

**HOUSE BILL NO. 22**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES SAMUELS AND ROKEBERG, McGuire, Croft, Anderson, LeDoux, Ramras, Kohring**

**Introduced: 1/10/05**

**Referred: State Affairs, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the terms of legislators, to a 90-day regular session of the legislature,**  
2 **to the date of convening a regular session, and to procedures of legislative committees**  
3 **during the interim; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 24.05.080 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 24.05.080. Terms.** The term of each member of the legislature begins on  
7 the first [SECOND] Monday in December of the [JANUARY FOLLOWING A  
8 PRESIDENTIAL] election year [; HOWEVER, FOLLOWING A  
9 GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION YEAR, THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER  
10 BEGINS ON THE THIRD TUESDAY IN JANUARY]. The term of representatives  
11 is two years, and the term of senators is four years. One-half of the senators shall be  
12 elected every two years.

13 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 24.05.090 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 24.05.090. Regular sessions.** The legislature shall convene at the capital

1 each year on the **first** [SECOND] Monday in **February** [JANUARY] at 10:00 a.m.  
 2 **Each** [; HOWEVER, FOLLOWING A GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION YEAR,  
 3 THE LEGISLATURE SHALL CONVENE ON THE THIRD TUESDAY IN  
 4 JANUARY AT 10:00 A.M. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, EACH]  
 5 legislature shall have a duration of two years and shall consist of a "First Regular  
 6 Session [,]" **that meets in an** [WHICH SHALL MEET IN THE] odd-numbered **year**  
 7 [YEARS], and a "Second Regular Session [,]" **that meets in an** [WHICH SHALL  
 8 MEET IN THE] even-numbered **year** [YEARS], and any special session or sessions  
 9 that the governor or legislature may find necessary to call.

10 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 24.05.150 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

11 (b) The legislature shall adjourn from a regular session within 90 consecutive  
 12 calendar days, including the day the legislature first convenes in that regular session.

13 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 24.05.160 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 24.05.160. Organization of a first regular session; new members.** On  
 15 the **first Monday of December of each election year before** [DAY SET FOR THE  
 16 ASSEMBLING OF] the first regular session of a legislature, the lieutenant governor  
 17 shall [CALL EACH HOUSE TO ORDER AND DIRECT THE CALLING OF ROLL  
 18 OF ITS DISTRICTS AND THE NAMES OF THE NEW MEMBERS WHO ARE  
 19 CERTIFIED AS BEING ELECTED FROM EACH DISTRICT. THE LIEUTENANT  
 20 GOVERNOR SHALL THEN] direct the administration of the oath of office of each  
 21 new member **who is certified as being elected from each district. At the convening**  
 22 **of the first regular session, the** [. THE] lieutenant governor shall [THEN] call for  
 23 the nomination of a temporary president or speaker, as appropriate. Upon the election  
 24 of the temporary presiding officers, the lieutenant governor shall relinquish the chair,  
 25 and each house shall proceed to its further organization. If the lieutenant governor is  
 26 unable to perform the duties imposed by this section, the chief justice of the supreme  
 27 court shall act in the lieutenant governor's place.

28 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 24.05.180 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

29 (c) The chair of a standing or special committee that meets during the interim  
 30 to consider an introduced measure shall give at least 30 days' notice of the meeting.  
 31 The notice must include the subject and number of the measure that will be heard.

1           (d) A member of a standing or special committee may attend a meeting held  
2 by that committee during the interim telephonically or by teleconference. The  
3 member may vote on any question before the committee; however, the vote shall be  
4 conducted in such a manner that the public and other committee members may know  
5 the vote of the member who attends telephonically or by teleconference.

6           (e) A standing committee may report a measure from committee during the  
7 interim. A committee member who is voting telephonically or by teleconference may  
8 direct the chair to sign the committee report on behalf of the member and indicate on  
9 the report the member's recommendation. The chair of the committee shall deliver the  
10 committee report to the senate secretary or the chief clerk of the house of  
11 representatives, as appropriate, to be taken up when the legislature next convenes.

12 \* **Sec. 6.** This Act takes effect December 3, 2007.