ALASKA
STATE
LEGISLATURE

Introduced: 3/10/64
Referred: Judiciary

IN THE SENATE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Relating to a possible court rule imposing jury costs on litigant.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE CONCURRING:

WHEREAS, the right to a trial by jury in civil cases is preserved by Section 16, Article I, of the Constitution of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice has informed the House and Senate Finance Committees that the Supreme Court is considering adopting a rule that would impose the cost of a jury on a litigant in a civil case who requested a jury trial and lost the case; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of the cost of a jury on a losing litigant could increase the cost of a trial by several thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, to so add to the already high cost of obtaining justice through the courts would very likely preclude a poor litigant from taking advantage of his constitutional right to a trial by jury;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Court is respectfully requested not to adopt any rule imposing any more costs on litigants, and especially not to adopt a rule imposing the cost of a jury on any litigant.