

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES THERRIAULT AND ROKEBERG, Hodgins

Introduced: 1/13/97

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary, Finance

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to terms**
2 **of legislators.**

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

4 * **Sec. 1.** Article II, sec. 3, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

5 **Section 3. Election and Terms.** **(a)** Legislators shall be elected at general
6 elections. Their terms begin on the fourth Monday of the January following election
7 unless otherwise provided by law. The term of representatives shall be two years, and
8 the term of senators, four years. One-half of the senators shall be elected every two
9 years. **A person may not serve consecutively during more than twelve regular**
10 **sessions in the legislature. Thereafter, the person may not again serve in the**
11 **legislature as a result of election or appointment to fill a vacancy until at least two**
12 **consecutive full regular sessions have elapsed during which the person has not**
13 **served.**

14 * **Sec. 2.** Article II, sec. 3, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding new
15 subsections to read:

16 (b) For purposes of applying the tenure limit under (a) of this section, periods

1 served in the legislature during the interim between sessions or during special sessions
2 shall not be considered.

3 (c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a person may complete a new term to
4 which elected if the person has served consecutively during no more than eleven regular
5 sessions in the legislature immediately before the beginning of the new term.

6 * **Sec. 3.** Article XV, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding a new
7 section to read:

8 **Section 29. Application of 1998 Tenure Limit Amendment.** The tenure limit
9 added by the 1998 amendment to Section 3 of Article II applies upon the convening of
10 the First Regular Session of the Twenty-Third Alaska State Legislature and thereafter.
11 Regular sessions served in the legislature before the convening of the First Regular
12 Session of the Twenty-Third Alaska State Legislature apply for purposes of calculating
13 the tenure limit.

14 * **Sec. 4.** The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed before the voters of
15 the state at the next general election in conformity with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State
16 of Alaska, and the election laws of the state.