

# ALASKA LEGISLATURE

## Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

Angoon · Coffman Cove · Craig · Edna Bay · Elfin Cove · Game Creek · Hollis · Hoonah · Kake · Kasaan · Klawock · Kupreanof · Naukati  
Pelican · Petersburg · Point Baker · Port Alexander · Port Protection · Sitka · Tenakee Springs · Thorne Bay · Whale Pass

rep.jonathan.kreiss-tomkins@akleg.gov

Committees:  
State Affairs, Chair  
Judiciary  
Fisheries



Juneau, Alaska 99801 (Jan. – April)  
State Capitol, Room 411  
907.465.3732

Sitka, Alaska 99835 (May – Dec.)  
201 Katlian Street, Ste. 103  
907.747.4665

### **House Bill 387**

### **Members Leg Council; Leg Budget & Audit**

### **Sponsor Statement**

As outlined by state statute, the Alaska Legislative Council has the essential role of conducting the legislature's business when the legislature is not in session, while the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee plays a pivotal role in managing state finances and expenditures.

It is clear the legislative intent of committee member representation on these decisive standing committees is meant to be equitable and fair. Alaska State Statute establishes membership on Legislative Council and Legislative Budget and Audit to include “at least one member from each of the two major political parties of each house;” however, the Alaska legislature has a long history of coalition caucuses and nonpartisan legislators. The unfortunate consequence is that organized legislative minority representation has long been denied from these critical standing committees. Caucuses form around a vision they have for Alaska. The minority caucuses should not have their vision for Alaska unrepresented on these committees.

House Bill 387 seeks to clarify the long-standing intent of fair representation on these powerful standing committees by requiring at least one member of the minority party of each house. By this change, we can ensure that all of Alaska is represented fairly on Legislative Council and Legislative Budget and Audit.