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Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

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2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE -- FIRST SESSION

5 Proposing amendments to the Constitu-
6 tion of the State of Alaska relative
7 to the administration of elections.

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

9 * Section 1. Sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, art. XI, Constitution of the
10 State of Alaska, are amended to read:

11 SECTION 2. APPLICATION. An initiative or referendum is proposed
12 by an application containing the bill to be initiated or the act to be
13 referred. The application shall be signed by not less than one hundred
14 qualified voters as sponsors, and shall be filed with the chief elections
15 officer of the State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR]. If he finds it in proper
16 form he shall so certify. Denial of certification shall be subject to
17 judicial review.

18 SECTION 3. PETITION. After certification of the application, a
19 petition containing a summary of the subject matter shall be prepared
20 by the chief elections officer of the State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR] for
21 circulation by the sponsors. If signed by qualified voters, equal in
22 number to ten per cent of those who voted in the preceding general
23 election and resident in at least two-thirds of the election districts
24 of the State, it may be filed with the chief elections officer of the
25 State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR].

26 SECTION 4. INITIATIVE ELECTION. An initiative petition may be
27 filed at any time. The chief elections officer of the State [LIEUTEN-
28 ANT GOVERNOR] shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing
29 the proposed law, and shall place them on the ballot for the first

1 statewide election held more than one hundred twenty days after adjourn-
2 ment of the legislative session following the filing. If, before the
3 election, substantially the same measure has been enacted, the petition
4 is void.

5 SECTION 5. REFERENDUM ELECTION. A referendum petition may be
6 filed only within ninety days after adjournment of the legislative
7 session at which the act was passed. The chief elections officer of the
8 State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR] shall prepare a ballot title and proposition
9 summarizing the act and shall place them on the ballot for the first
10 statewide election held more than one hundred eighty days after adjourn-
11 ment of that session.

12 SECTION 6. ENACTMENT. If a majority of the votes cast on the
13 proposition favor its adoption, the initiated measure is enacted. If a
14 majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor the rejection of an
15 act referred, it is rejected. The chief elections officer of the State
16 [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR] shall certify the election returns. An initiated
17 law becomes effective ninety days after certification, is not subject
18 to veto, and may not be repealed by the legislature within two years of
19 its effective date. It may be amended at any time. An act rejected by
20 referendum is void thirty days after certification. Additional proce-
21 dures for the initiative and referendum may be prescribed by law.

22 * Sec. 2. Sections 1 and 3, art. XIII, Constitution of the State of
23 Alaska, are amended to read:

24 SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this constitution may be
25 proposed by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature. The
26 chief elections officer of the State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR] shall prepare
27 a ballot title and proposition summarizing each proposed amendment, and
28 shall place them on the ballot for the next statewide election. If a
29 majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor the amendment, it

1 shall be adopted. Unless otherwise provided in the amendment, it be-
2 comes effective thirty days after the certification of the election
3 returns by the chief elections officer of the State [LIEUTENANT
4 GOVERNOR].

5 SECTION 3. CALL BY REFERENDUM. If during any ten-year period a
6 constitutional convention has not been held, the chief elections officer
7 of the State [LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR] shall place on the ballot for the
8 next general election the question: "Shall there be a Constitutional
9 Convention?" If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in
10 the negative, the question need not be placed on the ballot until the
11 end of the next ten-year period. If a majority of the votes cast on
12 the question are in the affirmative, delegates to the convention shall
13 be chosen at the next regular statewide election, unless the legislature
14 provides for the election of the delegates at a special election. The
15 [LIEUTENANT] governor shall issue the call for the convention. Unless
16 other provisions have been made by law, the call shall conform as
17 nearly as possible to the act calling the Alaska Constitutional Con-
18 vention of 1955, including, but not limited to, number of members,
19 districts, election and certification of delegates, and submission and
20 ratification of revisions and ordinances. The appropriation provisions
21 of the call shall be self-executing and shall constitute a first claim
22 on the state treasury.

23 * Sec. 3. The amendments proposed by this Resolution shall be placed
24 before the voters of the state at the next statewide election in conformity
25 with sec. 1, art. XIII, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the election
26 laws of the state.
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