

HR

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<TARGET><BILL>HR 5</BILL><SUBJECT>HR
5</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA30</COMM></TARGET>

Alaska State Legislature

Session Address:
Alaska State Capitol, Room 424
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone (907)465- 2693
House District 30



Interim Address:
145 Main Street Loop
Room 221
Kenai, Alaska 99611
Phone (907)283-2690

Representative Gary Knopp

Sponsor Statement

House Resolution 5

This Resolution would provide for a clear and transparent policy for per diem payments to the House of Representatives, in addition to providing for a savings to the State of Alaska.

House Resolution 5 would adopt the United States Department of Defense (DoD) federal flat rate per diem schedule providing the members of the House of Representatives who reside outside of Juneau be paid at the full federal per diem rate for the first 30 days of each regular session and, for the remainder of each regular session at 75 percent of the DoD full per diem rate. Currently members are paid the full per diem rate for all days in session.

House Resolution 5 would also reduce the per diem for the members who reside in Juneau to 75 percent of the rate paid to members who do not reside in Juneau.

While the savings incurred under this resolution is nominal when considering the overall budget deficit that currently faces the State of Alaska, it provides a defined process tied to the methodology used at a national level.

I urge your support for this Resolution.

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Representative Gary Knopp

April 15, 2017

Representative Kriess-Thompkins,

I respectfully request that a hearing for House Resolution 5, "*Urging the House of Representatives to adopt a policy for per diem paid to its members base on the United States Department of Defense federal flat rate per diem schedule* " be scheduled in the House State Affairs Committee as soon as practical.

HR 5 will provide a clear and transparent policy for payment of per diem for members of the Alaska House of Representatives, in addition to providing for a savings to the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Knopp".

Representative Gary Knopp

District 30

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOPP

Introduced:

Referred:

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the House of Representatives to adopt a policy for per diem paid to its members**
2 **based on the United States Department of Defense federal flat rate per diem schedule.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

4 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska is in a fiscal crisis that requires all branches of
5 government to identify savings to reduce the budget deficit; and

6 **WHEREAS** members of the House of Representatives who do not reside in Juneau
7 are paid session per diem at the full federal per diem rate, and members of the House of
8 Representatives who reside in Juneau are paid session per diem at 75 percent of the full
9 federal per diem rate; and

10 **WHEREAS** the House of Representatives could achieve savings by reducing per
11 diem of its members and calculating per diem based on the United States Department of
12 Defense federal flat rate per diem schedule; and

13 **WHEREAS** paying per diem to members of the House of Representatives who do not
14 reside in Juneau at the full federal per diem rate for the first 30 days of each regular session,
15 reducing the per diem to the federal long-term per diem rate for the remainder of each regular
16 session, and paying members of the House of Representatives who reside in Juneau 75

1 percent of the per diem paid to members of the House of Representatives who do not reside in
2 Juneau would achieve savings and not create a hardship for members of the House of
3 Representatives; and

4 **WHEREAS**, for a special session, the per diem paid to members of the House of
5 Representatives who do not reside in the location of the special session should remain at the
6 full federal per diem rate, and the per diem paid to members of the House of Representatives
7 who reside in the location of the special session should be 75 percent of the full federal per
8 diem rate;

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges its members to adopt a
10 policy based on the United States Department of Defense federal flat rate per diem schedule
11 and providing that members of the House of Representatives who do not reside in Juneau be
12 paid at the full federal per diem rate for the first 30 days of each regular session and, for the
13 remainder of each regular session, at 75 percent of the full federal per diem rate; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges its members to
15 adopt a policy providing that members of the House of Representatives who reside in Juneau
16 be paid 75 percent of the amount of per diem paid to members who do not reside in Juneau;
17 and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives urges its members to
19 adopt a policy providing that, for a special session, special session per diem claimed by
20 members of the House of Representatives who do not reside in the location of the special
21 session be paid at the full federal per diem rate and, that members of the House of
22 Representatives who reside in the location of the special session, be paid at 75 percent of the
23 full federal per diem rate.