

# LEGAL SERVICES

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## MEMORANDUM

January 19, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of the 2023 *Manual of Legislative Drafting*

**TO:** Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson  
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 2023 *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-Third rather than the Thirty-Second 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 20, following example 3, we replaced the phrase "use an instruction to the revisor indicating whether existing references to "this chapter" should be changed" with "amend existing references to "this chapter" using the regular amendment technique". This change was made to reflect current practice.

Page 23, in subsection (f), we amended the language relating to "Amendments of a law that has not taken effect" for clarity. We also added a sentence relating to amending statutes that are enacted or amended by an Executive Order and have not yet taken effect.

Page 34, we deleted language and the example relating to using a revisor's instruction for a global replacement changing "this chapter" or "this title" to a spanned reference. This change is to conform with the change made on page 20.

Page 38, we updated the language relating to conditional effect sections and made changes to the example to clarify how conditional effect sections should be written. This change was made to avoid a situation where a condition has taken effect, but the notification to the revisor happens after the deadline in the conditional effect section has passed.

Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson

January 19, 2023

Page 2

Page 87, added the sentence "It is important to note that headings, which include chapter headings, article titles, and catch lines, "are not part of the law of Alaska"" and a citation for the statement.

HVM:mjt

23-009.mjt

Attachment