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1 IN THE SENATE

BY HALFORD, FAIKS,
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2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to political advertising on the
6 date of an election.

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

8 WHEREAS the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and
9 art. I, sec. 5, Constitution of the State of Alaska, guarantee freedom of
10 speech; and

11 WHEREAS an individual seeking political office has the right to the
12 free expression of political ideas; and

13 WHEREAS the right to freedom of expression has been subject to reason-
14 able limitations to protect the public; and

15 WHEREAS it has not been considered unreasonable to prohibit political
16 persuasion or advertising near polling places; and

17 WHEREAS there has been a significant increase in the number of last-
18 minute attacks on individual political candidates during the last few
19 elections; and

20 WHEREAS political campaigns that contain negative advertising on the
21 last day of an election campaign cannot be adequately answered, whether the
22 statements are inaccurate or otherwise; and

23 WHEREAS the people of Alaska deserve the right to vote free from
24 last-minute influence;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
26 radio and television stations and newspapers to decline political advertis-
27 ing from 12:01 a.m. through the closure of the polls on the date of a state
28 or municipal election if the advertising relates to a candidate for office
29 at that election.

1 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Advertising Federation
2 of Alaska, the Alaska News Association, and the Alaska Broadcasters Asso-
3 ciation.