

**HOUSE BILL NO. 144**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOPKINS

Introduced: 3/20/21

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act establishing the Alaska Military Affairs Commission; and relating to the duties**  
2   **and powers of the Alaska Military Affairs Commission."**

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

4    \* **Section 1.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

5                   **Article 5A. Alaska Military Affairs Commission.**

6                   **Sec. 44.19.851. Alaska Military Affairs Commission.** The Alaska Military  
7                   Affairs Commission is established in the Office of the Governor.

8                   **Sec. 44.19.854. Commission membership.** The commission is composed of  
9                   15 members, as follows:

10                           (1) the lieutenant governor, who shall serve as chair of the  
11                           commission;

12                           (2) the adjutant general of the Department of Military and Veterans'  
13                           Affairs or the adjutant general's designee;

14                           (3) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic

1 development or the commissioner's designee;

2 (4) three members who are mayors, or their designees, from  
 3 municipalities with military installations within the municipal boundaries, nominated  
 4 by an organization that represents municipal governments within the state and  
 5 appointed by the governor; if, within 60 days after a seat under this paragraph  
 6 becomes vacant, an organization that represents municipal governments within the  
 7 state fails to nominate one or more persons to fill the seat, the governor may appoint  
 8 any qualified person; an organization that represents municipal governments within  
 9 the state shall nominate, and the governor shall appoint, members under this paragraph  
 10 so that, collectively, the military installations represent different branches of the armed  
 11 services;

12 (5) two public members with extensive military experience or  
 13 expertise, each representing a different branch of the armed services, appointed by the  
 14 governor;

15 (6) one public member with statewide business or economic  
 16 development experience, appointed by the governor;

17 (7) six nonvoting members, appointed as follows:

18 (A) one member from the Alaska Command, appointed by the  
 19 governor;

20 (B) three members who serve as staff for the state's  
 21 congressional delegation, appointed by the governor;

22 (C) one member of the house of representatives, appointed by  
 23 the speaker of the house of representatives;

24 (D) one member of the senate, appointed by the president of the  
 25 senate.

26 **Sec. 44.19.857. Terms.** Members appointed under AS 44.19.854(4) - (7) serve  
 27 staggered terms of three years until reappointed or replaced and may be reappointed.

28 **Sec. 44.19.860. Meetings, quorum, and administrative support.** (a) A  
 29 majority of the voting members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the  
 30 purpose of conducting business and exercising the powers of the commission. The  
 31 commission shall meet quarterly and at other times determined by the chair.

(b) Members of the commission serve without compensation but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180.

(c) The Office of the Governor shall provide administrative support to the commission.

**Sec. 44.19.863. Duties of the commission.** The commission shall

(1) provide advice, counsel, and actionable recommendations on military issues, and economic and industrial development related to military issues, to the governor, state agencies, the legislature, communities, and the state's congressional delegation;

(2) provide recommendations to expand and grow the current presence of the armed forces in the state, including new bases, expanded missions, and increased training;

(3) plan for state infrastructure needs to support military objectives;

(4) recommend methods to improve private and public employment opportunities for the families of current and former members of the military who reside in the state;

(5) assist communities in the design and execution of programs that enhance the community's relationship with military installations and defense-related businesses;

(6) advocate for the state in matters related to military expansion decision making by emphasizing the state's strategic location on the globe and existing infrastructure and work to build community support in the state for the armed services;

(7) prepare and maintain a strategic plan to

(A) protect the state's existing military missions;

(B) position the state to be competitive for new and expanded military missions;

(C) promote the long-term viability and prosperity of the military and industries related to national defense in the state; and

(D) consider all current and anticipated base realignment and closure criteria affecting bases in the state.

**Sec. 44.19.866. Definition.** In AS 44.19.851 - 44.19.866, "commission" means the Alaska Military Affairs Commission.

\* **Sec. 2.** AS 44.66.010(a) is amended to read:

(a) Boards and commissions listed in this subsection expire on the date set out after each:

- (1) Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (AS 04.06.010) - June 30, 2022;
- (2) Board of Parole (AS 33.16.020) - June 30, 2025;
- (3) Regulatory Commission of Alaska (AS 42.04.010) - June 30, 2022;
- (4) Alaska Commission on Aging (AS 47.45.200) - June 30, 2024;
- (5) Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (AS 18.66.010) - June 30, 2022;
- (6) special education service agency (AS 14.30.600) - June 30, 2021;
- (7) Statewide Suicide Prevention Council (AS 44.29.300) - June 30, 2027;
- (8) Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission (AS 44.37.065) - June 30, 2028;
- (9) Alaska Health Care Commission (AS 18.09.010) - June 30, 2017;
- (10) Citizens' Advisory Commission on Federal Management Areas in Alaska (AS 41.37.160) - June 30, 2021;
- (11) Alaska Tourism Marketing Board (AS 44.33.136) - June 30, 2018;
- (12) Alaska Criminal Justice Commission (AS 44.19.641) - June 30, 2021;
- (13) Marijuana Control Board (AS 17.38.080) - June 30, 2024;
- (14) Alaska Military Affairs Commission (AS 44.19.851) - June 30, 2029.**

\* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

ALASKA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION; STAGGERED TERMS. (a) Notwithstanding AS 44.19.857, added by sec. 1 of this Act, and AS 39.05.055, the seats on the Alaska Military Affairs Commission established in AS 44.19.851, added by sec. 1 of this

1 Act, shall be initially filled as follows:

2 (1) the non-voting members appointed under AS 44.19.854(7) shall serve one-  
3 year terms;

4 (2) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(4) shall serve two-year terms;  
5 and

6 (3) the members appointed under AS 44.19.854(5) and (6) shall serve a three-  
7 year term.

8 (b) Members appointed under AS 44.19.854(1) - (3) begin membership on the Alaska  
9 Military Affairs Commission on the effective date of this Act.