

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR MCNABB

2

SENATE BILL NO. 288

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the observance by high

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school seniors of democracy in action;

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authorizing an appropriation; and providing

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for an effective date."

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

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PURPOSE

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The Alaska Legislature believes a well-informed electorate
13 enhances the strength of democracy;

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It further believes the welfare of the state, the nation and
15 the entire world depends upon the survival and the propagation of
16 the republican form of government;

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Firm in these opinions and realizing that those who now share
18 the privilege of guiding the destiny of this state shall tomorrow
19 pass to the youth of today the burden of preserving and perpetua-
20 ting our way of life; and

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In an effort to better prepare its successors for the assump-
22 tion of their duties than were they prepared

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Sec. 1. The legislature will each year while in session
24 serve as host to one member of the senior class of each high school
25 in the state for a stay of one week in the capital for the purpose
26 of observing and learning the legislative process.

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Sec. 2. Each high school of the state shall annually and
28 before the end of the calendar year select one member of its
29 senior class as a legislative guest, each of whom shall be chosen

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1 as follows:

2 a. Each high school shall sponsor a debate to which
3 each senior student shall be eligible.

4 b. The subject of such debate shall be "Resolved that
5 democracy in Alaska shall be strengthened by the attendance at
6 the legislature of a member of this class."

7 c. Each student shall, without interference, select the
8 affirmative or negative position regardless of number of selections.

9 c. The debate shall be judged by

10 (1) the membership of the high school, and

11 (2) the high school faculty, and

12 (3) the membership of the school board or the

13 parent-teacher association in the absence of a school board;
14 each of whom as a group shall have one collective vote, determined by
15 majority or plurality vote of each of the three groups or classes
16 enumerated above.

17 In the event that no student receives two or more votes, the
18 three named nominees shall debate before the same judges the
19 question: "Resolved, I should be chosen the representative of
20 this school to the state capital."

21 If no student received a majority vote, selection shall be
22 made from the three eligible by lot or chance.

23 Sec. 3. When the representative of the senior class has been
24 selected pursuant to provisions of Sec. 2 of this Act, the princi-
25 pal of the school shall certify the selection to the Legislative
26 Council. The Legislative Council is responsible for making all
27 necessary administrative and fiscal arrangements for the trans-
28 portation and housing of the selected students in coordination with
29 the principals. Funds for the transportation, housing and meals

1 of the students shall be included in the general appropriation
2 for legislative expenses as budgeted for by the Legislative Council.

3 Sec. 4. Prior to his departure from the state capital, each
4 legislative guest shall prepare and submit to the Director of the
5 Legislative Council a paper of not less than 1,000 words entitled
6 "The Legislature Should" Each paper shall be examined and
7 judged as to content by the Governor, the President of the Senate,
8 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader
9 of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, and the author
10 of the paper determined best by majority vote shall receive a
11 one-year scholarship to the University of Alaska.

12 Sec. 5. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage
13 and approval or on the day it becomes law without such approval.
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