

Original sponsors: Smith, Gardiner,  
Meekins and Nakak

Offered: 4/23/77  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 38

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to public participation in state  
6 government through toll-free telephone  
7 service.

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

9 WHEREAS during the legislative session public interest in legislative  
10 activities is extremely high; and

11 WHEREAS news coverage of the legislature by the media and the Alaska  
12 Public Broadcasting Commission is admirable, but information on many activi-  
13 ties of both the Senate and House is not immediately available for public  
14 response; and

15 WHEREAS the cost of a toll-free telephone service would be minimal in  
16 comparison with the benefits achieved by public participation in the govern-  
17 mental process; and

18 WHEREAS now that the daily activities of the legislature are viewed via  
19 television by thousands of Alaskans in all parts of the state, the addition  
20 of toll-free telephone access would bring government closer to the public;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS the Legislative Council has been, and is, active in developing  
23 direct access to the legislature by the public; and

24 WHEREAS public access to the executive and judicial branch offices  
25 located in the state capital and served by the centrex system is an addi-  
26 tional means of providing even broader public participation in government;

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative  
28 Council is directed to continue to develop means for public access to the  
29 legislature and to establish as the first step to arriving at the final

1 solution a toll-free telephone service to the legislature, enabling anyone in  
2 the State of Alaska to contact his legislator or to obtain legislative infor-  
3 mation; and be it

4       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council is directed to coordinate  
5 the implementation of toll-free telephone service for the state capital and  
6 to report on the effectiveness of the system by the first day of the Second  
7 Session of the Tenth State Legislature.

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