

BY FERGUSON, ROSE, BANFIELD, BARBER,
BRADNER, CHANCE, COLLETTA, DITMAN, FISCHER,
HILLSTRAND, HOLM, HUBER, KERTTULA,
MCGILL, MCVEIGH, FLYNN, M. MILLER, MOORE,
MORAN, MOSES, NAUGHTON, PERATROVICH,
RANDOLPH, REED, SPECKING, SWANSON,
TILLION, WARWICK, WHITTAKER AND WRIGHT

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 88

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to release of news coverage
6 of presidential elections.

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

8 WHEREAS in November 1972 the American people will once again be going
9 to the polls to register their choice for President of the United States for
10 the ensuing four-year period; and

11 WHEREAS the technology available and utilized by the news media in this
12 modern age enables extremely accurate vote projections to be made after only
13 an infinitesimal number of votes have been tabulated; and

14 WHEREAS some American citizens, especially those living in the western
15 portion of the United States, have been informed by the media, before
16 voting, which presidential candidate has won in those states where the polls
17 have already closed, and in recent years, have often been told who the
18 projected victor is; and

19 WHEREAS this knowledge tends to not only cause voter apathy to a great
20 extent, but has the deleterious effect of motivating people, in many cases,
21 to vote for a candidate other than the one of their original choice;

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the U. S. Congress is
23 urgently requested to enact legislation which would prohibit the news media
24 from disseminating information regarding the results of presidential
25 elections in the various states, or releasing the name of a projected suc-
26 cessful national candidate until such time as the polls are closed in all
27 of the continental United States, Hawaii, and Alaska.

28 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
29 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Dean Burch, Chairman,

1 Federal Communications Commission; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
2 Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S.
3 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.
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