

HOUSE BILL NO. 72

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

BY REPRESENTATIVES CRAWFORD, Gara, Gardner

Introduced: 1/12/05

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to legislative open meetings guidelines."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 24.60.037(c) is amended to read:

4 (c) Legislators may meet in a closed caucus [OR IN A PRIVATE,
5 INFORMAL] meeting to discuss and deliberate on political strategy. **A closed caucus**
6 **meeting is** [THOSE MEETINGS ARE] exempt from the legislative open meetings
7 guidelines. **Notwithstanding (e) of this section, a closed meeting under this**
8 **subsection may only be held after being initially convened as a public meeting,**
9 **and the question of closing the meeting shall be determined by a majority vote of**
10 **the caucus. Notwithstanding (e) of this section, the motion to have a closed**
11 **political strategy session must clearly and with specificity describe the subject of**
12 **the proposed political strategy session without defeating the purpose of**
13 **addressing the subject in private.** For purposes of this subsection, "political
14 strategy" includes organization of the houses, assignment of committee membership,
15 scheduling of bills, vehicles for adoptions, house-senate relations, other procedural

1 matters, caucus operations, meetings between majority and minority caucus leaders,
2 meetings between majority and minority caucus leaders of both houses, meetings with
3 the governor, deliberations with regard to political strategy, and discussions of issues
4 in the context of political strategy.

5 * **Sec. 2.** AS 24.60.037 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (h) A legislator may not enter into a written agreement with another person to
7 vote for a measure before hearing the debate and reviewing the final version of the
8 measure on the floor of the house of representatives or senate. A legislator may
9 express general agreement with the subject matter of a measure before it reaches the
10 floor of the appropriate body but may not commit in writing to vote for the measure,
11 whether the agreement to vote for the measure is legally binding or not.