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1 IN THE SENATE

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2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Proposing amendments to the Constitution
6 of the State of Alaska relating to the
7 office of state auditor.

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

9 * Section 1. Article III, sec. 23, Constitution of the State of Alaska,
10 is amended to read:

11 SECTION 23. REORGANIZATION. Except as provided in this section,
12 the [THE] governor may make changes in the organization of the execu-
13 tive branch or in the assignment of functions among its units which he
14 considers necessary for efficient administration. Where these changes
15 require the force of law, they shall be set forth in executive orders.
16 The legislature shall have sixty days of a regular session, or a full
17 session if of shorter duration, to disapprove these executive orders.
18 Unless disapproved by resolution concurred in by a majority of the
19 members in joint session, these orders become effective at a date
20 thereafter to be designated by the governor. The governor may not
21 change the organization or function of any unit of the executive
22 branch that is headed by the state auditor.

23 * Sec. 2. Article III, sec. 24, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is
24 amended to read:

25 SECTION 24. SUPERVISION. Except for any unit of the executive
26 branch that is headed by the state auditor, each [EACH] principal
27 department shall be under the supervision of the governor.

28 * Sec. 3. Article III, sec. 25, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is
29 amended to read:

1 SECTION 25. DEPARTMENT HEADS. The head of each principal de-
2 partment shall be a single executive unless otherwise provided by law.
3 He shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by a
4 majority of the members of the legislature in joint session, and shall
5 serve at the pleasure of the governor, except as otherwise provided in
6 this article with respect to the lieutenant governor and as provided
7 in Section 17 of Article IX with respect to the state auditor [SEC-
8 RETARY OF STATE]. The heads of all principal departments shall be
9 citizens of the United States.

10 * Sec. 4. Article IX, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended
11 by adding new sections to read:

12 SECTION 17. STATE AUDITOR. There shall be a state auditor. The
13 state auditor shall be a qualified voter of the State, a citizen of
14 the United States, and a resident of Alaska for at least five years
15 preceding appointment to the office. The state auditor shall meet re-
16 quirements for experience in management and accounting or auditing as
17 provided by law. The governor shall appoint the state auditor. The
18 appointment is effective if it is approved by a roll call vote of
19 two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature. The term
20 of office of the state auditor is six years, beginning at noon on the
21 first Monday in January following the convening of the legislature and
22 ending at noon on the first Monday in January following the convening
23 of the legislature six years later. The legislature shall provide by
24 law for procedures for removal of the state auditor for cause by
25 affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the legislature in
26 joint session. The state auditor shall be the auditor of the accounts
27 of all departments, offices, and agencies of the State including the
28 legislature, the executive, and the judiciary, all independent state
29 corporations, all political subdivisions of the State including

1 municipalities, and the University of Alaska. The state auditor shall
2 perform other duties prescribed by law. The office of the state
3 auditor constitutes an agency independent of the executive branch
4 agencies named in Section 22 of Article III.

5 SECTION 18. VACANCY. If the term of the state auditor expires
6 without the appointment of a successor, the incumbent state auditor
7 may continue in office until a successor is appointed. In case of a
8 vacancy in the office of state auditor for any reason, a successor
9 shall be appointed by the governor for the remainder of the unexpired
10 term.

11 SECTION 19. COMPENSATION. The compensation of the state auditor
12 shall be equal to the compensation of the lieutenant governor and
13 shall not be diminished during the term of office, unless by general
14 law applying to all salaried officers of the State.

15 SECTION 20. OTHER OFFICES. A person who has served as state
16 auditor may not hold the office of governor or lieutenant governor
17 until four years after the last day on which the person was state
18 auditor.

19 * Sec. 5. Article XV, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended
20 by adding a new section to read:

21 SECTION 29. BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE OF STATE AUDITOR. The yearly
22 amount appropriated for the office of the state auditor for the sec-
23 ond, third, and fourth years of operation may not be less than the
24 amount appropriated for the first year of operation except that the
25 budget may be reduced by a percent no greater than the percent that
26 the state operating budget for a subsequent year is reduced from the
27 state operating budget for the first year of operation for the office.

28 * Sec. 6. Section 14, Article IX, Constitution of the State of Alaska,
29 is repealed.

1 * Sec. 7. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed
2 before the voters of the state at the next general election in conformity
3 with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the elec-
4 tion laws of the state.