

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR GARDNER

Introduced: 2/1/17

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing an amendment to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating**
2 **to voting procedure and abstention from voting.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** Rule 34(b), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is amended to read:

5 (b) Abstention. Every member present in the house shall vote unless the house
6 for special reasons permits a member to abstain. All motions excusing a member from
7 voting shall be made before the house divides or before the call for the yeas and nays
8 is commenced. A member requesting to be excused from voting may make a brief oral
9 statement of the reasons for the request and the question of granting permission to
10 abstain shall be taken without further debate. A member may not explain a vote, may
11 not discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being called, and may not change
12 a vote after the roll call result has been announced. Upon division and count of the
13 house of any question a member who is not within the chamber may not be counted. A
14 member may not be permitted to abstain except upon the unanimous consent of the
15 membership. Upon a member's request to be excused from voting, the clerk or
16 secretary shall record in the journal the member requesting to be excused, the

1 stated reason for the request, and, if an objection to the request is made, the
2 member or members who objected.