

HB

301

Alaska State Legislature



House of Representatives
House Judiciary Committee
Chairman Dave Donley

P. O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4990
(907) 465-4712

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 301, "An Act relating to regular sessions of the legislature."

HB 301, introduced by the House Judiciary Committee, changes the beginning day of the legislative session from the second to the fourth Monday of January. The bill also repeals the third Monday convening date following a gubernatorial election as unnecessary.

The state constitution originally set the beginning of the legislative session for the fourth Monday of January. As the legislative sessions grew longer and began to impinge on the fishing seasons, the date was moved back by statute to the third Monday in January in gubernatorial election years and the second Monday in other years. However, the session limit of 120 days has removed conflicts between the session and the fishing season.

On the other hand, there are definite difficulties with the current schedule. Those who have to travel to Juneau have to take care of their packing and travel arrangements on the heels of the holiday season. It means that those who are driving to the capitol must do so in the harshest winter weather. And finally, the present starting date means that we are here an extra two weeks before we receive the March revenue forecasts which are so crucial in shaping the budget.

This bill stands for the proposition that a date closer to the one set by the drafters of our constitution remains the best date for beginning legislative sessions.

REPRESENTATIVE DAVE DONLEY

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
DISTRICT ELEVEN
SEAT A

3111 "C" STREET, SUITE 450
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 561-7629 (FAX) 562-4376

ALASKA LANDINGS • BENTZEN • BIRCHWOOD • CHESTER CREEK • HEATHER MEADOWS • LINCOLN PARK • MIDTOWN • NORTHSTAR
NORTHWOOD • ROMIG • ROOSEVELT PARK • SPENARD • THOMPSON • TURNAGAEN • WINDEMERE • WOODLAND PARK



MEMORANDUM

TO: All members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Dave Donley **DB**

RE: HB 301
A bill to change the beginning day
of regular legislative sessions

DATE: January 16, 1992

CHAIRMAN
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

VICE CHAIRMAN
REGULATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEMBER
RULES COMMITTEE

LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

This bill, changing the starting date of regular legislative sessions from the second to the third Monday of January, is currently before the House State Affairs Committee.

HB 301, if passed, would resolve a number of conflicts currently faced by legislators and legislative staff. The 18th session of the Alaska Legislature, for example, is scheduled under existing law, AS 24.05.090, to begin on January 11, 1993, at 10 a.m. This early starting date requires that staff must be in legislative offices by January 4th. Those who must travel to Juneau will face the burden of travelling over the New Year holiday, after having had to prepare for the trip in the midst of hectic December holiday schedules.

By pushing back the starting date, legislators will have more in-session time after receiving March revenue forecasts. And we will have less in-session time during Juneau's most dark and dismal winter weather.

Moreover, by returning to a later starting date, we will be more closely in line with the original intent of those who forged Alaska's constitution. They established from the outset a beginning date of the fourth Monday in January. Conflicts with long sessions interfering with fishing seasons led to the change to an earlier starting date. When the 120-day session limit was established, those conflicts were eliminated.

Your support and comments on HB 301 are welcome. Please make your feelings on the bill known to the State Affairs committee, as well as to my staff and myself. Thank you.

DD:jls



JUNEAU OFFICE
(During Legislative Session January through May)
P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811 • (907) 465-3892 (FAX) 463-5661 • rsc

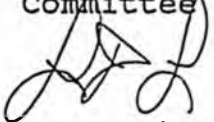


REPRESENTATIVE LOREN LEMAN West Anchorage

3111 C Street Anchorage, AK 99503 561-7614 During Session: P.O. Box V Juneau, AK 99811 465-2095

JAN 31 1992

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 30, 1992
TO: Members of the State Affairs Committee
FROM: Representative Loren Leman 
SUBJECT: HB 301--A Bill to Change the Beginning Day of Regular Session

=====
I have attached my April 16, 1991 memo to Representative Donley on the topic of the beginning day of the regular session.

Please use this during your discussion of HB 301.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Representative Georgianna Lincoln

HESS Committee, Co-Chair
Resources Committee, Vice-Chair

Budget Subcommittees
Health and Social Services
Revenue



P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Phone: (907) 465-3732
FAX: (907) 465-2652

- Alatna
- Allakaket
- Aniak
- Anvik
- Arctic Village
- Beaver
- Bettles
- Birch Creek
- Chalkyitsik
- Chuathbaluk
- Crooked Creek
- Evansville
- Fort Yukon
- Galena
- Grayling
- Holy Cross
- Hughes
- Huslia
- Kalskag
- Kaltag
- Koyukuk
- Lake Minchumina
- Lime Village
- Lower Kalskag
- Manley Hot Springs
- Marshall
- McGrath
- Minto
- Mountain Village
- Nikolai
- Nulato
- Pilot Station
- Pitkas Point
- Rampart
- Red Devil
- Ruby
- Russian Mission
- Shageluk
- Sleetmute
- St. Mary's
- Stevens Village
- Stony River
- Takotna
- Tanana
- Telida
- Tuluksak
- Tyonek
- Venetie
- Wiseman

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Representative Dave Donley, Chair
House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Representative Georgianna Lincoln
House District 24

DATE: February 3, 1992

RE: HB 301

I polled my staff in regards to HB 301, with the result being an overwhelming support for a later start date for the very reasons you stated in your memo dated January 16, 1992. Since I am "driven" by my wonderful staff, my vote too is a later start date.

Thank you for allowing all to have a say in this important suggested change.



Official Business

Representative Loren Leman

Alaska State Legislature

State Office
Suite 425
Anchorage, Alaska
99501-7814

During Session

P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99801
465-2095

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Dave Donley

FROM: Representative Loren Leman *L. Leman*

SUBJECT: Starting Day for Legislative Session

DATE: April 16, 1991

=====

Thank you for your inquiry regarding my opinions about the appropriate starting day for the legislative session.

I agree that a later starting date reduces some of the conflicts with the Christmas and New Year's post-holiday" syndrome. However, establishing the starting date as the fourth Monday of January causes even greater conflicts with seasonal employment if the legislative session lasts the full 121 days.

I suggest that the fourth Monday in January is an appropriate starting date only if the legislative session length can be reduced to 90 days. HJR 6, which I introduced earlier this session, proposes this reduction. If the session length is not reduced, I prefer to leave the starting dates as they are now, with a possible revision that the starting day be the third Monday in January (following non-gubernatorial years) if the first day in January is a Sunday or Monday.

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: February 7, 1992

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Rules

Date of Committee Action: 2.21.92

The JUDICIARY Committee considered:

HB 301

HOUSE BILL NO. 301

REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

"An Act relating to regular sessions of the legislature."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

be replaced with CBHB 301 (JUD) the same title a new title

have attached amendments(s)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendations

individual recommendations

additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s): (Dept) _____

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____

fiscal impact _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Daniel Donley</i>		<i>Terry Mastio</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>St. Paul</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Mark Stanley</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>J. E. Ellis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Kevin Pad Parnell</i>					

Daniel Donley
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: April 26, 1991

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary
Rules

Date of Committee Action: 2/5/92

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HB 301

HOUSE BILL NO. 301

REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

"An Act relating to regular sessions of the legislature."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

be replaced with CSHB 301 (STA)

- the same title
 a new title

have attached amendments(s)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendations

individual recommendations

additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)

fiscal impact _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note LAA

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Eugene A. Kukkonen</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Tom Meyer</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>J. Buchanan</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>James Baker</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Mark Huelsbeck</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Phil Miller</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Eugene A. Kukkonen
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HB 301

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act relating to regular sessions
of the legislature."
Sponsor: House Judiciary
Requestor: House State Affairs

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All
Component: _____

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director
Division: Administrative Services

Pamela A. Stoops

Phone: 465-3850
Date: 1/23/92

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Warren W. Endicott

Date: 1/23/92

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).