

SCOMM

91:2

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: July 16, 1993

TO: Representative Ramon Barnes
Speaker of the House

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips
Chair

RE: Proposed Budget for the Constitutional Revision Task Force

In response to your request, I have prepared the following estimates of the funds needed for the Task Force to hold five meetings, research and prepare a report for presentation to the Legislature:

Travel:

I anticipate holding five meetings: one in Anchorage, three by teleconference, and one in Juneau during the session.

1 r.t. Homer - ANC	140.00	
3 r.t. JNU - ANC @ \$444/trip	1332.00	
1 r.t. ANC - JNU @ \$444	444.00	\$ 1,916.00

Per Diem:

Since home legislators are covered on a daily basis, I have included only those traveling, public members' & staff travel.

5 people @ \$100/day	500.00
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Postage & Supplies:	250.00
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Equipment, Report Printing, and Teleconferencing
will use existing Legislative services

Total	<u>\$ 2,666.00</u>
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CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Rep. Gail Phillips, Chair
126 W. Pioneer
Homer, Alaska 99603
WORK/HOME PHONE: 235-2921/235-6748

Rep. Eldon Mulder
716 W 4th, Suite 630
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2133
WORK/HOME PHONE: 258-8193/

Rep. Fran Ulmer
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
WORK/HOME PHONE: 465-4947/586-6523

Judge Thomas B. Stewart
Court Bldg., PO Box U
Juneau, Alaska 99811
WORK/HOME PHONE: 463-4741/586-1220

Kenneth P. Jacobus, P.C.
425 G Street, Suite 760
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
WORK/HOME PHONE: 277-3333/278-4363

Judi Jordan - Staff Assistant
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
WORK/HOME PHONE: 465-2689/586-6010

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: July 26, 1993

TO: Gordon Harrison
Legislative Research Agency

FROM: Rep. Gail Phillips/Judi Jordan *mg*

RE: Research for the Constitutional Revision Task Force

already mailed

Thank you for offering to help the Task Force with any research requests they might have. I appreciate the information you have already provided and am certain the Task Force will find it useful as well.

In anticipating the various directions the Task Force might proceed and information which might be useful to them, I have learned of a Constitutional Revision Commission which the State of Utah set up several years ago. Any information you could locate for us regarding the development of this Commission, its operations and recommendations would be very helpful. I believe that a fellow by the name of Robin Riggs was the Director of Utah's Commission for several years, and he may be able to offer some assistance in gathering this information. The phone number I have for Mr. Riggs is (801)-538-1504.

Our Task Force will have it's first meeting in early September, and it would be most helpful if we could have this information before then. I am certain we will also need to request further research on other states' approaches to amending their constitutions as the task force begins establishing it's direction at the September meeting.

Again, I appreciate your offer to help, and I look forward to working with you.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

August 23, 1993

Janice May, Ph.D.
Department of Government
University of Texas at Austin
Burdine Hall 536
Austin, Texas 78712-1087

Dear Dr. May:

Thank you for agreeing to address our Constitutional Revision Task Force's first meeting on **Thursday, September 9, 1993**. As my aide, Judi Jordan, mentioned to you today, we would appreciate your speaking on the numerous different means which states have used to revise or amend their constitutions, and the pros and cons of each of the methods. We would also like to allow a brief time after you speak for the task force members to ask questions.

Our meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 or 2:00 p.m. (Anchorage time), and it would be most convenient if we could call you about one and one-half hours after the beginning of our meeting. This would be approximately 2:00 p.m. in Austin and 11:00 a.m. our time. We will be listening to you on a conference phone which will be over speakers so that all members of the task force and any audience we might have may listen.

As an individual with an excellent knowledge of the constitutional processes used by all the states, we certainly appreciate your agreeing to address our Task Force; and we look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Gail Phillips
REPRESENTATIVE
Task Force Chair

«data CRTF-Member database»

August 31, 1993

«NAME»

«ADDRESS»

«CITY», AK «ZIP»

Dear «SALUTATION»:

As you know, the Constitutional Revision Task Force will be holding it's first meeting on Thursday, September 9th in the Legislative Building large conference room at 716 W 4th Street, Suite 200 in Anchorage. We will be planning to meet from 9:30 a.m. until about 4:00 p.m. if we find we need that much time.

Dr. Janice May from the Department of Government at the University of Texas, Austin, will be addressing our group on the various methods other states have used to amend their constitutions and the pros and cons of each. As a brief explanation of most of these methods, I am enclosing some material for your review. The actual article is very brief and the rest of the information is primarily reference materials.

For your convenience, I have also enclosed copies of the Alaska State Constitution, the House Resolution which established the Task Force, and a contact list of the members of the Task Force.

Just as a reminder, the Task Force is to have its preliminary recommendations to the Legislature by February 1, 1994 and its final recommendations are due by April 1, 1994. The schedule I have planned includes five task force meetings: the one in Anchorage; three by teleconference; and one in Juneau just prior to presenting our preliminary recommendations to the Legislature in February.

Thank you for taking the time to serve on this Task Force. I appreciate the opportunity to work with you and look forward to seeing you in Anchorage next week.

Sincerely,

Gail Phillips
REPRESENTATIVE
Task Force Chair

Enc: (4)

P.S. I have also enclosed your airline ticket for the Anchorage meeting as well as the Travel Authorization Report which you should complete on your return from Anchorage.

Just for Stewart only

Rep. Eldon Mulder
716 W 4th, Suite 630
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Rep. Fran Ulmer
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Judge Thomas B. Stewart
Court Bldg., PO Box U
Juneau, AK 99811

Kenneth P. Jacobus, P.C.
425 G Street, Suite 760
Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 463-3718

House Majority Leader

September 15, 1993

The Honorable Willie Brown
Speaker of the Assembly
Room 219, State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Speaker Brown:

The House of Representatives of the State of Alaska has recently established a State Constitutional Revision Task Force to review and make recommendations on the various methods which might be used to amend our Constitution. As Chair of this Task Force, I would like to invite you to address our next meeting on October 14th via teleconference. I was pleased to have the opportunity to hear you speak last month at the NCSL conference in San Diego on the effects of Proposition 13 on the California's budget. Since the public initiative process is one of the methods the Task Force will be considering, I feel you could offer a great deal of insight into your state's experience with this method of amending California's Constitution and your perspective of the effects of Proposition 13.

Our meeting is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Alaska time (10:30 to 5 California time). If you could plan to speak for about 10 to 15 minutes and then allow a short time for questions from task force members, we can arrange a time in the morning or afternoon (preferably before 3 p.m. California time) that would best fit into your schedule.

The Task Force's staff person, Judi Jordan, will contact your office by phone within the week to see if you will be able to speak. If so, she will give you a phone number to call into our teleconference meeting at the time you specify. In addition, I would appreciate your sending us a few introductory comments which I would use to introduce you to the other Task Force members. Judi can be reached at (907) 465-2689 and her Fax number is (907) 465-3472.

We appreciate your consideration of our request, and hope you will be able to address our October 14th meeting. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Representative Gail Phillips
House Majority Leader

GP:jmj

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

«data CRTF-additional mailing list»

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

September 28, 1993

«NAME»

«ADDRESS»

«CITY», AK «ZIP»

Dear «SALUTATION»:

The House of Representatives of the State of Alaska has recently established a State Constitutional Revision Task Force to review and make recommendations on the various methods which might be used to amend our Constitution. As Chair of this Task Force, I would like to invite you to attend our meetings and/or submit written comments for consideration by the Task Force members. I would also like to emphasize that the Task Force is charged with considering the various **methods or processes of amending** our state's constitution -- we **will not** be considering any specific amendments.

In general, our meetings will be held via teleconference, and we hope to have the opportunity to take as much public comment as possible. However, our time will be limited, and we will be holding only two or three meetings before preparing our preliminary recommendations which are due to be presented to the Legislature on February 1, 1994. It would help tremendously if we could have written testimony -- even if you plan to testify in person. Please send your written comments to Judi Jordan in my Juneau office for distribution to the Task Force members.

Our next teleconference is planned for Thursday, October 14th from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. You may attend in person by going to the nearest Legislative Information Office.

If you have any questions regarding the Task Force meetings, please call Judi Jordan, Task Force Staff, at 465-2689.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail".

Gail Phillips
REPRESENTATIVE

GP:jmj

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	PHONE	SALUTATION
Lt. Gov. Jack Coghill	State Capitol	Juneau	99801		Lt. Gov. Coghill
Ms. Laura Jane Wineinger	National Rifle Association 2932 C Street	Anchorage	99503	563-4262/745-2093	Ms. Wineinger
Mr. John E. Havelock	608 W 4th Ave., #21	Anchorage	99501	276-1916	Mr. Havelock
Mr. Brian Rogers	UA - Statewide PO Box 80690	Fairbanks	99708	474-7448	Brian
Mr.. Max Gruenberg	914 Clay Court	Anchorage	99503		Max
Sen. Mike Miller	119 N. Cushman, #101	Fairbanks	99701		Mike
Sen. Dick Randolph	685 8th Avenue	Fairbanks	99701		Dick
Ms. Karen Dempster	540 "L" Street #101	Anchorage	99501		Ms. Dempster
Sen. Rick Halford	PO Box 670190	Chugiak	99567-0190		Rick
Sen. Pat Rodey	733 W 4th	Anchorage	99501		Pat
Sen. Joe Josephson	880 "H" Street, #205	Anchorage	99501		Joe
Alaska Bar Association	301 "K" Street	Anchorage	99501		Alaska Bar Association Members
Chief Justice Daniel A. Moore, Jr.	~~604 Barnette Street~~ <i>303 "K" Street</i>	~~Fairbanks~~ <i>Anc</i>	~~99701~~ <i>99501</i>	452-9300	Chief Justice Moore
Mr. Av Gross	414 N Franklin Street	Juneau	99801		Av
Mr. Norm Gorsuch	PO Box 240504	Douglas	99824		Norm
Mr. Charles Cole	PO Box 110300	Juneau	99801-0300		Charlie
Mr. Mike Robbins	540 L Street	Anchorage	99501	277-7007	Mr. Robbins

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: September 30, 1993

TO: Constitutional Revision Task Force Committee Members

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips *Gail*
Chair, Constitutional Revision Task Force

RE: Articles & Books discussed at September 9th meeting

At the September meeting several articles and books were discussed, primarily on the subject of the initiative as it is used in the various states. Gordon Harrison of Legislative Research and Judi Jordan have gathered together a considerable amount of this material for your convenience, and I am forwarding it to you.

Because three of the books were so expensive, Gordon Harrison was kind enough to prepare a brief description of the material covered by each as he explains in the enclosed memo. Also enclosed is a copy of a chart from The Alaska Constitution: A Citizen's Guide which is a helpful summary of the various amendments which have appeared on the ballot. A full report on all of the amendments to the constitution which have been considered by the legislature is being updated and hopefully will be available by the October 14th meeting. Besides the articles enclosed, we hope to have several other articles for you at that meeting.

Among those items enclosed are several states' statutes dealing with constitutional amendments primarily by initiative. As you probably recall from our September 9th meeting: Delaware's law is enclosed because it is the only state which allows constitutional amendment by the legislature without voter ratification (however, any such amendment must pass two consecutive General Assemblies, and Delaware does not allow amendment

by the initiative); Massachusetts and Mississippi laws are included as the only two states which have the "indirect" initiative (Mississippi's having been adopted recently); the Nevada law requires that an initiative amendment must pass in at least two succeeding general elections and requires that at least 10% of the voters in the last election in at least 75% of the counties propose an initiative (however, the registered voters signing the initiative petition must be equal to at least 10% of the voters in the previous election for the entire state).

Also enclosed are articles from The Book of States, (1982-1983 and 1988-1989 editions) which give an excellent history of constitutional revision over the years and across the states. These were written by Drs. May and Sturm. Additionally we have included a copy of a report by Commonwealth North which was published in October of 1982 which discusses the question of whether there should be a constitutional convention and alternative approaches to amending Alaska's Constitution. And finally, enclosed is a copy of constitutional amendments recommended by the Alaska Statehood Commission in its final report which was published in 1983.

I hope you that you will have a chance to review this material before our October 14th meeting and that you find it useful.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

October 21, 1993

The Honorable Jack Coghill
Lt. Governor
State Capitol
PO Box 110015
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Dear Lt. Governor Coghill:

On behalf of the members of the Alaska Constitutional Revision Task Force, I would like to thank you for addressing our meeting on October 14th. I appreciate your taking the time to express your support for the public initiative process in amending Alaska's Constitution. The Task Force is fortunate to have someone such as you who participated in the drafting of our constitution and knows first hand of the intentions of its authors.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us on this most important issue.

Sincerely,

Gail Phillips
REPRESENTATIVE

GP:jmj

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

October 21, 1993

The Honorable Willie Brown
Speaker of the Assembly
Room 219, State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Speaker Brown:

On behalf of the members of the Alaska Constitutional Revision Task Force, I would like to thank you for addressing our meeting on October 14th. I appreciate your ability to relate, clearly and precisely, the difficulties California is facing. Certainly you made a memorable impact on both the Task Force members and those public individuals attending our meeting; and I was very pleased to have someone with first hand experience speak on the negatives of the initiative when amending a state's constitution. In addition, if the Task Force should decide to recommend the use of the initiative for amending our constitution, I am certain that your suggestions on ways to safeguard against the problems California is facing will be extremely helpful.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us on this most important issue. A small token of our appreciation should reach you soon in the mail.

Sincerely,

Gail Phillips
REPRESENTATIVE

GP:jmj

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

October 21, 1993

The Honorable Sam Farr
US House of Representatives
1216 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. Farr:

The House of Representatives of the State of Alaska has recently established a State Constitutional Revision Task Force to review and make recommendations on the various methods which might be used to amend our Constitution. Speaker Willie Brown of California addressed our last Task Force meeting on October 14, 1993 regarding the initiative process and its impact on California. During his presentation, Speaker Brown highly recommended that we contact you to see if you would speak to our Task Force on your work as Chairman for the Constitutional Revision Commission in California during the 1960's. Representative Brown stated that the 1960's Commission discussed and recommended extensive changes to the California Constitution.

Since the Task Force is seriously considering recommending a similar Constitutional Revision Commission, I was pleased to have Speaker Brown's recommendation of you as someone who could tell us about the process of setting up such a commission and the management of efforts to extensively revise a constitution. Therefore, as Chair of the Task Force, I would like to invite you to address our next meeting on Wednesday, November 17th sometime between the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Alaska time (5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Washington, D.C. time). If you could plan to speak for about 10 to 15 minutes and then allow a short time for questions from task force members, we can arrange a time during the meeting hours that would best fit into your schedule.

The Task Force's staff person, Judi Jordan, will contact your office by phone within the week to see if you will be able to speak to us. If so, she will coordinate a teleconference call to you just prior to the time you designate. In addition, I would appreciate your sending us a few introductory comments which I would use to introduce you to the other Task Force members. Judi can be reached at (907) 465-2689 and her Fax number is (907) 465-3472.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and hope you will be able to address our November 17th meeting. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Representative Gail Phillips
House Majority Leader

GP:jmj



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Representative Gail Phillips

November 18, 1993

The Honorable Sam Farr
House of Representatives
1216 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0517

Dear Representative Farr:

On behalf of the members of the Alaska Constitutional Revision Task Force, I would like to thank you for addressing our meeting on November 17th. I appreciate your ability to relate, clearly and precisely, the various aspects to be dealt with in setting up a constitutional revision commission. Certainly your suggestions will be most useful to us in our work, and I was very pleased to have someone such as you with first hand experience address our task force members.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us on this most important issue. A small token of our appreciation should reach you soon in the mail.

Sincerely,

Representative Gail Phillips
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER
Chair, Constitutional Revision
Task Force

GP:jmj

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 463-3718

House Majority Leader

November 23, 1993

Ms. Esther Wunnicke
President
ALASKA COMMON GROUND
PO Box 241672
Anchorage, AK 99524-1672

Dear Ms. Wunnicke:

On behalf of the members of the House Constitutional Revision Task Force, I would like to thank you and the members of your organization for the time and effort your membership has expended in developing the resolution presented to us by John Havelock of your organization's Committee on Constitutional Revision. You may be assured that the Task Force intends to give the resolution serious consideration as we prepare our recommendations for the legislature.

It is very rewarding to have this kind of participation across Alaska on something that is so critical to the future of our state, and the Task Force members extend their appreciation for your input.

Sincerely,

Representative Gail Phillips
Chair, Constitutional Revision Task Force

GP:jmj

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 455-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: December 2, 1993

TO: Constitutional Revision Task Force Committee Members

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips/Judi Jordan (Staff) *jpg*
Constitutional Revision Task Force

RE: Information on Constitutional Revision Commissions

In reviewing the minutes from our first meeting, I found that the members appointed to our second subcommittee were: Rep. Gail Phillips (Subcommittee Chair), Ken Jacobus and Rep. Fran Ulmer (rather than Rep. Mulder as we originally thought).

Also, at the November 17th meeting we discussed materials which the subcommittee should have on hand for their development of language aimed at establishing an Alaskan Constitutional Revision Commission. Representative Phillips felt that other committee members would like to have this material for their review as well.

Enclosed are:

- 1) A Memo from Gordon Harrison reviewing the commissions of other states as requested by Rep. Ulmer
- 2) A Copy of California's SB 16 which set up their new commission
- 3) An analysis of California's SB 16
- 4) A transcript/minutes of the November 17th meeting

Also enclosed are copies of items you each received either at previous meetings or in previous mailings in case you do not have them handy:

- 1) A copy of the work draft prepared by Rep. Ulmer's subcommittee dealing with the legislative process.
- 2) The proposal by Alaska Common Ground
- 3) An initial memo by Gordon Harrison on Constitutional Revision Commission use in other states
- 4) A copy of the Utah law setting up it's commission

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

January 27, 1994

«NAME»

«ADDRESS»

«CITY», AK «ZIP»

Dear «SALUTATION»:

Enclosed are two draft bills being considered by the Constitutional Revision Task Force. The first of these bills sets up a Constitutional Commission which would gather public input on various potential constitutional revisions, propose those revisions to the legislature for consideration and voting on whether to place them on the next general election ballot. The bill also provides that, if the legislature fails to vote on a proposed constitutional change submitted by the commission, the commission would be authorized to go directly to the ballot with its proposal.

It is proposed to give the Commission authority to go directly to the ballot if the legislature does not vote on one of their proposals as a means of assuring that the general public's suggestions will be given due consideration. The Commission would have the authority to determine which suggestions should go before the legislature as well as assuring that the language is written in a manner consistent and not in conflict with existing language in our constitution.

The second draft bill deals with legislative consideration of any proposal from the commission or of any bill introduced that proposes revision of the constitution. It provides for the establishment of a joint House and Senate legislative committee on constitutional amendments which would be charged with holding public hearings on each and every proposed

amendment. It would also help in moving the proposal through the committee process and to the floor for a vote.

Because you have previously expressed an interest in our committee's progress, I am sending you copies of these drafts and am asking you to let us know if you have any suggestions or comments regarding the formation of such a commission.

We appreciate your willingness to participate in our efforts to find a workable solution to considering amendments to our constitution.

Sincerely,

Representative Gail Phillips
Chair, Constitutional Revision
Task Force

GP:jmj

Enc. 2 draft bills

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Official Business

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: March 8, 1994

TO: Task Force Members

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips *Gail*
Chair, Constitutional Revision Task Force

RE: Final meeting to draft recommendations report

Enclosed is a meeting announcement and a revised draft of the Subcommittee's bill setting up a Committee on the Constitution. This meeting will be to get our findings and recommendations together in a report format for presentation to the legislature as early in April as possible. Ken Jacobus will be flying in from Anchorage to join the rest of us already here in Juneau.

I anticipate that we will need approximately three hours. While I know that all of our schedules are extremely busy, I hope you will plan to be with us for as much of that time as possible. If you have any questions, please give Judi a call at 465-2689.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: March 21, 1994

TO: Constitutional Revision Task Force Members

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips *GP/jmj*

RE: Statutory creation of a Commission on the Constitution

In our meeting last Saturday, we covered most of the changes we wanted to make to set up a Commission on the Constitution through statute; however, we failed to develop a findings section for the bill. I would appreciate it if each of you would jot down your thoughts on this matter and send them to Judi no later than Friday so that we can compile and include them in the meeting packets.

Following is an example of some findings which Judi prepared just to give you an idea of what we need:

***Section 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.** (a) The Constitutional Revision Task Force finds that:

- (1) neither of the two methods of revising the state constitution lends itself to adequate citizen involvement in any contemplated changes; and
- (2) voters have consistently voted down a constitutional convention because of fears of wholesale changes to the constitution; and
- (3) citizens would prefer a more focused and orderly consideration of the various parts of the constitution; and
- (4) rapid changes in the state's population, vastly improved statewide communications, and an interest and desire on the part of many

of the state's citizens to have a meaningful role in controlling their own destinies; and

(5) citizens are calling for other ways of preparing, presenting, and ratifying changes to the constitution that would allow greater public participation in the process; and

(6) amending the constitution requires a great deal of forethought and input from the public which is generally not possible during a normal legislative session; and

(7) there is a strong desire to separate the political aspects from any amendments which might be made to the constitution; and

ETC> ETC>

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: March 21, 1994

TO: Constitutional Revision Task Force Members

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips

RE: New bill drafts

Attached are the updated versions of the two bills the task force is considering. The House Bill is version "J" prepared by Tam Cook of Legislative Legal on 3/22/94. Tam also sent us a memo regarding her concerns about this bill. In addition, there is an updated draft of the Resolution changing the Uniform Rules, version "E", enclosed which was also prepared by Tam on 3/22/94.

In the Uniform Rules Resolution, Tam split the 100 days for the commission's resolutions to be considered by the legislature into two segments (one 60 days and the other 40 days) to make certain that the second house has sufficient time to hear and vote on the resolution before the 100 day deadline we specified.

In addition to your suggestions for the "Findings" section and any comments you may have on the bills, the committee will need to consider setting an effective date for both the House Bill and the Resolution at our meeting this coming Saturday, March 26th at 1:00 p.m. in Capitol Room 408. Please bring your comments with you to the meeting. Tam Cook is planning to join us so that we can get the final version prepared as soon as possible.

Both Representative Ulmer and Ken Jacobus will be joining us by teleconference. They should call in at 1:00 p.m. Ken should call 1-700-222-1000 and, if he is not on Alascom, he should first dial the access code 10866. Representative Ulmer should call 1-800-478-7612 -- she does not need an access code.

8-LS1576J ✓

Cook

3/22/94

HOUSE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Introduced:

Referred:

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the Commission on the Constitution."

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 * Section 1. AS 24.08.060(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) Bills introduced by the legislative council shall be delivered with a letter
5 of explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules
6 Committee by Request of the Legislative Council"; bills introduced by the
7 Administrative Regulation Review Committee shall be delivered with a letter of
8 explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules
9 Committee by Request of the Administrative Regulation Review Committee"; bills
10 introduced by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee shall be delivered with a
11 letter of explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription
12 "Rules Committee by Request of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee." Joint
13 resolutions proposing amendments to the state constitution ^{offered} ~~introduced~~ by the
14 Commission on the Constitution shall be delivered with a letter of explanation to

1 the rules committee of either house during a first regular session or during the
2 first 30 days of a second regular session and bear the inscription "Rules
3 Committee by Request of the Commission on the Constitution." Bills presented
4 by the governor shall be delivered with a letter to the rules committee of either house
5 and bear the inscription "Rules Committee by Request of the Governor"; bills so
6 presented and inscribed shall be received as bills carrying the approval of the governor
7 as to policy and budget impact. The governor may submit a statement of purpose and
8 effect with each bill and appear personally or through a representative before any
9 committee considering legislation.

10 * Sec. 2. AS 24.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

11 ARTICLE 5. COMMISSION ON THE CONSTITUTION.

12 Sec. 24.20.650. COMMISSION ON THE CONSTITUTION. (a) A
13 Commission on the Constitution is established in the legislative branch. The
14 commission consists of seven members, with at least one member from each judicial
15 district. No more than three commission members may be registered members of the
16 same political party. An elected state official, a ^{sitting} justice, or a ^{sitting} judge may not serve on
17 the commission. A commission member serves a six-year term and may be ^{only for cause} and
18 reappointed. A commission member may ~~only~~ be removed from office ^{only} upon the
19 affirmative vote of at least five members of the Commission on the Constitution.

20 (b) Members of the Commission on the Constitution are appointed by a
21 selection committee consisting of one member appointed by the governor, one member
22 appointed by the presiding officer of the senate, one member appointed by the
23 presiding officer of the house of representatives, one member appointed by the chief
24 justice of the supreme court, and one member appointed by the other four members
25 of the selection committee. An elected state official, a ^{sitting} justice, or a ^{sitting} judge may not
26 serve on the selection committee. A member of the selection committee serves a two-
27 year term and may be reappointed. A vacancy is filled by the appointing authority for
28 the unexpired portion of the term. A person may be appointed to the Commission on
29 the Constitution only upon the approval of at least four members of the selection
30 committee. A vacancy on the commission is filled by the selection committee for the
31 unexpired portion of the term.

1 Sec. 24.20.660. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The
2 Commission on the Constitution may consider any proposed amendment to the state
3 constitution. During a first regular session and during the first 30 days of a second
4 regular session, the commission may, through the rules committees, introduce one or
5 more joint resolutions proposing amendments to the state constitution.

6 * Sec. 3. Notwithstanding AS 24.20.650(a), as enacted in sec. 2 of this Act, one member
7 of the first Commission on the Constitution shall be appointed to a three-year term, two
8 members shall be appointed to four-year terms, two members shall be appointed to five-year
9 terms, and two members shall be appointed to six-year terms, *as designated by*
the selection committee.

8-LS1279E ✓

Cook

3/22/94

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

BY

Introduced:

Referred:

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.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: March 31, 1994

TO: Members of the
Constitutional Revision Task Force

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips
Chair, Constitutional Revision Task Force *Gail*

RE: Constitutional Revision Task Force Report

Enclosed is the draft of the Task Force's final report to the Legislature. This report is due to be presented on April 1, 1994; however, since the House will be recessed for the Easter break at that time, we have a short reprieve and will not be forwarding our report to the Speaker until Tuesday, April 5th.

If you find a major mistake in the report, please let Judi know immediately. The report will be sent to the printer tomorrow. It will appear the same as the enclosed one; however, it will be tape bound with black tape.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

DATE: April 1, 1994

TO: Representative Ramona Barnes
Speaker of the House

FROM: Representative Gail Phillips
Chair, Constitutional Revision Task Force

RE: Final Task Force Report to the Legislature

Memorandum to Speaker Barnes from Representative Gail Phillips, Chair,
House Constitutional Revision Task Force:

Transmitted herewith to the Alaska House of Representatives is the report of the House Constitutional Revision Task Force. The task force recommends a bill creating a citizen Commission on the Constitution, and a concurrent resolution making several changes to the Uniform Rules that would facilitate the work of the commission and generally improve the handling of constitutional amendments within the legislature. One of the proposed rules would create a Joint Committee on the Constitution. These recommendations are described and discussed in the report.

The task force was created last session by House Resolution No. 5. It was an outgrowth of concern that the two methods of amending the Alaska Constitution authorized by Article XIII, the convention and legislative proposal, may tend to discourage public discussion and debate about constitutional issues and proposals for constitutional reform. Also behind formation of the task force was the concern that partisan divisions, the press of other legislative business, and traditional legislative procedures may prevent legislative proposals for constitutional change receiving adequate consideration by legislators, adequate public exposure and adequate testimony in the committee hearing process. Finally, there was a concern on the part of some people that institutional self-interest of the legislative branch may tend to discourage full and open consideration by legislators of proposed

constitutional amendments affecting the powers, duties, or structure of the legislature.

The recommendations of the task force respond to these concerns. They seek to increase the role of the citizenry in constitutional debate and constitutional change, without, however, exposing the Alaska Constitution to sudden whims and passions of the electorate. Thus, the measures recommended by the task force are compromise between opposing points of view on the ease of access to the Alaska Constitution that citizens should possess--for example, between those who would adopt the initiative for amending the constitution and those who resist any change to the existing amendment provisions.

Advisory constitutional commissions have been used successfully in many states to review existing constitutional provisions, to study suggestions for amendment, and to develop their own recommendations for change. We believe that a citizen review commission of modest size would provide an excellent mechanism for conducting unhurried, reflective, impartial and nonpartisan study of the Alaska Constitution, and for advancing to the legislature well-conceived and well-drafted amendments.

We hope that both houses of the Alaska legislature will agree with the task force in the wisdom of the recommendations contained in this report.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3718

House Majority Leader

April 6, 1994

Governor Jay Hammond
c/o General Delivery
Port Allsworth, AK 99653

Dear Governor Hammond:

Because of my recent close involvement with the legislature's actions on the Cremo Plan and on various means of amending the constitution, I read your recent Daily News article with great interest.

I served as chair of a House Judiciary Subcommittee considering the Cremo Plan (HJR 48), and last week we returned HJR 48 to the Judiciary Committee with our recommendations. Today the full committee passed HJR 48 out along with the letter of intent which was recommended by the subcommittee. I have enclosed a copy of the report of the subcommittee and the Letter of Intent for your interest. Investigation into some of the potential solutions to the fiscal dilemma the state is facing was an interesting endeavor. Many issues and concerns were raised during debate on the proposed "CREMO" Plan; and, in my mind, there are major policy questions which must be thoroughly researched before we can present any plan to the voters for their approval. Some of those policy issues were itemized in our Letter of Intent to the Finance Committee.

And last, but not least, I also chaired the House Constitutional Revision Task Force. The Task Force presented it's final report to the legislature, and I've also enclosed a copy for you.

As the Task Force report points out, we gave serious consideration to whether to recommend to the legislature that the people of our state have the right to amend the constitution by initiative. I am pleased to see from your article that you agree with our decision not to do so.

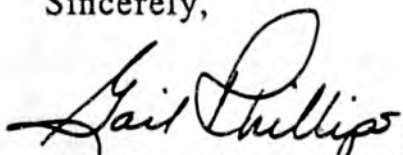
Essentially, the Task Force recommends that the legislature establish through statute a Commission on the Constitution which would be charged with gathering public input and determining what constitutional amendments should be introduced to the legislature through the Rules Committee. The Statute would require the Rules Committee to introduce any resolution proposed by the commission.

The Task Force also recommends a revision to the Uniform Rules which would allow the Commission to introduce resolutions throughout the first session and through the third week of the second session. Then it would require a vote by the house of origin no later than the 60th legislative day and by the second house no later than the 100th legislative day. This requirement would remove the concern you expressed in your article when you referred to the "arbitrary powers permitted committee chairman".

The Task Force took great pains to assure that the public would have their opinions considered and that legislators would stand up and be counted for their position on various constitutional amendments. In addition, the commission is as removed from the political arena as possible by having the members appointed by a selection committee whose members would be appointed by chief officers of each branch of government or by the other selection committee members.

Again, I enjoyed reading your article. If you have any comments on these two reports, I hope you will see fit to share them with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gail Phillips".

Representative Gail Phillips
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

GP:jmj

Enc. (3)

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March 17, 1994

Representative Gail Phillips
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

VIA FAX 465-3472

RE: Alaska Commission on the Constitution

Dear Gail,

I will be attending the task force meeting tomorrow in Juneau, weather permitting. I will be on the Alaska Airlines plane arriving at 10:00 a.m., and will contact your office as soon as I arrive. Prior to the meeting, however, I wanted to pass a few suggestions to you.

Composition of Selection Committee

The present draft provides that the selection committee shall consist of one member appointed by the governor, and the presiding officers of the Senate and the house, with two members appointed by the chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court. I disagree with the concept of allowing two members of the selection committee to be appointed by the judicial branch.

There are several reasons for this concern. First, the whole purpose of this process, in my opinion, is to give the people of Alaska a greater input into the constitutional amendment process, while insuring that the input is done in a responsible manner. The members of the judiciary are not elected by the people, nor do the people have any meaningful input into the selection process. As a practical matter, judges are selected by attorneys, acting through the bar poll and the Alaska Judicial Council. Second, the judiciary is the final decision making authority on the propriety of whatever would be done by the Commission. I am also concerned with the judiciary being involved to any extent in a process over which it has ultimate decision making authority.

According to the draft, a person may be appointed to the Commission on the Constitution only upon the approval of at least four members of the selection committee. I agree with this concept. However, allowing the chief justice of the Supreme Court to appoint two members gives the judiciary an absolute veto power over who will be on the Commission on the Constitution. The two representatives of the chief justice, being selected by a single person, can be selected to speak with one voice to specifically protect the interests of the judiciary.

The same situation does not exist with respect to the executive or legislative branches. Even

Representative Gail Phillips
March 17, 1994
Page 2

though the legislature has two representatives, they are selected by two different appointing authorities, and will most likely not speak with the same voice. In summary, an unelected branch of government, which is only minimally responsible to the people as a practical matter, should not be granted an absolute veto power over appointments to the Commission on the Constitution.

My preference would be that the judiciary have zero representatives, for the purpose of solving the conflict of interest and appearance of impropriety problems. I also accept the fact, however, that there are good arguments for having the selection committee consisting of members chosen by all three branches of government. If this task force is so inclined, I would not oppose the chief justice being authorized to appoint one member. If the chief justice may appoint one member, I would recommend that the governor appoint two. If the chief justice appoints no members, then I would recommend that the governor appoint two, and the legislative branch appoint three. I realize that this gives the absolute veto power to the governor, which I did not believe should be given to the judiciary. I would accept this, however, since the governor is elected by the people, while the judiciary is not.

Limitations on Membership

The present draft provides that an elected state official may not serve on the selection committee or the Commission on the Constitution. I believe that membership should be further limited to exclude active members of the judiciary from membership. Again, the reason for this is that the judiciary has final decision making authority over the procedures and acts of these bodies, and active members of the judiciary should not be participating in something over which they have the ultimate decision making authority. I recognize, however, that members of the judiciary can make valuable contributions to the selection committee and the Commission. Accordingly, I would recommend that membership be allowed to retired judges, in order to take advantage of their long judicial experience.

Additionally, as a practical matter, I am concerned about the work load of active members of the judiciary, especially given the budget constraints which are certainly going to be imposed over the next few years. In my opinion, the principal purpose of the judiciary is to resolve disputes brought before it. The resources of the judiciary should be used to decide the cases brought before it, in order that judicial proceedings are completed as quickly and efficiently as possible and litigants can get on with their lives. The resources of the judiciary should not be diluted by expanding its involvement in activities not related to dispute resolution and court administration.

Legislative Involvement

The present draft provides that a Commission proposal cannot be placed on the ballot unless it is approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature, unless both houses refuse to vote on the matter by the end of the second regular session. The present procedure is that amendments

Representative Gail Phillips
March 17, 1994
Page 3

to the Alaska Constitution may be proposed by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature. It is my view that this provision makes the Commission on the Constitution meaningless. It is nothing more than a bill drafter for the legislature. If a proposed Constitutional amendment must be approved by two-thirds vote of each house, in the same manner that it is now, why set up this complicated procedure solely to write proposals? Simply assign the proposal writing to one of the legislative assistants.

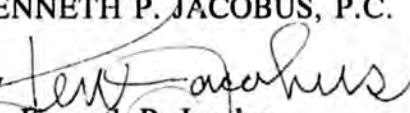
In order to make the Commission on the Constitution meaningful, it is necessary that it be given greater powers than simply plugging a proposal into the presently existing requirement of a two-thirds vote of each house. In order to do so, I would recommend two changes. First, I would recommend that the two-thirds requirements be reversed. That is, if the Commission presents a proposal for an amendment to the Constitution to the legislature, that amendment shall appear on the ballot unless each house, by a two-thirds vote, determines that the proposal shall not be placed on the ballot. This would give the Commission the power to make meaningful proposals, but allow legislative veto over any truly unreasonable proposals.

Second, I would recommend that proposals dealing with the membership, composition, and procedures of the legislature itself be placed on the ballot automatically. This would include proposals such as those relating to term limits or reapportionment. The legislature has a conflict of interest with the desires and best interests of the people of Alaska when its own institutional concerns are involved.

In summary, I believe that the concept of a Commission on the Constitution is excellent, but that certain changes need to be made in the draft in order to properly balance the interests involved, and make sure that the Commission can work for the benefit of the people. I am looking forward to continuing to work with you on this matter.

Very truly yours,

KENNETH P. JACOBUS, P.C.

By 
Kenneth P. Jacobus

KPJ/alf

FAIRBANKS Daily News - Miner

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Constitutional compromises

Many Alaskans want to be able to vote on amendments to their Constitution without having the ideas winnowed first. Currently, the winnowers are either: A. Members of the Legislature, often hiding behind procedures and committees, or B. Delegates to a constitutional convention that might be held once every 10 years. No other paths to the ballot exist. And the obstacles on those paths act like trees on a trapline after a heavy snow—progress is slow and you get dumped on regularly.

But many other Alaskans say constitutional amendments *should* encounter this slow process, which keeps the two-bit, special-interest proposals off the ballot. The Constitution has worked well, they note, and the current system has allowed voters to amend it 23 times since statehood. That's an average of almost once every 1.5 years—not exactly evidence of political permafrost.

This debate came to the state House last year, which created a task force to propose some compromise between supporters of the existing system and those who want to allow voters more direct access.

The task force's first draft solution: Create a committee to winnow the proposals, instead of leaving it to the Legislature or convention delegates.

Under the proposal, a seven-member commission would hold hearings and then propose amendments to the Legislature. The Legislature would have two years to vote on whether to put them on the ballot. If no vote occurred, the commission could put the amendments on the ballot.

Citizens would lose, though, because they would forego direct control over the people making the decisions. No longer would they be able to trace the demise or success of an amendment to a particular senator, representative or even coalition. Instead, there would be an appointed committee making the decisions—decisions first about which ideas go to the Legislature, and then, if nothing happens, decisions about which go to the ballot two years later.

If we truly want more direct access to the Constitution, we should muster the effort to pass one of several resolutions currently bottled up in the Legislature that would allow us to place amendments on the ballot by petition.

In the interest of accountability, let's point out the resolutions and their bottlers: The House Judiciary Committee, chaired by Rep. Brian Porter, R-Anchorage, has had HJR 1 since it was introduced Jan. 11, 1993. House State Affairs, chaired by Rep. Al Vezey, R-North Pole, has held HJR 7 and HJR 8 for the same time. Senate Judiciary, chaired by Rep. Robin Taylor, R-Wrangell, has corked SJR 6 during that time as well.

Let them know what you think. They should be expecting to hear from you.

Plan would create constitutional clearinghouse

By IAN MADER

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A House task force is considering an independent commission that would propose amendments to the Alaska Constitution.

The idea is being promoted as middle ground between the current system, in which lawmakers have nearly sole authority to put such proposals on the ballot, and giving voters direct access to the ballot through the initiative.

Rep. Gail Phillips, R-Homer and task force chairwoman, said she started out as a supporter of amending the constitution by initiative.

"But we have really learned a lot about the pitfalls of that process. An issue can come up absolutely through the heat of the moment, with no preparation, no planning."

Task force members say important issues, such as term limits, campaign reform and subsistence hunting and fishing rights, might finally be able to reach the ballot under the proposed system.

The panel has been researching experiences of other states, including California, where budget shortfalls are being blamed on Proposition 13, an initiative that restricted local governments' ability to raise

A commission would approve proposed constitutional amendments, then refer them to the Legislature. If lawmakers failed to act within two years, the commission could place the measures directly on the ballot.

property taxes.

Under the panel's draft bill, a seven-member commission would approve proposed amendments after holding public hearings. The commission would then refer them to the Legislature. If lawmakers failed to act within two years, the commission could place the measures directly on the ballot.

"With the commission, you have a body that does everything correctly," Phillips said. "There would be a section that would deal specifically with getting the wording right."

Critics of the current process say lawmakers often express support during campaigns for proposals such as term limits, but then work to prevent such measures from reaching floor votes.

Rep. Fran Ulmer, D-Juneau and a task force member, said the proposed system would force floor votes that make lawmakers accountable to the public.

"It's a way of saying the Legislature can't run from these issues. It strikes a good balance, without opening up the process totally with initiatives."

But there is no consensus yet on the draft among the five task force members.

Anchorage attorney Ken Jacobus, one of two public members on the panel, said he would like to give the constitutional commission even greater power to put measures directly on the ballot.

"You should not set up a system whereby the Legislature can stop it. Otherwise it's a joke."

There would be at least one member on the constitutional commission from each of Alaska's judicial districts. They would serve terms of up to six years, and could not be removed from office.

Members would be selected by a four-member committee appointed by the governor, Senate president, House speaker and Supreme Court chief justice.

In Alaska, voters have the option every 10 years of convening a constitutional convention to revamp the document, but they have not done so since the constitution was drafted.

Otherwise, only a two-thirds vote of both houses can refer amendments to the ballot. Then a majority of voters must support the proposal for it to be written into the constitution.

Since 1963, 17 states have set up constitutional review commissions similar to the one being proposed. But the panels typically were given a limited time to complete their work. Only Utah's is a permanent commission like the one proposed for Alaska.

Seventeen states allow amendments by initiative.

California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, a Democrat, testified before the panel in October about the hazards of the initiative system. He said initiatives have allowed moneyed interests, such as the insurance industry and trial lawyers, to buy their way onto the ballot.

A cottage industry has been created with businesses specializing in collecting signatures to get measures on the ballot, and creating advertising campaigns to help ballot measures pass, Brown said.

Term limits on ballot in November

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A measure that would set term limits for Alaska's congressional delegation has qualified for the Nov. 8 general election ballot.

Lt. Gov. Jack Coghill announced today that the measure had the required number of voter signatures to make the ballot. The Elections Division verified 26,621 signatures as those of registered Alaska voters, 478 more than needed.

A total of 41,478 signatures were turned in, but not all were checked.

Supporters say term limits will lead to a less entrenched,

more citizen-oriented Congress. They say incumbents have a significant advantage in fundraising and in communicating with voters.

Opponents say that by limiting the power of seniority, limits will work against states such as Alaska, with smaller delegations. Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, contends the measure on November's ballot would be unconstitutional and would face an expensive legal challenge.

The measure would limit Alaska's two senators to two terms, or 12 years, and its lone House member to three terms, or six years. It would still allow

incumbents to seek a third consecutive term as a write-in candidate, or to return to office for a third term after a one-term break.

It would not take effect until 24 other states had enacted similar limits. So far, 15 other states have adopted congressional term limits, according to the Alaska Committee for a Citizen Congress, which is promoting the measure.

If approved, the measure would not be retroactive. The soonest it would affect any members of Alaska's delegation is in 2002, in the case of Republican Rep. Don Young.

Death...

Continued from Page 1

Rep. Jerry Sanders, R-Anchorage, would have allowed judges to impose death by lethal injection on the advice of a jury in some first-degree murder cases.

Sanders, who was stuck in Anchorage on Monday because of Juneau's fog, said in a telephone interview that he was disappointed with the vote.

"We'll try to push on with the Senate bill as best we can. If that comes into a brick wall, then we'll deal with it again next year after this fall's elections."

Sanders said a death penalty

measure has been introduced in all but five of the 18 Legislatures since statehood, and that they would continue to be introduced until one is passed.

Rep. Jim Nordlund, D-Anchorage, said the Judiciary vote was "an injection of reason."

Republican Reps. Gail Phillips of Homer and Joe Green of Anchorage joined Democrats Nordlund and Cliff Davidson of Kodiak in voting not to move the bill out of the committee.

Porter said he is generally opposed to the bill, but voted to move it for further discussion in House Finance. He said a similar Senate-

passed bill would not get a hearing in his committee unless one or more of the four opposing committee members changed their minds.

Critics of the death penalty also say it is imposed disproportionately on minorities. They contend death penalty law would violate the Alaska Constitution's mandate that sentences be aimed at protecting the public and rehabilitating the convict, not at retribution.

Supporters say death is the best way to protect the public from coldblooded murderers, and that it would provide prosecutors a useful tool for persuading suspects to cooperate.

Capital...

Continued from Page 1

for legislators. Parsons hopes the committees can complete their work and report to the assembly by spring.

"Ultimately, the responsibility is with the assembly," he said.

Finding the money to make Juneau a better place to live also will be up to the assembly and city staff.

But with the city also facing a projected \$3.1 million deficit for next year, money could be a problem.

"I think we'd find the money one way or another to do it," said Parsons, who also hopes to get state funding for some improvements. "I have to think that the state's a partner in this, too."

Parsons said some needs can be addressed without spending more city funds. Working with the Legislative Affairs Agency, the city was able to provide a parking lot with 32 spaces for legislative staff and four 15-minute spots near the Capitol, Parsons said.

The assembly already has \$150,000 set aside to spend on keeping the capital, and Parsons said the committees could suggest ways to spend that money.

The mayor announced the general outline of the committees in late November following a failed plan to build a new Capitol with city sales tax receipts. Voters rejected that plan by a 3-to-2 margin in October.

Contributing to the delay in setting up the committees was the

frantic drive to gather enough signatures for a statewide ballot measure requiring voter approval of the cost of any capital move.

Parsons was involved in the petition drive, which apparently gathered enough signatures for a spot on November's ballot. Supporters of the petition believe that the high cost of moving the capital will dissuade Alaskans from approving any such effort.

A lot of work remains between now and the fall election, and the mayor is hoping much of the work gets done by folks who haven't been involved before, particularly people 30 and under.

"That's my concern. It's been the same people," he said. "Someone has to fill the void, and it's always the same people."

Alaska enjoys break from the cold

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANCHORAGE — A meandering jet stream and high pressure ridge off the coast of British Columbia are to thank for warmer-than-usual temperatures in Southcentral and the Interior, according to National Weather Service officials in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

A 48-degree high on Saturday set a record for the day in Anchorage, the weather service said. On Friday, the temperature in Honolulu set a record low for the day, plummeting to 56 degrees.

"It's all your fault," said Glen Trapp of the weather service in

Trapp was kidding about finding fault with Alaskans. Although weather systems in different parts of the globe are related, it's not a we-win, you-lose relationship, said experts.

In simplest terms, it's been warm in Anchorage because "a band of southerly winds is blowing north," said meteorologist Bob Clay of the weather service in Anchorage.

The "ridge" covers the entire West Coast, said Kelly Redmond, regional climatologist with the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno. "Everybody's been above

days with only a few exceptions since mid-December.

Thanks to the jet stream and its ridge, high temperatures in January in Anchorage averaged 5 degrees above normal, while lows were 8 degrees above normal, Clay said.

In Fairbanks, the weather service recorded a warmer-than-normal January, there, as well, said service forecaster Jack Mercer.

"We're running about 8 degrees above normal for the month," Mercer said the average normal temperature for January in Fairbanks is about 10 degrees be-

Linda -- here's the addresses you wanted:

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The Honorable Willie L. Brown, Jr.
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Sam Farr
U.S. House of Representatives
1216 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0517

JANICE CHRISTENSEN MAY

Curriculum Vitae

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University of Minnesota - Minneapolis
B.A. summa cum laude, 1944 (Major - Music)
M.A. 1946 (Major - Political Science)
Ph.D. 1952 (Major-Political Science)

Teaching

University of Texas at Austin: Present Position - Associate Professor of Government
University of Oklahoma: Instructor, 1953-54; Assistant Professor, 1954-56
University of Minnesota: Assistant Instructor, 1947-48; Lecturer, Spring 1960

Research

Office of the Governor, State of Texas (Summer 1966)
Institute of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin (Summer 1969, 1971)
Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (Summer 1972)
Institute for Urban Studies, University of Houston (Summer 1974)

Selected Activities at UT-Austin

President's Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching Government (1983)
UT Pre-Law Advisory Committee Chair (1977-1988)
Jester Fellow
Advisor, UT Pre-Law Association, UT Student Lobby, UT Model U.S. Senate, Women's Political Caucus

Publications

Selected books and monographs: (With Stuart A. MacCorkle and Dick Smith). Texas Government. (Eighth Edition). New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1980, 422 pp.
The Texas Constitutional Revision Experience in the '70s. Austin: Sterling Swift Publishing Co., 1975. 307 pp.
"Amending the Texas Constitution." Austin: Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1972.
"The Texas Voter Registration System" (Appendix D). In A Report to the 62nd Texas Legislature of the State of Texas: Proposed Election Law Changes. Office of the Secretary of State, 1970.

Selected chapters of books: "State Constitutions and Constitutional Revision: 1988-1989 and the 1980s." In The Book of the States. Lexington, Ky.: Council of State Governments, 1990, 20-47.
"Handbook of Texas Government and Citizenship." In Texas, Our Texas. Larry Willoughby, Austin, Texas: Learned and Tested, Inc. 1986, 561-584.
"The Constitutional Initiative: A Threat to Rights?" In Human Rights in the States: New Directions in Constitutional Policymaking. Stanley H. Friedelbaum, ed. Westport, Conn. Greenwood Press, 1988, 163-184.

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"The Texas Voter Registration System." In Practicing Texas Politics. Eugene W. Jones, Joe E. Ericson, Lyle C. Brown, Robert B. Trotter. New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1971, 88-96.

Selected articles: "State Constitutional Revision in 1988." Emerging Issues in State Constitutional Law 2 (1989), 61-84.

"Constitutional Amendment and Revision Revisited." Publius: The Journal of Federalism 17 (Winter 1987), 153-179.

(With Nathan C. Goldman). "Judicial Reform Revisited." Texas Bar Journal 46 (March 1983), 218-222.

(With Nathan C. Goldman). "Judicial Selection: An Analysis." Texas Bar Journal 46 (March 1983), 316-321.

"Legislative and Congressional Redistricting in Texas." Comparative State Politics Newsletter 2, no. 5 (October 1981), 16-17.

"Texas Constitutional Revision: Lessons and Laments." National Civic Review 66, 2 (February 1977), 64-69.

"The Texas Voter Registration System." Public Affairs Comment (Institute of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin) 16, 4 (July 1970), 1-5.

"The Constitutionality of National Anti-Poll Tax Bills." Minnesota Law Review 33, 3 (1949), 217-254.

Latest publication - May 1991;

"Financing Public Schools in Texas: A Protracted Imbrolio."

State Constitutional Commentaries and Notes 2, 1 (Fall 1990), 7-13.

Public Service (Selected)

Member, Southwest Regional Panel of President's Commission on White House Fellows, 1970.

Member, Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas, 1979-82.

Member, Texas Constitutional Revision Commission, 1973-74

Member, Texas Constitutional Revision Commission, 1967-68

Member and Secretary, Travis County Grand Jury, Fall 1982

Member, Austin Commission on the Status of Women, 1975-80 (Vice Chair, 1978-79)

Civic and Professional Activities (Selected)

Southwestern Political Science Association, Secretary-Treasurer 1980-86,

Member of Executive Council, 1991-93

Austin Council on Foreign Affairs. Member, Board of Directors, 1984-present

American Association of University Women. President, Austin Branch; Legislative Chair, State of Texas; Member, National Legislative Committee.

League of Women Voters. President, Austin League; member, State Board (lobbyist)

Member, National Committee on Representative Government/Voters Service

Member, Advisory Committee of the 8th, 9th, and 10th Annual Legislative Seminar in New Braunfels; 1974-1976.

Texas Young Lawyers Association. Public Member, Committee on Law-Focused Education, 1983-86.

Participant. American Association of University Women Far East Travel Seminar (July-August 1970).

Member. Legal Delegation to People's Republic of China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Host: PRO Ministry of Justice in China. June 1986.

Delegate, US-USSR Conference on Bilateral Economic Relations and the Rule of Law. Moscow USSR. September 1990.

Papers at Conferences, Participant at Conferences Omitted

Honors and Awards Omitted, Memberships Omitted

Complete file is available in the Department of Government, UT - Austin



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

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Janice C. May
11-3-91

NEW STATE CONSTITUTIONS - 1940s - 1980s

1940s - Georgia, Missouri, New Jersey (3)

1950s - Alaska, Hawaii (2)

1960s - Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania (4)

1970s - Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, North Carolina, Virginia, Montana (6)

1980s - Georgia (1)

SAM FARR
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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CONGRESSMEMBER SAM FARR

17TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
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BIOGRAPHY

Sam Farr, a Democrat, was elected in a special election on June 8, 1993. The election was held to replace Leon Panetta, who was named by President Clinton to head the Office of Management and Budget. Sam Farr represents the 17th Congressional District of California, which includes all of Monterey County, San Benito County and a large portion of Santa Cruz County. One of the most beautiful and diverse districts in the country, it encompasses the majestic Big Sur coastline, the newly designated Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the productive Salinas Valley "salad bowl," the redwoods, mountains and beaches of Santa Cruz County and renowned institutions of higher learning. Agriculture, tourism, education and commercial fishing form the economic underpinnings of the District.

Sam Farr has a distinguished record of public service. He served 12 and one half years in the California State Assembly, being re-elected six times with overwhelming majorities. As a member of the state Assembly, Sam Farr chaired the Assembly Local Government Committee as well as the Committee on Economic Development and New Technologies and was a member of standing committees on Education, Natural Resources and Finance and Insurance. He is recognized as a leader in legislative efforts for educational excellence, environmental protection and economic development and new technologies. His accomplishments include passage of laws to expand and develop the State Park system, to stop offshore oil drilling and hold polluters fully financially responsible for oil spill damages, to give businesses incentives to develop new technologies for environmental clean-up, to place computers in public school classrooms and to study the impacts of defense conversion on the state's economy. Sam Farr has been named Legislator of the Year nine times.

Prior to serving in the state Assembly, Sam Farr served on the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and worked as a budget analyst and as a consultant for the Assembly Committee on Constitutional Amendments. His career in public service began in 1963 with a two year commitment in the Peace Corps in Colombia, South America. Farr graduated from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1963 and attended the Monterey Institute of International Studies and the University of Santa Clara. He is fluent in Spanish.

A fifth-generation Californian born on the 4th of July, 1941, and a long time resident of Carmel, California, Farr is married to Shary Baldwin Farr. They have one daughter, Jessica, who is 15 years old.

SAM FARR
17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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John B. "Jack" Coghill

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The first Coghill to pioneer Alaska's Interior was Jack's father, W.A. "Bill" Coghill, who moved to Fairbanks from Scotland to work for the Fairbanks Miner News in 1905. As a Printer by trade, he worked with W.F. Thompson on the Fairbanks Miner News which later became the Fairbanks Daily News Miner.

Jack Coghill was born in Fairbanks in 1925, as was his wife, Frances, in 1929. Raised in Nenana, Jack worked as a miner, trapper, freight hauler, amateur undertaker and merchant/trader in his youth. In 1944 Jack joined the U.S. Army, Alaska, serving in the Aleutian Islands.

After the War, Jack settled down in Nenana to raise a family and start a long and colorful career in public service, beginning in 1948 with an eleven-year stint on the Nenana School Board. In 1952 and in 1956 Jack was elected to the Territorial House of Representatives and in 1955 was elected to the Alaska Constitutional Convention.

In 1948 Jack married a Fairbanks-born girl, Frances Gilbert. They raised six children: Patricia, John Jr., James, Jerald, Paula and Jeff. They now have 23 grandchildren and one great grandson — all living in Alaska.

A term in the Alaska Senate followed in 1959 and then a year as Special Assistant to Governor Hickel in 1967.



In 1968 Jack was appointed Secretary to the North Commission and was Chairman of the Alaska Statehood Commission from 1980 to 1983. In the meantime, Jack was serving as Nenana's Mayor from 1962 to 1984.

Jack was elected to the State Senate from District J in 1984 and was returned in 1988 by his constituents with over 70% margin.

Jack and Frances Coghill

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Assembly California Legislature

WILLIE LEWIS BROWN, JR.
SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY

BIOGRAPHY

WILLIE L. BROWN, JR.
SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Willie Lewis Brown, Jr. -- Democrat

13th Assembly District -- San Francisco

First Elected -- November, 1964

Re-elected -- 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978,
1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992

POSITIONS HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY

Chair,
Committee on Legislative Representation, 1967-1968

Chair,
Government Efficiency and Economy Committee, 1968-1971

Minority Whip,
1969-1971

Chair,
Committee on Ways & Means
(Youngest in history of the California Legislature and
only African American chair ever), 1971-1974

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Chair
Committee on Revenue and Tax, 1976-1979

Majority Leader, 1979-1980

Speaker of the Assembly,
(Longest serving speaker in history of California)
1980-present

Regent,
University of California, 1980-present

Trustee,
California State University, 1980-present

DEGREES

Bachelor of Arts -- San Francisco State University, 1955

Juris Doctor -- Hastings College of Law, University of California, 1958

Admitted to Practice -- State of California, All Federal Courts, and
U.S. Supreme Court

HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary Degree of Juris Doctor -- San Joaquin College of Law, 1982

Honorary Doctor of Science -- California College of Podiatric Medicine, 1986

Honorary Doctor of Law -- Atlanta University, 1988

Honorary Doctor of Law -- Wilberforce University, 1988

Honorary Fellow -- Crown College, University of California at Santa Cruz, 1973-1979

PERSONALS

Born on March 20, 1934 in Mineola, Texas

Married in September, 1958 to the former Blanche Vitero of Berkeley, California

Children

Susan Elizabeth Brown, New York

Robin Elaine Brown-Friedel, New York

Michael Elliot Brown, San Francisco

Grandchild

Besia Rose Friedel, New York

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