

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16(RLS)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/10/97

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION

**1 Urging the state executive branch administration, University of Alaska
2 administration, and Alaska Court System administration to negotiate collective
3 bargaining agreements that result in a net zero cost increase.**

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

5 WHEREAS the legislature has declared that it is the public policy of the state to
6 promote harmonious and cooperative relations between government and its employees; and

7 WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the state executive branch administration,
**8 university administration, and court system administration to negotiate and enter into collective
9 bargaining agreements with the representatives of their employees; and**

10 WHEREAS the legislature acknowledges that recurring revenues continue to fall short
11 of recurring expenditures in the long term; and

12 WHEREAS the legislature is completing the second year of a five-year financial plan
13 in an effort to close the fiscal gap between revenues and expenditures; and

14 WHEREAS the legislature finds it is not advisable to increase the cost of personal
15 services in a time of deficit spending; and

16 WHEREAS the United States Department of Labor in 1993 reported that Alaska

1 public sector wages are 144 percent of the national average; and

2 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Commerce in 1993 reported that average
3 Alaska state and local government salaries are 30.7 percent above the private sector; and

4 **WHEREAS** the state Department of Administration reported in 1994 that state
5 employees are adequately compensated and may be ahead of the market for most job
6 classifications; and

7 **WHEREAS** the Long Range Financial Planning Commission recommended the
8 enactment of a tier III retirement system, the revision of geographic differentials, collective
9 bargaining agreements based on market conditions, and an examination of publicly funded
10 health plans to reduce personal services costs to the state; and

11 **WHEREAS** the legislature has appropriated funds to conduct an independent, objective
12 study comparing state employees' pay and benefits with comparable private industry
13 employees' pay and benefits; and

14 **WHEREAS** this salary and benefit study will further aid the state in responsible
15 negotiations by providing a comparison on which to base future costs of personal services;

16 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the current state executive
17 branch administration, university administration, and Alaska Court System administration to
18 negotiate collective bargaining agreements that result in a net zero cost increase through
19 reducing salaries, reducing benefits to pay increased salaries, implementing a two-tier salary
20 structure, restructuring publicly funded health plans, or other methods; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that, if general fund revenues remain below expenditures,
22 the Alaska State Legislature will disapprove the monetary terms of any collective bargaining
23 agreement that results in an increased cost of personal services.

24 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Tony Knowles, Governor,
25 State of Alaska; the Honorable Mark Boyer, Commissioner, Department of Administration;
26 Jerome Komisar, President, University of Alaska; and Stephanie J. Cole, Administrative
27 Director, Alaska Court System.