

HOUSE BILL NO. 237

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE COGHILL

Introduced: 4/9/01
Referred: Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to filling a vacancy in the office of United States senator."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 15.40.010 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 15.40.010. Conditions and time of filling vacancy by appointment and**
5 **special election.** When a vacancy occurs in the office of United States senator, the
6 governor, within 30 days after the date of the vacancy, shall

7 (1) **subject to (b) of this section,** appoint a qualified person who, if
8 the predecessor in office was nominated by a political party, has been, for the six
9 months before the date of the vacancy and is on the date of appointment, a member of
10 the same political party as that which nominated the predecessor in office to fill the
11 vacancy temporarily until the vacancy is filled permanently by election; and

12 (2) by proclamation and subject to this chapter, call a special primary
13 election and a special election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the
14 predecessor in office if the predecessor's term would expire more than 30 calendar
15 months after the date of the vacancy.

1 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.40.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2 (b) If the predecessor in office was nominated by a political party, the
3 governor shall make an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of United States
4 senator from a list of at least three qualified nominees submitted by the state
5 organization that represents the political party of the predecessor when the predecessor
6 was nominated. The state organization shall submit the list of nominees to the
7 governor within 15 days after the vacancy occurs. If the appropriate state organization
8 fails to submit at least three qualified nominees within the required time period, the
9 governor may appoint any individual qualified under (a)(1) of this section.