

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 27, 2001

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## **House Bill Renews Missions and Measures** **HB 250 Continues Benefits of Results-Based Budgeting to Alaska**

(JUNEAU) – State government agencies would continue to be held responsible for defining their missions, and measuring how well they use state funds to provide value for Alaskans, under a bill the House approved unanimously today.

Sponsored by the House Finance Committee, House Bill 250 establishes “missions and measures” for state government for the 2002 fiscal year starting June 30. It continues the Legislature’s five year-effort to ensure that the money invested in government provides Alaskans with the biggest bang for the buck, said Rep. Eldon Mulder (R-Anchorage), co-chair of the House Finance Committee.

“This bill provides some level of assurance to the Alaska public that they are getting a good deal for the money they invest in these programs,” Mulder said. “And, if they’re not, it allows us the opportunity to scrutinize those programs and perhaps make adjustments to either refocus the program or redirect the funds to other programs.”

As declines in oil production have reduced the funds available for discretionary spending, the Legislature has implemented missions and measures to enhance accountability as an important foundation to the state’s long-range fiscal health. Before considering asking residents for additional funds, the Legislature must provide assurances state government is spending public money wisely.

The Republican Majority’s multi-year effort to integrate missions and measures into state budgeting process has benefited not only the public that depends on state services, but also the public employees that provide them, said Mulder. He cited the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, which has been able to demonstrate that its road maintenance program is significantly more effective than those of other states.

“Missions and measures are a success for the people of Alaska,” Mulder said. “We’ve got departments, divisions and programs to think more directly about what it is they’re trying to do and how they’re providing that service, and I think it’s made them more effective in the way they’ve been able to deliver those services.”

HB 250 moves next to the Senate for consideration.

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**Broadcasters note:** Comments are available on the Majority Actuality Line 1-800-478-6540