

Introduced: 1/25/83
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Establishing a Joint Special Committee
6 on Legislative Reform.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS the rules, customs, protocol, decorum and statutes governing
9 the work of the Legislature are of great importance to the people of Alaska
10 and the Legislature; and
11 WHEREAS broad public confidence in legislative practices can help
12 assure respect for the rule of law itself; and
13 WHEREAS there has already occurred a significant and widespread public
14 dialogue regarding legislative procedure, reflecting the desire of Alaskans
15 to further encourage confidence in the legislative process and to
16 streamline expenditures and time spent in the legislative process, con-
17 sistent with the need for adequate consideration of public policy issues
18 before the Legislature, with provision for public participation; and
19 WHEREAS, while the Legislature has from time to time modified its
20 procedures, a comprehensive review of legislative procedures and practices
21 with public involvement is needed; and
22 WHEREAS the work of the Legislature takes place in a constantly chang-
23 ing technological and demographic context, which further warrants a review
24 of legislative procedures;
25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that a Joint Special
26 Committee on Legislative Reform is established consisting of three members
27 of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate and three members of
28 the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House to
29 analyze and review existing procedures, rules, customs, protocol, decorum,

1 court decisions, statutes, and practices, and to report its findings to the
2 Legislature concerning their adequacy and fitness, and to recommend such
3 changes or modifications, if any there be, which in the judgment of the
4 committee will promote legislative responsiveness and accountability to the
5 people and encourage efficiency in the legislative branch of government;
6 and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee, when constituted, be directed to
8 take appropriate steps consistent with existing rules to involve represen-
9 tative elements of the public in its deliberations; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee is authorized to meet during the
11 session of the Legislature and is terminated on adjournment of the First
12 Session of the Thirteenth Legislature or upon the submission of its final
13 report, whichever comes first.