

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY REPRESENTATIVES KEMPLER, Cissna, Croft, Kookesh**

**Introduced: 5/11/99**

**Referred: State Affairs, Finance**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Creating the Commission on Alaska's Future.**

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

**3       WHEREAS** Alaska is currently facing a substantial revenue shortfall; and

**4       WHEREAS** the residents of the state should be consulted about the needs and the  
**5** direction of state government for the future; and

**6       WHEREAS** the state should adopt benchmarks and goals that would be part of a long-  
**7** term strategic plan for Alaska and provide for future planning for state government while  
**8** measuring the performance of state government; and

**9       WHEREAS** a long-term bipartisan strategic plan is essential for the future well-being  
**10** of the state and the citizens of Alaska; and

**11       WHEREAS** the state has never incorporated a long-term, performance measuring plan  
**12** for Alaska; and

**13       WHEREAS**, with the urgency of the current revenue shortfall, a strategic plan must  
**14** be developed for at least the next five years with extensions to cover an additional 10 years;  
**15** and

**16       WHEREAS** the development of benchmarks and goals would be in the best interest  
**17** of the state and would provide guidance for the executive branch and the legislative branch

1 as they construct a long-term strategic plan for Alaska;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature establishes the Commission on  
3 Alaska's Future to operate as a steering committee in order to develop and recommend to the  
4 Governor, the legislature, and the residents of Alaska, a long-term statewide strategic plan that  
5 includes benchmarks and goals; the commission shall include individuals who reflect a wide  
6 range of viewpoints and who have indicated a strong dedication to the public interest; and be  
7 it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall consist of the  
9 following members:

10 (1) six members of the public, not to include members of the legislative,  
11 executive branch, or judicial branches; the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
12 President of the Senate, and the Governor shall each appoint two of these members;

13 (2) two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker  
14 of the House; one shall be a member of the majority caucus and one shall be a member of a  
15 minority caucus;

16 (3) two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; one  
17 shall be a member of the majority caucus and one shall be a member of a minority caucus;  
18 and

19 (4) three members of the executive branch appointed by the Governor; and be  
20 it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall select a chair  
22 and vice-chair from among its members, and the chair shall vote only to break a tie; the  
23 commission shall meet as frequently as the commission determines necessary, and may meet  
24 and vote by teleconference; and be it

25 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature establishes a working group  
26 to advise and aid the Commission on Alaska's Future; the working group shall be composed  
27 of members each of whom is jointly appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the House of  
28 Representatives, and the President of the Senate and shall represent a cross-section of Alaska's  
29 social, economic, and cultural interests, including at least the following interests:

30 (1) business;

31 (2) design;

- 1 (3) social service nonprofits;  
 2 (4) primary and secondary education;  
 3 (5) vacation;  
 4 (6) fishing;  
 5 (7) mining;  
 6 (8) forestry;  
 7 (9) real estate;  
 8 (10) banking;  
 9 (11) university;  
 10 (12) local government;  
 11 (13) disabled community;  
 12 (14) Native organizations;  
 13 (15) labor;  
 14 (16) cultural groups;  
 15 (17) artists;  
 16 (18) writers;  
 17 (19) environment; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the public members of the Commission on Alaska's  
 19 Future shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to per diem and travel expenses  
 20 authorized for boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180, and that the members of the  
 21 working group shall serve without per diem, travel expenses, or other compensation; and be  
 22 it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature directs the Legislative  
 24 Budget and Audit Committee to provide administrative and other assistance to the Commission  
 25 on Alaska's Future, and the legislature also requests the Office of Management and Budget  
 26 to provide assistance to the commission; and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that, subject to an appropriation for the purpose, the  
 28 Commission on Alaska's Future may employ up to two staff members; and be it

29 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the purpose of the Commission on Alaska's Future is  
 30 to draft a long-term strategic plan that

- 31 (1) declares public policy concerning the social, economic, and cultural

1 development of the state and identifies the objectives and actions that the state will pursue to  
2 achieve the recommendations in the long-term strategic plan;

3 (2) declares benchmarks, goals, and policies for the state to measure the  
4 performance of state government; declares benchmarks, goals, and policies for the state's  
5 development and management that guides, but does not bind, the legislature in taking action;

6 (3) informs the business community, the public, and other governmental  
7 agencies of the state's long-term benchmarks and goals, and the relationship of those  
8 benchmarks and goals to policy development and management; and be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the long-term strategic plan developed by the  
10 Commission on Alaska's Future must address the following general goals:

11 (1) to create a set of Alaska benchmarks, in coordination with state agencies,  
12 for the state to follow and measure itself for the future in education, economic performance,  
13 technology and innovation, civic engagement, social support, public safety, resource  
14 management, community development, and the environment;

15 (2) to encourage citizen participation in formulating policies, plans, and  
16 programs of the state at community and regional levels;

17 (3) to create and maintain conditions in which all Alaska residents have an  
18 equitable opportunity to share in employment, education, health, housing, social service, and  
19 recreational resources;

20 (4) to develop a safe, convenient, and economical state transportation system  
21 that provides adequate access to all parts of the state maximizing safety, minimizing  
22 environmental effects, and providing facilities for alternative modes of transportation;

23 (5) to ensure that resource development is maintained or enhanced while  
24 protecting the environment by establishing standards for the protection of soil, vegetation, air,  
25 natural sound, and scenic values, with appropriate standards and enforcement;

26 (6) to encourage the development of a state economy with sufficient growth  
27 and diversity to provide a stable economic base;

28 (7) to encourage the protection of life and property from natural disasters and  
29 hazards;

30 (8) to incorporate technology advances in telecommunications, tele-education,  
31 tele-medicine and commerce;

1 (9) to encourage access to safe, decent, affordable housing, and to provide safe  
2 and structurally sound housing resources that encompass designs proven in diverse Alaska  
3 environments;

4 (10) to provide a wide range of cultural and recreational opportunities to all  
5 communities and regions of the state;

6 (11) to provide a full choice of educational opportunities to all segments of the  
7 state, using all community and regional facilities and programs to maximum advantage; and  
8 be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall request  
10 participation and information from

11 (1) the commissioner of each principal department in the executive branch;

12 (2) the president of the University of Alaska;

13 (3) representatives from local governments, school boards, businesses,  
14 industries, and nonprofit organizations; and be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall hold public  
16 hearings in the different regions and cities around the state, and take advantage, to the greatest  
17 extent possible, of modern telecommunications technology in holding meetings; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall identify  
19 appropriate mechanisms for continued engagement of Alaskans in shaping Alaska's dynamic  
20 future; these mechanisms shall include annual review by a private and civic sector entity to  
21 ensure responsiveness to changing socioeconomic conditions; and be it

22 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall present a  
23 preliminary report and an action plan to the Governor and the legislature by August 1, 1999,  
24 that details the methodology for crafting the long-term plan; the action plan must include a  
25 detailed work schedule for the project and identify the public participation process, supporting  
26 resources from state agencies, in-kind contributions from individual Alaskans and businesses,  
27 joint ventures with nonprofit organizations, benchmarks for progress achieved, and appropriate  
28 project management tools that illustrate the work to be accomplished; and be it

29 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future shall submit a draft  
30 report by February 1, 2000, and a final report by April 30, 2000, to the Governor and the  
31 legislature; and be it

1           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission on Alaska's Future is authorized to  
2 begin work immediately upon the appointment of its full membership or by June 15, 1999,  
3 whichever date is earlier, and that the Commission on Alaska's Future and the working group  
4 established in the resolution are terminated on the adjournment of the Second Regular Session  
5 of the Twenty-Second Alaska State Legislature.