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Referred: Judiciary and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Proposing amendments to the Constitu-
6 tion of the State of Alaska providing
7 for a one-house legislature.

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

9 * Section 1. Secs. 1, 2, 3, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 20, art. II, Consti-
10 tution of the State of Alaska, are amended to read:

11 SECTION 1. The legislative power of the State is vested in a
12 legislature [CONSISTING OF A SENATE WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF TWENTY AND A
13 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES] with a membership of forty-one senators
14 [FORTY].

15 SECTION 2. A member of the legislature shall be a qualified
16 voter who has been a resident of Alaska for at least three years and
17 of the district from which elected for at least one year, immediately
18 preceding his filing for office. A senator shall be at least [TWENTY-
19 FIVE YEARS OF AGE AND A REPRESENTATIVE AT LEAST] twenty-one years of
20 age.

21 SECTION 3. Legislators shall be elected at general elections.
22 Their terms begin on the fourth Monday of the January following election
23 unless otherwise provided by law. The [TERM OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE
24 TWO YEARS, AND THE] term of senators [,] shall be four years. One-half
25 of the senators shall be elected every two years.

26 SECTION 12. The [HOUSES OF EACH] legislature shall adopt [UNIFORM]
27 rules of procedure. The legislature [EACH HOUSE] may choose its
28 officers and employees. The legislature [EACH] is the judge of the
29 election and qualifications of its members and may expel a member with

1 the concurrence of two-thirds of its members. The legislature
2 [EACH] shall keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of the
3 membership of the legislature [EACH HOUSE] constitutes a quorum to do
4 business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and may
5 compel attendance of absent members. The legislature shall regulate
6 lobbying.

7 SECTION 14. The legislature shall establish the procedure for
8 the enactment of bills into law. No bill may become law unless it
9 has passed three readings [IN EACH HOUSE] on three separate days,
10 except that any bill may be advanced from second to third reading on
11 the same day by concurrence of three-fourths of the membership [HOUSE
12 CONSIDERING IT]. No vote on final passage of a bill may be taken
13 until five legislative days after its introduction and until at
14 least one legislative day after the date publicly announced for it
15 to appear on the daily calendar. No bill may become law without an
16 affirmative vote of a majority of the membership of the legislature
17 [EACH HOUSE]. The yeas and nays on final passage shall be entered in
18 the journal.

19 SECTION 15. The governor may veto bills passed by the legislature.
20 He may, by veto, strike or reduce items in appropriation bills. He
21 shall return any vetoed bill, with a statement of his objection, to
22 the legislature [HOUSE OF ORIGIN].

23 SECTION 16. Upon receipt of a veto message, the legislature
24 shall meet immediately [IN JOINT SESSION] and reconsider passage of
25 the vetoed bill or item. Bills to raise revenue and appropriation
26 bills or items, although vetoed, become law by affirmative vote of
27 three-fourths of the membership of the legislature. Other vetoed
28 bills become law by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership
29 of the legislature. The vote on reconsideration of a vetoed bill

1 shall be entered on the journal [JOURNALS] of the legislature [BOTH
2 HOUSES].

3 SECTION 18. Laws passed by the legislature become effective
4 ninety days after enactment. The legislature may, by concurrence of
5 two-thirds of the membership [OF EACH HOUSE], provide for another
6 effective date.

7 SECTION 20. All civil officers of the State are subject to
8 impeachment by the legislature. Impeachment [SHALL ORIGINATE IN THE
9 SENATE AND] must be approved by a two-thirds vote of its members.
10 The motion for impeachment shall list fully the basis for the pro-
11 ceeding. The legislature shall provide by law a procedure for the
12 trial and removal from office of officers of the state. [TRIAL ON
13 IMPEACHMENT SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A
14 SUPREME COURT JUSTICE DESIGNATED BY THE COURT SHALL PRESIDE AT THE
15 TRIAL.] Concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the tribunal
16 [HOUSE] is required for a judgment of impeachment. **The** judgment may
17 not extend beyond removal from office, but shall not prevent pro-
18 ceedings in the courts on the same or related charges.

19 * Sec. 2. Sec. 10, art. II, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is
20 repealed.

21 * Sec. 3. Secs. 1 - 8, art. VI, Constitution of the State of Alaska, are
22 repealed and replaced by the following new section:

23 SECTION 1. Members of the legislature are elected by the
24 qualified voters of the respective election districts. No more than
25 five legislators may be elected from an election district. The
26 number of persons represented by each legislator is determined by
27 dividing the total membership of the legislature into the total
28 civilian population of the state as reported in the decennial census.
29 The population assigned to each legislative seat shall be as

1 mathematically equal as possible. The governor shall apportion and
2 district the state for legislative representation with the advice of
3 the reapportionment board.

4 SECTION 2. The governor appoints a reapportionment board to
5 act in an advisory capacity to him. It consists of five members
6 appointed without reference to party affiliation. Board members may
7 not be employees or officials of the state or federal government or of
8 any political subdivision of the state.

9 * Sec. 4. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed
10 before the voters of the state at the next statewide election in conformity
11 with sec. 1, art. XIII, of the Constitution of Alaska, and the state
12 election code.