

Introduced: 2/25/74  
Referred: State Affairs and  
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY M. MILLER AND HUBER

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to a study of the use of  
6 election districts for administrative  
7 and judicial purposes.

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

9 WHEREAS, traditionally, the State of Alaska has used election districts  
10 for a variety of purposes other than the administration of elections and the  
11 constituencies from which members of the legislature are chosen; and

12 WHEREAS some of these uses include, but are not limited to, the  
13 formation of the judicial districts, the establishment of the range and  
14 step for the basic monthly salary schedule for state employees under the  
15 classified and partially exempt state service, liquor license administration,  
16 and for a variety of other public purposes and services wholly unrelated to  
17 the electoral process; and

18 WHEREAS because of the legislative redistrictings necessitated both by  
19 the provisions of the Alaska Constitution requiring decennial rearrangement  
20 of election district boundaries to reflect to changing population growth  
21 patterns as well as a series of recent redistrictings due to protracted  
22 litigation, the boundaries of the present election districts no longer con-  
23 form to those prescribed in article XIV of the Alaska Constitution or to  
24 those promulgated following the Governor's 1961 Proclamation of Reapportion-  
25 ment and Redistricting, but to which the administration of many state  
26 services and functions refer; and

27 WHEREAS it is clear that this proliferation of one set of election  
28 districts one on top of the other causes confusion among the electorate and  
29 creates a "crazyquilt" if not obsolete pattern of administration; and

1           WHEREAS it is also reasonably clear that what may make sense in terms of  
2 boundaries for an electoral constituency, well may not prove salutary for the  
3 administration of justice, or for the administration of other essential state  
4 services or functions for which a geographic unit of administration or  
5 reference makes good sense.

6           BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative  
7 Council is respectfully requested to appoint an interim committee and assign  
8 to it for study the subject of the election district boundaries and their  
9 continued usefulness for purposes of administration of state services and  
10 functions other than elections; and

11           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council is respectfully  
12 requested to convene, or authorize the convening, of a joint study committee  
13 inviting representation from both the executive and judicial branches of state  
14 government to join with legislators to resolve this complex, multi-faceted  
15 problem to ensure that the public interest in the effective administration of  
16 state affairs is served; and

17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this joint legislative-executive-judicial  
18 interim study committee be respectfully requested to report its findings and  
19 recommendations to the legislature not later than the convening of the Ninth  
20 Alaska Legislature, First Session.

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