



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1978

Source

Chapter No.

SCS CSHB 303 am S

120

## AN ACT

Creating the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women.

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

\* Section 1. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Sec. 44.19.956. CREATION OF COMMISSION. There is created in the Office of the Governor the Alaska Commission on the Status of Women.

Sec. 44.19.957. COMPOSITION. The commission consists of nine members and an ex officio member representing the office of the attorney general who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

Sec. 44.19.958. APPOINTMENT. (a) The members shall be appointed on a nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory basis by the governor within 60 days of the effective date of this Act. The members shall be residents of the state. At least one member shall be a homemaker who is not otherwise employed. In making the appointments, due consideration shall be given to

(1) the recommendations made by civic organizations, women's organizations, educational and vocational groups, employer groups, labor unions, church groups, homemakers clubs and organizations, and other groups having an interest in the status of women;

(2) statewide geographical representation of the commission; and

(3) minority and low-income representation.

(b) The commission shall elect one of its members as chairperson and may select other commission officers as it considers necessary.

Sec. 44.19.959. MEETINGS. Within 60 days after the appointment of all the members of the commission, the governor shall call the first meeting of the commission. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for conducting business and exercising the powers of the commission. The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson, at the request of a majority of the members, or at a regularly scheduled time as determined by a majority of the members.

Sec. 44.19.961. TERMS OF OFFICE. The term of office of each member is five years. Terms shall be staggered. Initial terms shall be three members serving for one year, three members serving for three years, and three members serving for five years. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments.

Sec. 44.19.962. COMPENSATION. Members of the commission receive no compensation for their services but are entitled to per diem and travel allowances authorized by law for other boards and commissions.

Sec. 44.19.963. PURPOSE. The purpose of the commission is to implement the recommendations contained in the preliminary study on the status of women in Alaska which was mandated by the Ninth Legislature, Second Session, under ch. 99 SLA 1976, and improve the status of women in Alaska by conducting further research and by making and implementing additional recommendations on the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in Alaska including, but not limited to,

- (1) education,
- (2) homemaking,
- (3) civil and legal rights,
- (4) labor and employment.

Sec. 44.19.964. POWERS AND DUTIES. To accomplish its purpose, the commission may

- (1) hire an executive director and additional administrative staff as may be necessary to the commission's function;
- (2) act as a clearinghouse and coordinating body for governmental and nongovernmental information relating to the status of women;
- (3) cooperate with public and private agencies in joint efforts to study and resolve problems relating to the status of women in Alaska;
- (4) accumulate and compile information concerning discrimination against women;
- (5) disseminate the results of research and

compilation of data acquired under (4) of this section by publication and other methods such as public hearings, conferences, and seminars;

(6) study and analyze all facts relating to Alaska laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to equal protection for women under the state constitution;

(7) recommend legislative and administrative action on equal treatment and opportunities for women;

(8) select and retain the services of consultants whose advice is considered necessary to assist the commission in obtaining information;

(9) encourage women to utilize their capabilities and to assume leadership roles;

(10) establish standing committees among the members to investigate and make recommendations on various areas of concern;

(11) create task forces composed of commission members and other experts as needed;

(12) accept monetary gifts or grants from the federal government or an agency of it, from any charitable foundation or professional association or from any other reputable source for implementation of any program necessary or desirable for carrying out the general purposes of the commission.

Sec. 44.19.966. ANNUAL REPORT. Each year the commission shall file a report with the governor and the legislature of its proceedings for the previous calendar year and shall submit recommendations for legislative and administrative action. Reports and recommendations required under this section shall be prepared no later than the convening of the legislature.

\* Sec. 2. The Alaska Commission on the Status of Women created under AS 44.19.956 shall terminate on June 30, 1983.