

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR COLLINS

Introduced: 5/16/91
Referred: Judiciary, Finance

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska establishing the
2 Commission on Public Standards and abolishing the Commission on Judicial Qualifications.

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

4 * Section 1. Article IV, sec. 10, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

5 SECTION 10. DISQUALIFICATION OF JUDGES. [COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL
6 CONDUCT. THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT SHALL CONSIST OF NINE
7 MEMBERS, AS FOLLOWS: THREE PERSONS WHO ARE JUSTICES OR JUDGES OF
8 STATE COURTS, ELECTED BY THE JUSTICES AND JUDGES OF STATE COURTS;
9 THREE MEMBERS WHO HAVE PRACTICED LAW IN THIS STATE FOR TEN YEARS,
10 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM NOMINATIONS MADE BY THE GOVERNING
11 BODY OF THE ORGANIZED BAR AND SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY A MAJORITY
12 OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN JOINT SESSION; AND THREE PERSONS
13 WHO ARE NOT JUDGES, RETIRED JUDGES, OR MEMBERS OF THE STATE BAR,
14 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY A MAJORITY
15 OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN JOINT SESSION.] In addition to being
16 subject to impeachment under Section 12 of this article, a justice or judge may be disqualified

1 from acting as such and may be suspended, removed from office, retired, or censured by the
2 supreme court upon the recommendation of the Commission on Public Standards under
3 Section 14 of Article XII. [COMMISSION. THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE
4 COMMISSION AND THE] The basis for judicial disqualification shall be established by law.

5 * Sec. 2. Article IV, sec. 13, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

6 SECTION 13. COMPENSATION. Justices, judges, and members of the judicial council
7 [AND THE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS] shall receive compensation
8 as prescribed by law. Compensation of justices and judges shall not be diminished during their
9 terms of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the State.

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

12 SECTION 14. COMMISSION ON PUBLIC STANDARDS. The Commission on Public
13 Standards shall be established by law as an independent entity of the State government. The law
14 establishing the commission may provide that the members of the commission be appointed by
15 the governor or the supreme court, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the
16 legislature in joint session, and by the legislature itself, and may provide that, notwithstanding
17 Section 14 of Article IV, judges may serve as members of the commission. The law may also
18 provide that the governor be required to appoint members from lists of persons provided by
19 private, nonprofit organizations.

20 SECTION 15. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION ON PUBLIC STANDARDS. The law
21 establishing the Commission on Public Standards under Section 14 of this article shall provide
22 that the commission is responsible for the administration of all laws pertaining to the standards
23 of ethical conduct of and financial disclosure by the governor, the lieutenant governor, members
24 of the legislature, judicial officers, heads and deputy heads of departments in the executive
25 branch, heads of divisions in the executive and legislative branches, members of state boards and
26 commissions, elected officials of political subdivisions of the State, and other officers and
27 employees of the State and of the political subdivisions of the State that the legislature may
28 designate by law; to the regulation of lobbying; and to state and municipal election campaign
29 financing. The legislature may provide by law that the commission is responsible for the
30 administration of other laws.

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

1 the election laws of the state.