

1 IN THE SENATE BY SENATORS PERATROVICH AND BLODGETT  
2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Petitioning Congress to call a  
6 convention of the states to amend  
7 the federal constitution to  
8 preserve the bicameral aspect of  
9 state legislatures.

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 WHEREAS the United States Supreme Court has held that both  
12 houses of a bicameral state legislature must be apportioned on  
13 the basis of population; and

14 WHEREAS this holding now makes it impossible to apportion  
15 representation to reflect the diverse and conflicting interests  
16 within a state; and

17 WHEREAS the decision of the Court will enable heavily popula-  
18 ted areas to dominate state legislatures and will lead to a virtual  
19 loss of representation in all other areas of the state; and

20 WHEREAS in order to prevent this complete disruption of the  
21 legislative process in the states, and to preserve for each state  
22 the right to balance its representation in the manner best suited  
23 to its individual situation, it is essential that the Constitution  
24 of the United States be amended to enable the state to apportion  
25 at least one house of its legislature on factors other than  
26 population;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska  
28 respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to call a  
29 convention of states in accordance with Article V of the

1 Constitution of the United States for the purpose of adding to  
2 the Constitution an article allowing any state having a  
3 bicameral legislature to apportion the membership to one house  
4 of its legislature on factors other than population; and be it  
5       FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to  
6 the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United  
7 States and President of the Senate; the Honorable Carl Hayden,  
8 President pro tempore of the Senate; the Honorable John W.  
9 McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable  
10 E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Senators from  
11 Alaska; and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Congressman from  
12 Alaska; and the presiding officers of each house of the legisla-  
13 tures of the several states.

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