

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI

Introduced: 1/16/08

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

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 **and voting. Except as provided in this subsection, every**
6 [EVERY] member present in the house shall vote. **The following rules apply:**

7 **(1) A member shall abstain from voting if the member reasonably**
8 **believes that the member's vote on a question would constitute a violation of**
9 **AS 24.60 (Legislative Ethics Act). Notice of the reason to excuse a member from**
10 **voting shall be made before the house divides or before the call for the yeas and**
11 **nays is commenced and shall be made by the member's making a brief oral**
12 **statement of the reason that the member will abstain and the specific provision of**
13 **AS 24.60 that requires the member's abstention.**

14 **(2) Except as to circumstances that require abstention from voting**
15 **as provided in (1) of this subsection, a member present in the house shall vote**
16 unless the house for special reasons permits a member to abstain. All motions

1 excusing a member from voting shall be made before the house divides or before the
2 call for the yeas and nays is commenced. A member requesting to be excused from
3 voting may make a brief oral statement of the reasons for the request and the question
4 of granting permission to abstain shall be taken without further debate. A member may
5 not explain a vote, may not discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being
6 called, and may not change a vote after the roll call result has been announced. Upon
7 division and count of the house of any question, a member who is not within the
8 chamber may not be counted. A member may not be permitted to abstain **under this**
9 **paragraph** except upon the unanimous consent of the membership.