

LEGAL SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

February 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Adoption of the 2021 *Manual of Legislative Drafting*

TO: Representative Sara Hannan
Chair of Legislative Council

FROM: Hilary V. Martin 
Revisor of Statutes

Uniform Rule 10 provides that the Legislative Council shall adopt a drafting manual prepared by the enrolling secretary and the revisor of statutes. The draft of the 2021 *Manual of Legislative Drafting*, prepared by Lora Brown, the legal editor and enrolling secretary, and myself, is enclosed.

We have made a number of technical changes, including updating dates, correcting typographical errors, updating references to the Thirty-Second rather than the Thirty-First Legislature, updating case citations, updating the lists of recipients of copies of resolutions to reflect new office holders, updating the appendices, and updating the table of contents, index, and table of cases.

In addition, we have made the following changes:

Page 4, in the last paragraph, we deleted the last two sentences, which read: "The legislator receives a copy of this form indicating the bill drafter's name and the file number of the request. Errors in the information in the form should be promptly reported to the division." These sentences were deleted because Legal Services no longer sends a copy of the prepared form to legislators.

Page 13, under "Enacting Clause," we rewrote the last sentence to more accurately reflect the holding in Joiner v. State.

Page 13, under "Short title," we clarified the difference between a short title of a bill and the short title in BASIS. This change was requested by the Senate Secretary and Chief Clerk.

Page 15, under "Single-subject requirement" after the reference to "Galbraith v. State," we added ", and \"election reform\" (Meyers v. Alaskans for Better Elections, 465 P.3d 477, 498 (Alaska 2020))."

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Page 19, under "Repealing a section and adding a new section," we replaced "Binder" with "Volume."

Page 22, under "Delayed enactments, amendments, and repeals (including "sunset" of bills)," we added a parallel cite to the official federal reporter for U.S. Smelting, Refining & Mining Co. v. Lowe.

Page 95, under "CHAPTER 4. LEGISLATIVE CITATIONS," we made a number of changes to make the section more accurate. These changes were requested by the Executive Director's office.

Page 102, under "Committee abbreviations," we added a committee abbreviation for the Special Committee on Tribal Affairs.

Page 105, under "Corrected versions," we updated the language to reflect that the Senate Secretary and Chief Clerk create the "corrected version" cover sheet. Starting at the fifth line of the paragraph, we added "and "(Corrected)" is added to the designation. Receipt of the corrected committee substitute is noted in the original history file."

Page 127, under "adjournment sine die" in "in house of origin," we deleted "Destroy" and inserted "Retain selected files." We deleted "for disposal" in "in other house."

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Attachment