

in performing official duties hereunder, together with transportation and per diem while on a travel status for attendance at Board meetings.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Alaska Library Board to make application for and to receive such Federal funds as may be appropriated for library aid under a Public Library Service Demonstration Act or any other Act of Congress and administered by the United States Commissioner of Education or other Federal agency; to make plans for the administration of these funds and to carry out the plans for the benefit of public libraries both in municipalities and rural areas of Alaska; to further by all possible means the establishment and operation of public libraries throughout Alaska, including cooperation with the Governor's office in making allotments of Territorial money appropriated for library assistance .

Function of the Board.

Section 3. The sum of \$2,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of the moneys in the Treasury of the Territory of Alaska, not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act during the biennium ending March 31, 1951.

Appropriation.

Approved March 25, 1949.

CHAPTER 108

AN ACT

[S. B. 49]

Establishing an Alaska Statehood Committee; prescribing its powers and duties; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Purpose. Section 1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE. In recognition of near attainment of Statehood for Alaska and the responsibility that will devolve upon the people of Alaska in framing a fundamentally sound and workable state constitution embodying the best provisions that have evolved in the interest of better government in the several states, and in recognition of the many problems that will attend transition from Territorial status to Statehood, it is deemed necessary in the public interest to establish a Committee, non-governmental in character, to assemble applicable material, make studies and provide recommendations in a timely manner.

Governor to appoint. Legislature to accept or reject. Section 2. ALASKA STATEHOOD COMMITTEE. There is hereby created the Alaska Statehood Committee which shall be composed of eleven members selected as follows: The Governor shall nominate eleven qualified adult persons, who are residents of Alaska, not more than six of whom belong to the same political party. Said names shall be voted upon by the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Nineteenth Legislature in joint session assembled, and chosen or rejected by a majority of the said members present at said session. In the event of any rejections, the Governor shall submit additional names until all positions on the Statehood Committee are filled. The Delegate to Congress, his immediate predecessor, and the Governor of Alaska shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

Section 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE. The Committee is authorized and directed to:

(a) Organize and adopt rules for the conduct of its business;

(b) Engage the services of a qualified person to do the necessary research, act as the executive of the Committee, and otherwise represent the Committee in carrying out the directives of the Committee. Travel to Washington, D. C. or other points in the States and to such points in Alaska as may be necessary or advisable is hereby authorized;

Researcher to be hired.

(c) Have ready, in preparation for the Constitutional Convention, fully detailed information and analyses for use by the Convention in preparing the required draft of a constitution for Alaska, to the end that the people may have the opportunity of passing upon an entirely sound and thoroughly prepared document;

Prepare information.

(d) Secure studies and analyses upon which the Constitutional Convention may base recommendations to the first state legislature with respect to organizational legislation necessary to implement initial operations of the new state, and preserve such material for use by the first legislature;

(e) Obtain information and suggestions with respect to the best way of getting over the transition period entailed prior to convening of the first state legislature;

(f) Make available to the Delegate from Alaska at the earliest reasonable time pertinent information and suggestions, and such other assistance in obtaining passage of the best possible enabling legislation by Congress, as the Committee may deem necessary or advisable;

(g) Employ such additional help and incur such other expense as may be required to carry out the purposes of this Act;

(h) Do whatever else it may deem necessary or advisable to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Meetings.

Section 4. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE. The Committee shall first meet as soon after its members have been appointed as can conveniently be arranged, and upon call of the Governor. After it has organized for the conduct of its business, it shall scrutinize the status of the statehood movement, ascertain what steps to initiate and authorize and direct that same be taken, secure the services of an executive officer and fix his compensation, and otherwise do all that may be necessary or advisable at that time. Such first meeting shall not exceed ten days. Thereafter, and not less than six months prior to the date set pursuant to any Act of Congress for the convening of an Alaska Statehood Convention, and upon call of the Governor, with not less than thirty days notice, the Committee shall convene in its principal session for a period not exceeding thirty days to consider the information, data and analyses which shall have been assembled at that time and proceed to make its findings, conclusions, report and recommendations for submission to the Constitutional Convention. The Committee may also hold such other meetings not exceeding ten days in duration as a majority of its members may deem necessary. The first meeting and the principal session above referred to shall be held in Juneau, but necessary intermediate meetings may be held elsewhere in Alaska as the Committee may decide. In connection with meetings held in Juneau and the continuing use of its personnel and staff, the Committee is authorized to use such reasonable amount of legislative floor space as it can get assigned to it for such purposes, and may use such equipment and supplies of the Legislature as it needs, together with additional supplies and material as it requires to adequately perform the functions and duties delegated hereunder.

Expenses of members.

Section 5. EXPENSES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Members of the Committee shall, for time actually spent at meetings and otherwise in performing their duties

hereunder, be entitled to receive transportation and per diem in lieu of actual expense and such reasonable rate of allowance for time lost from other pursuits as the Committee, acting by a majority, may authorize.

Section 6. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON COMMITTEE. Any bona fide adult resident of the Territory of Alaska shall be eligible to serve on the Committee notwithstanding employment by, or the holding of any office under, the Federal government, the Territory or any municipality. Membership requirements.

Section 7. DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEE. The Committee shall automatically dissolve at such time as the constitution drafted by a Congressionally authorized Constitutional Convention has been approved by vote of the electorate of Alaska, and any part of the appropriation hereinafter made which remains unexpended shall revert to the general fund of the Territory. Dissolution.

Section 8. APPROPRIATION. The sum of \$80,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Territorial Treasury not otherwise appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act. Appropriation.

Section 9. EMERGENCY. An emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval. Emergency clause.

Approved March 25, 1949.