

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEDOUX

Introduced: 1/16/08

Referred: Judiciary, Rules

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing an amendment to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating**
2 **to voting.**

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

4 * **Section 1.** Rule 34(b), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

5 (b) Abstention. Every member present in the house shall vote; however, a
6 member shall abstain from voting if the member reasonably believes that by
7 voting the member would violate a provision of AS 24.60.030 that prohibits a
8 member from voting. Notice of the abstention from voting shall be made before
9 the house divides or before the call for the yeas and nays is commenced and shall
10 be made by the member's making a brief oral statement of the reason that the
11 member will abstain and the specific provision of AS 24.60.030 that requires the
12 member's abstention [UNLESS THE HOUSE FOR SPECIAL REASONS
13 PERMITS A MEMBER TO ABSTAIN. ALL MOTIONS EXCUSING A MEMBER
14 FROM VOTING SHALL BE MADE BEFORE THE HOUSE DIVIDES OR
15 BEFORE THE CALL FOR THE YEAS AND NAYS IS COMMENCED. A
16 MEMBER REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED FROM VOTING MAY MAKE A

1 BRIEF ORAL STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE REQUEST AND THE
2 QUESTION OF GRANTING PERMISSION TO ABSTAIN SHALL BE TAKEN
3 WITHOUT FURTHER DEBATE. A MEMBER MAY NOT EXPLAIN A VOTE,
4 MAY NOT DISCUSS THE QUESTION WHILE THE YEAS AND NAYS ARE
5 BEING CALLED, AND MAY NOT CHANGE A VOTE AFTER THE ROLL CALL
6 RESULT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. UPON DIVISION AND COUNT OF THE
7 HOUSE OF ANY QUESTION A MEMBER WHO IS NOT WITHIN THE
8 CHAMBER MAY NOT BE COUNTED. A MEMBER MAY NOT BE PERMITTED
9 TO ABSTAIN EXCEPT UPON THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE
10 MEMBERSHIP].