

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE KAWASAKI

Introduced: 2/21/14

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing an amendment to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating**
2 **to voting and abstention from 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. A member may abstain from**
7 **voting if [UNLESS] the house, for special reasons, permits a member to abstain. A**
8 **member shall request to abstain from voting if the member reasonably believes**
9 **that the member's vote on a question would constitute a violation of AS 24.60**
10 **(Legislative Ethics Act).** All motions excusing a member from voting shall be made
11 before the house divides or before the call for the yeas and nays is commenced. A
12 member requesting to be excused from voting may make a brief oral statement of the
13 reasons for the request, **including, if applicable, specific provisions of AS 24.60 that**
14 **support the member's request to abstain. The** [AND THE] question of granting
15 permission to abstain shall be taken without further debate. A member may not
16 explain a vote, may not discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being called,

1 and may not change a vote after the roll call result has been announced. Upon division
2 and count of the house of any question, a member who is not within the chamber may
3 not be counted. A member may not be permitted to abstain except upon **a majority**
4 **vote** [THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT] of the membership.