



LAWS OF ALASKA

1967

Source

Chapter No.

HB 289 am

127

AN ACT

Relating to the clearing of agricultural land; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. AS 38 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 7. CLEARING AND DRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL LAND.

Sec. 38.07.010. SELECTION AND LEASE. (a) The commissioner may select areas of state land classified as agricultural and contract for the land to be cleared or drained or both at state expense. In this selection and contracting, the commissioner shall be guided by the recommendations of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

(b) The land thus cleared or drained shall be put up for competitive lease in lots of not less than 320 acres each.

Sec. 38.07.020. PROVISIONS OF LEASE. (a) The lease in sec. 10(b) of this chapter shall be for 10 years with an option for a five-year renewal.

(b) Before a lessee can apply for ownership of the land, he must crop the land for at least seven years. If a lessee does not crop the land for at least seven years during his lease, the land shall be open again for competitive lease.

(c) All rent the lessee has paid on the lease less interest on appraised value is to be applied toward the purchase price.

(d) There shall be included in the lease agreement a provision prohibiting more than one farm unit on each half section of land.

Sec. 38.07.030. OWNERS AND LESSEES INCLUDED. (a) An owner of agricultural land, or a lessee from the state of agricultural land, in the general vicinity of the land to be cleared or drained under sec. 10(a) of this chapter may apply to the commissioner to have his land cleared or drained or both along with the state land. The applicant's land shall be included in the contract of land to be cleared or drained if, in the discretion of the commissioner, the inclusion is feasible and furthers the agricultural policies of the division.

(b) The cost of clearing privately-owned land shall be borne by the landowner. For this purpose, he may borrow money according to the requirements and provisions of the Alaska Agricultural Loan Act (AS 03.10).

(c) The cost of clearing land leased from the state, including but not limited to school, university, and mental health land, shall be borne by the state. The lessee shall repay the cost over a 10-year period at five per cent interest.

Sec. 38.07.040. LAND CERTIFICATES. The contracts in sec. 10(a) of this chapter may provide for payment by the state in the form of land certificates which shall be equivalent to cash in the purchase of land credit from the state. The use of land credit certificates may be applied in the manner prescribed by AS 19.30.090 and any regulations adopted thereunder.

Sec. 38.07.050. REGULATIONS. The commissioner shall, guided by recommendations of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this chapter.

Sec. 38.07.060. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

(1) "cleared," "clear," and "clearing" mean the preparation of the land for planting;

(2) "cropped" means the management of a domestic planting including harvest;

(3) "commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.