

**PRESS**

**RELEASES**



# Alaska State Legislature

## Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chairman • Pouch V • Juneau, Alaska 99811 • (907) 465-4954

Interim office: 511 West 4th Ave., Suite 5,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501 phone: 278-3654

Official Business

### M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Legislators

FROM: Sen. Vic Fischer

DATE: Nov. 6, 1981

RE: Limiting length of legislative sessions

The Senate State Affairs Committee is holding a statewide teleconference/public hearing November 17 to consider amending Alaska's constitution to limit session length. Before the committee is Senate Joint Resolution No. 6, which would require adjournment no later than 120 days after a regular session begins. Alternatives are also under consideration.

This year's 165 day session is providing a major impetus to efforts to limit session length. Although I had long been opposed to a constitutional limit on philosophical and theoretical grounds, my own experience in the Senate during the past session has convinced me that establishing a constitutional limit is the only practical way we can bring the legislative session to an end without an awful waste of time, money and energy, to say nothing of taxing the public's patience.

We would appreciate your giving us your comments on the various aspects of the session limitation question:

--should a constitutional limit be established or not?  
Why?

--if a limit is established, what should regular session length be: 90, 100, 120 days, or what other period?

--should provision be made for extending a regular session? If so, by simple majority or by two-thirds vote of the legislature? In increments of 10 or 30 days or some other period?

--what other things should the legislature consider in acting on the issue?

The hearing will be Tuesday, November 17, from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. (AST) at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 1024 West Sixth Avenue. A statewide teleconference hookup will provide access from communities throughout Alaska.

Your contribution to this hearing will be greatly appreciated. You can provide testimony in person or by written statement.

If you wish to testify orally in Anchorage or elsewhere, please call my office (278-3654) and tell us what time would be most convenient for you. We will try to schedule you accordingly. Should you so prefer, you may without prior arrangement come to the hearing in Anchorage or speak from one of the other communities.

We will also receive written testimony. Any statements received in time will be read during the hearing for everyone's information, unless the writer prefers we not do so.

I do hope you will provide us with oral or written testimony on the session limit issue.

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I do hope you will provide us with oral or written testimony on the session limit issue.

Thanks, and best personal regards,

  
Sen. Vic Fischer

/lf



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1 October 1981

FROM: SENATE STATE AFFAIRS  
SENATOR VIC FISCHER, CHAIR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vic Fischer", written over the typed name.

RE: TELECONFERENCE ON SESSION LIMITATION (SJR6)

CONTACT: NANCY GROSZEK, AIDE  
278-3654

Limiting the length of legislative sessions (SJR 6) will be the topic of a statewide teleconference/public hearing before the Senate State Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Vic Fischer. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 17th from 9:30 a.m. to Noon (AST) and from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (AST) at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 1024 West 6th Avenue.

Position statements and suggestions on session limitation are welcome. Written comments may be sent to Senator Vic Fischer, Senate State Affairs Committee, 511 West 4th Avenue, Suite 5, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. For further information or copies of SJR 6, contact your local Legislative Information Office or Nancy Groszek, Committee Aide, at 278-3654.



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Interim phone: 278-3654/3655

1 October 1981

FROM: SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
SENATOR VIC FISCHER, CHAIR

RE: STATEWIDE TELECONFERENCE ON ETHICS LEGISLATION

CONTACT: NANCY GROSZEK, COMMITTEE AIDE  
278-3654

Ethical standards for public employees and elected officials along with comments on pending ethics legislation (SB 336 and SSSB 175) will be the topic of a statewide teleconference/public hearing before the Senate State Affairs Committee, Chaired by Senator Vic Fischer. The hearing will take place at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 1024 West 6th Avenue, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27th.

Written comments are welcome and can be sent to Senator Vic Fischer, Chair, Senate State Affairs Committee, 511 West 4th Avenue, Suite 5, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. For further information contact your local Legislative Information Office or Nancy Groszek, Committee Aide, at 278-3654.

Copies of SSSB 175 and SB 336 can be obtained from your local Information Office.



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vic Fischer", written over the printed name and address.

1 October 1981

FROM: SENATOR VIC FISCHER, CHAIR  
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

RE: PUBLIC MEETING AND TELECONFERENCE  
ON STATE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

CONTACT: NANCY GROSZEK, AIDE  
278-3654

Recipients of state-administered Public Assistance Programs are invited to attend a public meeting at the Willow Park Housing Project in the Community Building, 535 East 9th, Anchorage, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6th, 1981. The Public Meeting is sponsored by the Senate State Affairs Committee, chaired by Senator Vic Fischer.

An all-sites Teleconference will be held on Monday, November 9th, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (AST) to take state-wide testimony. The teleconference will be broadcast from the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, 1024 West 6th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska.

The purpose of the hearing is to take testimony from recipients of state public assistance programs regarding the quality and quantity of services available through state agencies. Of particular concern are ideas and suggestions regarding methods to improve current programs, information about the impact of the recent federal budget cuts in social programs, and suggestions, information or complaints regarding the current policies and regulations within state agencies.

Written comments are welcome and can be sent to the State Affairs Committee, Senator Vic Fischer, 511 West 4th Avenue, Suite 5, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. For further information contact Nancy Groszek, Committee Aide, at 278-3654 or your local Legislative Information Office.



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TELECONFERENCE

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April 9, 1981

Juneau--Legislation proposing local and minority bidders' preference and the establishment of a bonding corporation for small contractors will be discussed at an all sites audio teleconference Tuesday, April 16, from 1PM to 3PM PST.

Senator Vic Fischer, Chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee announced the teleconference to discuss the two issues for potential legislation.

Discussion on the bonding issue will center on the establishment of a state-operated small contractor surety bond corporation and the preference issue revolves around providing for an Alaskan bidders' preference and a minority bidders' preference in state contracting and procurement.

For further information: Contact the nearest Legislative Information Office or contact Sen. Fischer's office in Juneau (465-4954).