

STATE OF ALASKA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 93

1996



1 Under the authority of art. III, sec. 23, of the Alaska Constitution, and in accordance
2 with AS 24.08.210, I order the following:

3 * **Section 1.** FINDINGS. As governor, I find that it would be in the best interests of
4 efficient administration to transfer the responsibility for the Alaska regional economic
5 assistance program from the Department of Commerce and Economic Development to the
6 Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 09.65.170(c)(2) is amended to read:

8 (2) "regional development organization" has the meaning given in

9 AS 44.47.900 [AS 44.33.026].

10 * **Sec. 3.** AS 36.30.850(b)(30) is amended to read:

11 (30) contracts entered into with a regional development organization; in

12 this paragraph, "regional development organization" has the meaning given in

13 AS 44.47.900 [AS 44.33.026];

14 * **Sec. 4.** AS 44.47 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 **ARTICLE 9A. REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

16 **Sec. 44.47.900. ALASKA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE**
17 **PROGRAM.** (a) The department shall

1 (1) encourage the formation of regional development organizations by
2 providing assistance in forming organizations to interested individuals, including
3 information on how to qualify and apply for regional development grants and federal
4 funding under 42 U.S.C. 3121 - 3246 (Public Works and Economic Development Act
5 of 1965), as amended;

6 (2) assist an interested individual in establishing boundaries for a
7 proposed organization to ensure that the region

8 (A) is of sufficient geographic size and contains a large enough
9 population to form an economically viable unit with shared interests, resources,
10 traditions, and goals;

11 (B) contains at least one municipality that serves as a regional
12 center; and

13 (C) contains the entire area of each municipality included in the
14 region;

15 (3) gather information about regional economic issues, international
16 trade, and tourism from organizations;

17 (4) serve as liaison between organizations and other state agencies and
18 encourage other agencies to make resources available to help accomplish goals of the
19 organizations;

20 (5) assist each organization to

21 (A) provide services designed to encourage economic
22 development to local communities and businesses;

23 (B) collect and distribute economic information relevant to the
24 region;

25 (C) participate in state marketing campaigns and join state trade
26 missions that are relevant to the region; and

27 (D) develop and implement strategies to attract new industry,
28 expand international trade opportunities, and encourage tourism within the
29 region.

30 (b) Subject to (c) of this section, the department may make regional

1 development grants to organizations for projects the department determines will be of
2 value in encouraging economic development. During a fiscal year the department may
3 make no more than 15 grants and may only make grants to one organization from a
4 particular region. An organization that is designated an economic development district
5 under 42 U.S.C. 3171 qualifies for grants under this subsection. The department shall
6 by regulation adopt procedures for applying for regional development grants, including
7 application deadlines. The department may by regulation establish additional grant
8 eligibility requirements.

9 (c) To qualify for a grant, a regional development organization must match the
10 grant by providing an amount of money from nonstate sources. The department shall
11 establish by regulation a formula that determines the amount of the match required
12 under this subsection based upon the capability of each organization to generate money
13 from nonstate sources. The amount of match required may not exceed the amount of
14 grant money and may not be less than 20 percent of the grant. The total amount of
15 grant money provided to an organization during a fiscal year may not exceed
16 \$100,000.

17 (d) There is established in the department the regional development fund
18 consisting of appropriations to the fund. Money from the fund may be used only for
19 regional development grants.

20 (e) In this section, "regional development organization" or "organization"
21 means a nonprofit organization or nonprofit corporation formed to encourage economic
22 development within a particular region of the state that includes the entire area of each
23 municipality within that region and that has a board of directors that represents the
24 region's economic, political, and social interests.

25 * Sec. 5. AS 44.33.026 is repealed.

26 * Sec. 6. Section 3, ch. 94, SLA 1988, as amended by sec. 1, ch. 35, SLA 1992, is further
27 amended to read:

28 Sec. 3. AS 44.47.900 [AS 44.33.026] is repealed July 1, 1997.

29 * Sec. 7. TRANSITION. (a) Litigation, hearings, investigations, and other proceedings
30 pending under a law amended or repealed by this Order, or in connection with functions

1 transferred by this Order, continue in effect and may be continued and completed
2 notwithstanding a transfer or amendment or repeal provided for in this Order.

3 (b) Contracts, rights, liabilities, and obligations created by or under a law amended
4 or repealed by this Executive order, and in effect on June 30, 1996, remain in effect
5 notwithstanding this Order's taking effect. Records, equipment, appropriations, and other
6 property of agencies of the state whose functions are transferred under this Order shall be
7 transferred to implement the provisions of this Order.

8 (c) Regulations adopted by the Department of Commerce and Economic Development
9 before July 1, 1996 concerning the Alaska regional economic assistance program remain in
10 effect and may be implemented and enforced by the Department of Community and Regional
11 Affairs until its own regulations take effect.

12 * Sec. 8. This Order takes effect July 1, 1996.

DATED: January 8, 1996

/s/ Tony Knowles
Tony Knowles
Governor