



# LAWS OF ALASKA

## 1997

**Source**

HCS CSSB 103(FIN)

**Chapter No.**

52

**AN ACT**

Relating to hearings before and fees for the State Commission for Human Rights; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

**Approved by the Governor:** May 30, 1997

**Actual Effective Date:** May 31, 1997

AN ACT

1 Relating to hearings before and fees for the State Commission for Human Rights; and  
2 providing for an effective date.

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4 \* Section 1. AS 18.80.060(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) In addition to other powers and duties prescribed by this chapter, the  
6 commission may

7 (1) delegate to the executive director all powers and duties given it by  
8 this chapter except the duties and powers given it by AS 18.80.120 and 18.80.130;

9 (2) call upon the departments and agencies of the state, with the  
10 approval of the governor, for cooperation and assistance in carrying out this chapter;

11 (3) hold hearings under AS 18.80.120;

12 (4) establish the amount and manner of payment of fees for  
13 educational services, information, and materials that the commission provides to  
14 public and private organizations and other persons.

**Chapter 52**

1    \* **Sec. 2.** AS 18.80.120 is amended to read:

2           **Sec. 18.80.120. Hearing.** If the informal efforts to eliminate the alleged  
3           discrimination are unsuccessful, the executive director shall inform the commission of  
4           the failure, and the commission shall provide the respondent and the complainant with  
5           notice of the failure and shall serve written notice, together with a copy of the  
6           complaint, requiring the person, employer, labor organization, or employment agency  
7           charged in the complaint to answer the allegations of the complaint at a hearing before  
8           the commission. The hearing shall be held by the commission at the commission  
9           office unless a party [PLACE WHERE THE UNLAWFUL CONDUCT IS ALLEGED  
10          TO HAVE OCCURRED UNLESS THE PERSON, EMPLOYER, LABOR  
11          ORGANIZATION, OR EMPLOYMENT AGENCY] requests a change of venue for  
12          good cause shown, and the commission grants the request. The case in support of  
13          the complaint shall be presented before the commission by the executive director or  
14          a designee who shall be a bona fide resident of the state. The person charged in the  
15          complaint may file a written answer to the complaint and may appear at the hearing  
16          in person or otherwise, with or without counsel, and submit testimony. The executive  
17          director has the power reasonably and fairly to amend the complaint, and the person  
18          charged has the power reasonably and fairly to amend the answer. The commission  
19          is not bound by the strict rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity. The  
20          testimony taken at the hearing shall be under oath and shall be recorded  
21          [TRANSCRIBED AT THE REQUEST OF ANY PARTY TO THE HEARING].

22    \* **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).