

**HB**

**300**



# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

*Interim:*

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Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
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*Session:*

State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
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REPRESENTATIVE VIC KOHRING  
DISTRICT 14

## House Bill 300 Sponsor Statement

House Bill 300 requires that the *public seat* on the three member Oil & Gas Conservation Commission be filled by one with demonstrated experience in the oil and gas industry.

Currently this requirement applies only to the two technical seats, the geologist and engineer. It's critical that all members of the Commission have a fundamental understanding of the industry they regulate, and this legislation helps accomplish that.

HB 300 requires the public member to possess training or experience in the field, demonstrating a clear, essential knowledge of the state's oil and gas operations.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: 24-LS0997A  
 Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Administration  
 Title Qualifications of the third member of AOGCC RDU AK Oil & Gas Conservation Commission  
 Component AK Oil & Gas Conservation Commission  
 Sponsor Representative Kohring  
 Requester Representative Kohring Component No. 2010

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type—Do not abbreviate)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2006) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2007 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This legislation will not have a fiscal impact upon the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC).

Prepared by: Daniel T. Seamont, Jr., Commissioner  
 Division: Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
 Approved by: Michael Tibbles, Deputy Commissioner  
 Agency: Administration

Phone 907-793-1221  
 Date/Time 1/23/06 2:30 PM  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE OF ALASKA

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

## ALASKA OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

330 W. 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 100  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3639  
PHONE (907) 278-1433  
FAX (907) 278-7542

January 20, 2006

The Honorable Victor Kohring  
Chair, House Special Committee on Oil and Gas  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

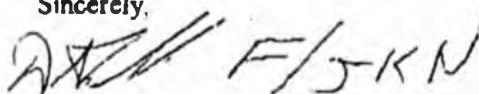
Re: House Bill No. 300

Dear Representative Kohring:

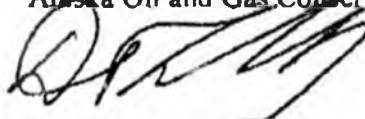
Thank you for this opportunity to comment on HB300. The Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission ("Commission") supports this amendment regarding the qualifications of the third member of the Commission. This very simple revision will help protect the oil and gas interests of the people of Alaska by expressing a preference for applicants for any of the three Commission seats who demonstrate experience in oil and gas operations in the state. Currently this requirement applies only to the two technical seats, the geologist and the engineer. Because Alaska is moving into a time of extremely critical and diverse oil and gas activities, it is important that all members of the Commission have a fundamental understanding of the industry they regulate.

We would be please to respond to any questions you or other members of the committee you may have.

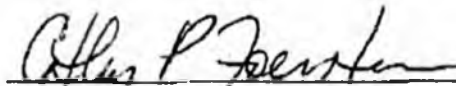
Sincerely,



John K. Norman, Chairman  
Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission



Daniel T. Seamount, Jr., Commissioner  
Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission



Cathy P. Foerster, Commissioner  
Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

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The State of Alaska

# Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

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## Of Interest

- **Hearing & Meeting Calendar**
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- **Contacts for Individual Oil & Gas Pools**
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## Information

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- **Division of Oil and Gas**
- **Division of Geophysical Geological Services**
- **EPA's UIC Program**
- **IOGCC - Interstate Oil Compact Commission**
- **GWPC - Ground Water Council**
- **MMS - Minerals Management Service**
- **BLM - Bureau of Land Management**
- **Glossary of Oil Field (courtesy of Schiumberger)**
- **DOE Fossil Energy**

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# Regulations

Oil and Gas Conservation Commission > Regulations Updated 13 December 2005

The regulations reproduced below are intended to reflect the complete amended set of regulations for the AOGCC. Please note that there are differences between this version and the version published by Lexis Law Publishing. The AOGCC has attempted to accurately reproduce the regulations as adopted and filed by the Lt. Governor and to correct certain errors that appear in the published version. However, readers are advised that the AOGCC cannot guarantee the accuracy of the following version and that in the event of any unintentional discrepancies between the following version and the regulations originally filed by the Lt. Governor (copies of which are available from the AOGCC), the regulations of the Lt. Governor control.

## Amended Regulations: Updated 13 December 2005

- Well branches, permit to drill applications, drilling program changes, and redrills.

## Alaska Administrative Code

### Title 20 - CHAPTER 25

#### Article

- 1. Drilling (20 AAC 25 005 – 20 AAC 25 080)
- 2. Abandonment and Plugging (20 AAC 25 105 – 20 AAC 25 172)
- 3. Production Practices (20 AAC 25 200 – 20 AAC 25 290)
- 4. Reports (20 AAC 25 300 – 20 AAC 25 320)
- 5. Enhanced Recovery (20 AAC 25 400 – 20 AAC 25.460)
- 6. General Provisions (20 AAC 25 505 – 20 AAC 25 630)
- 7. Definitions (20 AAC 25 990)

#### Editor's Notes-

This chapter is based on the former regulations of the division of oil and gas conservation formerly located in 11 AAC 22

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 State of Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
 

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### COMMISSIONERS - TERMS IN OFFICE

<b>Petroleum Engineer</b>	<b>Geologist</b>	<b>Public Member</b>
<b>Hoyle H. Hamilton</b>	<b>Harry W. Kugler</b>	<b>Lonnie C. Smith</b>
Jan 1, 1979 to Dec 31, 1981	Jan 1, 1979 to May 15, 1986	Jan 1, 1979 to Jul 1, 1992
<b>C. V. "Chat" Chatterton</b>	<b>William W. Barnwell</b>	<b>Leigh Griffin</b>
Jan 18, 1982 to Aug 1, 1990	Jul 1, 1986 to Aug 11, 1988	Sep 9, 1992 to Feb 1, 1993
<b>Russell A. Douglass</b>	<b>David W. Johnston</b>	<b>Tuckerman Babcock</b>
Nov 26, 1990 to Nov 17, 1995	Jan 19, 1989 to Jan 12, 2000	Jun 1, 1993 to Dec 31, 1996
<b>J. David Norton</b>	<b>Dan Seamount</b>	<b>Mary Marshburn</b>
Nov 20, 1995 to May 7, 1996	Jan 13, 2000 to Present	Jan 1, 1997 to May 9, 1997
<b>Robert Christenson</b>		<b>Camille Oechsli Taylor</b>
May 9, 1997 to Jun 8, 2000		Sep 1, 1997 to Feb 18, 2003
<b>Julie Heusser</b>		<b>Sarah Palin</b>
Nov 1, 2000 to Mar 15, 2002		Feb 19, 2003 to Jan 23, 2004
<b>Mike Bill</b>		<b>John K. Norman</b>
Oct 1, 2002 to Feb 18, 2003		Jan 26, 2004 to Present
<b>Randy Ruedrich</b>		
Feb 19, 2003 to Nov 8, 2003		
<b>Cathy Foerster</b>		
March 30, 2005 to Present		

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# Alaska Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

## Commission History

The Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Act (1955) created the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC or Commission). The Commission was composed of the Governor of the Territory of Alaska, the Territorial Commissioner of Mines, and the Territorial Highway Engineer. Rules and regulations governing Commission activities became effective on October 1, 1958.

Under the State Organization Act of 1959, the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission was abolished, its function and authority transferred to the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mines and Minerals. A group within the department was designated to hold hearings and issue decisions on oil and gas matters. This group was the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Committee which consisted of the Director of the Division of Mines and Minerals (Chairman), the State Petroleum Geologist, the State Petroleum Engineer, and the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

In 1968 the Division of Oil and Gas was created within the Department on Natural Resources. The new division arose from the Petroleum Branch of the Division of Mines and Minerals. The Alaska Oil and Gas Committee was placed within the new division, and consisted of the Director, Chief Petroleum Geologist, and Chief Petroleum Engineer. In 1976 the word "conservation" was added to the division's title, and it became the Division of Oil and Gas Conservation.

With the advent of production from Prudhoe Bay in 1977, the Legislature became concerned with the potential conflict between the state's revenue interest in high production rates on state leases and the state's conservation interest in protecting total ultimate recovery. To obviate its concern, the Legislature amended AS 31.05 by Chapter 158, SLA 1978 to create a new Commission, effective January 1, 1979, as an independent quasi-judicial agency within the executive branch of the state. Initially, the new Commission was housed within the Department of Natural Resources, but in 1980 it was transferred to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development. More recently, Governor Hickel transferred the Commission to the Department of Administration on February 17, 1994.

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# Alaska Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

## **AOGCC Mission**

The mission of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (AOGCC) is to protect the public interest in exploration and development of oil and gas resources, ensuring conservation practices, and increasing ultimate recovery, while protecting health, safety, the environment, and property rights.

The Commission functions as the regulatory agency overseeing the underground operation of the Alaska oil industry on private and public lands and waters. Its responsibilities include regulating drilling and production of oil and gas to ensure that physical waste does not occur, protecting correlative rights of mineral interest owners, ensuring greater ultimate resource recovery and managing the Class II Underground Injection Control (UIC) program for oil and gas wells in Alaska as authorized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on June 19, 1986.

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 State of Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

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