

wise lost or exempted in property taxes, but from such sums shall first be deducted any amounts received during the year as contributions in lieu of taxes made by the exempted agency to the said city or district."

Statute modified. Section 2. Section 37-3-64 (c), Alaska Compiled Laws Annotated, 1949, is hereby modified only to the extent necessary for the payment of such claims to be paid under this act.

Effective date. Section 3. This Act shall become effective July 1, 1953.

CHAPTER 69

AN ACT

[S. B. 37]

Creating a Legislative Council, prescribing its powers and duties, authorizing an appropriation, and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. **PURPOSE.** Recognizing that one legislative session of sixty days each two years is insufficient time to examine, study, and intelligently legislate on the many complex problems which face Alaska, it is deemed necessary in the public interest to establish an interim legislative committee, to be called the Legislative Council, to so examine, study, and recommend to the Legislature.

Legislative Council created.

Section 2. **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. MEMBERSHIP.** There is hereby created the Legislative Council of the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, which shall consist of three Senators and three Representatives who shall be jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House within ten days after the passage and approval of this Act, and thereafter within ten days following the organization of the Legislature at each succeeding session. Whenever possible, the mem-

Membership.

bership shall include at least one member from each Judicial Division and at least two members from each of the two major political parties. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed.

Term of office.

Section 3. DUTIES. It shall be the duty of the Council to collect information concerning the government and general welfare of the Territory, examine the effects of previously enacted statutes, consider important issues of public policy and questions of Territory-wide interest, and prepare such legislative program, in the form of bills or otherwise, as in its opinion the welfare of the Territory may require. The Council shall submit a full report of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to each Senator, Senator-elect, Representative, and Representative-elect, and to the Governor, at least thirty days prior to the convening of each legislative session. This report shall be deemed public information, and copies thereof shall be available to the public at reasonable cost.

Duties of Council.

Report.

The council shall assist any Senator, Senator-elect, Representative, or Representative-elect upon his written request, by collecting information, making studies and recommendations, and drafting bills.

Assistance to legislative members.

Section 4. POWERS. The Council shall have the power to organize and adopt rules for the conduct of its business; to hire, from outside the membership of the committee, an executive director and such other research, clerical, and other help as it deems necessary, and to fix their compensation; to hold public hearings on subjects under examination; to contract for the publication of its reports; and to incur such other expense and to do whatever else it may deem necessary or advisable to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Powers of Council.

Section 5. COOPERATION OF OFFICIAL AGENCIES. All Territorial officers, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and other agencies shall give full cooperation to the Council and its executive director in

Cooperation of official agencies.

the fulfillment of their duties, by collecting and furnishing information, conducting studies and making recommendations. Specifically, the facilities of the Legislative chambers and rooms, and the services of the faculty, volunteer students, and facilities of the University of Alaska may be made available to the Council and its executive director.

Meetings.

Section 6. MEETINGS. QUORUM. The Council shall meet immediately upon the appointment of all of its members, for the purpose of organizing and fixing the time for its next meeting, which shall be within six months after the adjournment of the legislative session. The Council shall also meet once no less than four months prior to the convening of the next legislative session, for the purpose of making its final report. The Council may meet at any other times and at any place within the Territory of Alaska, which they deem necessary, Provided that meetings may be called upon the written petition of two members of the Council, or upon the call of its chairman. No meeting shall exceed ten days duration.

Duration of meetings.

Quorum.

Full and complete minutes shall be kept of every meeting, which shall be made part of the final report. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

Expenses of members.

Section 7. EXPENSES OF MEMBERS. Members of the Council shall, for time spent at meetings held in accordance with Section 6 of this Act, be entitled to receive transportation and per diem and other allowances at the same rates provided for members of the Legislature when in actual session assembled.

Appropriation authorized.

Section 8. Funds for carrying out the provisions of this Act shall be set forth in the general appropriation bill. There shall be an annual audit of all expenditures of the Council.

Emergency clause.

Section 9. An emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval.