

Introduced: 2/14/67
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY STEVENS

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to a request to the Congress
6 of the United States to call a Con-
7 stitutional Convention concerning
8 apportionment of state legislatures.

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

10 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has ruled that membership in
11 both houses of a bicameral state legislature must be apportioned only
12 according to population; and

13 WHEREAS for 175 years the people of the various states have had the
14 freedom to apportion their legislatures in the manner they felt best reflec-
15 ted the best interests of the people; and

16 WHEREAS the states have recognized that a system of apportionment that
17 might be best for one state might not necessarily accommodate the needs of
18 another state, and that each should be free to make its own election;

19 BE IT RESOLVED that the Fifth State Legislature of the State of Alaska
20 respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to call a Consti-
21 tutional Convention for the purpose of submitting a Constitutional Amendment
22 to the States which will secure to the people the right of some choice in
23 the method of apportionment of one house of a state legislature on a basis
24 other than population alone; and be it

25 FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is rescinded if the Congress
26 itself proposes a plan to the states for ratification.

27 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Carl Hayden,
28 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable John W. McCormack,
29 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable E.L. Bartlett

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1 and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard
2 W. Pollock, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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