

HB

288

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim:

600 East Railroad Avenue
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
(907) 373-1842
Fax (907) 373-4729



Session:

State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-2186
Fax (907) 465-3818

REPRESENTATIVE VIC KOHRING
DISTRICT 14

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CS for House Bill 288

“Changing the name of the Department of Community & Economic Development”

Confusion exists as to the actual mission of the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCEd) on whether Alaska has an agency that is tasked with promoting commerce and economic development. It has somewhat complicated efforts to attract investment to the state.

Governor Murkowski, in his State of the State speech in January, announced his administration was now referring to the department as the “Department of Commerce” (short, for the Department of Commerce & Economic Development).

The Committee Substitute for House Bill 288 officially renames DCEd to the Department of *Commerce* and Economic Development. I believe the name change more closely reflects its mission. That is, to further commerce and develop Alaska’s economy.

Further, the name change more correctly reflects the goals and strategies of the department, such as promoting local economic development and crucial infrastructure, marketing Alaska’s goods and services throughout the world, organizing and conducting business trade missions to expand product sales in current markets and develop new markets, and facilitating the exchange of information between Alaska exporters and potential customers.

Lastly, by adding the name “Commerce” into the title, it becomes consistent with numerous other states, including Utah, Montana, Idaho, and North Dakota and South Dakota.

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REPRESENTATIVE VIC KOHRING
DISTRICT 14

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

HB 288

Changing the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development

Section 1. States that the purpose of the Act is to change the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

Section 2. Changes the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

Section 3. Instructs the revisor of statutes and the regulations attorney to amend the Alaska Statutes and the Alaska Administrative Code to change the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development and to change the Commissioner of Community and Economic Development to the Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
Bill Version: HB 288
() Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: DCED
Title Changing Name of Dept of Comm & Econ. Dev. BRU Executive Admin (119)
Component Commissioner's Office
Sponsor Representative Kohring
Requester House State Affairs Component No. 1027

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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 (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill changes the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development to the Department of Commerce. The department will implement the change to the new name as supplies need to be replenished; therefore, no new funds are required to implement this bill.

Prepared by: Tom Lawson, Director Phone 907-465-2506
Division: Administrative Services Date/Time 4/30/03 3:03 PM
Approved by: Edgar Blatchford, Commissioner Date 4/30/2003
Agency: Department of Community & Economic Development

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

Alaska Department of Community
and Economic Development

Office of the Commissioner

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07 May 2003

The Honorable Vic Kohring
House of Representatives
Alaska State Capitol, Room 24
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Support of HB 288 – Name Change for the Department of Community and Economic Development

Dear Representative Kohring;

Thank you for introducing House Bill 288 - Name Change for the Department of Community and Economic Development. The administration supports changing the name of the Department of Community and Economic Development to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

In the coming years, our mineral, oil and gas resources will become a stronger element in the health of the state's economy. The new title of the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development implies that the economic growth of the state will improve living conditions for all individuals. As our commercial interests grow stronger, there will be more opportunities for Alaskans to receive training to engage in the spectrum of jobs that will become available.

This name change will communicate to international business partners that Alaska is serious and focused on development. The government to government message will be crisp and clear. Alaska is intent on being an honorable and competent player in the commercial system of the world. The Department will serve as a liaison between private sector business, state and local government and the people across the state of Alaska. It will focus on both local and external commercial conditions, and will assist the communities to participate in the associated economic activity.

As we commercialize Alaska's resources and move toward utilization of emerging routes to global markets, the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development will send a clear message to the world. Thank you for your support in helping accomplish this change.

Sincerely,

Ed. Blatchford

Edgar Blatchford
Commissioner



May 7, 2003


Representative Vic Kohring
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Kohring:

The purpose of this letter is to express AEDC's support for HB 288 'Changing the Name of the Department of Community and Economic Development' to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development. The name change seems to more accurately reflect the mission of the Department. Substituting the word "commerce" should also provide clearer direction to those parties interested in contacting state government about doing business in the state.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at (907) 258-3700.

Sincerely,


Larry Crawford
President & CEO, AEDC



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