

SENATE BILL NO. 177

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

Introduced: 4/22/25

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

A BILL**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the elimination or modification of state agency publications that are**
2 **outdated, duplicative, or excessive."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 03.40.090 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 03.40.090. Publication of record.** The commissioner shall publish, in
6 book form, a list of all brands and marks on record at the time of the publication. The
7 lists may be supplemented from time to time. The publication must contain a facsimile
8 of all recorded brands and marks, together with the owner's name and mailing address.
9 The records shall be arranged in convenient form for reference. **The publication must**
10 **be made available for download on the Internet website of the division of the**
11 **department with responsibility for agriculture** [THE BOOKS AND
12 SUPPLEMENTS MAY BE SOLD TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT AN AMOUNT
13 NOT TO EXCEED \$2 A COPY].

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.42.035(a) is amended to read:

(a) The commission may require the institutions of public and private higher education and other institutions of postsecondary education in the state to submit data on costs, selection, and retention of students, enrollments, education outcomes, plant capacities and use, and other matters pertinent to effective planning and coordination [, AND SHALL FURNISH INFORMATION CONCERNING THESE MATTERS TO THE GOVERNOR, TO THE LEGISLATURE, AND TO OTHER STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES AS REQUESTED BY THEM].

* **Sec. 3.** AS 16.05.130(b) is amended to read:

(b) Money accruing to the state from waterfowl conservation tag fees from hunters may not be diverted to a purpose other than (1) the conservation and enhancement of waterfowl; (2) the acquisition, by lease or otherwise, of wetlands that are important for waterfowl and public use of waterfowl in the state; (3) waterfowl related projects approved by the commissioner; (4) the administration of the waterfowl conservation program; and (5) emergencies in the state as determined by the governor. The department shall maintain a state waterfowl tag fee account within the fish and game fund to permit separate accounting records for the receipt and expenditure of money derived from the sale of waterfowl tags. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE A REPORT BEFORE APRIL 15 OF EACH EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR FOR THE PUBLIC AND THE LEGISLATURE ON THE USE OF MONEY DERIVED FROM WATERFOWL CONSERVATION TAGS AND LIMITED EDITION PRINTS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE REPORT IS AVAILABLE.]

* **Sec. 4.** AS 18.67.170 is amended to read:

Sec. 18.67.170. Reports. The board shall prepare and transmit to the governor, in each odd-numbered year, a biennial report of its activities under this chapter including [A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FACTS IN EACH CASE AND] the amount of compensation awarded during the preceding two-year period. The board shall notify the legislature that the report is available.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 19.30.400(b) is amended to read:

(b) The Department of Natural Resources shall conduct the necessary research to identify rights-of-way that have been accepted by public users under former 43

U.S.C. 932 and that have not been previously identified [, AND SHALL ANNUALLY REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE BY THE FIRST DAY OF EACH REGULAR SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE ON RIGHTS-OF-WAY THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND THAT ARE NOT LISTED IN THIS SECTION].

* **Sec. 6.** AS 33.30.017(b) is amended to read:

(b) The commissioner shall

(1) charge each prisoner who possesses at least one major electrical appliance the utility fee established in (a) of this section; the commissioner may deduct the utility fee monthly from the account established for a prisoner into which money due the prisoner for labor is paid; if a prisoner is indigent, the commissioner shall make the deduction from any amount credited to the indigent inmate's account;

(2) if available from legislative appropriation, expend money deducted and collected under (1) of this subsection to offset the cost of the department's utility expenses [; THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ANNUALLY REPORT ON THE AMOUNTS THAT ARE COLLECTED AND EXPENDED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH].

* **Sec. 7.** AS 37.13.170 is amended to read:

Sec. 37.13.170. Reports and publications. By September 30 of each year, the board shall publish a report of the fund for distribution to the governor and the public. The board shall notify the legislature that the report is available. The report shall be written in easily understandable language. The report must include financial statements audited by independent outside auditors, a statement of the amount of money received by the fund from each investment during the period covered, a statement of investments of the fund including an appraisal at market value, a description of fund investment activity during the period covered by the report, a comparison of the fund performance with the intended goals contained in AS 37.13.020, an examination of the effect of the investment criteria of this chapter on the fund portfolio with recommendations of any needed changes, and any other information the board believes would be of interest to the governor, the legislature, and the public. The annual income statement and balance sheet of the fund shall be posted on the corporation's Internet website [PUBLISHED IN AT LEAST ONE

1 NEWSPAPER IN EACH JUDICIAL DISTRICT]. The income statement and balance
 2 sheet for the two fiscal years preceding the publication of the election pamphlet under
 3 AS 15.58 shall be included in that pamphlet.

4 * **Sec. 8.** AS 37.14.720 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 37.14.720. Powers and duties of the commissioner of revenue.** In
 6 carrying out the investment duties under AS 37.14.700 - 37.14.740, the commissioner
 7 of revenue has the powers and duties set out in AS 37.10.071. [THE
 8 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE REPORTS TO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
 9 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS ON THE
 10 CONDITION AND INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE OF THE FUND.]

11 * **Sec. 9.** AS 38.05.180(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) The commissioner shall annually prepare [AND, BEFORE FEBRUARY 1
 13 OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR NOTIFY THE LEGISLATURE OF] a five-year
 14 program of proposed oil and gas lease sales and proposed gas only lease sales,
 15 specifying as precisely as practicable the location of tracts to be offered for leasing
 16 during the calendar year of the notification and the following four calendar years. The
 17 commissioner may, at any time, notify the legislature of revisions, including additions,
 18 to the program. [NOTIFICATION TO EACH LEGISLATOR, BY ELECTRONIC
 19 MESSAGE OR OTHER WRITTEN MEANS, CONSTITUTES NOTIFICATION TO
 20 THE LEGISLATURE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.]

21 * **Sec. 10.** AS 44.99.220(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) Each state agency shall

23 (1) compile a list of all publications the agency produces as required
 24 by law or regulation or as directed by the legislature;

25 (2) identify and highlight on the list compiled under (1) of this
 26 subsection the publications that are

27 (A) outdated, duplicative, or excessive, or that could be
 28 improved or consolidated with other publications; or

29 (B) currently delivered physically that could be delivered
 30 electronically; and

31 (3) **every 10 years,** by October 31 [OF EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED

1 YEAR], electronically submit the list of publications compiled under (1) of this
 2 subsection, including the highlighted publications under (2) of this subsection, to the
 3 governor and to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives and
 4 notify the legislature that the list is available.

5 * **Sec. 11.** AS 44.99.220(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) In addition to the budget, bills, and fiscal plan submitted under
 7 AS 37.07.020(a) and (b), every 10 years [IN EVERY EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR],
 8 the governor shall submit a bill to eliminate or modify publication requirements for
 9 publications that have been identified under (a) of this section

10 (1) as outdated, duplicative, or excessive, or that could be improved or
 11 consolidated with other publications; or

12 (2) that could be exclusively delivered electronically.

13 * **Sec. 12.** AS 47.07.039(f) is amended to read:

14 (f) The department shall prepare a plan regarding regional or statewide
 15 implementation of a coordinated care project based on the results of the demonstration
 16 projects under this section. On or before November 15, 2019, the department shall
 17 submit the plan to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of
 18 representatives and notify the legislature that the plan is available. [ON OR BEFORE
 19 NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
 20 SUBMIT A REPORT REGARDING ANY CHANGES OR RECOMMENDATIONS
 21 REGARDING THE PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO THE
 22 SENATE SECRETARY AND THE CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF
 23 REPRESENTATIVES AND NOTIFY THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE REPORT
 24 IS AVAILABLE.]

25 * **Sec. 13.** AS 47.14.112(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) The department shall implement workload standards and a training
 27 program for employees who supervise the care of children committed to the
 28 supervision or custody of the department under AS 47.10, work with families to
 29 prevent the removal of a child from the child's home under AS 47.10, or investigate
 30 reports of harm under AS 47.17. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE A
 31 STAFFING REPORT UNDER (b) OF THIS SECTION IF THE DEPARTMENT IS

1 UNABLE

2 (1) TO EMPLOY THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES
3 NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT

4 (A) THE DEPARTMENT REASONABLY AND SAFELY
5 MINIMIZES THE TIME A CHILD IS NOT IN A PERMANENT LIVING
6 ARRANGEMENT OR UNDER A PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP;

7 (B) A CHILD IS NOT REMOVED FROM THE CHILD'S
8 HOME WHEN IT IS POSSIBLE AND IN THE CHILD'S BEST INTEREST
9 FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO WORK WITH THE CHILD'S FAMILY TO
10 PREVENT THE REMOVAL OF THE CHILD FROM THE CHILD'S HOME;

11 (C) EACH CHILD IS PLACED IN A PERMANENT HOME
12 NOT MORE THAN 24 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE THE CHILD IS
13 FIRST REMOVED FROM THE CHILD'S HOME;

14 (2) TO MEET BEST PRACTICES STANDARDS SET BY THE
15 DEPARTMENT REQUIRING THE EMPLOYMENT OF MENTORS FOR
16 EMPLOYEES WHO SUPERVISE THE CARE OF CHILDREN COMMITTED TO
17 THE SUPERVISION OR CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER AS 47.10,
18 WORK WITH FAMILIES TO PREVENT THE REMOVAL OF A CHILD FROM
19 THE CHILD'S HOME UNDER AS 47.10, OR INVESTIGATE REPORTS OF
20 HARM UNDER AS 47.17;

21 (3) FOR A NEW EMPLOYEE WHO SUPERVISES THE CARE OF
22 A CHILD COMMITTED TO THE SUPERVISION OR CUSTODY OF THE
23 DEPARTMENT UNDER AS 47.10, WORKS WITH FAMILIES TO PREVENT
24 THE REMOVAL OF A CHILD FROM THE CHILD'S HOME UNDER AS 47.10,
25 OR INVESTIGATES REPORTS OF HARM UNDER AS 47.17, TO

26 (A) PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF SIX WEEKS OF
27 TRAINING UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT THE NEW
28 EMPLOYEE HAS SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE TO JUSTIFY A SHORTER
29 TRAINING PERIOD;

30 (B) LIMIT THE EMPLOYEE'S WORKLOAD AS
31 FOLLOWS:

(i) BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF AN EMPLOYEE'S FOURTH MONTH OF WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT, THE EMPLOYEE MAY SUPERVISE NOT MORE THAN SIX FAMILIES;

(ii) AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE EMPLOYEE'S FOURTH MONTH OF WORK BUT BEFORE THE END OF THE EMPLOYEE'S SIXTH MONTH OF WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT, THE EMPLOYEE MAY SUPERVISE NOT MORE THAN 12 FAMILIES;

(iii) WHEN AN EMPLOYEE SUPERVISES FAMILIES IN A REGION WHERE TRAVEL DISTANCES NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE EMPLOYEE'S ABILITY TO SUPERVISE FAMILIES AND THE EMPLOYEE HAS WORKED FOR THE DEPARTMENT FOR LESS THAN 12 MONTHS, THE EMPLOYEE MAY NOT SUPERVISE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF FAMILIES PROVIDED UNDER (i) AND (ii) OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH; AND

(4) FOR AN EMPLOYEE, OTHER THAN A NEW EMPLOYEE, WHO SUPERVISES THE CARE OF CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE SUPERVISION OR CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER AS 47.10, WORKS WITH FAMILIES TO PREVENT THE REMOVAL OF A CHILD FROM THE CHILD'S HOME UNDER AS 47.10, OR INVESTIGATES REPORTS OF HARM UNDER AS 47.17, TO ENSURE THAT THE AVERAGE STATEWIDE CASELOAD IS NOT MORE THAN 13 FAMILIES FOR EACH WORKER].

* **Sec. 14.** AS 47.14.112(c) is amended to read:

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department is immune from suit under this section if the department was unable to meet the workload standards and adjusted workload standards because of a lack of sufficient appropriations or because the department's efforts to recruit or retain employees did not result in an adequate number of qualified applicants to meet the workload standards [, AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFFING REPORT].

1 *** Sec. 15.** AS 47.14.112(d) is amended to read:

2 (d) The division of the department with responsibility over the custody of
3 children shall prepare and make available to the legislature an annual report on
4 employee recruitment and retention, including a five-year plan, for the division. Not
5 later than November 15 of each year, the department shall deliver the report to the
6 senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the
7 legislature that the report is available. The report prepared under this subsection [IS
8 SEPARATE FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
9 REQUIRED UNDER AS 18.05.020 AND] must include, for the previous 12 months,

10 (1) the number of frontline social workers employed by the division,
11 the annual average turnover rate of the workers, and the average caseload of the
12 workers on January 1 and July 1 of that year;

13 (2) the number of children removed from their homes;

14 (3) the achievement of success measured by the following:

15 (A) rate of family reunification;

16 (B) average length of time children spent in custody of the
17 department;

18 (C) rate of placement with an adult family member or family
19 friend;

20 (D) number of children placed in a permanent living
21 arrangement with a guardian or biological or adoptive parent;

22 (E) number of children released from the custody of the
23 department;

24 (4) if the department has met or exceeded the caseload standards under
25 this chapter and, if the standards were exceeded, the number of caseworker positions
26 in the division that could be eliminated and the amount of funding that could be
27 reduced while continuing to meet but not routinely exceed the caseload standards;

28 (5) the performance of the department on federal benchmarks focused
29 on the safety, well-being, and permanent placements of foster children compared with
30 the previous five years.

31 *** Sec. 16.** AS 03.22.060; AS 05.15.090; AS 16.20.041(f), 16.20.162(f); AS 18.05.020;

1 AS 18.09.070(c); AS 18.15.393; AS 18.29.105(e); AS 18.65.086(b), 18.65.340(c);
2 AS 19.75.111(b)(1); AS 23.15.100(a)(3), 23.15.125(d)(3), 23.15.652(c); AS 33.30.011(a)(12);
3 AS 37.05.035; AS 37.07.040(9), 37.07.040(11), 37.07.080(f); AS 37.10.088(c);
4 AS 37.14.230(a)(8), 37.14.610(6); AS 37.15.170(c); AS 38.04.020(d), 38.04.205;
5 38.05.180(e); AS 39.30.440; AS 41.37.220(f); AS 43.05.085; AS 43.55.180(b);
6 AS 43.90.400(d); AS 44.23.020(b)(7); AS 44.37.027(e); AS 44.41.070(b), 44.41.070(c);
7 AS 46.15.020(b)(5); AS 47.05.270(d); AS 47.07.075(b)(3); AS 47.14.112(b); AS 47.20.350;
8 AS 47.37.040(17); and AS 47.38.100(c) are repealed.
9 * **Sec. 17.** Section 6, ch. 95, SLA 2005, is repealed.