

Original sponsor: Metcalfe

Offered: 2/17/82
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46 (State Affairs)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Proposing amendments to the Uniform
6 Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
7 ture.

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

9 * Section 1. Rule 1(e) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legis-
10 lature is amended to read:

11 (e) The presiding officer shall announce, not later than the day
12 following election, the appointment of a Committee on Committees con-
13 sisting of five members including the presiding officer. The presiding
14 officer chairs the Committee on Committees. The committee is respon-
15 sible for determining [NOMINATING] the size [MEMBERS] of each [THE]
16 standing committee [COMMITTEES AS] set out in Rule 20 and the number of
17 members of the majority and the minority to be assigned to each standing
18 committee. The committee shall nominate the member who is to chair each
19 standing committee [TO SERVE] for the two-year duration of the legisla-
20 ture. The membership of each committee shall total to an uneven number.
21 Each standing committee shall be composed of a number of members of the
22 majority and minority in the ratio that reflects as nearly as possible
23 the majority and minority membership in each house [AND THE MINORITY IS
24 ENTITLED TO AT LEAST ONE SEAT ON EACH STANDING COMMITTEE]. The report
25 of the Committee on Committees is subject to approval by a majority vote
26 of the full membership of the house.

27 * Sec. 2. Rule 1 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is
28 amended by adding a new subsection to read:

29 (f) In each house, a member shall be assigned to the same number

1 of standing committees as every other member of the house, except that
2 (1) the presiding officer and the majority leader may not be assigned to
3 a standing committee; (2) the persons who chair the Finance Committee
4 and the Rules Committee may not be assigned to any other standing
5 committee; (3) the person who chairs a standing committee other than the
6 Finance Committee and the Rules Committee in each house, and a member of
7 the Finance Committee in each house, shall be assigned to only one other
8 standing committee; and (4) the number of standing committee assignments
9 per member may vary only to the extent necessary to allow an uneven
10 number of members on each committee. Each caucus shall assign its
11 members to standing committees according to the number of assignments
12 allotted to it by the Committee on Committees. A member may not serve on
13 a special committee, a joint committee, or a subcommittee of a standing
14 committee while serving on any other special committee, joint committee,
15 or subcommittee of a standing committee.

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

18 (b) The Rules Committee of each house is responsible for the
19 selection and direction of the session staff assigned to each chamber
20 (sergeant-at-arms and their assistants, pages and messengers) and shall
21 determine the total number of [IS THE SOURCE OF APPROVAL FOR HIRING]
22 session staff who may be hired by members, committees, and caucuses.
23 The Rules Committee shall allocate staff positions to the majority and
24 minority in the ratio that reflects as nearly as possible the majority
25 and minority membership in each house. Each caucus shall determine
26 the number of staff assigned to caucus members, to committees, and to
27 the caucus itself [ASSISTANTS FOR STANDING, SPECIAL, AND JOINT COMMITTEES
28 AND CAUCUSES AND SECRETARIAL HELP TO BE ASSIGNED TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS].
29 The Rules Committees of the house and senate shall decide jointly and

1 within the amount budgeted [FOR SESSION STAFF] the compensation and
2 conditions of employment for temporary employees of the legislature.
3 Staff members shall receive equal compensation for like positions [OF
4 THOSE WORKING UNDER THEIR INDIVIDUAL SUPERVISION]. The director of
5 administrative services of the Legislative Affairs Agency shall assist
6 and make recommendations to the Rules Committees regarding staff compen-
7 sation and related matters.

8 * Sec. 4. Rule 12 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is
9 amended to read:

10 RULE 12. USE OF CHAMBERS, [AND] OFFICES, AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT.
11 Legislative chambers are to be used only for the official business of
12 the legislature during legislative sessions. During the session access
13 to the chambers and their galleries is under the control of the presid-
14 ing officer of the house to which the space is assigned, and the assign-
15 ment of legislative offices and use of committee rooms shall be provided
16 for by and be under the control of the Rules Committee. As nearly as
17 possible, a member shall receive the same number of square feet of office
18 space and a comparable quality and quantity of office equipment as every
19 other member.

20 * Sec. 5. Rule 23(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
21 is amended to read:

22 (a) During a regular session of the legislature, written [WRITTEN]
23 notice of the time, location, and agenda [PLACE AND SUBJECT MATTER] of
24 all meetings of standing, special, and joint committees during a week
25 shall be provided by the person who chairs the committee to the chief
26 clerk or secretary by 4:00 p.m. on the preceding Thursday. The person
27 who chairs the committee to which a bill or resolution is first referred
28 shall provide to the chief clerk or secretary written notice of the time
29 and place of one [THE FIRST] public meeting [HEARING] on the bill or

1 resolution at least 120 hours [5 DAYS] before the meeting [HEARING].
2 However, this requirement may be waived by motion of the person who
3 chairs the committee to which a bill or resolution is [FIRST] referred
4 if concurred in by a two-thirds [MAJORITY] vote of the full membership
5 of the house. The chief clerk or secretary shall publish and distribute
6 copies of the weekly schedule of committee meetings and of the five-day
7 notice of meeting [HEARING].

8 * Sec. 6. Rule 23(b) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
9 is amended to read:

10 (b) A standing, special, or joint committee may amend its schedule
11 of committee meetings no later than 48 hours before the time set for the
12 committee meeting. An amendment of the schedule of a committee's meet-
13 ings must be approved by a majority of the members of the committee.
14 When the committee decides to defer action on an item that is under the
15 jurisdiction of the committee, the committee may not take final action
16 on that item for at least 48 hours from the time the decision to defer
17 is made, unless a shorter period is approved by unanimous consent of the
18 committee members present. The person who chairs a standing, special,
19 or joint committee shall provide the chief clerk or secretary written
20 notice of the change in the time, location, or agenda [PLACE OR SUBJECT
21 MATTER] of a meeting. At the next daily legislative session, notice of
22 the schedule change shall be announced by the chief clerk or secretary
23 and published as a notice in the journal of the house.

24 * Sec. 7. Rule 24(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
25 is amended to read:

26 (a) A committee acts on all bills referred to it and reports its
27 actions and recommendations to the house as soon as practicable. A bill
28 or resolution may not be reported back by the committee to which the
29 bill or resolution is first referred unless the bill or resolution has

1 been the subject of at least one meeting of the committee for which 120
2 hours' notice was given as set out in Rule 23(a). Committee reports
3 must be in writing and the report must be signed by a majority of the
4 members of the committee. The report will note the recommendation of
5 each member signing the report.

6 * Sec. 8. Rule 37(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
7 is amended to read:

8 (a) Any member, group of members, standing or [,] special [, OR
9 JOINT] committee may introduce a bill, subject to the provisions of
10 these Uniform Rules. A bill must be introduced, in proper form as ap-
11 proved by the enrolling secretary of the legislature, with the original
12 and two carbon copies delivered to the chief clerk or secretary. The
13 bill is then assigned a number which it retains through subsequent
14 changes and substitutions. The bill is considered formally introduced
15 when the clerk or secretary reads the heading and title aloud in open
16 session (first reading). Bills may be introduced through the Rules
17 Committees by the governor and the permanent interim committees pursuant
18 to provisions of law.

19 * Sec. 9. Rule 39(b) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
20 is amended to read:

21 (b) FIRST READING. The first reading consists of a reading aloud
22 by the clerk or secretary of the following information: the house of
23 origin, the bill number, the sponsor, and the title of the bill, e.g.,
24 "In the House, House Bill No. ..., by and, A bill for an
25 Act entitled, 'An Act relating to a code of ethics for state employ-
26 ees.'" The bill is then referred by the presiding officer to one or
27 more committees. Except for the general appropriation bill, the presid-
28 ing officer shall refer the bill to each committee that, under Rule 20,
29 has jurisdiction over a department that is charged with implementing a

1 provision of the bill or that is otherwise directly affected by the bill.

2 The house may by a majority vote of the full membership of the house
3 refer the bill to any other standing or special committee.

4 * Sec. 10. Rule 42(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
5 ture is amended to read:

6 (a) If one house refuses to concur in the amendments of the other
7 it so notifies the amending house and requests that it recede from its
8 amendments. The vote on receding from amendments is taken by the call-
9 ing of the roll and the recording of the yeas and nays in the journal.
10 A house recedes from its amendments only by a majority vote of the full
11 membership of the house. If the house refuses to recede, the presiding
12 officer of each house appoints two members and the minority leader of
13 each house appoints one member [THREE MEMBERS] to sit as a Conference
14 Committee. The committee meets when mutually agreeable to its members.
15 If the committee reaches agreement on previously adopted amendments to a
16 bill adopted by either house, the committee then submits an identical
17 report to each house. The report is not subject to amendment in either
18 house. If the report is adopted by each house the bill is enrolled,
19 signed, and transmitted to the governor. If the members of the Con-
20 ference Committee cannot agree on amendments, or if one or both houses
21 refuses to adopt the committee report, the Conference Committee submits
22 an identical written report to each house listing the specific points of
23 disagreement for which the committee requests powers of free conference.
24 The presiding officer of each house may then give limited powers of free
25 conference only on the specific points listed. If the members of a Con-
26 ference Committee with limited powers of free conference cannot agree on
27 amendments, or one or both houses refuses to adopt the committee report,
28 it is then in order to appoint a Free Conference Committee. A member who
29 served on a Conference Committee or a Conference Committee with limited

1 powers of free conference may not be appointed to a subsequent Conference
2 Committee or Free Conference Committee concerning the same measure. The
3 vote on adoption of a conference committee report is taken by the calling
4 of the roll and the recording of the yeas and nays in the journal.
5 Adoption requires a majority vote of the full membership of each house.

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