

HJR

29

<TARGET><BILL>HJR 29</BILL><SUBJECT>HJR
29</SUBJECT><COMM>HJUD29</COMM></TARGET>

THE TERM ★ LIMITS CONVENTION

The Term Limits Convention

House Joint Resolution 29/Senate Joint Resolution 19

What is it:

An application by the Alaska Legislature under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, calling for a single-issue amendment convention limited to the agenda of congressional term limits.

Background: Nearly 80 percent of Americans, and as of February 2016 nearly 78% of Alaskans support term limits on Congress, and the Supreme Court ruled in *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton* (1995) that it can only be achieved through constitutional amendment. Despite overwhelming bi-partisan public support, Congress refuses to initiate any amendment to limit its own power. Article V of the Constitution provides an alternate means of proposing a term limits amendment via a convention of states, which does not require congressional approval.

How it works:

1. 34 state legislatures pass bills applying for the convention.
2. Congress is then mandated by law to call the convention.
3. The convention, featuring delegates selected by states, proposes a term limits amendment.
4. 38 states would then need to ratify the term limits amendment to make it part of the Constitution.

Why term limits:

To empower the people by allowing for the debate to fix a broken system. Washington DC is broken and bound by gridlock. It is unable to respond to the voters and does not allow for fresh ideas and energy that would come through more regular rotation in office.

Article V calls passed in 2014:

House Bill 284 and SB 203 were introduced in 2014 "An act relating to an interstate compact on a balanced federal budget." HB 284 passed the Legislature and was signed into law on April 22, 2014.

HJR 22 and SJR 18 were both introduced in 2014 calling for a convention of the states to address amendments to the U.S. Constitution on limiting the federal government, fiscal restraint, and U.S. term limits. HJR 22 passed the Legislature on April 19, 2014.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the Term Limits Convention open up the entire U.S. Constitution for revisions?

Absolutely not. The Convention is limited only to proposing an amendment that would impose term limits on members of Congress. The state applications prohibit all parties from proposing or ratifying anything that deviates from the subject at hand.

Article V says Congress "calls" a convention. Does this mean Congress can stifle the states' demand for term limits?

No. The amendment-by-convention route was added to the Constitution because the framers believed Congress played too powerful a role in the amendment process. So, Congress does not have discretion to stop or modify the convention agenda after 34 states have applied for an amendment on the same subject.

Frequently Asked Questions – Term Limits Convention

How do states initiate the Term Limits Convention?

Per Article V of the Constitution, 34 state legislatures must pass bills applying for the convention on the exclusive subject of congressional term limits. Once that number is reached, the applications are delivered to Congress and Congress is mandated to call the convention.

Will the Term Limits Convention open up the entire U.S. Constitution for revisions?

Absolutely not. The Convention is limited only to proposing an amendment that would impose term limits on members of Congress. The state applications prohibit all parties from proposing or ratifying anything that deviates from the subject at hand.

Article V says Congress “calls” a convention. Does this mean Congress can stifle the states’ demand for term limits?

No. The amendment-by-convention route was added to the Constitution because the framers believed Congress played too powerful a role in the amendment process. So, Congress does not have discretion to stop or modify the convention agenda after 34 states have applied for an amendment on the same subject.

If the state applications fail to cover the same subject, Congress also lacks the discretion to call a convention in spite of this hurdle. That’s why it’s important for each state to pass the same language, with a small degree of freedom for different drafting styles.

How will the term limits amendment get ratified?

Congress must designate either state legislatures or state conventions to ratify proposed amendments. If the latter is chosen, each state will hold an election to determine delegates to its ratifying convention.

How do states select their delegates to the Convention?

States are free to shape and enact their own laws governing delegate selection. Historically, the method most oft-used (though a convention has never been called) has been election by legislature.

What will happen at the Convention itself?

At the Convention, delegates from each state will propose and discuss congressional term limits amendments before taking an up or down vote. Each state delegation, regardless of delegate number, is counted as one vote.

Dispelling the “Runaway Convention” Myth

by Nick Tomboulides, U.S. Term Limits

The biggest obstacle to a successful Term Limits Convention will be policymakers and concerned citizens who believe such a convention has the power to “run away” and open up the entire Constitution for revision. Under these wild scenarios, the Bills of Rights gets repealed and tyranny is foisted onto the American people. These fears have been seeded into many Americans’ minds by groups like the John Birch Society and Eagle Forum.

First, it’s important to note that those who subscribe to runaway convention thinking aren’t less patriotic or doing so with wicked aims. Most do support term limits and other ideas that have been floated inside the Article V sphere. Our disagreement is on how to get there.

After consulting with the top experts, we’ve concluded that the arguments for runaway convention are without merit and not supported by the evidence.

Exhibit A in this discussion is America’s very long and documented history of conventions. In the hundreds of state and interstate conventions that have taken place here in the founding era and beyond, none have ever run away. On rare occasions a delegate would suggest departing from the agenda, but that person would get nowhere because checks and balances were built-in, as they are here.

A common internet meme calling the Philadelphia Convention of 1787 a runaway is based on poor scholarship. The false narrative goes like this: Convention delegates only had the authority to amend the Articles of Confederation (America’s first Constitution), but ignored that and threw the Articles on the scrap heap. Hence, it’s said they jumped over their boundaries and ran outside the law.

In reality, 10 of the 12 state delegations at that convention had broad authority which included the ability to adopt a new Constitution. This was made explicit by the instructions their states gave them. Congress did *recommend* the Convention stay limited, but it was merely advice that bound no one legally.

Far from a runaway, the 1787 Convention was yet another example of an American convention doing exactly what it was told to do, whether broad or narrow.

Another defect in the runaway reasoning is identifying the stage at which unlawfully expanding the agenda is possible. If the state applications specify radical amendments, then that’s not running away – it’s attempting to create an entire convention based on bad ideas.

Once the Term Limits Convention applications get to Congress, there is no wiggle room for legislators to insert agenda items. Their role of convention caller is ministerial, and they are only allowed to choose between two options for ratification.

Delegates to the convention – who can be recalled and even imprisoned by their states -- have some discretion, but it’s limited to amendments within the subject area chosen by 34 states. The

topic of term limits is so clear and unequivocal that it cannot be construed to include amendments on other subjects.

Our state applications are “revoked, withdrawn, nullified and superseded to the same effect as if it had never been passed” if they are used for the purpose of calling a convention with an agenda not limited to congressional term limits.

Any departure then, by either the delegates or Congress, would be unlawful and subject to judicial review. If groups come forward with lawsuits challenging an amendment to come out of convention, the courts can mediate that dispute.

The ultimate safeguard in Article V, however, is its very high bar for ratification. Remember: the convention itself has zero power to amend our Constitution. Its only power is to suggest amendments to the states, who hold the real power. Before any amendment becomes law, three-quarters of states (38) must ratify it. Even groups with popular – though not universal – ideas avoid using the Article V approach for this reason. Their issues don’t have the backing term limits does and so they’ve concluded it would be a waste of time.

If popular groups on the left and the right don’t think their amendments could be ratified, how then could anyone ratify a radical amendment that everybody hates?

It just couldn’t happen. Notwithstanding the career-destroying scrutiny of hijacking a convention, there are just too many safeguards in place to allow fanaticism.

One final theory worth addressing is the notion that Congress will take over the convention to send its favorite radical amendments to the states. This is invalid for one obvious reason: Congress doesn’t need a convention to do that. Under our Constitution, Congress can already send any amendment it wants to the states with a simple two-thirds vote.

This effectively deflates convention critics’ favorite argument, by demonstrating that the powerful runaway convention they fear already exists and is called Congress. The Term Limits Convention, by contrast, is 1) less powerful than Congress, 2) more safeguarded and 3) carefully designed to rein in Congress rather than give them more power.

Sources:

The Founders History: Prior Experiences with Conventions

<https://www.uakron.edu/dotAsset/eb2e9bf5-993a-40ba-acca-856dd886a19b.pdf>

U.S. Constitution

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution>

From: Carrie Doores
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:54 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Carrie Doores
940 Wickersham
Palmer, AK 99645

From: John Haerle
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:48 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

John Haerle
north fork
Anchor Point, AK 99556

From: Kathryn Guillaum
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:45 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation. Also since you take your orders from D.C Republicans (mostly and still), you will continue doing nothing for the populace.

Kathryn Guillaum
PO Box 230
Klawock, AK 99925

From: Gretchen Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:37 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Gretchen Thompson
3884 N Sluice Box Dr
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Rick Richards
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:17 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

Rick Richards
25310 achernar st.
Ninilchik, AK 99639

From: vicky watson
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:19 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

vicky watson
jurasek drive
trapper creek, AK 99683

From: William Allman
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:32 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

William Allman
7362 w. Parks Hwy. #565
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Arilee Carlson
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 4:23 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote YES to Term Limit Congress

I am counting on you to support HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. It is imperative that Congress no longer be a "career" and return to its Original Intent, as service to and Representative of constituent Americans. We must have Term Limits for Congress! Be a leader for our nation! I need to know that you will be voting for this VERY important bill. Sincerely,

Arilee Carlson
Box 753
Craig, AK 99921

From: JAMES HOCKENBERRY
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 5:30 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

JAMES HOCKENBERRY
P.O. Box 16109
TWO RIVERS, AK 99716

From: Brenda Simmons
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:50 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Brenda Simmons
2468 Cloverwood loop
Anchorage, AK 99508

From: Derek Lopez
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:33 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Derek Lopez
1307 gjoa
Box 882
Petersburg, AK 99833

From: Timothy Smith Sr.
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:55 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Timothy Smith Sr.
236 W. Corral Ave.
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: Ronald Bissett
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:46 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Ronald Bissett
POB 933
Palmer, AK 99645

From: JoAnn Kohler
Date: March 23, 2016 at 08:10:17 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

JoAnn Kohler
275 W Scheelite Dr
Wasilla, AK 99654

From: Ron Baines
Date: March 23, 2016 at 08:03:16 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Ron Baines
135 Wolff Dr
Sitka, AK 99835

From: Thomas Gilligan
Date: March 22, 2016 at 17:59:47 AKDT

To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Thomas Gilligan
7085 Sweren Loop
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: Ellen Martsof

Date: March 23, 2016 at 07:36:07 AKDT

To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Ellen Martsof
18. E. Wallace St.
Shawnee, OK 74801

From: Ann Neavill

Date: March 23, 2016 at 07:54:18 AKDT

To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Ann Neavill
Po box 243601
Anchorage, AK 99524

From: Donald Bell
Date: March 22, 2016 at 22:28:55 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Donald Bell
132 grange hall rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Stephen Lyall
Date: March 23, 2016 at 10:20:09 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Stephen Lyall
16641 E Helmaur place
Palmer, AK 99645

From: Doris iliff
Date: March 23, 2016 at 07:38:54 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Doris iliff
315-B E. Melissa Rose Circle
Palmer, AK 99645

From: Bodhi Jordan

Date: March 23, 2016 at 07:29:07 AKDT

To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Bodhi Jordan
Mile 26.5 McCarthy Road
Chitina, AK 99566

From: Joel Sims

Date: March 23, 2016 at 06:54:40 AKDT

To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Joel Sims
1104 27th Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99701

From: Ron Brink

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:48 AM

To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Ron Brink

Eleonora
Eagle River, AK 99577

From: dale mckiernan
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:13 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

dale mckiernan
1848 badger road
north pole, AK 99705

From: Ray Cammisa
Date: March 22, 2016 at 18:15:39 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Ray Cammisa
17615 Lacey dr
Eagle River, AK 99577

From: Randall Smith
Date: March 23, 2016 at 10:18:31 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Randall Smith
7727 blackberry st
Anchorage, AK 99502

From: Sherry Cruse
Date: March 23, 2016 at 10:09:46 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Sherry Cruse
10340 Moosehorn dr.
Seward, AK 99664

From: Geraldine Benson
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:53 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

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Geraldine Benson
406B Monastery St
Sitka, AK 99835

From: Andrea Kosto
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:55 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Andrea Kosto

5647 Chilkoot Ct; ANC 99504
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: jeri rosenthal
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:59 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

jeri rosenthal
PO BX 943
Craig, AK 99921

From: Ben Disney
Date: March 22, 2016 at 20:26:20 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Ben Disney
PO 240831
Douglas, AK 99824

From: John Hayward
Date: March 23, 2016 at 07:48:04 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

John Hayward

48 western ave (senior complex) apt. 8
Metlakatla, AK 99926

From: Jimmy Helleck
Date: March 22, 2016 at 18:33:44 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Jimmy Helleck
142 Parkwood Circle
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: selina metoyer
Date: March 23, 2016 at 08:22:52 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

selina metoyer
528 oklahoma st
unit a
anchorage, AK 99504

From: Arseny Polushkin
Date: March 22, 2016 at 18:22:01 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Arseny Polushkin

32178 canyon view rd
Homer, AK 99603

From: Patrick Williams
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:23 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19

Congress desperately needs term limits, and Alaska has a real chance to be part of the solution by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am depending on you to advance this bill.

Let me know that you will be voting for this important item.

Thank you,

Patrick Williams
1431 s countrywood Dr
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Jerry Burns
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 9:31 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Jerry Burns
5011B Murphy Dome rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Raymond Cammisa
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 8:54 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Raymond Cammisa

17615 Lacey Dr
Eagle River, AK 99577

From: Chris Tuohy
Date: March 22, 2016 at 19:02:09 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Chris Tuohy
1630 Winding Brook Loop
Palmer, AK 99645

From: Steven Carter
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 10:27 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Steven Carter
36721 st. Theresa rd
Soldotna, AK 99669

From: Timothy Borer
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 10:42 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Timothy Borer
2870 e Marianns place
Wasilla, AK 99654

From: Algie Frisby
Date: March 23, 2016 at 10:12:27 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

Algie Frisby
105 cedar st
Hydabhrig, AK 99922

From: Jo Lind
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:00 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Jo Lind
406 w 4th Av n
Columbus, MT 59019

From: Rhonda Jones
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 5:08 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Rhonda Jones
5421 B Windflower Circle
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Ms. Ember Jackinsky
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:35 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19

Congress desperately needs term limits, and Alaska has a real chance to be part of the solution by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am depending on you to advance this bill.
Let me know that you will be voting for this important item.
Thank you,

Ms. Ember Jackinsky
3700 Sharon Gagnon Ln.
Anchorage, AK 99508

From: Julie Sharp-Dahl
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:07 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Julie Sharp-Dahl
5596 Dalzell Circle
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Walter M Kozecke
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:33 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.
Thank you.

Walter M Kozecke
3807 Chatham Avenue
Ketchikan, AK 99901

From: Fres Dunlap
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:37 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Fres Dunlap
8400 Pioneer Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: Keith Morrison
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 11:47 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Keith Morrison
1569 I St
Anchorage, AK 99501

From: Shauna Golliff
Date: March 23, 2016 at 12:01:48 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Congressional term limits!

I support this wholeheartedly! Our congress was meant to be an average Joe taking time from busy life to do their duty, not a career. We need to stop making it possible to spend a lifetime in the pockets of the corporations and special interest groups!
Term limits are the most important thing you will vote on in your political career. Make the right choice for the people despite the fact that it might limit you personally.

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Shauna Golliff
1353 Early View Dr
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: Charles Tenney
Date: March 23, 2016 at 12:55:30 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Charles Tenney
22508 McManus
Chugiak, AK 99567

From: Patsy Perry
Date: March 23, 2016 at 13:12:01 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

Patsy Perry
9900 whitefish circle apt 1
Anchorage, AK 99515

From: Ned Lewis
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:25 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Ned Lewis
4101 E. 84th Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Stephanie Moline
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:32 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Stephanie Moline
PO Box 228
Girdwood, AK 99587

From: Christopher Bozeman
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:41 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Christopher Bozeman
3341 E. Godfrey Drive
Wasilla, AK 99654

From: PAMLA BERRY
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:55 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

PAMLA BERRY
P O BOX 1533
1300 E. Hanagita # 8
VALDEZ, AK 99686

From: Rosemary Watabe
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:03 PM

To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Rosemary Watabe
558 Ookpik Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Matthew Torguson
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:13 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Matthew Torguson
184 Conner St.
West Saint Paul, MN 55118

From: Daid KING
Date: March 23, 2016 at 15:30:14 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Daid KING
Box 833
Delta Junction, AK 99737

From: Kimberly Fassett
Date: March 23, 2016 at 15:05:21 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Kimberly Fassett
721 N Randall's way
Wasilla, AK 99654

From: Kathy Pereira
Date: March 23, 2016 at 16:38:16 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Kathy Pereira
P.O. Box 521106
Big Lake, AK 99652

From: John Herron
Date: March 23, 2016 at 15:58:59 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19

Congress desperately needs term limits, and Alaska has a real chance to be part of the solution by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am depending on you to advance this bill.

Let me know that you will be voting for this important item.

Thank you,

John Herron
18416 Sue Tawn Dr.
Chugiak, AK 99567

From: Rodney Kay
Date: March 23, 2016 at 14:34:56 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Rodney Kay
12620 Old Glenn Hwy #A
Eagle River, AK 99577

From: Julie Brophy
Date: March 23, 2016 at 14:59:05 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Julie Brophy
3909 GENEVA pl
Anchorage, AK 99508

From: Fran Stredny
Date: March 23, 2016 at 18:53:08 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Fran Stredny
4334 Vista Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: James Crosby
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:17:24 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>

Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

James Crosby
Mi.2.5 Port St. Nicholas Rd.
Craig, AK 99921

From: Noah Kuzel
Date: March 23, 2016 at 21:51:14 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Noah Kuzel
4th Avenue
Selawik, AK 99770

From: Yvonne Niemuth
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:06:23 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Yvonne Niemuth
3800 Peter hawk st
North Pole, AK 99701

From: Gretchen Hundertmark
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:12:06 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Gretchen Hundertmark
1962 Red Leaf Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: Connie Smith
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:15:32 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Connie Smith
531 S Cobb St
Palmer, AK 99645

From: Bryan Westhoff
Date: March 23, 2016 at 20:31:39 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Bryan Westhoff
3894 Lyle Ave
North Pole, AK 99705

From: Catherine Tracy
Date: March 24, 2016 at 04:59:54 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Catherine Tracy
2107 W 46th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99517

From: Natalie Wagner
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:18:14 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

Thank you.

Natalie Wagner
31531Misty Mountain Circle
Eagle River, AK 99577

From: Clifford B Chambers
Date: March 23, 2016 at 18:44:06 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 to term limit Congress.

Thank you for your work in the Alaska State Legislature. I requesting your support for HJR 29/SJR 19, to put term limits on members of the Congress. This is a reform that is long overdue, and I would be proud if Alaska could be one of the first in the nation to pass this bill and lead the nation on this important issue. Let me know if you will vote to help pass this legislation.

this is one of the most important bills to come before. Please, Please vote for and encourage other members to do so also.

Clifford B Chambers
PO Box 2
31730 Bronze Ave
Seward, AK 99664

From: William Kubik
Date: March 23, 2016 at 19:44:06 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

William Kubik
2855 W Youngtree Dr
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Don DeVoe
Date: March 23, 2016 at 23:06:08 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please vote to term limit Congress

HJR 29/SJR 19 is a very important bill and it has my full support. I want Alaska to show that we can lead the nation on this issue. An issue that 75% of the American people support! Term limits on Congress as overdue and we want to be a part of making them happen!

Lets get this done, lets do the right thing by the American people, and Alaska. We want to be part of history!

Don DeVoe
1028:East 11th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

From: Stuart Cole
Date: March 23, 2016 at 20:39:42 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19

Congress desperately needs term limits, and Alaska has a real chance to be part of the solution by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am depending on you to advance this bill.

Let me know that you will be voting for this important item.

Thank you,

Stuart Cole
545 Church St.
Klawock, AK 99925

From: Kelly Larsen
Date: March 23, 2016 at 22:00:12 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Kelly Larsen
Debarr Road
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: lenore yeager
Date: March 23, 2016 at 17:02:20 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

lenore yeager
165 Vail Circle
po box 848
Girdwood, AK 99587

From: Timothy Sell
Date: March 23, 2016 at 17:49:48 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Timothy Sell
14441 Rocky rd
Anchorage, AK 99516

From: Esteban Hill
Date: March 23, 2016 at 23:25:56 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

Esteban Hill
9499 Brayton Dr # 10
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Lauren Beskow
Date: March 24, 2016 at 01:47:12 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Lauren Beskow
20630 Lucas Ave
Eagle River, AK 9957

From: patricia whatcott
Date: March 23, 2016 at 17:24:25 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

patricia whatcott

box 311
83a port st. nicholas.
craig, AK 99921

From: Gary Kosto
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 10:44 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Gary Kosto
22514 Chambers Lane
Chugiak, AK 99567

From: Dallas Coon
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 9:01 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

The Majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. You could be a key part in making Alaska one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Dallas Coon
5850 Lake Otis Parkway
Anchorage, AK 99507

From: Susan Burrell
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 7:59 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support this bill - TERM LIMITS

Congress has lost touch with the American people, and we need to make it a citizen legislature -- closer to the people like we have here in Alaska. One way this can be done is through term limits, which can be enacted by passing HJR 29/SJR 19. I am requesting that you vote to pass this legislation.

Susan Burrell
Box 485
Petersburg, AK 99833

From: Chad Smithpeters
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 7:53 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

I'm sick of career politicians that don't represent the American people. They are too connected with lobbyists and special interest groups that scratch their back versus doing what's right.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

Chad Smithpeters
3710 Coventry dr
Anchorage, AK 99507

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim:

**600 East Railroad Avenue
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
Phone (907) 373-1842
Fax: (907) 373-4729**



Session:

**State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-2186
Fax: (907) 465-3818**

REPRESENTATIVE WES KELLER DISTRICT 10

Sponsor Statement HJR 29

Article V Call for Constitutional Convention to Set Term Limits

HJR 29 begins a process under Article V of the U.S. Constitution for application to Congress to call a Convention of States to debate an amendment for term limits for members of Congress.

Nearly 80% of Americans, as of February 2016 78% of Alaskans have expressed bi-partisan support to limiting the number of terms a person can serve in the U.S. Congress.

HJR 29 is about respecting the will of the people and fixing a broken system. In 1994 and 1996 the people of Alaska voted to express their strong support in imposing term limits. The 1994 voter initiative passed with nearly 63% of the Alaska electorate, or 126,960 Alaskans, expressing the desire to limit terms of congressional office holders. Twenty-two other states also voted to limit congressional terms. The next year, in *USTL v. Thorton*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional for states to pass individual state laws placing limits on the number of terms a congressman could serve. The Court instead ruled that a constitutional amendment would be necessary. Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides a means other than Congress adopting an amendment for the states to propose such an amendment.

Implementing term limits empowers the people by allowing for people with new ideas and energy to compete for office. Washington D.C. is broken and bound by endless gridlock literally unable to respond to the voters' wishes. One only needs to look at the skyrocketing debt -- some \$19 trillion -- and inefficient programs to know that Congress is unable to control spending and fix the country's problems. Contrary to the Framers' intent to have a citizen legislature that rotates regularly many of those in Washington have grown apart from the very constituents that sent them there.

HJR 29 will help end "business as usual" in Washington D.C. and helps to put the people back in charge of their government. Incumbents are heavily favored in elections creating an uneven playing field for those with fresh ideas to represent and serve.

E-Mail: [Representative Wes Keller@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us)

Call Juneau Toll free: (800) 468-2186

Website: www.akrepublicans.org/keller/

Comments by Nick Tomboulides – Executive Director of U.S. Term Limits
In support of HJR 29, the Term Limits Convention Resolution
Before the Alaska House Judiciary Committee
April 1, 2016

Chairwoman LeDoux, Vice Chair Keller and members of the Committee,

Thank you for inviting me to testify before you today. I'm Nick Tomboulides and I serve as Executive Director of U.S. Term Limits. We are the only group in America working full time to implement term limits on members of Congress.

In the 1990s, our organization helped citizens in 23 states – including Alaska -- term limit their members of Congress through ballot measures. Then, in the 1995 case *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton*, the Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 split decision that all of those term limits were invalid. They said, in order to term limit Congress, we need a constitutional amendment.

I am here on behalf of myself and U.S. Term Limits to support HJR 29, which represents Alaska's application under Article V of the Constitution for an amendment-proposing convention limited to the subject of congressional term limits.

The U.S. Constitution states that, upon application of two-thirds of the states, Congress shall call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments. So, the convention Alaska applies for in this resolution is not activated until 33 other states have also done the same. In early February, my home state of Florida passed a resolution for a single-subject term limits convention, and several other states have similar legislation filed for this current session.

Once 34 states have applied for a convention on the same subject, Congress is mandated under Article V to call the convention. The delegates are selected by the states. The Convention can propose one or multiple congressional term limits amendments – or none at all. For a term limits amendment to become part of the Constitution, it must be ratified by 38 states.

HJR 29 should be adopted to address the very real concern that members of Congress are removed from their constituents and rely too heavily on incumbency to deter challenges at the ballot box. In the latest Real Clear Politics average, Congress has an approval rating of 13 percent. Yet, 95 percent of incumbents are returned to office each cycle.

The evidence suggests Congress is not listening to the public on policy matters. In a 2014 study by Princeton and Northwestern universities that analyzed over 2000 public opinion surveys and compared them to policies that became law, the researchers concluded that the preferences of the average American have a "minuscule, near-zero, statistically non-significant impact upon policy."

Congress was intended to be a citizen legislature, where members were very close to their constituents and would come home to spend time around them. But this mentality was lost as the population grew, along with the size and complexity of government. Alaska is often noted for having a small state legislature, but in terms of representation ratio, this is actually one of the best in the country.

The average congressional district has 700,000 people, which makes it 4000% bigger than a State House district in Alaska. This limits the ability of the average person to affect change in Congress, and empowers large special interest groups who are really the only ones with the financial might to affect an election of that size.

A term limits amendment would reduce the barriers to entry that make it so difficult for qualified people to run for Congress. This amendment is not aimed at any one member of Congress, nor is it guaranteed to affect the current membership. The decisions on how long of a limit to choose and whether to include some element of grandfathering will be up to the delegates picked by the states.

Congressional term limits would also honor the will of the people of Alaska. In 1994, 63 percent of Alaskans voted to term limit this state's members of Congress. This law is still on the books today, in Title 15, Chapter 30 of Alaska Statutes. Of course, it was nullified by the Supreme Court in the Thornton case, but that decision left open the door to term limit Congress by constitutional amendment.

According to a February poll by the respected McLaughlin & Associates, 78% of Alaskans today – no matter the party, no matter the age, race or gender – support a single issue term limits convention.

The history of the Article V convention makes it the perfect tool for states to use at a moment like this. It was written in the Constitution specifically to give states a way to bypass Congress, because the Founders knew Congress would never vote for an amendment outside its own self-interest.

There has never been a better moment for the states to take action to reestablish balance with the Congress. The American people are disillusioned by the performance of the federal government, and are ready for the states to use the tools at your disposal to fix the situation.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions you have.

From: Jon Jackson
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 2:05 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Jon Jackson
Box 10722
Fairbanks, AK 99710

From: Veronica Fread
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 8:59 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HJR 29/SJR 19 for term limits!

Your vote is needed now on HJR 29/SJR 19, which is a resolution to help put term limits on members of the Congress in Washington. This is something all political parties and individuals in Alaska can support. Please help get it to the floor and passed.

Thank you,

Veronica Fread
3108 Glenn Don Drive
anchorage, AK 99504

From: Virginia Graham
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 8:20 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.

Thanks,

Virginia Graham
1210 East 16th #20
Anchorage, AK 99501

From: Teresa Schellekens
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 7:33 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We can hold Congress accountable!

Alaskans want term limits on Congress. This is something that the nation wants as well, but you could be a key part in making it happen! Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of the historic achievement of getting term limits on Congress. We will be able to say we are upholding the principles our founding fathers wanted, a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Teresa Schellekens
870 luthers loop
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: Jeannie English
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 9:41 AM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: YES we can hold Congress accountable!

A majority of Alaskans want term limits on Congress. Over 75% of the American people want term limits on congress. Please consider becoming a key part in Alaska's move to become one of the first states to call for an article V term limits convention. Please vote APPROVE for HJR 29/SJR 19. We could be part of history! This bill will work toward upholding the principles which our founding fathers wanted --- a citizen legislature and rotation in office!

Please help us make history!

Jeannie English
880 Seldom Seen Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99712

From: John Gallagher
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 1:52 PM
To: Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: We need the term limits convention - vote for it!

Alaska can finally be a part of term-limiting Congress by backing the Term Limits Convention resolution. As a proud Alaskan I am formally requesting that you do all in your power to advance HJR 29/SJR 19.

Thank you. I look forward to your reply.

John Gallagher
3565 shariton
kodiak, AK 99615

From: Bruno Bryner
Date: March 25, 2016 at 15:00:01 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: The people want term limits on Congress

Thank you for all you have done for Alaska! I really appreciate all you have done, but now we have an opportunity to really do something about the corruption and inefficiency of Congress. The Article V Term Limits Convention is the only way to term limits Congress without Congressional approval. Please vote for HJR 29/SJR 19. We cannot wait any longer. Go get Congress and bring them home!

Bruno Bryner
20080 W Giggly Girls Ave
P.O. Box 247
Willow, AK 99688

From: Larry Starr
Date: March 26, 2016 at 01:35:19 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.
Thanks,

Larry Starr
6460 Fuller lakes cir.
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Brian Kemp
Date: March 26, 2016 at 14:18:23 AKDT
To: <representative.gabrielle.ledoux@akleg.gov>
Subject: I'm requesting your vote to Term Limit Congress

Congress is a mess. I am counting on you to help fix it by supporting HJR 29/SJR 19 for congressional term limits. This will restore competitive elections in America and infuse congress with fresh faces and ideas. Let me know if you will be voting for this important bill.
Thanks,

Brian Kemp
7601Pleasure View Cir
Anchorage, AK 99507

VOTE FOR HJR 29 /SJR 19

Deborah M. Williams
HC 1, Box 540
Gakona, AK 99586

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HJR 29
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HJR29-LEG-SESS-04-04-16
Title: CALL FED. CONSTITUTIONAL CONV:TERM
LIMITS
Sponsor: KELLER
Requester: Rep LeDoux

Department:
Appropriation:
Allocation:
OMB Component Number: 0

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2017 Request	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2017	FY 2017					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency?
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

N/A Initial Version. One Page. Zero Note.

Prepared By: <u>Jessica Geary, Finance Manager</u>	Phone: <u>(907)465-6626</u>
Division: <u>Legislative Affairs Agency</u>	Date: <u>04/04/2016 10:59 AM</u>
Approved By: <u>Pam Varni, Executive Director</u>	Date: <u>04/04/2016</u>
Agency: <u>Legislative Affairs Agency</u>	



April 1, 2016

The Honorable Representative Gabrielle LeDoux, Chair
The Honorable Representative Wes Keller, Vice Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

By email: Representative.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov
Representative.Wes.Keller@akleg.gov

Re: House Bill 236: ACLU of Alaska Review

Dear Chair LeDoux and Vice Chair Keller:

Thank you for letting us share our thoughts about House Bill 236. While the bill reiterates clergy's strong, existing First Amendment right to solemnize just those marriages that comport with their faith, it dramatically—and we expect, unintentionally—rewrites the decades-long balance between faith and secular nondiscrimination laws that protect everyone in public spaces. Though we do not support HB 236 in its current form, we offer in the attached appendices two ways for the committee to amend it, either of which will reemphasize clergy's constitutional freedom of religion without disturbing the sixty-two-year equilibrium between faith and nondiscrimination laws. If the committee makes the changes in either appendix, the ACLU of Alaska would be pleased to endorse the bill.

The right to freely practice one's religion is the first freedom in the First Amendment, and we have stalwartly defended that right since the ACLU's founding nearly 100 years ago. Last year alone, the:

- ACLU of Pennsylvania interceded on behalf of a Christian inmate seeking to have a communal prayer during the Christmas holiday;
- ACLU of Hawai'i secured the rights of a pastor and his wife to hand out religious literature on a public sidewalk;
- ACLU of New Hampshire filed suit on behalf of a prisoner's mother and three-year-old son against a prison policy that prohibits Christmas cards, prayer cards, and drawings sent through the mail;
- ACLU of Virginia defended students' right to wear rosary beads in a public high school; and
- ACLU of Michigan backed Christian evangelists' right to protest at a street festival.

All told, the ACLU files an average of one suit per month to vindicate the right of all Americans to practice their religion.¹ We unreservedly endorse the initial part of HB 236 that reiterates no person of faith is *obliged* to solemnize a marriage simply because they are *authorized* to do so. As the conditions of marriage solemnization can be deeply entwined with religious belief, we would zealously oppose any attempt by the state to force someone to solemnize a marriage under conditions that violate that person's sincerely held religious beliefs. The Constitution of the State of Alaska and the United States Constitution stand ready to ensure that does not happen.

But we are concerned by the portions of HB 236 that reach beyond the discrete scope of marriage solemnization and extend to circumstances "related to" marriage solemnization and celebration—circumstances ordinarily considered part of the public sphere. Specifically, HB 236 appears to endeavor to inoculate religious practitioners who are authorized to solemnize marriages from being subject to the same civil nondiscrimination protections that govern everyone else when providing "services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges for a purpose related to the solemnization, formation, or celebration of a marriage."

Providing such services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges are non-religious activities. Just as a commercial hotel is governed by applicable civil rights legislation when it opens itself up to the public to rent out a banquet hall for a wedding reception—e.g., it is not permitted to discriminate in providing that space according to someone's race or religion—so too should every institution—secular or religious—be when it opens itself up to the public to provide similar secular services.

We all agree that religious freedom is important. Since the beginning of the United States and of the State of Alaska, our respective Free Exercise Clauses have worked well: they allow churches to hire the clergy that they want, to pray the way their tradition teaches, and to solemnize marriages as their faith requires. And for decades, in all areas of nondiscrimination protection—such as race, religion, and sex—the Federal and Alaska Constitutions' freedom of religion protections have successfully protected churches in their religious practices.

This well-balanced relationship between religious freedom and civil rights has been bolstered by the Supreme Courts of both Alaska and the United States. No less an authority than Justice Antonin Scalia—no stranger to robust defense of religious liberty—wrote the majority opinion for the U.S. Supreme Court 26 years ago that religious belief does not excuse one from generally applicable laws and regulations that do not target religion. As Justice Scalia observed, "We have never held that an individual's religious beliefs excuse him from compliance with an otherwise valid law prohibiting conduct that the State is free to regulate."² Not long after, the Alaska Supreme Court similarly held that

¹ For a more complete list, please read *ACLU Defense of Religious Practice and Expression*, <https://www.aclu.org/aclu-defense-religious-practice-and-expression> and <https://www.aclu.org/other/aclu-defense-religious-practice-and-expression-pdf>.

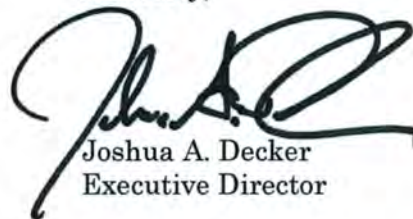
² *Empl. Div., Dept. of Human Resources of Oregon v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872, 878-79 (1990).

religious belief does not excuse one from anti-discrimination laws based on one's religious convictions. It observed, "The Free Exercise Clause of the United States and Alaska Constitutions do not permit [someone] to disobey the state and municipal anti-discrimination laws by entitling him to an exemption."³ The balance point between the sphere of religious liberty and the sphere of civil rights protections—for race, sex, religion, and gay and transgender individuals—has existed for decades, and existed well, far removed from the point HB 236 would reset it.

Unfortunately, the current language of HB 236 includes an unprecedented and wholly unnecessary rollback of civil rights protections. If enacted as is, it would reset the equilibrium point that has balanced religious freedom and civil rights protections for decades and that have served Alaska and the United States well. To preserve this well-established equipoise, we suggest the committee adopt one of the two alternate versions we are attaching in the appendices to this letter. Adopting either substitute would ensure that the committee achieves HB 236's goal of reiterating the robust religious freedoms enshrined in the Alaska and United States Constitutions, without rolling back essential civil rights protections that express Alaska's interest in a fairer, more equitable society.

We look forward to working with you to do what it takes to see this just bill become a just law.

Sincerely,



Joshua A. Decker
Executive Director

cc: Rep. Neal Foster	Representative.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov
Rep. Bob Lynn	Representative.Bob.Lynn@akleg.gov
Rep. Charisse Millett	Representative.Charisse.Millet@akleg.gov
Rep. Matt Claman	Representative.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov
Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins	Representative.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov
Rep. Kurt Olson	Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov
Rep. Dave Talerico, Sponsor	Representative.Dave.Talerico@akleg.gov

³ *Swanner v. Anchorage Equal Rights Commn.*, 874 P.2d 274, 285 (Alaska 1994).

Appendix: Proposed Option 1

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **“An Act relating to marriage solemnization.”**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 25.05.261 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

4 (c) Nothing in this section creates or implies a duty on a person authorized to
5 solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this section to

6 (1) solemnize a marriage; or

7 (2) provide services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges **to the public**

8 for a purpose related to the solemnization, formation, or celebration of a marriage.

9 (d) A person permitted to solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this

10 section is not subject to criminal or civil liability for refusing to solemnize a marriage

11 or refusing to provide, **unless provided to the public,** services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges for a
12 purpose related to the solemnization, formation, or celebration of a marriage.

13 (e) The state or a municipality may not penalize a person who is permitted to

14 solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this section for refusing to solemnize a

15 marriage or refusing to provide, **unless provided to the public,** services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or

16 privileges for a purpose related to the solemnization, formation, or celebration of a

17 marriage. In this subsection, "penalize" means to take an action affecting a benefit or

18 privilege guaranteed to the person by law, including a tax exemption or state or

19 municipal contract, grant, or license.

New Text Bold Underlined [DELETED TEXT CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED]

Appendix: Proposed Option 2

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **“An Act relating to marriage solemnization.”**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 25.05.261 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

4 (c) Nothing in this section creates or implies a duty on a person authorized to
5 solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this section to

6 [(1)] solemnize a marriage[; OR

7 (2) PROVIDE SERVICES, ACCOMMODATIONS, FACILITIES, GOODS, OR PRIVILEGES

8 FOR A PURPOSE RELATED TO THE SOLEMNIZATION, FORMATION, OR CELEBRATION OF A MARRIAGE.]

9 (d) A person permitted to solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this

10 section is not subject to criminal or civil liability for refusing to solemnize a marriage

11 [OR REFUSING TO PROVIDE SERVICES, ACCOMMODATIONS, FACILITIES, GOODS, OR PRIVILEGES FOR A
12 PURPOSE RELATED TO THE SOLEMNIZATION, FORMATION, OR CELEBRATION OF A MARRIAGE].

13 (e) The state or a municipality may not penalize a person who is permitted to

14 solemnize a marriage under (a)(1) or (3) of this section for refusing to solemnize a

15 marriage [OR REFUSING TO PROVIDE SERVICES, ACCOMMODATIONS, FACILITIES, GOODS, OR

16 PRIVILEGES FOR A PURPOSE RELATED TO THE SOLEMNIZATION, FORMATION, OR CELEBRATION OF A
17 MARRIAGE]. In this subsection, "penalize" means to take an action affecting a benefit or

18 privilege guaranteed to the person by law, including a tax exemption or state or

19 municipal contract, grant, or license.

New Text Bold Underlined [DELETED TEXT CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED]