

STATE OF ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**House
Resolve No.**
6



Dedicating the House Judiciary Committee Room of the Alaska State Capitol to the late Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

WHEREAS Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr. epitomized the ideal of civil service through his countless hours of research and work and was dedicated to the institution of the legislature; and

WHEREAS Representative Gruenberg served in the Alaska House of Representatives during the Fourteenth through Seventeenth and Twenty-Third through Twenty-Ninth Alaska State Legislatures, including service as the Majority Leader during the Fifteenth and Seventeenth Alaska State Legislatures and Minority Whip in the Twenty-Eighth and Twenty-Ninth Alaska State Legislatures; and

WHEREAS Representative Gruenberg was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, having served in the United States Navy in Vietnam and receiving both a Meritorious Unit Commendation and Vietnam Service Medal (three campaign stars); during his legislative service, he was dedicated to representing veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death, Representative Gruenberg was the most senior

member of the Alaska House of Representatives; his knowledge of the law and legislative procedure was beyond compare, and he used that knowledge to make legislation consistent with its intent and make the legislative process conform to its rules and procedures; and

WHEREAS Representative Gruenberg was a skilled and dedicated attorney, having graduated from the UCLA School of Law in 1970, where he was editor-in-chief of the UCLA - Alaska Law Review; he practiced family law in the state for 31 years and served his profession and the public as co-chair of the Alaska Bar Association Family Law section, as a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and as a board member of the Alaska Legal Services Corporation; as an attorney, he received an AV rating, the highest peer-review legal rating; and

WHEREAS Representative Gruenberg used his legal knowledge, skills, and abilities in public service in other branches of state and federal government by serving as legislative assistant to Senator Ted Stevens and law clerk to Alaska Supreme Court Justice Roger Connor, and he served as a member of the Suggested State Legislation Committee of the Council of State Governments; and

WHEREAS Representative Gruenberg served on the House Judiciary Committee during every session of his legislative service, including service as co-chair of the committee during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Alaska State Legislatures;

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives that the House Judiciary Committee Room, currently Room 120 of the Alaska Capitol, be dedicated to Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., for his exemplary service as a member of the Alaska House of Representatives and the House Judiciary Committee for more than 21 years; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that a bronze plaque shall be placed on or near the door of the room celebrating Representative Gruenberg's legislative achievements, dedication, and service to the legislature and the House Judiciary Committee, bearing the following inscription:

THE MAX F. GRUENBERG, JR., COMMITTEE ROOM

The Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., Committee Room memorializes the dedication and service of Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., who served as a member of the Alaska House of Representatives and a member of the House Judiciary Committee during the Fourteenth through Seventeenth and Twenty-Third

through Twenty-Ninth Alaska State Legislatures. He served as Majority Leader and Minority Whip during his time in the legislature. He served as Co-Chair and Vice-Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. His love and dedication to the law, the legislature, and the people of the state were unequaled. He was often called the "Great Amender" because of his numerous amendments in committee and on the floor, amendments that were always in service of creating a more perfect bill or resolution. Max, as he was insistent he be called, possessed a keen sense of humor, which he used to defuse tension. He was a great parliamentarian, he protected the public process, and he zealously guarded the honor of the legislature as an institution. He stood by his principles and fought for those less fortunate. He cared about passing good laws, regardless of whether he received credit for his ideas. His knowledge, experience, and integrity were universally acknowledged by his peers.

A COPY of this resolution shall be presented to his wife, Kayla Epstein, and the family of the late Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.