

Introduced: 2/4/69  
Referred: State Affairs  
Judiciary and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BEGICH

2 SENATE BILL NO. 109

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act calling a constitutional convention; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 \*Section 1. A constitutional convention, comprised of delegates elected  
10 by the qualified voters of the state, shall assemble at the University of  
11 Alaska, College, Alaska, on September 29, 1969 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., or as  
12 soon thereafter as a quorum is present. A quorum shall be 31 members for  
13 the purpose of convening. The convention shall meet for a period not to  
14 exceed 50 days but may, at its discretion, recess for a period not to exceed  
15 10 days for the purpose of holding public hearings in Alaska on proposed  
16 amendments to the constitution.

17 \* Sec. 2. Delegates to the convention shall be qualified voters of the  
18 state and residents for not less than three years immediately preceding the  
19 first day of the convention. The holding of the office of delegate or any  
20 other office of the convention does not constitute a disqualification for  
21 selection for or the holding of any other office, and the holding of any  
22 other office except an appointive office under the federal government does  
23 not constitute a disqualification for election to or the holding of office  
24 as a delegate or any other office of the convention.

25 \* Sec. 3. One delegate for each house of representatives' seat shall be  
26 elected by the qualified voters of each election district, and one delegate  
27 for each senate seat in each senate district shall be elected by the quali-  
28 fied voters of each senate district, to serve at the constitutional conven-  
29 tion.

1 \* Sec. 4. A special statewide election for the election of delegates  
2 shall be held on May 5, 1969.

3 \* Sec. 5. Candidates for the office of delegate shall be nominated by  
4 petition filed with the secretary of state. Each petition for candidacy in  
5 an election district or senate district shall be accompanied by a \$10 filing  
6 fee. Each nominating petition filed for candidacy in an election district  
7 or senate district shall be signed by qualified voters residing in that  
8 district in a number to equal not less than five per cent of the votes cast  
9 in that district in the last general election, provided that no petition  
10 may contain less than 50 nor more than 250 signatures.

11 \* Sec. 6. (a) Each nominating petition shall contain

12 (1) the name of one candidate,

13 (2) his place of residence and post office address,

14 (3) whether he is a candidate in an election district or a senate  
15 district,

16 (4) the fact that the nomination is for the office of delegate  
17 to the constitutional convention to be convened on September 29, 1969,

18 (5) a statement that the petitioners are qualified voters in the  
19 district from which the candidate seeks election,

20 (6) a pledge that the petitioners will support and vote for the  
21 candidate named in the petition,

22 (7) certification that this petition, together with all other  
23 petitions signed by them, does not nominate a greater number of candidates  
24 than the number of delegates to be elected in the district for which the  
25 nominations are made.

26 (b) Every voter signing a nominating petition shall add to his signa-  
27 ture his place of residence, post office address and street number, if any.  
28 It is the intent of this Act that a petitioner may not sign more nominating  
29 petitions than there are delegates authorized from the election and senate

1 district in which the petitioner resides.

2 \* Sec. 7. Each nominating petition shall, before it is filed with the  
3 secretary of state, contain an acceptance of the nomination in writing,  
4 signed and verified by an oath or affirmation of the candidate named in the  
5 petition, upon or annexed to the petition. This acceptance shall certify  
6 that the candidate was a resident of the district from which he is nominated  
7 for at least one year and that he is a qualified voter in the district from  
8 which he is nominated. This acceptance shall also certify that the nominee  
9 consents to enter as a candidate at the special election for the election  
10 of delegates to the constitutional convention, and if elected he agrees to  
11 take office and serve as a delegate from the district in which he is  
12 nominated.

13 \* Sec. 8. If a delegate from an election district dies, resigns, or  
14 otherwise becomes disqualified from serving, or if a vacancy occurs for any  
15 reason, the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate who received the next  
16 highest number of votes among the candidates in the district in which the  
17 vacancy occurred. If a vacancy should again occur in this district it is  
18 to be filled in a like manner from among the remaining candidates. An  
19 election contest which results in a tie shall be resolved by the drawing of  
20 lots between the competing candidates, and the loser of the drawing shall  
21 be considered second only to the winner and shall hold this standing among  
22 the balance of the winning candidates.

23 \* Sec. 9. All nominating petitions with annexed acceptances shall be  
24 transmitted to the secretary of state no later than 5:00 o'clock p.m. on  
25 April 1, 1969. The secretary of state shall post three copies of each  
26 petition received in a prominent location in each district from which the  
27 petitions were filed on or before April 3, 1969. Objections to petitions  
28 may be raised by any qualified voter of the district from which the candi-  
29 date is nominated, by submitting his objections in writing and signed to

1 the secretary of state. Objections shall be postmarked or delivered to the  
2 secretary of state on or before midnight of April 14, 1969. No later than  
3 April 21, 1969, the secretary of state shall make his determination as to  
4 the candidates nominated from each district and shall certify the names  
5 designated for placement on the ballot for each appropriate district.

6 \* Sec. 10. The election of delegates shall be conducted without reference  
7 to the political party affiliations of the candidates, and the ballots used  
8 shall be nonpartisan in every respect. A separate ballot shall be prepared  
9 for each election district and each ballot shall contain

10 (1) the names of the candidates running for the office of delegate  
11 from the election district, and

12 (2) the names of the candidates running for the office of delegate  
13 from the senate district.

14 \* Sec. 11. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes in the  
15 election or senate district from which he was nominated shall be considered  
16 elected for that district, and the secretary of state shall issue certifi-  
17 cates of election in the manner otherwise prescribed by law for persons  
18 elected to the legislature of Alaska.

19 \* Sec. 12. The governor shall open the convention and preside until  
20 temporary officers are selected. The convention shall be judge of the  
21 qualifications of its members, their election, or appointment. It shall  
22 have the powers by vote of a majority of the delegates to which the body is  
23 entitled to choose a president and secretary and all other appropriate  
24 officers, to prescribe their functions, powers and duties, and to make rules  
25 and regulations for the conduct of business.

26 \* Sec. 13. The convention shall have power to incur necessary expenses,  
27 including but not limited to expenses for employment of clerical, technical,  
28 and professional personnel and advisers as it may require, in order to exer-  
29 cise the powers conferred and to perform the duties imposed by this Act.

1 \* Sec. 14. The delegates shall receive a per diem of \$40 for each day  
2 in attendance at, including time spent going to and returning from, the  
3 convention; and they shall be reimbursed for their actual travel costs  
4 incurred in attending upon their duties as delegates.

5 \* Sec. 15. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$320,000 or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary, for defraying the expenses of the elections  
7 provided for herein and the expenses of the convention, including compensa-  
8 tion of the delegates, and for all other purposes of this Act. The dis-  
9 bursements of all costs attributable to the elections of delegates to the  
10 convention, not to exceed \$100,000 shall be made upon vouchers certified by  
11 the secretary of state. All other disbursements of money appropriated shall  
12 be made upon vouchers certified by the president of the convention.

13 \* Sec. 16. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval  
14 or on the day it becomes law without approval.  
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