

**HB**

**185**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 185</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
185</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA30</COMM></TARGET>

REPRESENTATIVE  
**Colleen Sullivan-Leonard**  
House District 7

Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov



REPRESENTATIVE  
**GEORGE RAUSCHER**  
House District 9

Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov

## House Bill 185 Sponsor Statement

House Bill 185 calls for the Alaska State Legislature to convene for regular sessions in the Municipality of Anchorage, at the Legislative Information Office. The relocation of the legislative session to Anchorage is in the best interest of Alaska and a vast majority of the state's population. This bill does not seek to relocate the capital city nor does it seek to move other State departments located in Juneau.

By relocating legislative sessions to Anchorage, the legislature will address several important elements: Foundation, Access, Transparency, and Economics:

**Foundation** – The Alaska Constitution (Article 1, Section 2) states that: “All political power is inherent in the people. All government originates with the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the people as a whole.”

**Access** – The people of Alaska deserve access to their legislators. They need to be able to see and know what is happening in the legislature. Relocation to Anchorage will provide a greater number of Alaskans with access to the legislative process and a more rounded understanding of the issues.

**Transparency** – The people should be able to interact with their representatives. Watching Gavel to Gavel, local news, and other prepared or edited sound bites is not transparency. It is not the same as being there.

**Economics** – Over a period of ten years the legislature will save a considerable amount of money which will offset the initial costs. Through the reduction of per diem payments, moving costs, and travel. An important aspect of savings should include appropriate and timely renovations of the newly purchased Anchorage LIO; renovations could include two chambers and appropriate floor plans/offices for legislators and staff to be ready for 2019.

The Southcentral Alaska area (Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula, Mat-Su) represents more than half the population of Alaska – approximately 460,000 people. Including Fairbanks, the Kenai Peninsula, and other communities on the road system brings the number of Alaskans who would be able to drive to the legislature in a single day to about 500,000. In essence, moving the Legislature to Anchorage will provide two-thirds of the Alaska's population direct access to the legislative process.

The Southcentral region is home to 11 Senators and 22 Representatives and countless legislative staff. Relocation will result in lower per diem, and savings in annual moving cost to convene and adjourn each year.

We invite open discussion and urge you to support this legislation.

**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**Colleen Sullivan-Leonard**  
House District 7  
Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov



**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**GEORGE RAUSCHER**  
House District 9  
Rep.George.Rauscher@akleg.gov

## **HB185**

### **SECTIONAL ANALYSIS**

**"An Act relating to the relocating and convening of the legislature at the Legislative Information Office in Anchorage, et al."**

**Section 1** amends A.S. 15.13.072(d)(3), to replace "Capital City" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 2** amends A.S. 15.13.072(g), to replace "Capital City" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 3** amends existing A.S. 24.05.090 to require that the legislative session convene in the Municipality of Anchorage, at the Legislative Information Office

**Section 4** amends A.S. 25.05.100(b), to replace "at the Capital" with "the Legislative Information Office"

**Section 5** amends A.S. §24.10.030, to require the Chief Clerk and Senate Secretary report for duty to "location of session" and remain there until completion of their work "relating to the session"

**Section 6** amends A.S. §24.10.130(a) to replace "Capital City" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 7** amends A.S. §24.45.041(b), to replace "State Capital" with "location of session"

**Section 8** amends A.S. §24.45.041(e) to replace "State Capitol Building" with "Legislative Information Office in the Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 9** amends A.S. §24.50.010, to replace "Capital" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 10** conforms A.S. §24.50.040 with changes to A.S. 24.50.010

**Section 11** amends A.S. §24.60.030(a)(2)(D), to replace "Capital City" with "location of the session"

**Section 12** amends A.S. §24.60.031(a), to replace "Capital City" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**Section 13** amends A.S. §24.60.031(b) to replace "Capital City" with "Municipality of Anchorage"

**HB185, "An Act relating to the relocating and convening of the legislature at the Legislative Information Office in Anchorage, et al."**  
**SECTIONAL ANALYSIS, Page 2 of 2**

**Section 14** amends A.S. §24.60.080(c), to replace "Capital City" with "location of the session"

**Section 15** amends A.S. §44.99.007, to grant the governor the power to declare by proclamation, an emergency temporary location for the legislative session

**Section 16** repeals A.S. §§44.06.050, 44.06.055 and 44.06.060

**Section 17** affords and effective date of January 1, 2019