

# Laws of Alaska

1977

Source

Chapter No.

OCS SCS CSHB 342

84

## AN ACT

Relating to the management of the coastal resources of the state; and providing for an effective date.

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

\* Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

- (1) the coastal area of the state is a distinct and valuable natural resource of concern to all the people of the state;
- (2) the demands upon the resources of the coastal area are significant, and will increase in the future;
- (3) the protection of the natural and scenic resources and the fostering of wise development of the coastal area are of concern to present and future citizens of the state;
- (4) the capacity of the coastal area to withstand the demands upon it is limited;
- (5) the degree of planning and resource allocation which has occurred in the coastal area has often been motivated by short-term considerations, unrelated to sound planning principles; and
- (6) in order to promote the public health and welfare, there is a critical need to engage in comprehensive land and water use planning in coastal areas and to establish the means by which a planning process and management program involving the several governments and areas of the unorganized borough having an interest in the coastal area may be effectively implemented.

**\* Section 2. LEGISLATIVE POLICY. It is the policy of the state to**

**(1) preserve, protect, develop, use, and, where necessary, restore or enhance the coastal resources of the state for this and succeeding generations;**

**(2) encourage coordinated planning and decision making in the coastal area among levels of government and citizens engaging in or affected by activities involving the coastal resources of the state;**

**(3) develop a management program which sets out policies, objectives, standards and procedures to guide and resolve conflicts among public and private activities involving the use of resources which have a direct and significant impact upon the coastal land and water of the state.**

**(4) assure the participation of the public, local governments, and agencies of the state and federal governments in the development and implementation of a coastal management program;**

**(5) utilize existing governmental structures and authorities, to the maximum extent feasible, to achieve the policies set out in this section; and**

**(6) authorize and require state agencies to carry out their planning duties, powers and responsibilities and take actions authorized by law with respect to programs affecting the use of the resources of the coastal area in accordance with the policies set out in this section and the guidelines and standards adopted by the Alaska Coastal Policy Council under AS 46.35.**