

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR KAUFMAN

Introduced: 1/18/23

Referred: Judiciary, Finance

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to an**
2 **appropriation limit.**

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

4 * **Section 1.** Article IX, sec. 16, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

5 **Section 16. Appropriation Limit.** Except for appropriations for Alaska
6 permanent fund dividends, appropriations to the Alaska permanent fund,
7 appropriations of revenue bond and general obligation bond proceeds,
8 appropriations required to pay the principal and interest on revenue bonds and
9 general obligation bonds, appropriations to a State account or fund that requires a
10 subsequent appropriation from that account or fund as prescribed by law,
11 appropriations to meet a state of disaster declared by the governor as prescribed
12 by law, and appropriations of money received from a non-State source in trust for a
13 specific purpose, including revenues of a public enterprise or public corporation of the
14 State that issues revenue bonds, appropriations from the treasury made for a fiscal year
15 shall not exceed an amount equal to a percentage of the average of the value of the
16 real gross domestic product of the State as estimated by the federal bureau

1 responsible for economic analysis according to federal law, expressed in current
2 dollars, for the five fiscal years immediately preceding the prior fiscal year. The
3 percentage shall be established by law that is not a law enacted as an
4 appropriation bill or fourteen percent, whichever is less. Upon an affirmative
5 vote of two-thirds of the membership of each house, the legislature may
6 appropriate an additional amount for capital improvements in excess of the limit
7 under this section, except that the total amount appropriated shall not exceed an
8 amount equal to fourteen percent of the average calculated under this section.
9 The value of the real gross domestic product in this section shall not include
10 expenditures for government spending [\$2,500,000,000 BY MORE THAN THE
11 CUMULATIVE CHANGE, DERIVED FROM FEDERAL INDICES AS
12 PRESCRIBED BY LAW, IN POPULATION AND INFLATION SINCE JULY 1,
13 1981. WITHIN THIS LIMIT, AT LEAST ONE-THIRD SHALL BE RESERVED
14 FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS AND LOAN APPROPRIATIONS. THE
15 LEGISLATURE MAY EXCEED THIS LIMIT IN BILLS FOR APPROPRIATIONS
16 TO THE ALASKA PERMANENT FUND AND IN BILLS FOR
17 APPROPRIATIONS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, WHETHER OF BOND
18 PROCEEDS OR OTHERWISE, IF EACH BILL IS APPROVED BY THE
19 GOVERNOR, OR PASSED BY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THREE-FOURTHS OF
20 THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATURE OVER A VETO OR ITEM VETO,
21 OR BECOMES LAW WITHOUT SIGNATURE, AND IS ALSO APPROVED BY
22 THE VOTERS AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW. EACH BILL FOR APPROPRIATIONS
23 FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT SHALL BE CONFINED
24 TO CAPITAL PROJECTS OF THE SAME TYPE, AND THE VOTERS SHALL, AS
25 PROVIDED BY LAW, BE INFORMED OF THE COST OF OPERATIONS AND
26 MAINTENANCE OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS. NO OTHER APPROPRIATION
27 IN EXCESS OF THIS LIMIT MAY BE MADE EXCEPT TO MEET A STATE OF
28 DISASTER DECLARED BY THE GOVERNOR AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW. THE
29 GOVERNOR SHALL CAUSE ANY UNEXPENDED AND UNAPPROPRIATED
30 BALANCE TO BE INVESTED SO AS TO YIELD COMPETITIVE MARKET
31 RATES TO THE TREASURY].

1 * **Sec. 2.** Article XV, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding a new
2 section to read:

3 **Section 30. Application of Appropriation Limit.** The 2024 amendment
4 limiting appropriation increases applies to appropriations made for the fiscal year
5 ending June 30, 2026, and thereafter.

6 * **Sec. 3.** The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed before the voters of
7 the state at the next general election in conformity with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the
8 State of Alaska, and the election laws of the state.