

Original sponsor: State Affairs
Committee

Offered: 6/20/81

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8 (Rules) am S

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Proposing amendments to the uniform
6 rules; and providing for an effective
7 date.

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

9 * Section 1. Rule 15 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
10 ture is amended to read:

11 ABSENCE OF MEMBERS. (a) A member may not be absent from sittings
12 of the house unless the member has the leave of the house to be absent
13 or is ill and unable to attend. If absent when a call is placed a
14 member may be excused by a three-fourths majority vote of the house.
15 After consistent or deliberate unauthorized absences from sittings of
16 the house a three-fourths majority of the body may vote to officially
17 reprimand or censure the member.

18 (b) A member who is consistently absent from meetings of a
19 standing committee to which assigned may be removed from that committee
20 by the Committee on Committees upon a showing that the member's absence
21 is unwarranted.

22 * Sec. 2. Rule 24(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
23 ture is amended to read:

24 (a) A committee may act on any bill, resolution, or other legisla-
25 tive matter [ACTS ON ALL BILLS] referred to it. When the committee has
26 acted, it shall report [AND REPORTS] its actions and recommendations to
27 the house as soon as practicable. A committee report [COMMITTEE RE-
28 PORTS] must be in writing and the report must be signed by a majority of
29 the full membership [MEMBERS] of the committee. A member may not

1 withdraw his signature from a committee report which he has regularly
2 signed. The report shall [WILL] note the recommendation of each member
3 signing the report. The report may recommend that the house adopt
4 a letter of intent proposed by the committee. A letter of intent may
5 be adopted only in third reading before adoption of the measure by
6 a majority vote of the full membership of the house. The vote on
7 adoption of a letter of intent shall be taken by calling of the roll
8 and the recording of the yeas and nays in the journal. A letter of
9 intent may be amended at any time before it is adopted.

10 * Sec. 3. Rule 34(b) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
11 is amended to read:

12 (b) Abstention. Every member present in the house shall vote
13 unless the house for special reasons permits a member to abstain. All
14 motions excusing a member from voting shall be made before the house
15 votes [DIVIDES] or before the call for the yeas and nays is commenced.
16 A member requesting to be excused from voting may make a brief oral
17 statement of the reasons for the request and the question of granting
18 permission to abstain shall be taken without further debate. A member
19 may not explain a vote, may not discuss the question while the yeas and
20 nays are being called, and may not change a vote after the roll call
21 result has been announced. When the house votes on [UPON DIVISION AND
22 COUNT OF THE HOUSE OF] any question, a member who is not within the
23 chamber may not be counted. A member may not be permitted to abstain
24 except upon the unanimous consent of the membership.

25 * Sec. 4. Rule 49(a)(5) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
26 ture is amended to read:

27 (5) A joint resolution is the most formal type of resolution
28 and is adopted by both houses and then signed by the governor as a
29 ministerial formality. The joint resolution is treated in all respects

1 as a bill but it is not subject to veto. It is usually reserved for
2 addressees outside the state. This resolution is used mainly to express
3 the view or wish of the legislature to the President, the Congress or
4 agencies of the United States Government or the governments of other
5 states. It is required for proposing or ratifying amendments to the
6 U.S. Constitution, proposing amendments to the State Constitution under
7 provisions of Sec. 1, Art. XIII, of the State Constitution, and for
8 disapproval of local government boundary changes recommended by the
9 Local Boundary Commission under provisions of Sec. 12, Art. X, of the
10 State Constitution. Approval of a joint resolution that proposes
11 an amendment to the State Constitution requires a two-thirds vote of
12 the full membership of each house. Approval of a joint resolution
13 other than a resolution that proposes an amendment to the State Consti-
14 tution requires a majority vote of the full membership of each house.

15 * Sec. 5. The amendments proposed by this resolution take effect on
16 adjournment of the First Session of the Twelfth Alaska Legislature.

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