

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES HALCRO, Ogan, Croft, Kohring, Porter, Dyson, Harris, Sanders, Rokeberg, Green, Austerman

Introduced: 5/12/99

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary, Finance

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to terms**  
2 **of legislators, to meetings of legislative committees, and to the length of regular**  
3 **sessions of the legislature.**

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

5 \* **Section 1.** Art. II, sec. 3, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

6 **Section 3. Election and Terms.** Legislators shall be elected at general  
7 elections. Their terms begin on the second [FOURTH] Monday of the December  
8 [JANUARY] following election when they shall take the oath of office [UNLESS  
9 OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW]. The term of representatives shall be two years,  
10 and the term of senators, four years. One-half of the senators shall be elected every  
11 two years.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** Art. II, sec. 8, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

13 **Section 8. Regular Sessions.** The legislature shall convene in regular session  
14 each year on the second [FOURTH] Monday in February. A [JANUARY, BUT THE  
15 MONTH AND DAY MAY BE CHANGED BY LAW. THE LEGISLATURE SHALL  
16 ADJOURN FROM] regular session may last no longer than ninety [NO LATER

1 THAN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY] consecutive calendar days, [FROM THE DATE  
2 IT CONVENES] except that a regular session may be extended once for up to ten  
3 consecutive calendar days. An extension of the regular session requires the affirmative  
4 vote of at least two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature. The  
5 legislature shall adopt as part of the uniform rules of procedure deadlines for  
6 scheduling session work not inconsistent with provisions controlling the length of the  
7 session.

8 \* **Sec. 3.** Art. II, sec. 11, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

9 **Section 11. [INTERIM] Committees.** There shall be a legislative council,  
10 and the legislature may establish other [INTERIM] committees. The council [AND  
11 OTHER INTERIM COMMITTEES] may meet between legislative sessions, **and the**  
12 **legislature may authorize other committees to meet between sessions.** They may  
13 perform duties and employ personnel as provided by the legislature. Their members  
14 may receive an allowance for expenses while performing their duties.

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