

HJR

18



Alaska State Legislature

Official Business

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Sponsor Statement for HJR 18 Constitutional Amendment on Municipal Annexations

In Alaska, our state constitution provides us with protection of our personal liberties in many areas. But ironically, that same constitution limits our protection from governmental encroachment by municipal boundaries. A local boundary commission established in the constitution is charged with the responsibility for determining the boundaries of the local governments.

Article X, Section 12, establishes two methods of boundary changes. One method is by direction of the Local Boundary Commission (LBC) subject to legislative disapproval (known as the Legislative Review process and it does not include a public vote). The second method is by "local action". Under both methods, the involvement of the LBC is mandatory. The legislature can request that certain procedures be followed by the commission, but it cannot dictate those procedures by legislation. The process itself is written into our state constitution, and it can only be changed or amended by the voters of the entire state at the ballot box.

HJR 16 proposes placing a constitutional amendment before the voters at the next general election that, if passed, would change the LBC procedures for bringing annexation proposals before the legislature. That change would require that the LBC proposal must first be approved by a majority of voters in the area to be annexed when the proposed annexation is greater than 10% in population or 10% in land area of the municipality proposing the annexation.

While some concerns of the municipalities regarding contiguous areas and the municipalities' provision of city services to those areas are valid, many Alaskans find that the current annexation process is inappropriate. Good public policy should provide for the consideration of the rights of all parties involved and should give those rights their due weight.

Alaska's current annexation process by Legislative Review does not provide for the consideration of the rights of all parties involved and HJR 16 seeks to remedy that problem. It may well be that many will think the 10% bar is too low, while others might argue that it should be even lower. That is an issue I am certain will be debated as the bill progresses through the committee process.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HJR 18
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: OOG
 Title Constitutional amendment relating BRU Elections
to certain municipal annexations Component Elections
 Sponsor Representative Scalzi
 Requester House C&PA Component No. 21

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual	1.5					
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	1.5					
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This figure includes the cost of providing information about this issue in the Official Election Pamphlet, as required by AS 15.58. If this measure requires the printing of an 8-1/2 by 18 inch ballot, the cost will increase by \$22.0.

Prepared by: Gail Fenunial, Election Administrative Supervisor Phone 465-3935
 Division: Division of Elections Date/Time 2/14/02 5:03 PM
 Approved by: Lieutenant Governor Fran Ulmer Date 02/14/2002
 Agency: Office of the Lieutenant Governor