

**FOLDER NO.**

**310.11**

Constitutional Convention  
Committee Proposal/11  
December 15, 1955

ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Hon. William A. Egan  
President, Alaska Constitutional Convention

Dear Mr. President:

The Committee on the Executive Branch presents for consideration and adoption by the Convention the attached ordinance on the First Election of the Governor and the Secretary of State. A commentary explaining the need for this Ordinance is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Rivers, Chairman

Frank Barr

John C. Boswell

Thomas C. Harris

Maynard D. Londborg

Katherine Nordale

H. R. VanderLeest

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CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF ALASKA

COMMITTEE PROPOSAL NO. 11

Introduced by Committee on Executive Branch  
ORDINANCE ON THE FIRST ELECTION OF THE GOVERNOR  
AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE

RESOLVED, that the following be agreed upon as  
part of the Alaskan State Constitution:

1           The first governor and secretary of state  
2           shall hold office for a term beginning with the day  
3           on which they are elected and qualified and ending  
4           at noon on the first Monday in December of the even  
5           year following the next Presidential election. This  
6           term shall count as a full term for purposes of deter-  
7           mining eligibility for reelection only if it is four  
8           years or more in duration.

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Commentary on the Ordinance on the First Election of Governor

The Committee on the Executive Branch believes that the governor and the secretary of state should be elected in the even years between the Presidential election years. This will minimize the influence of National politics in the election of the chief executive of the state and thereby make it more likely that the most qualified persons will be elected.

The proposed ordinance provides that the first elected governor and secretary of state will hold office from the day on which they are elected and qualified and ending on the first Monday in December of the first even year which follows the next Presidential election. This term could run from slightly over two years to almost six years. If the term is less than four years, the governor and secretary of state will be eligible for reelection for two full four-year terms in succession immediately following the first term.