

Offered: 2/6/86
Referred: Finance

Original sponsors: Josephson, V.Fischer,
Kelly and Sturgulewski

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15 (Judiciary)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Proposing an amendment to the Constitu-
6 tion of the State of Alaska creating a
7 commission on compensation of elected
8 officials.

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

10 * Section 1. Article II, sec. 7, Constitution of the State of Alaska is
11 amended to read:

12 SECTION 7. SALARY AND EXPENSES. Legislators shall receive
13 annual salaries. They may receive a per diem allowance for expenses
14 while in session and are entitled to travel expenses going to and from
15 sessions. Presiding officers may receive additional compensation.
16 Compensation of legislators shall be set by the Commission on Compen-
17 sation of Elected Officials.

18 * Sec. 2. Article III, sec. 15, Constitution of the State of Alaska is
19 amended to read:

20 SECTION 15. COMPENSATION. The compensation of the governor and
21 the lieutenant governor shall be prescribed by the Commission on
22 Compensation of Elected Officials [LAW] and shall not be diminished
23 during their term of office, unless by order of the commission consis-
24 tent with a general law applying to all salaried officers of the
25 State.

26 * Sec. 3. Article XII, Constitution of the State of Alaska is amended
27 by adding new sections to read:

28 SECTION 14. COMPENSATION COMMISSION. There is established a
29 Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials. The commission is

1 composed of five members appointed by the governor, subject to confir-
2 mation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint ses-
3 sion. Members serve for staggered terms of six years. The governor
4 shall appoint members without regard to political affiliation. A
5 member of the commission may not be employed by the state during the
6 member's term and may not hold an elective state office during the
7 term or within one year thereafter. The legislature may establish
8 other qualifications for members of the commission.

9 SECTION 15. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. Except for
10 retirement benefits, which shall be established by general law appli-
11 cable to all officers of the state, the commission shall establish the
12 compensation of the governor, lieutenant governor, and members of the
13 legislature, including their salaries, benefits, per diem, and allow-
14 ances, if any. An order of the commission takes effect at the begin-
15 ning of the next fiscal year of the state. The commission shall hold
16 a public hearing before issuing an order that changes the compensation
17 of an elected official. At least every two years, but not more fre-
18 quently than every year, the commission shall review the compensation
19 of elected officials. The commission shall issue an order with re-
20 spect to salaries not later than thirty days before the end of the
21 fiscal year.

22 SECTION 16. FINALITY OF ORDER. An order setting the compensa-
23 tion of an elected official is not subject to veto by the governor.
24 An order of the commission is subject to initiative and referendum in
25 the same manner as an act of the legislature. The legislature shall
26 appropriate money to fund the orders of the commission.

27 * Sec. 4. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed
28 before the voters of the state at the next general election in conformity
29 with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the

1 election laws of the state.