

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE CONSTITUTIONAL
REVISION TASK FORCE**

Introduced: 4/27/94
Referred: Judiciary

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature**
2 **relating to the Joint Committee on the Constitution and to joint resolutions; and**
3 **providing for an effective date.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 *** Section 1.** Rule 1(e) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is amended
6 to read:

7 (e) The presiding officer shall announce, not later than the day following
8 election, the appointment of a Committee on Committees consisting of five members
9 including the presiding officer. The presiding officer chairs the Committee on
10 Committees. The committee is responsible for nominating the members of the
11 standing committees as set out in Rule 20(a) [20] and the member who is to chair each
12 standing committee to serve for the two-year duration of the legislature. The
13 membership of each standing committee shall total to an uneven number. The
14 committee is also responsible for nominating three members of that house to serve
15 on the Joint Committee on the Constitution for the two-year duration of the
16 legislature and the member who is to serve as co-chair. On each standing

1 committee and on the Joint Committee on the Constitution the minority is entitled
2 to the number of seats that is proportional to the number of minority members
3 compared to the total house membership or to one seat, whichever is greater. In
4 calculating the number of seats the minority is entitled to, fractional numbers that
5 represent the minority proportional entitlement to a seat shall be ignored. The report
6 of the Committee on Committees is subject to approval by a majority vote of the full
7 membership of the house. For purposes of this subsection "minority" means a group
8 of members who have organized and elected a minority leader and who constitute at
9 least 25 percent of the total house membership.

10 * Sec. 2. Rule 20 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is amended by
11 adding a new subsection to read:

12 (c) In addition to the standing committees, there is the Joint Committee on the
13 Constitution with jurisdiction over resolutions proposing amendments to the State
14 Constitution. The committee consists of three representatives and three senators. The
15 committee shall, in the house of origin, serve as the first committee of referral for a
16 resolution proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, and the committee shall,
17 in the other house, serve as the last committee of referral for the resolution. The
18 committee shall consider each resolution proposing an amendment to the State
19 Constitution, giving particular attention to matters of style and drafting. The
20 committee, while serving as the first committee of referral, shall hold at least one
21 public hearing on each resolution. The committee may meet during and between
22 regular sessions. The provisions of Rule 21 that conflict with this subsection or with
23 Rule 1(e) do not apply to the Joint Committee on the Constitution.

24 * Sec. 3. Rule 37 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is amended by
25 adding a new subsection to read:

26 (c) Notwithstanding (a) of this rule and Rule 44, a resolution proposing an
27 amendment to the State Constitution may only be introduced during a first regular
28 session, except that the Joint Committee on the Constitution may, and the Commission
29 on the Constitution may through the Rules Committee, introduce a resolution
30 proposing an amendment to the State Constitution during the first 30 days of a second
31 regular session as well.

32 * Sec. 4. Rule 49(a)(5) of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature is amended

1 to read:

2 (5) A joint resolution is the most formal type of resolution and is
3 adopted by both houses and then signed by the governor as a ministerial formality.
4 Except as provided in Rule 20(c) and Rule 37(c), a [THE] joint resolution is treated
5 in all respects as a bill but it is not subject to veto. It is usually reserved for
6 addressees outside the state. This resolution is used mainly to express the view or
7 wish of the legislature to the President, the Congress or agencies of the United States
8 Government or the governments of other states. It is required for proposing or
9 ratifying amendments to the U. S. Constitution, proposing amendments to the State
10 Constitution under provisions of Sec. 1, Art. XIII, of the State Constitution, and for
11 disapproval of local government boundary changes recommended by the Local
12 Boundary Commission under provisions of Sec. 12, Art. X, of the State Constitution.
13 Approval of a joint resolution, other than a resolution proposing amendments to the
14 State Constitution, requires a majority vote of the full membership of each house.
15 A vote shall be held in the house of origin by the 60th legislative day of the
16 second regular session on a resolution proposing amendments to the State
17 Constitution introduced by the Commission on the Constitution; if the resolution
18 passes by at least two-thirds vote in the house of origin, a vote shall be held on
19 it in the second house by the 100th legislative day of that session.

20 * Sec. 5. The amendments proposed by this resolution take effect on the convening of the
21 First Session of the Nineteenth Alaska State Legislature.