

Introduced: 1/20/70
Referred: Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY KERTTULA AND BRADNER

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 79

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting Congressional action on a
6 Constitutional amendment to provide for
7 the direct popular election of the
8 President and Vice-President.

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

10 WHEREAS under the Constitution of the United States, Presidential and
11 Vice-Presidential Electors in the several states are now elected on a state-
12 wide basis, each state being entitled to as many electors as it has senators
13 and representatives in Congress; and

14 WHEREAS the Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors who receive
15 the plurality of the popular vote in a particular state become entitled to
16 cast the total number of electoral votes allocated to that state irrespec-
17 tive of how many votes may have been cast for other elector candidates; and

18 WHEREAS this method of electing the President and Vice-President is
19 unfair and unjust in that it does not reflect the minority votes cast; and

20 WHEREAS a method other than the direct popular election could allow
21 the election of a Presidential candidate who is not, in fact, the choice of
22 the American people; and

23 WHEREAS under a direct popular election, no third party candidate could
24 use a handful of electoral votes to dictate the choice of President or Vice-
25 President; and

26 WHEREAS the direct popular election is the only method by which the
27 vote of a voter living in any part of one state has the same effect as the
28 vote of a voter living in any part of any other state; and

29 WHEREAS the need for a change has been recognized by members of

1 Congress on numerous occasions through the introduction of various proposals
2 for amending the Constitution, and most recently through the passage of
HJR 681 by the House of Representatives;

4 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth Alaska Legislature supports the concept
5 of the direct popular election of the President and Vice-President; and be
6 it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress is requested to act upon the pro-
8 posal pending in the Senate which provides for the direct popular election
9 of the President and Vice-President.

10 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
11 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John W. McCormack,
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard B. Russell,
13 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Birch Bayh, Chairman of
14 the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments; and to the
15 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and
16 the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the
17 Alaska delegation in Congress.