

SCOMM

#49:28

14-1391
Cramer ✓
11/25/85

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON LEGISLATIVE SALARIES

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO.

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Proposing an amendment to the Constitu-
6 tion of the State of Alaska establishing
7 a state officers compensation commis-
8 sion.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. Article XII, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is
11 amended by adding a new section to read:

12 SECTION 14. STATE OFFICERS COMPENSATION COMMISSION. The state
13 officers compensation commission shall consist of seven members ap-
14 pointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by a majority of
15 the members of the legislature in joint session. A person who is an
16 elected municipal official, an employee of the legislative, judicial,
17 or executive branches of state government including the University of
18 Alaska, or a member of another state board, commission, or authority
19 may not serve as a member of the compensation commission. Members of
20 the commission shall be appointed for four-year terms except that the
21 initial members of the commission shall be appointed to terms so that
22 no more than two vacancies occur in a single year. A vacancy shall be
23 filled for the unexpired term. The commission shall act by
24 concurrence of four or more members and according to rules that it
25 adopts. The commission may revise the salaries, benefits, and expense
26 allowances of members of the legislature, the governor, lieutenant
27 governor, justices and judges of the court system, and the head of
28 each principal department. The salaries, benefits, and expense
29 allowances established by the commission take effect on the first day

1 of the next regular legislative session. However, the legislature may
2 reject the salaries, benefits, or expense allowances by a concurrent
3 resolution adopted by two-thirds of the members in each house of the
4 legislature. The legislature shall implement this section by law.

5 * Sec. 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be placed
6 before the voters of the state at the next general election in conformity
7 with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the elec-
8 tion laws of the state.
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See 1391 dated
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Amendment

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7 → *Sec. 3*

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Introduced: 1/25/85
Referred: State Affairs,
Judiciary and Finance

BY PIGNALBERI, PHILLIPS AND
JENKINS

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 129

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to compensation of legislators;
7 establishing a commission on legislative compensa-
8 tion; and providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 24.15.020 is repealed and reenacted to read:

11 Sec. 24.15.020. SALARY OF LEGISLATORS. The compensation of a
12 legislator shall be established in accordance with AS 24.15.080 -
13 24.15.110.

14 * Sec. 2. AS 24.15 is amended by adding new sections to read:

15 ARTICLE 3. COMMISSION ON LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION.

16 Sec. 24.15.080. COMPENSATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED. (a) The
17 Commission on Legislative Compensation is established. The commission
18 is composed of five members appointed jointly by the president of the
19 senate and the speaker of the house for terms of four years. Commis-
20 sion membership shall include at least one business executive, one
21 representative of a nonpartisan voters' organization, one person with
22 experience in public administration and one representative of a labor
23 organization. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the un-
24 expired term.

25 (b) The commission shall annually elect a member to chair its
26 meetings. A majority of the commission members constitutes a quorum
27 to transact business. A majority of the members must approve the
28 commission's recommendations on legislative compensation.

29 (c) The commission shall meet at the call of the chair. Notice *gold*

1 of a meeting shall be mailed to each member at least 15 days before
2 the date scheduled for the meeting.

3 Sec. 24.15.090. PROHIBITIONS AGAINST STATE SERVICE. A member of
4 the commission may not be employed by the state during membership on *and*
5 the commission and may not hold legislative elective office during or
6 within one year following membership.

7 Sec. 24.15.100. DUTIES OF COMMISSION. The commission shall
8 review legislators' salaries at least once every two years, but not
9 more frequently than every year. The commission shall report to the
10 legislature its recommendations on compensation of legislators,
11 including their salaries, benefits, and allowances. The commission
12 may recommend that the president of the senate and the speaker of the
13 house receive additional compensation. A salary recommendation of the
14 commission takes effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year if
15 the legislature passes an appropriation to fund an increase. A recom-
16 mendation on benefits or allowances takes effect upon the passage of
17 necessary legislation.

18 Sec. 24.15.110. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. The Administra-
19 tive Procedure Act (AS 44.62) does not apply to proceedings of the
20 commission. However, the commission shall hold a public hearing
21 before recommending a change in the compensation of legislators.

22 Sec. 24.15.120. DEFINITION. In AS 24.15.080 - 24.15.110 "com-
23 mission" means the Commission on Legislative Compensation.

24 * Sec. 3. Notwithstanding AS 24.15.080(a), two of the initial members
25 appointed to the commission shall serve one-year terms, one member shall
26 serve a two-year term, one member shall serve a three-year term, and one
27 member shall serve a four-year term.

28 * Sec. 4. Notwithstanding sec. 1 of this Act, the salary for legisla-
29 tors established in AS 24.15.020 as it existed immediately before the

1 effective date of this Act shall remain in effect until the commission has
2 recommended a change and the legislature has adopted it in accordance with
3 AS 24.15.100.

4 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
5 10.070(c).

Introduced: 1/25/85
Referred: State Affairs,
Judiciary and Finance

BY PIGNALBERI, PHILLIPS AND
JENKINS

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21 representative of a nonpartisan voters' organization, one person with
22 experience in public administration and one representative of a labor
23 organization. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the un-
24 expired term.

25 (b) The commission shall annually elect a member to chair its
26 meetings. A majority of the commission members constitutes a quorum
27 to transact business. A majority of the members must approve the
28 commission's recommendations on legislative compensation.

29 (c) The commission shall meet at the call of the chair. Notice

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LAWS OF ALASKA

1976

Source

PCCS HCS CSSB 499

Chapter No.

263

AN ACT

Relating to compensation, benefits and classifications of public officers and employees; creating the Alaska Salary Commission; and providing for an effective date.

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

▪ Section 1. AS 39 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

Sec. 39.23.010. CREATION OF COMMISSION; COMPOSITION. There is established in the Department of Administration the Alaska Salary Commission consisting of five members appointed by the governor. No member of the commission may be a public officer or employee.

Sec. 39.23.020. TERM OF OFFICE; VACANCIES. (a) Commission members serve at the pleasure of the governor for four-year staggered terms. However, two of the initial members appointed to the commission shall serve one-year terms and the rest shall serve, respectively, for terms of two years, three years and four years, the term to be determined by lot at the first meeting of the commission.

(b) A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as an original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.

Sec. 39.23.030. OFFICERS; STAFF. The commission shall select a chairman from among its members annually. The director of the division of personnel and labor relations serves as ex officio secretary to the commission and provides research, technical and administrative services.

Sec. 39.23.040. MEETINGS; QUORUM. (a) A majority of the commission members constitutes a quorum to transact the business of the commission. A majority of the commission

members must approve the commission's recommendations to the legislature.

(b) The commission shall meet at the call of the chairman. Notice of meeting dates shall be mailed to each commission member at least 20 days before the date scheduled for a meeting.

(c) The commission shall meet to discuss its findings and recommendations at least twice before submitting its final report to the legislature under sec. 60 of this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.050. COMPENSATION. Members of the commission are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for boards and commissions.

Sec. 39.23.060. REVIEW OF COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS; OFFICERS COVERED. The commission shall conduct an on-going review of compensation and retirement benefits for members of the legislature; the governor; the lieutenant governor; commissioners, deputy commissioners, and division directors of each executive department; members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission; members of the Alaska Pipeline Commission; members of the Alaska Transportation Commission; members of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission; and the judiciary, to determine the appropriateness of compensation and benefits.

Sec. 39.23.070. STUDIES; REPORTS. (a) The commission may request reports or studies from any state agency concerning compensation and retirement benefits for officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter. A state agency from which a report or study is requested shall furnish it within a period of time prescribed by the commission.

(b) The commissioner of administration shall make initial recommendations concerning compensation and retirement benefits for the officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.080. (a) Before November 15, 1976, and the commission shall submit its preliminary findings and recommendations to the governor, the presiding officers of each house of the legislature and the chief justice of the supreme court.

(b) The commission shall give reasonable public notice of its preliminary findings and recommendations, solicit public comments, and give due regard to the public comments, before submitting a final report under (c) of this section.

(c) The commission shall make a final report of its findings and recommendations as to the rate and form of compensation and retirement benefits for the officers listed in sec. 60 of this chapter within 10 days after the first regular session of a legislature convenes.

The recommendations regarding retirement become effective if enacted into law by the legislature.

(d) The commission may submit to the legislature amendments to the report submitted under (c) of this section.

(e) A commission member who does not concur in the proposed or final recommendations may attach written objections to the commission's report of its findings and recommendations.

Sec. 39.23.090. RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY, GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. (a) No recommendations of the commission may have the effect of reducing the compensation or retirement benefits of any member of the judiciary who is a member of the judiciary on the effective date of the commission's recommendation; or reduce, unless by general law applied to all salaried officers of the state, the compensation and retirement benefits of the governor or lieutenant governor who are in office on the effective date of the commission's recommendation.

(b) The commission may recommend reduction in compensation or retirement benefits for individuals who become members of the judiciary or governor or lieutenant governor after the effective date of the commission's recommendation.

Sec. 39.23.100. FILING WITH LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND CERTIFICATION. The commission shall, upon transmitting its final recommendations to the legislature, file the recommendations in the office of the lieutenant governor, and upon the recommendations becoming effective the commission shall so certify on the copy of the recommendations on file in the office of the lieutenant governor.

Sec. 39.23.110. POLICY OF THE LEGISLATURE. It is the policy of the legislature that the commission determine the salary schedule and retirement benefits for public officers based upon equitable relationships being maintained among state positions.

Sec. 39.23.120. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. The Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) does not apply to proceedings conducted under this chapter.

Sec. 39.23.130. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

(1) "commission" means salary commission;

(2) "judiciary" means justices of the supreme court and judges of the superior and district courts.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 16.43.060 is amended to read:

Sec. 16.43.060. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 22.05.140(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) The chief justice and each associate justice are entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in

accordance with AS 39.23. Compensation of the chief justice or of an associate justice may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- Sec. 4. AS 22.10.190(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) Each superior court judge is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23. The compensation of a judge may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- Sec. 5. AS 22.15.220(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(a) Each district judge is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23. The compensation of a judge may not be diminished during his term of office, unless by general law applying to all salaried officers of the state.

- Sec. 6. AS 24.15.010 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 24.15.010. [REDACTED] The rate of per diem instead of subsistence for each member of the legislature shall be prescribed in accordance with AS [REDACTED]

- Sec. 7. AS 24.15.020 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 24.15.020. [REDACTED] Each member of the legislature is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS [REDACTED] to be paid in approximately equal monthly installments. The president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives are each entitled to an additional annual sum prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- Sec. 8. AS 24.15.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 24.15.030. [REDACTED] In addition, each member of the legislature is entitled to an annual allowance prescribed in accordance with AS [REDACTED] for postage, stationery, stenographic services and other expenses.

- Sec. 9. AS 39.20.010 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.20.010. ANNUAL SALARY OF GOVERNOR. The annual salary of the governor shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- Sec. 10. AS 39.20.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.20.030. ANNUAL SALARY OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The annual salary of the lieutenant governor shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- Sec. 11. AS 39.20.080 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 39.20.080. SALARY OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT HEAD AND DEPUTY. (a) The annual salary of the head of each principal executive department of the state shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

(b) The salary of the deputy head of each principal executive department of the state shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

- Sec. 12. AS 39.35.680(5)(B) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(B) means an elected official of a political subdivision currently serving who elects to pay contributions required of an employee and to be included in the system under sec. 125 of this chapter;

- Sec. 13. AS 39.35.680(5)(C)(v) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(v) Justices and judges of the supreme, superior, and district courts of Alaska; or the governor and lieutenant governor; or the heads, deputy or assistant heads, and division directors of each principal executive department of the state; or the members of the Alaska State Legislature.

- Sec. 14. AS 42.05.091 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.05.091. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

- Sec. 15. AS 42.06.090 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.06.090. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA PIPELINE COMMISSION. Members of the commission are in the exempt service described in AS 39.25 and receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

- Sec. 16. AS 42.07.071 is amended to read:

Sec. 42.07.071. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ALASKA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. The commissioners are in the exempt service under AS 39.25 and shall receive an annual salary as established under AS 39.23.

- Sec. 17. The first appointments to the Alaska Salary Commission shall be made within 30 days after the effective date of sec. 1 of this Act.

- Sec. 18. AS 39.50.200(9) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(LL) Alaska Salary Commission (AS 39.23)

- Sec. 19. AS 39.25.120(8) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

(8) the director and deputy director of the division of tourism in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

- Sec. 20. Section 19 of this Act is retroactive to July 1, 1975.

* Sec. 21. Sections 1, 12, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of this Act take effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.070(c). Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of this Act take effect on the effective date of the first recommendations submitted to the legislature under AS 39.23.080(c).

-6-

Approved by governor: June 24, 1976
Actual effective date: Secs. 1, 12, 17, 18, 19 and 20:
June 25, 1976; Sec. 19 retroactive to July 1, 1975; Secs. 2,
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 take effect
on the effective date of the first recommendation of the
Alaska Salary Commission under AS 39.23.080(c)

14-1391✓
Bradley
10-16-85

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The legislature shall implement this section by law.

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Offered: 4/22/85
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Rules Committee

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19 (Finance) am H
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Establishing a Joint Special Committee
6 on Legislative Salaries.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS there exists considerable public concern over the issues of
9 legislative salaries, per diem, and allowances; and
10 WHEREAS the legislature desires to encourage confidence in the legis-
11 lative process and to streamline expenditures and reduce operating costs of
12 the legislature;
13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that under Uniform Rule
14 21 a Joint Special Committee on Legislative Salaries is established con-
15 sisting of three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the
16 Senate and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
17 Speaker of the House to examine legislative salaries, per diem, and allow-
18 ances; and be it
19 FURTHER RESOLVED that three public exofficio members be selected by
20 the Joint Special Committee on Legislative Salaries; and be it
21 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee, when constituted, be directed to
22 compare the approach taken by the state regarding salaries with the ap-
23 proach taken by other states and to develop recommendations for reducing
24 operating expenses; and be it
25 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee is authorized to meet during and
26 between sessions of the legislature and is to report its recommendations
27 and findings on the first day of the Second Session of the Fourteenth
28 Legislature and is terminated on the first day of the Second Session of the
29 Fourteenth Legislature.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907 465 3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

October 16, 1985

SUBJECT: Constitutional amendment: state officers
compensation commission
(Work Order No. 14-1391)

TO: Senator Mitch Abood
Chairman Joint Special Committee on
Legislative Salaries

FROM: Richard A. Bradley B
Legislative Counsel

Linda Firestone has requested that a constitutional amendment be prepared that would establish a state officers compensation commission. Such a constitutional amendment is enclosed.

The structure of the amendment is derived, in part, from art. IV, sec. 8 of the Alaska Constitution, the structure for the judicial council.

Linda Firestone also asked that I identify the scope of the amendment as drafted.

It applies to the sixty members of the legislature and to the governor and lieutenant governor. It applies to justices and judges. There are five members of the Supreme Court, three members of the Court of Appeals, and, by my calculation, 28 superior court judges and 16 district court judges according to the February, 1985 state directory. As I suggested to Linda Firestone, there is an open question as to its application to magistrates though probably the supreme court should retain control of those salaries.

It applies to the "heads and deputy heads of each principal department". There are fifteen principal departments: Administration, Commerce and Economic Development, Community and Regional Affairs, Corrections, Education, Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game, Health and Social Services, Labor, Law, Military and Veterans Affairs, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Revenue, and Transportation and

Public Facilities. The Department of Education appears to have no deputy; Administration has four deputies; the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities has five deputies; the Departments of Commerce and Economic Development, Corrections, Fish and Game, Health and Social Services, Natural Resources, and Revenue each have two deputies, and the remaining departments each have a single deputy. Thus it seems that the category of heads and deputy heads of principal departments contains, according to the February, 1985 directory, some 42 members.

The remaining category is described as "full-time members of a state board or commission. To my knowledge, the only state board or commission whose members are full-time employees of the state is the Public Utilities Commission. There are five members of the commission.

Should address

One substantive comment might be made. Existing constitutional law protects the salaries of the governor and lieutenant governor (art. III, sec. 15) and of the justices and judges (art. IV, sec. 13). As a later amendment to the constitution that deals with the question in general terms, it might be argued that the power of the state officers compensation commission established under this resolution, if ratified by the people, included the power to reduce the salaries in question or, perhaps, to make the judicial retirement system contributory. Because these issues will eventually emerge, it is probably appropriate to deal with the questions affirmatively in the resolution.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

RAB:mkr
M1:048

Enclosure

total 161 positions affected

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH Y STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907 465 3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

October 17, 1985

SUBJECT: State officers compensation commission
(Work Order No. 14-1391)

TO: Senator Mitch Abood
Chairman Joint Special Committee on
Legislative Salaries

FROM: Richard A. Bradley
Legislative Counsel *B*

I have provided you with a draft responsive to your request.

Since then, I have had further thoughts regarding the draft. I have some questions but I don't think that I have the answers yet.

There is a mechanical problem within the draft.

At lines 25 and following on page 1 of the draft, the language states that the salaries, benefits, and expenses take effect at a time established by the commission unless the legislature rejects them.

It seems to me that the resolution should guarantee the legislature a reasonable amount of time to consider the commission's revisions to the salaries, etc.

Thus, I suggest that the commission might be required to submit its proposals, if it has any, during the first ten days of a legislative session. The legislature should be then given a period to consider them and to act on the concurrent resolution if it wishes to reject them.

If the legislature rejects the revisions or any portion of them, those not rejected can take effect.

Those that are rejected do not take effect and two possible options exist: either the commission may propose new

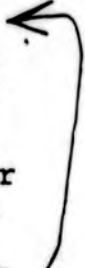
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Senator Mitch Abood
Page 2
October 17, 1985

revisions to the legislature or the legislature may be authorized to adopt by law new proposals, say with (or without, as you wish) increased majorities.

The problem is that within a 120 day session, I thought that the time constraints on action could get tight and I wanted you to consider those constraints. Consider the following scenario:

10th legislative day	revisions submitted by commission
55th legislative day	rejection by legislature
85th legislative day	resubmission from commission
120th legislative day	adjournment



Note that the legislature is given only 45 days to consider and reject the initial proposal. It has only 35 days of a regular session to consider the resubmission.

I propose that the commission be given a full 30 days from the initial rejection because the commission, as a part-time body needs to call itself into a meeting and then consider the question and it should have adequate time to reflect on its proposals.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

RAB:mkr
M1:051