

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

*Interim:*

600 East Railroad Avenue  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 373-1842  
Fax (907) 373-4729



*Session:*

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-2186  
Fax (907) 465-3818

## REPRESENTATIVE VIC KOHRING DISTRICT 14

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

April 2, 2003

**CONTACT:**

Rep. Vic Kohring (907) 465-2186

### **Kohring Files Bill to Combine Two State Departments** **DEC and DNR would become Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation**

(Juneau)--Rep. Vic Kohring (R-Wasilla/Mat-Su) filed legislation Wednesday to merge the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Natural Resources. The new department would be called the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Kohring said that combining the two departments could save a substantial amount of state funds.

“The idea is to save the state money by consolidating these two departments, which often have duplicate functions and duties,” Kohring said. “By eliminating the overlap between these two departments, we can create savings for the state.”

Kohring added that if the state wants to save money, its government structure should reflect that goal.

“The idea to combine these departments reflects my philosophy that a more streamlined government is a more efficient government,” Kohring said. “In the current period of shrinking state revenues, it is imperative that state government operate efficiently.”

[House Bill 238](#) is referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and also has referrals to Resources and Finance.

If passed, the legislation would become effective immediately.

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