

**HJR**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

Urging the Local Boundary Commission to Adopt Regulations to Return Substantively Deficient Petitions in a Summary Manner

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Alaska, petitioners, and affected local governments and citizens to resolve proposed local boundary changes expeditiously and in accord with Article X, Section 12 of the Constitution of the State of Alaska and implementing statutes and regulations; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, petitions for boundary changes filed with the Local Boundary Commission may be substantively deficient or in need of substantial amendment or supplementation to conform with constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions; and

WHEREAS, lengthy consideration of such petitions by the Local Boundary Commission may result in unnecessary expenditures of money, time, and other resources on the part of the State of Alaska, local governments, and citizens of the State; and also may result in needless public discord and strife; and

WHEREAS, the Local Boundary Commission has discretion under Article X, Section 12 of the Constitution of the State of Alaska to consider any proposed local government boundary change and also has a duty under AS 44.33.812 to establish standards and procedures for matters that come before the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Local Boundary Commission has not established standards and procedures by which the Local Boundary Commission may return petitions that are substantively deficient or in need of substantial amendment or supplementation to petitioners for amendment or reconsideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, that the Local Boundary Commission is hereby urged to adopt standards and procedures that will enable it to return to the petitioner in a summary fashion any petition that the Local Boundary Commission determines is substantively deficient or in need of substantial amendment or supplementation to conform with applicable constitutional, statutory, or regulatory provisions.