

Introduced: 4/25/83
Referred: Judiciary

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE REFORM

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Proposing certain amendments to the

6

Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legis-

7

lature.

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

9 * Section 1. Rule 16(a) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legis-
10 lature is amended to read:

11 (a) A call of the house is used to compel attendance of absent
12 members who have not been previously excused from a call by a majority
13 vote of the full membership of the house. The journal shall reflect
14 the names of all members excused from attendance and such members
15 shall be excused from all roll calls during such absence. A call of
16 the house may be ordered by one member. The [WHEN NO QUORUM IS PRE-
17 SENT, THE] presiding officer of the house may compel the attendance of
18 individual absent members.

19 * Sec. 2. Rule 21(c) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
20 ture is amended to read:

21 (c) A resolution establishing a special or joint committee shall
22 specify the budget and source of funds for the committee and the date
23 or conditions of termination of the committee. A standing committee
24 may meet between sessions. A special or joint committee may meet
25 during the session or between sessions, or both, as authorized by the
26 resolution which establishes the committee. A standing, special, or
27 joint committee which acts between legislative sessions may consider
28 any legislative matter which is consistent with the jurisdiction of
29 the committee. A standing, special, or joint committee which acts

1 between legislative sessions constitutes a subcommittee of the Legis-
2 lative Council for administrative purposes. A special or joint com-
3 mittee may expend money only if the expenditure is authorized by a
4 majority vote of the full membership of the Committee [IN ACCORDANCE
5 WITH AN APPROPRIATION MADE FOR THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE].

6 * Sec. 3. Rule 23 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
7 is amended to read:

8 RULE 23. COMMITTEE MEETINGS. (a) Written notice of the time,
9 place and subject matter of all meetings of standing, special, and
10 joint committees during a week shall be provided by the person who
11 chairs the committee to the chief clerk or secretary by 4:00 p.m. on
12 the preceding Thursday.

13 (b) The person who chairs the committee to which a bill or
14 resolution is first referred shall provide to the chief clerk or
15 secretary written notice of the time and place of the first public
16 hearing on the bill or resolution at least five days before the hear-
17 ing.

18 (c) The notice requirements of (a) and (b) of this section
19 [HOWEVER, THIS REQUIREMENT] may be waived by motion of the person who
20 chairs the committee to which a bill or resolution is first referred
21 if concurred in by majority vote of the full membership of the house.

22 (d) The chief clerk or secretary shall publish and distribute
23 copies of the weekly schedule of committee meetings and of the five-
24 day notice of hearing.

25 (e) [(b)] If the time or place of a committee meeting is changed
26 from that shown in the weekly schedule of committee meetings, the
27 [THE] person who chairs a standing, special, or joint committee shall
28 provide the chief clerk or secretary written notice of the change [IN
29 THE TIME, PLACE OR SUBJECT MATTER OF A MEETING]. Written [AT THE NEXT

1 DAILY LEGISLATIVE SESSION,] notice of the schedule change shall be
2 given to [ANNOUNCED BY] the chief clerk or secretary and published as
3 a notice in the journal of the house.

4 (f) [(c)] A scheduled meeting of a standing, special, or joint
5 committee may be cancelled or consideration of the scheduled subject
6 matter may be postponed or cancelled at any time. If possible, notice
7 of the cancellation shall be given in the same manner as provided for
8 notice of change in (b) of this rule.

9 (g) [(d)] The provisions of (a) - (e) [AND (b)] of this rule do
10 not apply to a standing, special, or joint committee meeting scheduled
11 after the date a conference committee has been chosen to consider
12 amendments to or differences between versions of the general appro-
13 priation act. However, a person who chairs a standing, special, or
14 joint committee shall post written notice of the time, place and
15 subject matter of a meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting.

16 (h) [(e)] The provisions of (a) - (g) [(d)] of this rule do not
17 apply to meetings of

18 (1) the Rules Committee when it meets for the purpose of
19 preparing the daily calendar;

20 (2) the Committee on Committees referred to in Rule 1(e);
21 or

22 (3) standing, special, or joint committees when the commit-
23 tee meets during the interim between sessions or during a special
24 session.

25 (i) [(f)] Each standing, special, and joint committee

26 (1) shall record its meetings electronically and prepare a
27 log of the recording adequate to locate specific testimony;

28 (2) shall prepare minutes of each meeting of the committee
29 on a standard form prescribed jointly by the Rules Committees of the

1 house and the senate; the minutes shall include

2 (A) a list of the names of each member present during
3 the meeting;

4 (B) a list of the name and affiliation of each witness
5 testifying before the committee;

6 (C) a brief statement of the position of the witness
7 on the subject testified upon; and

8 (D) each amendment formally considered by the commit-
9 tee, the name of the member moving adoption of the amendment, the
10 action taken on the amendment, and the yeas and nays if a com-
11 mittee member has requested a roll call vote on adoption of an
12 amendment;

13 (3) shall maintain a chronological file of minutes, copies
14 of which shall be made available upon request to committee members and
15 the public; committee minutes, tapes and other materials of research
16 value shall be delivered by the committee at the end of each session
17 or each legislature to the legislative reference library for appro-
18 priate disposition;

19 (4) shall [MAY] make available to the Legislative Affairs
20 Agency a copy of all minutes of committee meetings during the session
21 for entry of the minutes as a data base on the legislative computer
22 system.

23 *Sec. 4. Rule 37 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
24 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 (c) A member who has introduced a bill or resolution or, if the
26 bill or resolution was sponsored by more than one member, the member
27 whose name first appears in the list of sponsors, with the concurrence
28 of each of the cosponsors, may introduce a sponsor substitute for the
29 bill or resolution at any time before the bill or resolution is

1 reported from the first committee of reference. The effect of intro-
2 duction of a sponsor substitute is to withdraw the original bill or
3 resolution. The introduction does not require consent of the member-
4 ship of the house. A sponsor substitute may not be introduced if the
5 subject matter is different from that of the original bill.

6 * Sec. 5. Rule 39(b) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legisla-
7 ture is amended to read:

8 (b) First Reading. The first reading consists of a reading
9 aloud by the clerk or secretary of the following information: the
10 house of origin, the bill number, the sponsor, and the title of the
11 bill, e.g., "In the House, House Bill No. ..., by and, A
12 bill for an Act entitled, 'An Act relating to a code of ethics for
13 state employees.'" The bill is then referred by the presiding officer
14 to one or more committees of the house. The house may by a majority
15 vote of the full membership of the house refer the bill to any other
16 standing or special committee of the house.

17 * Sec. 6. Rule 52 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
18 is amended to read:

19 RULE 52. ADJOURNMENT. Neither house may adjourn or recess for
20 longer than three days unless the other concurs. (Sec. 10, Art. II,
21 State Constitution) [ADOPTION OF THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION BY A MAJOR-
22 ITY VOTE OF THE FULL MEMBERSHIP OF EACH HOUSE CONSTITUTES CONCUR-
23 RENCE.] A motion to adjourn or recess a session is in order when it
24 is the intention of the legislature to recess or adjourn to a day
25 certain. A motion to adjourn sine die is in order only at the end of
26 a second regular session or a special session.

27 * Sec. 7. Rule 54 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature
28 is amended to read:

29 RULE 54. SUSPENSION OF RULES. Unless otherwise provided for in

1 the case of a particular rule, the Uniform Rules may be suspended by a
2 concurrent resolution approved by a two-thirds vote of the full mem-
3 bership of each house. If either house violates a uniform rule other
4 than a rule concerning matters relating to the organization or opera-
5 tion of a house a question of order may be raised in the other house.
6 If it is decided by the other house that the Uniform Rules have been
7 violated, the bill involved in that violation shall be returned to its
8 house of origin without further action.