



ALASKA

2022

Source
SCS HB 123(STA)

Chapter No.

AN ACT

Providing for state recognition of federally recognized tribes; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

AN ACT

1 Providing for state recognition of federally recognized tribes; and providing for an effective
2 date.

3

4 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT. (a) The history of tribes in the state
7 predates the United States and predates territorial claims to land in the state by both the
8 United States and Imperial Russia. Indigenous people have inhabited land in the state for
9 multiple millennia, since time immemorial or before mankind marked the passage of time.

10 (b) It is the intent of the legislature to exercise the legislature's constitutional policy-
11 making authority and acknowledge through formal recognition the federally recognized tribes
12 in the state. Passage of this Act is nothing more or less than a recognition of tribes' unique
13 role in the state's past, present, and future.

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 01 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

1 **Chapter 15. State-Tribal Relations.**

2 **Sec. 01.15.100. Recognition of tribes.** The state recognizes the special and
3 unique relationship between the United States government and federally recognized
4 tribes in the state. The state recognizes all tribes in the state that are federally
5 recognized under 25 U.S.C. 5130 and 5131. Nothing in this section diminishes the
6 United States government's trust responsibility or other obligations to federally
7 recognized tribes in the state or creates a concurrent trust relationship between the
8 state and federally recognized tribes. In this section, "federally recognized tribe" has
9 the meaning given in AS 23.20.520.

10 * **Sec. 3.** AS 23.20.520(13) is amended to read:

11 (13) "federally recognized tribe"

12 (A) means a tribe that is recognized by the United States
13 Secretary of the Interior to exist as an Indian tribe under **25 U.S.C. 5131** [25
14 U.S.C. 479A] (Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994);

15 (B) includes any subdivision, subsidiary, or business enterprise
16 wholly owned by a federally recognized tribe;

17 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).