

HB

58

HB 58

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STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

January 20, 1999

The Honorable Brian Porter
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear *Brian* Speaker Porter:

In the interest of improving efficiency within our state government, as well as between government and industry, I am transmitting this bill to transfer oil and gas royalty audit functions from the Department of Revenue (DOR) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). It makes sense to put the audit duties in the same department that administers, enforces, and is therefore most knowledgeable with, the oil and gas leasing program.

Ironically, the audit functions used to rest with DNR, but were switched to DOR in 1980 based on a legislative audit report. The recommendation stated cost savings would be achieved by having one staff of auditors review both tax and royalty compliance information. Since 1980, however, the state has entered into royalty settlements with the major North Slope producers and has made changes to its tax regulations. As a result, there is no longer as much overlap between royalty and tax audits. In addition, separating DNR's duty to administer and enforce oil and gas contracts, agreements, and leases from the department's ability to conduct audits leading to possible enforcement actions, has resulted in inefficiencies and other problems.

The bill specifically authorizes DNR to audit reports and costs relating to exploration incentive credits and oil and gas licenses. It also grants DNR audit powers commensurate to those of DOR currently, including the right to subpoena information for audit purposes. The two departments would be allowed to exchange confidential information obtained in the course of their respective audits; a breach of confidentiality by any agency employee would be a felony offense.

This bill takes a sensible step in how the state does business with the oil and gas industry.

Sincerely,

Tony Knowles
Tony Knowles
Governor

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. HB 58

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) March 3, 2000 - 3 p.m. Dept. Affected Revenue
 Title Oil & Gas Audits BRU Revenue Operations
 Component Tax Division
 Sponsor House Rules
 Requester House Resources Component No. 115

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services	(230.9)	(230.9)	(230.9)	(230.9)	(230.9)	(230.9)
Travel	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Permanent Fund receipts)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)
TOTAL	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)	(233.4)

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill transfers from DOR to DNR the responsibilities and authority for auditing reports and payments relating to revenue under oil and gas contracts, agreements and leases. This function is performed by three DOR positions that would be transferred from DOR to DNR.

The DOR positions had been funded with General Fund money but the Legislature in 1999 changed the funding source starting with the FY 2000 budget to Permanent Fund Receipts.

Prepared by: Dan Dickinson, Director Phone 269-1033
 Division Tax Division Date/Time March 3, 2000
 Approved by: Commissioner Wilson Condon Date 03/03/2000
 Agency Department of Revenue

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB58

Revision Date: 03-Mar-00 Dept Affected: Natural Resources
 Title: An Act relating to certain audits regarding oil and gas royalty and net profits and to audits regarding costs... BRU: Oil & Gas Development
 Sponsor: Rules Committee Component: Oil & Gas Development
 Requestor: (H)RES Component Serial No. #439

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
PERSONAL SERVICES	230.9	230.9	230.9	230.9	230.9	230.9
TRAVEL	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
CONTRACTUAL SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHANGE IN REVENUES (fund code)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1105 Perm Fund Receipts	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4
TOTAL	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4	233.4

Estimate of any current year (FY00) cost: \$ none

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME	3	3	3	3	3	3
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Transfer from the Department of Revenue funds for two Revenue Auditor positions and one clerical position. The Revenue Auditor positions being transferred are filled and perform royalty audits. The departments agree that efficiencies will result in the timeliness of audits with the consolidation of this function in DNR. In the past, many of the tasks required to complete these royalty audits were duplicative of tasks performed in DNR. This fiscal note shows the transfer of the funds and positions from Dept. of Revenue to the Dept. of Natural Resources.

Prepared by: Ken Boyd, Director Phone: 269-8800
 Division: Oil & Gas Date: 03-Mar-00
 Approved by Commissioner: John Shively Date: 03-03-00
 Agency: Natural Resources

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