

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

UNIFORM RULES



ADOPTED 2021

by the

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

AS AMENDED 2023

Legislative Affairs Agency

RESOLUTIONS

Rule 49. Resolutions. (a) The only type of instrument other than a bill or citation authorized under these Uniform Rules is a resolution. The types and uses of resolutions are as follows:

(1) A simple resolution is a formalized motion passed by one house only and bearing the heading "House Resolution" or "Senate Resolution". It may be used to express the will, wish, view, opinion, sympathy, or request of the house adopting it. The simple resolution shall be used to establish a special committee. It does not require committee referral, three readings, or a roll call vote. Approval of a simple resolution requires a majority vote of the full membership of the house.

(2) A special resolution headed "House Special Resolution" or "Senate Special Resolution" is used only for the purpose of expelling a member under provisions of Sec. 12, Art. II, of the State Constitution. The special resolution requires a referral to the Rules Committee, three readings, and a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the house for approval.

(3) A concurrent resolution is similar to the simple resolution but reflects the will, wish, view or decision of both houses speaking concurrently. It is used particularly to handle the internal business of the legislature, e.g., adjournment of the legislature, suspension and amendment of the Uniform Rules, requesting action of executive agencies and interim committees, and fixing the time and place for joint assemblies. This resolution is also used for establishing joint committees. This resolution does not require committee referral, three readings, or anything other than approval of a majority vote of the full membership of each house unless otherwise required by the rules.

(4) A special concurrent resolution is employed to consider disapproval of an executive order of the governor laid before the legislature under provisions of Sec. 23, Art. III, of the State Constitution. This resolution must be considered by a standing committee of each house and may be adopted by a majority vote of the full membership of the legislature in joint session without recourse to three readings.

(5) A joint resolution is the most formal type of resolution and is adopted by both houses and then signed by the governor as a ministerial formality. The joint resolution is treated in all respects as a bill but it is not subject to veto. It is usually reserved for addressees outside the state. This resolution is used mainly to express the view or wish of the legislature to the President, the Congress or agencies of the United States Government or the governments of other states. It is required for proposing or ratifying amendments to the U. S. Constitution, proposing amendments to the State Constitution under provisions of

Sec. 1, Art. XIII, of the State Constitution, and for disapproval of local government boundary changes recommended by the Local Boundary Commission under provisions of Sec. 12, Art. X, of the State Constitution. Approval of a joint resolution requires a majority vote of the full membership of each house.

(b) All resolutions passed by one or both houses are sent to the governor as a matter of information and for permanent filing with the lieutenant governor. The lieutenant governor sends enrolled copies of joint resolutions to the federal and other state officers, agencies and jurisdictions. The transmittal of copies of all other resolutions to designated addressees is the responsibility of the Legislative Affairs Agency.

LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS

Rule 50. Legislative Citations. (a) The appropriate instrument for expressing commendation, condolences, appreciation or congratulations to an individual or a group, or to recognize a particular event or occasion, is a "Legislative Citation" approved by both houses. The contents of the citation expressing the sentiment of the legislature will be typed on a special presentation form suitable for framing and bear the signature of the presiding officers.

(b) A member or members may introduce a citation by submitting it to the Rules Committee on a form prescribed in the legislative drafting manual. Unless handled as provided in (c) of this section, the name of the person, group or occasion being noted along with the names of the sponsors will be listed under special business on the daily calendar of the subsequent day and be voted upon by the house. Approval will be noted in the journal. When action in the second house is completed the citation will be enrolled in final form, signed by the presiding officers, and sent to the appropriate person.

(c) The person who chairs the Rules Committee of each house may, from time to time, designate Citation Consent Calendar days. When the Citation Consent Calendar is considered as a special order of business, a legislator may object to the inclusion of a citation or may propose amendments to a citation. If either event occurs, the particular citation concerned shall be removed from the consent calendar and processed in accordance with (b) of this rule. Only one recorded vote need be taken and the one vote shall stand as the vote on final passage as to all the citations on the Citation Consent Calendar.

JOINT SESSIONS

Rule 51. Joint Sessions. A joint session may be called by agreement of the presiding officers of both houses or by either house by motion adopted by a majority vote of the full membership of the house. If a joint session is called by a house, the house calling the session shall propose a time for the session. The other house may agree to meet in joint session at the time proposed or set another