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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Proposing amendments to the Constitution

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of the State of Alaska creating the

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Commission on Compensation of Elected

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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,
11 is 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 Except for retirement benefits, compensation of legislators shall be
17 established by the Commission on Compensation 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. Except for retirement benefits, the
21 [THE] compensation of the governor and the lieutenant governor shall
22 be prescribed by the Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials
23 [LAW] and shall not be diminished during their term of office, unless
24 by order of the commission consistent with a general law applying to
25 all salaried officers of the State. Retirement benefits for the
26 governor and lieutenant governor shall be established by general law
27 applicable to all officers of the State.

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

1 SECTION 14. COMPENSATION COMMISSION. There is established a
2 Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials. The commission is
3 composed of five members appointed by the governor, subject to confir-
4 mation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint ses-
5 sion. Members serve for staggered terms of six years. The governor
6 shall appoint members without regard to political affiliation. A
7 member of the commission may not be employed by the State during the
8 member's term and may not hold an elective state office during the
9 term or within one year thereafter. The legislature may establish
10 other qualifications for members of the commission.

11 SECTION 15. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. Except for
12 retirement benefits, which shall be established by general law appli-
13 cable to all officers of the State, the Commission on Compensation of
14 Elected Officials shall establish the compensation of the governor,
15 lieutenant governor, and members of the legislature, including their
16 salaries, benefits, per diem, and allowances, if any. An order of the
17 commission takes effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year of
18 the State. The commission shall hold a public hearing before issuing
19 an order that changes the compensation of an elected official. At
20 least every two years, but not more frequently than every year, the
21 commission shall review the compensation of elected officials. The
22 commission shall issue an order with respect to salaries not later
23 than thirty days before the end of the fiscal year. Orders of the
24 commission with respect to the governor and lieutenant governor must
25 be consistent with Section 15 of Article III.

26 SECTION 16. FINALITY OF ORDER. An order establishing the com-
27 pensation of an elected official is not subject to veto by the gover-
28 nor, or to amendment or repeal by the legislature. The legislature
29 shall appropriate money to fund the orders of the commission.

1 * Sec. 4. 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.