. One is appointed from each of Alaska's four judicial districts; the fifth member is appointed at-large. Procedures used by the Commission are designed to secure the reasonable, timely and inexpensive determination of municipal boundary proposals.

This bill would provide compensation to the local Boundary commission members at the rate of \$100 for each day or portion of each day that a member of the commission is engaged in official business or travel related to official business. It allows the Commission to adopt regulations to provide for partial days during which a member is engaged in travel.

You will notice the following analysis on page 1 and 2 of the C&RA fiscal note.

- 1) The five-member board will meet 18 times each year.
- 2) Half of the meetings will require travel; the other half will be conducted by teleconference.

- 3) The Commission's attendance rate at meetings will be 94%
- 4) On occasions when the commission travels to conduct meetings, each member will be on travel status an average of two and one-half days.
- 5) The Commission will adopt regulations to pay 50% compensation for partial days during which a member is engaged in travel.

**ESTIMATE OF COSTS:**

Meetings by teleconference: 5 members x 9 meetings x 94% attendance x \$100 rate of compensation = \$4,230.

Meetings involving travel: 5 members x 9 meetings x 94% attendance x two and one-half days x \$100 = \$10,575.

Total Cost: \$14,805.

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred: February 24, 1994

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/8/94

The FINANCE Committee considered:

HB 427

HOUSE BILL NO. 427

COMPENSATION; LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

"An Act relating to compensation for members of the Local Boundary Commission."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

[ ] the same title

be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] a new title

[ ] have attached amendments(s)

[ ] do pass

[ ] do not pass

no recommendations

[ ] individual recommendations

[ ] additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) \_\_\_\_\_

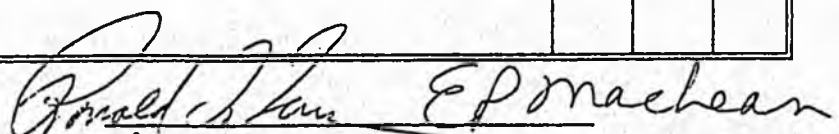
[ ] fiscal impact \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) CRA 2/24/94

[ ] zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO/PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Ronald Hanson</i>	X	<i>E. P. Maclean</i>	✓		
<i>John Hoffman</i>	✓	<i>Mark Hanley</i>		X	
		<i>Teresa Martin</i>		✓	
		<i>John P. O'Connell</i>		X	
		<i>Jan Grussinger</i>		X	
		<i>Jay Brown</i>		✓	
		<i>Gay Theriault</i>	X	<del>✓</del>	
		<i>Theriault</i>			

  
 CO CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE  
*Hanson*
*Maclean*

## HOUSE BILL NO. 427

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

Introduced: 2/2/94

Referred: Community &amp; Regional Affairs, Finance

## A BILL

## FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to compensation for members of the Local Boundary  
2 Commission."

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

4 \* Section 1. AS 44.47.579 is amended to read:

5           Sec. 44.47.579. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES. (a) A member of  
6 the Local Boundary Commission is entitled to compensation at a rate of \$100 for  
7 each day or part of a day that the member is engaged in the actual performance  
8 of duties as a member of the commission and for each day that the member is  
9 engaged in travel as a member of the commission. The commission may provide  
10 by regulation for compensation for partial days during which a member is  
11 engaged in travel as a member of the commission.

12           (b) Members of the Local Boundary Commission [RECEIVE NO PAY BUT]  
13 are entitled to the travel expenses and per diem authorized for members of boards and  
14 commissions under AS 39.20.180.

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs  
 Title: An Act relating to compensation for members of the Local Boundary Commission BRU: Local Government Assistance  
 Component: Local Boundary Commission  
 Sponsor: House C&RA Committee  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 674

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current (FY94) impact \$ none

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)  
 The above cost estimates were developed by staff in the Municipal and Regional Assistance Division who serve as staff to the Local Boundary Commission. These estimates are based on the following assumptions:  
 1) The five-member board will meet 18 times each year.  
 2) Half of the meetings will require travel; the other half will be conducted by teleconference  
 3) The Commission's attendance rate at meetings will be 94%.  
 4) On occasions when the Commission travels to conduct meetings, each member will be on travel status an average of two and one-half days. (continued on separate sheet)

Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708  
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 2/15/94  
 Approved by Commissioner: E. J. Berry Date: 2/15/94

Agency: Community & Regional Affairs

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Fiscal Note Analysis Continued

- 5) The Commission will adopt regulations to pay 50% compensation for partial days during which a member is engaged in travel.

Estimate of Costs:

Meetings by teleconference: 5 members X 9 meetings X 94% attendance X  
\$100 rate of compensation = \$4,230.

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two and one-half days X \$100 = \$10,575.

Total Cost: \$14,805.

## LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION COMPENSATION

The Local Boundary Commission plays a vital role in setting and carrying out State policy concerning municipal incorporations, dissolutions, annexations, detachments, mergers and consolidations. The importance of the Commission is reflected in the fact that it is one of only five boards established by the State Constitution.<sup>1</sup>

From its inception, arguments have been made that the Commission should be compensated. The Public Administration Service (PAS), recommended to the First Session of the First Alaska Legislature that, "Members of the [Local Boundary] Commission be adequately compensated."<sup>2</sup>

Nevertheless, more than 34 years later, members of the Local Boundary Commission have yet to be compensated for their service. However, the expectations and demands placed on the Commission may now exceed reasonable expectations for unpaid commissioners. Consider the following:

- ✓ The number of municipal governments has quadrupled since the Commission was created. At the time of statehood, there were approximately 40 municipal governments — today, there are 165.
- ✓ The scope of the Commission's responsibilities has grown substantially since it was first formed. The Commission was initially responsible only for municipal annexations and detachments. Today, it is also responsible for municipal incorporations, dissolutions, mergers and consolidations.
- ✓ Initially, the Commission met infrequently. Today, the Commission typically meets about 25 times each year. Meetings are often held in remote locations. This involves extended travel, sometimes under arduous conditions.
- ✓ The Alaska Supreme Court has formally established the expectation that members of the Commission are to be experts in the field of municipal incorporation, annexation, detachment, dissolution, merger and consolidation. To fulfill this expectation, members must spend considerable time preparing for meetings and hearings on matters that are often of a complex and sensitive nature.
- ✓ Issues addressed by the Commission often call forth a very emotional response from the public. Commissioners must have tact, patience and an ability to remain objective while being aggressively challenged.

Bills were introduced in several recent sessions of the legislature to provide compensation of \$150 per day to each Commission member. The fiscal impact of such compensation would be minimal. Using an estimate of 25 one-day meetings per year and compensation of \$150 per day per member, the total cost of compensation would be \$18,750 per year.

Without such compensation, it will likely become increasingly difficult for the State to find qualified Alaskans who are willing to stay on the Commission long enough to give it the desired continuity and experience.

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<sup>1</sup> The others are the Judicial Council, Commission on Judicial Qualifications, Reapportionment Board and the University Board of Regents.

<sup>2</sup> The PAS worked extensively with the Alaska Statehood Committee, Alaska Constitutional Convention and First Alaska Legislature in setting the framework for State government.

FISCAL NOTE

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CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708  
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 2/15/94  
 Approved by Commissioner: E. B. Berry Date: 2/15/94  
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Fiscal Note Analysis Continued

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# Alaska State Legislature

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House of Representatives  
Community & Regional Affairs

HB 427

The following is list of Boards and Commissions referred to in the Alaska State Constitution.

Commission on Judicial Conduct, page 4 of list  
Judicial Council, page 4 of list  
Local Boundary Commission, page 4 of list  
Reapportionment Board, page 7 of list  
University of Alaska Board of Regents, page 7 of list

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- Board: 001 Alaska State Board of Public Accountancy  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 165 Board of Directors of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation  
Travel Per Diem  
Industry and public members receive additional \$100 per day.
- Board: 002 Agricultural Revolving Loan Fund Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 126 Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation
- Board: 003 Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 005 State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 006 Alaska State Council on the Arts  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 007 State Assessment Review Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 008 Athletic Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 009 Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve Advisory Council  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 010 Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 011 Board of Barbers and Flossers  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 042 Big Game Commercial Services Board  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 014 Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission (APBC)  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 187 Alaska Rural Bulk Fuel Task Force  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 016 Board of Chiropractic Examiners  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 017 Executive Clemency Advisory Committee  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation.
- Board: 122 Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- |          |     |   |
|----------|-----|---|
| Board:   | 018 | Alaska Coastal Policy Council<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 019 | Alaska Code Revision Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| → Board: | 020 | Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>By statute, salary is Range 26C Juneau exempt salary scale.                 |
| → Board: | 021 | Alaska Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank Board of Directors<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Actual expenses, not to exceed \$250/day as determined by Bd. |
| Board:   | 185 | Alaska Community Service Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 022 | State Officers Compensation Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 133 | Commissioners/Public Defender/Military/Miscellaneous<br>Legislative Confirmations (not a board)<br>Travel Per Diem                                    |
| Board:   | 190 | Contract Jails Task Force<br>Travel Per Diem  |
| Board:   | 023 | Correctional Industries Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 024 | Board of Dental Examiners<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 043 | Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 026 | Board of Dispensing Opticians<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 027 | Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 029 | Board of Education<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 031 | Alaska Council on Emergency Medical Services<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 032 | Alaska State Emergency Response Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- 
- Board: 034 Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 035 Employment Security Advisory Council  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 174 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement Trustees  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 036 Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Areas in Alaska  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 037 Board of Fisheries  
Travel Per Diem  
Range 20A for board meetings; 1/2 Range 20A for other mtgs.
- Board: 038 Fishermen's Fund Advisory and Appeals Council  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 039 Board of Forestry  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 182 Foster Care Review Panel - Model Program  
Travel Per Diem  
No compensation.
- Board: 040 Board of Game  
Travel Per Diem  
Range 22A for board meetings; 1/2 Range 22A for other mtgs.
- Board: 159 Hazardous Substance Spill Technology Review Council  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 045 Alaska Historical Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 046 State Historical Records Advisory Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no additional compensation.
- Board: 047 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)  
Travel Per Diem  
Public members receive honorarium of \$100 per day.
- Board: 179 Alaska Human Relations Commission  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- Board: 048 State Commission for Human Rights  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 049 Alaska Humanities Forum  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- Board: 181 Statewide Independent Living Council  
Travel Per Diem  
Members will receive wage compensation.
- Board: 050 Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA)  
Travel Per Diem  
Public members receive \$100 per day plus necessary expenses.
- Board: 161 Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (National  
Commission)  
Travel Per Diem  
See special facts.
- Board: 051 Job Training Council  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 134 Judgeships (NOT a board or commission)  
Travel Per Diem
- \* Board: 052 Commission on Judicial Conduct  
Travel Per Diem
- \* Board: 053 Judicial Council  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 054 Juvenile Justice and Family Services Advisory Committee  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 055 Alaska Labor Relations Agency  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 057 Advisory Council on Libraries  
Travel Per Diem  
No additional compensation.
- \* Board: 058 Local Boundary Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 059 Board of Marine Pilots  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 169 Alaska Regional Marine Research Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive reimbursement for pre-approved expenses.
- Board: 173 Board of Marital and Family Therapy  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 060 Medicaid Rate Advisory Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 061 State Medical Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 063 Alaska Mental Health Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 172 Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 065 Alaska Minerals Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 066 Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority  
Travel Per Diem  
Compensated for actual expenses incurred.

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- Board: 144 Joint Federal-State Commission on Policies and Programs  
Affecting Alaska Natives  
Travel Per Diem  
Non-governmental members receive additional compensation.
- Board: 177 North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission - Advisory Panel to  
the U.S. Section  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation or travel expenses.
- Board: 132 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)  
Travel Per Diem  
Non-governmental members receive additional compensation.
- Board: 130 North Pacific and Bering Sea Fisheries Advisory Body  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation.
- Board: 067 Board of Nursing  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 068 Board of Nursing Home Administrators  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 069 Occupational Safety and Health Review Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Receive honorarium of \$50 per day.
- Board: 070 Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
Travel Per Diem  
Salary is Range 27D, exempt salary scale; 27E for Chair.
- Board: 071 Older Alaskans Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 072 Board of Examiners in Optometry  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 151 Local Citizen Out-of-Home Care Review Panel  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation unless travel required.
- Board: 176 Governor's Outdoor Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 073 Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 139 Pacific Salmon Commission and Northern Panel of the Pacific  
Salmon Commission  
Travel Per Diem  
Travel and per diem paid by federal government.
- Board: 075 State Board of Parole  
Travel Per Diem  
Receive honorarium of \$150 per day.
- Board: 171 Alaska State Pension Investment Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Receive honorarium of \$150 per day.
- Board: 076 Board of Trustees of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation  
Travel Per Diem  
Public members receive honorarium of \$400 per day.

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- |          |     |  |
|----------|-----|--|
| Board:   | 077 | Personnel Board<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 078 | Board of Pharmacy<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 079 | State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 080 | Alaska Pioneers' Homes Advisory Board<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 189 | Governor's Task Force on Eligibility and Residency for the<br>Pioneers' Homes<br>Travel Per Diem                                 |
| Board:   | 081 | Alaska Police Standards Council<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 082 | Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education<br>Travel Per Diem  |
| Board:   | 188 | Power Project Loan Committee<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.   |
| Board:   | 084 | Alaska Private Industry Council<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 085 | Professional Teaching Practices Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Admin leave; state reimburses district for more than 15 days    |
| Board:   | 086 | Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 033 | Public Employees' Retirement Board (P.E.R.S.)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Physicians compensated at rate consistent to hourly earnings |
| → Board: | 087 | Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Receive honorarium of \$50 per day.                                |
| Board:   | 170 | Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute Advisory<br>Board<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Federal provisions for compensation.   |
| → Board: | 088 | Board of Directors of the Alaska Railroad Corporation<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Receive honorarium of \$400 per day.                 |
| Board:   | 183 | Rural Alaska Village Economics and Needs (RAVEN) Commission<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.                    |
| Board:   | 154 | Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 090 | Real Estate Commission<br>Travel Per Diem  |

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- \* → Board: 129 Reapportionment Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Members compensated per Art. VI, Sec. 8 of AK Constitution. (\$150/day)
- Board: 123 Recreation Rivers Advisory Board  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation.
- \* Board: 091 University of Alaska Board of Regents  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 178 State Rehabilitation Advisory Council  
Travel Per Diem  
Members reimbursed for necessary expenses/wage compensation.
- Board: 092 Alaska Royalty Oil and Gas Development Advisory Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 093 Rural Alaska Television Network (RATNET)  
Travel Per Diem  
No compensation received.
- Board: 094 Alaska Safety Advisory Council  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 117 Alaska Science and Technology Foundation  
Travel Per Diem  
\$200/day honorarium for public members, up to 30 days/year.
- Board: 096 Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute Board of Directors (ASMI)  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 148 Selective Service System (Federal/AK Governor nomination)  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 097 Alaska Soil and Water Conservation Board  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 152 Board of Storage Tank Assistance  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 098 Alaska Student Loan Corporation Board of Directors  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 074 National Park and Park Monument Subsistence Resource  
Commissions  
Travel Per Diem  
Travel/per diem as compensated by the National Park Service.
- Board: 099 Alaska Teachers' Retirement Board (T.R.S.)  
Travel Per Diem  
Physicians compensated at rate consistent with hourly wages.
- Board: 100 Telecommunications Information Council  
Travel Per Diem  
Members receive no compensation.
- Board: 115 Tourism Coordinating Committee  
Travel Per Diem
- Board: 116 Alaska Tourism Marketing Council  
Travel Per Diem

# STATE OF ALASKA - - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Boards and Commissions Listing

### Compensation Policy

- 
- |          |     |  |
|----------|-----|--|
| Board:   | 138 | Trans-Alaska Pipeline Liability Fund (TAPS) (Federal/AK Governor nomination)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Members reimbursed for expenses to attend board meetings. |
| Board:   | 145 | National Conference of Commissioners Uniform State Laws<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Standard travel/per diem for Department of Law member only.                    |
| → Board: | 101 | Alaska Public Utilities Commission (APUC)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Members salaried at Range 26C for Juneau; exempt service.                                    |
| Board:   | 102 | Board of Veterinary Examiners<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 103 | Violent Crimes Compensation Board<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 104 | Governor's Council on Vocational and Career Education<br>Travel Per Diem   |
| Board:   | 105 | Water and Wastewater Works Advisory Board<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No additional compensation.  |
| Board:   | 106 | Water Resources Board<br>Travel Per Diem<br>No compensation.   |
| Board:   | 107 | Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Members compensated for actual and necessary expenses.                      |
| Board:   | 109 | Wood-Tikchik State Park Management Council<br>Travel Per Diem  |
| → Board: | 110 | Alaska Workers' Compensation Board<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Members (except chair) also receive honorarium of \$50/day.   |
| Board:   | 186 | Youth Corps State Advisory Council<br>Travel Per Diem<br>Members serve without compensation.   |
| Board:   | 136 | Yukon River Salmon Negotiations AKA U.S.-Canada Yukon River Delegation AKA U.S.-Canada Salmon Treaty (Regional Board)<br>Travel Per Diem                     |



STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY  
& REGIONAL AFFAIRS

POSITION PAPER

Bill no.: HB 427  
Sponsor: C&RA by Request

DCRA FN: 14.8 (attached)  
Position: Support

Title: An Act relating to compensation for members of the Local Boundary Commission

**Effects:** The bill would provide compensation to the Local Boundary Commission at the rate of \$100 for each day or portion of each day that a member of the Commission is engaged in official business or travel related to official business. It allows the Commission to adopt regulations to provide for partial compensation for partial days during which a member is engaged in travel.

**Comments:** The Department of Community and Regional Affairs, which serves as staff to the independent Local Boundary Commission, fully supports this bill.

The demands placed on the Commission have grown beyond what can be reasonably expected of unpaid members. Given the exclusive role that the Commission plays in the establishment and alteration of municipal government boundaries, this compensation proposal is a wise investment in the future of this state. Please consider the following:

- ❖ The Alaska Supreme Court has consistently acknowledged the expertise of the Commission in all matters involving municipal boundary proposals. In doing so, the state's highest court has placed lofty expectations and demands on the Commission. These compel members of the Commission to dedicate substantial time evaluating complex and controversial proposals. Often, the record before the Commission on a single issue will exceed 1,000 pages.
- ❖ The Alaska Constitution gives the Commission exclusive authority over all municipal boundary proposals. These include petitions for city and borough incorporation, annexation, detachment, dissolution, merger and consolidation.
- ❖ The Commission formulates fundamental policies that have important statewide political, economic and social implications. Again, such responsibilities dictate that the Commission be both prudent and diligent in carrying out its duties.
- ❖ The Commission is one of only five boards with origins in the State Constitution. The others are the Judicial Council, Commission on Judicial Qualifications, Reapportionment Board and the University Board of Regents. The Board of Regents and the Reapportionment Board are compensated in some fashion. Further, the two judicial boards include at least some members who are salaried state judges. The work of the Commission is most similar to the Reapportionment Board which is compensated at the rate of \$150 per day.

- ❖ With few exceptions, the demands and expectations placed on the Commission appear to be at least comparable to the twenty or so state boards and commissions that are presently compensated. Exceptions are limited to the three full-time salaried commissions.
- ❖ There are 165 municipal governments in Alaska today. That number is more than quadruple the number that existed at statehood. Even then, the Public Administration Service — which played a central role in setting the framework for State government — recommended to the First Session of the First Alaska Legislature that members of the Local Boundary Commission be compensated.
- ❖ Beside the fourfold increase in the number of municipalities since statehood, the scope of the Commission's responsibilities has grown substantially since its creation. Initially, the Commission was responsible only for municipal annexations and detachments. The courts handled other municipal boundary matters. Over the years, responsibility for municipal incorporations, dissolutions, mergers and consolidations has been shifted from the courts to the Commission. Not only has this relieved the courts of a substantial burden, but all municipal boundary issues are now placed before a single expert body. CSSB 164(CRA) would add to the duties of the Commission.
- ❖ The Commission typically meets about 20 times each year. Travel and participation at meetings of the Commission take members away from their paying professions, often requiring substantial financial sacrifice on the part of each Commission member.
- ❖ Meetings are often held in remote locations. This involves extended travel, sometimes under arduous conditions.
- ❖ The fiscal impact of such compensation would be minimal. Based upon the attached fiscal note, the Department estimates that the annual cost will be less than \$15,000.

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Date