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Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 754

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to sessions of the legislature; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. The legislature recognizes the desire of the people of the
10 state to have close contact with their elected representatives. The legisla-
11 ture also recognizes that the great distances separating the major population
12 centers of the state make it difficult for many people to communicate and
13 interact with the members of the legislature. In this Act, the legislature
14 establishes a method of providing greater exposure of the legislative process
15 and closer contact between legislators and the majority of the people of the
16 state.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 24.05.090 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 24.05.090. REGULAR SESSIONS. The legislature shall convene
19 [AT THE CAPITAL] each year on the second Monday in January at 10:00 a.m.
20 Pacific Standard Time; however, following a gubernatorial election year
21 the legislature shall convene on the third Monday in January at 10:00
22 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. The legislature shall meet in Anchorage,
23 Fairbanks, Willow, or Juneau on a rotating basis, with the Eleventh
24 Legislature and every fourth legislature thereafter meeting in
25 Anchorage, the Twelfth Legislature and every fourth legislature there-
26 after meeting in Fairbanks, the Thirteenth Legislature and every fourth
27 legislature thereafter meeting in Willow, and the Fourteenth Legislature
28 and every fourth legislature thereafter meeting in Juneau. Except as
29 provided in this section, each legislature shall have a duration of two

1 years and shall consist of a "First Regular Session" which shall meet in
2 the odd-numbered years and a "Second Regular Session" which shall meet
3 in the even-numbered years and any special session or sessions which the
4 governor or legislature may find necessary to call.

5 * Sec. 3. AS 24.05.100 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (b) Special sessions shall be held at the place in which regular
7 sessions are held for that legislature.

8 * Sec. 4. AS 24.05.190(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The state capitol, with the exception of the capitol space
10 now occupied by the Office of the Governor, and space occupied in any
11 other state building by the legislature or its agencies is under the con-
12 trol of and subject to assignment by the Legislative Affairs Agency as
13 directed by the legislature. The Legislative Affairs Agency is respon-
14 sible for the equitable allocation of parking spaces at the capitol or
15 any other state building occupied by the legislature or its agencies
16 according to the needs of the legislature and other agencies occupying
17 capitol offices.

18 * Sec. 5. AS 24.15.050 is amended to read:

19 Sec. 24.15.050. TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE. Each member of the
20 legislature is entitled to receive one round-trip transportation fare
21 not to exceed the cost of first-class airline fare from his place of
22 residence in the election district from which elected or appointed to
23 attend [THE CAPITAL FOR PURPOSES OF ATTENDING] regular, reconvened
24 regular, or special sessions of the legislature. Each member receiving
25 transportation fare is entitled to an allowance not to exceed the cost
26 of 200 pounds of air freight each way upon submission of proper documen-
27 tation to substantiate the baggage shipment.

28 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
29 070(c).