

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1985-1986 86/2

4071 SJUD SB 161

987




# RECORDS CERTIFICATION



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Signature of Camera Operator

  
Date

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BILL CONTACT/ACTION

DATE	CONTACT/ACTION
3/28	Requested back up from Leg. Library re:
	1976 salary commission establishment +
	1980 abolishment
4/23	C- Proposed
4/3	Patti Macklin 4463- please notify
	Kay Diebels - 789-7582

Companion- SJR 15

Cramer  
4/23/85 ✓

Original sponsors: Josephson, V.Fischer,  
Kelly and Sturgulewski

1  
2 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

3 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 161 (Judiciary)

4 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

5 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION.

6 A BILL

7 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to compensation of elected offi-  
8 cials; 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 AS 24.15.020 is repealed and reenacted to read: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. COMPENSATION OF LEGISLATORS. The Commission on  
12 Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensation of legis-  
13 lators.

14 \* Sec. 2. AS 39.20.010 is repealed and reenacted to read:

15 Sec. 39.20.010. COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNOR. The Commission on  
16 Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensation of the  
17 governor.

18 \* Sec. 3. AS 39.20.030 is repealed and reenacted to read:

19 Sec. 39.20.030. COMPENSATION OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The Com-  
20 mission on Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensa-  
21 tion of the lieutenant governor.

22 \* Sec. 4. AS 39.20.050 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 39.20.050. EXCLUSIVE COMPENSATION. Retirement benefits  
24 established by law and the [THE] compensation fixed by the Commission  
25 on Compensation of Elected Officials [LAW] for the governor and  
26 lieutenant governor are full compensation [IS IN FULL] for all servi-  
27 ces rendered by each of them in any official capacity or employment  
28 whatsoever during their respective terms of office, and shall be paid  
29 throughout their respective terms of office unless the office becomes

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\* Sec. 5. In making initial appointments to the Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials, the governor shall appoint one member to a term of two years, one member to a term of three years, one member to a term of four years, one member to a term of five years, and one member to a term of six years.

\* Sec. 6. The compensation of the governor, lieutenant governor, and legislators established by law on the day before the effective date of this Act shall remain in effect until the Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials has issued an order setting the compensation.

\* Sec. 7. This Act takes effect on the effective date of an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska creating a commission on compensation of elected officials.

Cramer  
4/23/85 ✓

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Kelly and Sturgulewski

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# ALASKA STATE SENATE

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OFFICE OF MINORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES  
BUDGET & AUDIT  
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES  
RULES  
TRANSPORTATION  
SENATE CHAIR, ANCHORAGE CAUCUS

## M E M O R A N D U M

To: Senate State Affairs Committee members  
From: Senator Josephson  
Date: March, 6, 1985  
Re: SB 161 and SJR 15 (Elected Officials Compensation Commission)

In order to provide information to the committee on the workings of the Municipality of Anchorage's Salary and Emoluments Commission, which SB 161 and SJR 15 are based on, I have gotten copies made of all Commission minutes since 1975. The minutes from the most recent meeting of the Commission are attached, and I would be glad to make the others available to any committee member.

Thank you for your consideration of these measures.

SALARY & EMOLUMENTS COMMISSION

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1984

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Salary and Emoluments Commission was called to order by Chairperson Pamela Gotham at 4:15 p.m. in the Clerk's Conference Room, 4th floor, room 411, Municipal Hill Building.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present: Pamela Gotham, Robert Piazza, Connie Sipe.

Absent: Frank Turpin (excused), Dan Alex (unexcused).

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

A. Minutes of August 27, 1984 meeting.

Ms. Sipe moved, to approve the minutes of  
Mr. Piazza seconded, August 27, 1984 as stated.  
and it passed without  
objection,

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

Chairperson Gotham stated that Old Business was the proposed salaries for mayor, assembly and school board.

Ms. Sipe asked if the order could be changed so they could take the school board first, assembly second and mayor last.

Chairperson Gotham agreed to the change and stated the proposed compensation changes would be effective January 1, 1985.

Chairperson Gotham then read Resolution 85-3 (see Attachment A).

Ms. Sipe moved, to adopt Resolution 85-3,  
Mr. Piazza seconded,

Chairperson Gotham then opened the public hearing on school board compensation and asked if anyone wished to be heard.

Dr. THERESA OBERMEYER introduced herself and her husband, MR. TOM OBERMEYER. Dr. OBERMEYER stated that she does intend to seek School Board, Seat C (seat vacated by the death of Vi Schellenberg) and that she also ran for the school board in 1980. Dr. OBERMEYER stated she was present to discuss equities between assembly and school board, not so much salaries as reimbursements. The ad in the newspaper, about the proposed salary changes, seemed to state a yearly salary for the mayor where assembly and school board salaries were expenses. She understood this compensation to be for expenses of driving to school board

meetings, driving to parent meetings, driving to work sessions and etc. She asked if this was the commission's philosophy that assembly and school board compensation be for expenses and not salaries or salaries for expenses of the work they do.

Chairperson Gotham stated the commission is not in a position to give a philosophy view. The commission deals with compensation levels for individual positions as stated in the Charter. Compensation as stated would be considered salary.

DR. THERESA OBERMEYER felt the basic issue was equity between the assembly and school board. She felt public service should not be for money at all. The word emoluments does mean profit and she felt there should be no profit for public service. She would serve on the school board if there was no reimbursement at all. The school board members run on an areawide basis and there is something like 144,000 registered voters and 244,000 residents in Anchorage. The assembly members are voted on by individual Assembly sections making their constituent level much smaller. The school board members, which there are seven (7), encompass a much broader area than assembly members, which are eleven (11). The municipality employs roughly 4,000 employees compared to 5,200 employees of the school district. There are 42,000 children in the Anchorage schools and this is continually changing. Additionally, the school board does not have the staff to deal with constituent inquiries and complaints.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER, expert in compensation and benefits, stated the issue is equity between school board members and assembly members. Although the nature of the problems presented to the bodies are different, the individual members are equally competent and qualified to deal with them. He believed the school district had become big business with a larger budget and more employees than the municipality. These facts are quantitative accountability factors which must be weighed when determining compensation. It costs more to run for school board than for the assembly. Being a school board member is very time consuming and compensation should be comparable with the assembly. The assembly consumes 5.6% of the municipality's operating budget, a part of which pays for staff support. There are no such identified costs in the school district budget. Both bodies deserve qualified people who are comparably paid. In response to Chairperson Gotham, he indicated the compensation for school board members should be the same as for the assembly.

DR. THERESA OBERMEYER suggested the board consider replacing expense moneys with medical benefits or retirement benefits rather than a salary increase.

Sue Lindenuth, Manager of Records and Benefits, explained that assembly members are eligible to participate in PERS. The assembly member pays the employee contribution and the

municipality pays the employer contribution. She was unsure whether the same situation existed in the school district.

Chairperson Gotham thank Dr. OBERMEYER for bringing up the point but felt the Salary and Emoluments Commission had no authority in the area of such benefits.

MR. RICHARD MARKEY opposed raises for elected officials. Most have paid to get the job they now hold knowing what the salary was. No one ran for office because of the salary.

MR. JOE GRAHAM, 4107 Minnesota, stated that we ought to pay for what we get. Because of the atrocities of Bartlett and Greuning schools, we should pull those responsible. Since the school board hasn't done such a great job recently, increasing the salary at this time is pure lunacy. It isn't necessary to have a great educational background or great accomplishments to be a good school board member. Most often the exercise of common sense will suffice. He felt school board members should run by district rather than areawide. That approach would decrease the cost of running for office and put the elected official closer to his constituency. The element of public service must be considered when determining compensation. Compensation for the school board members should be less than for the assembly because it is a subordinate body and paid on a per meeting basis with a total compensation of \$500/month.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER felt it was important to attract qualified people to the school board, preferably persons with a background in education. That kind of experience is very valuable in making the kinds of decisions the board is asked to make. It would be nice if such qualifications could be built into the job description.

Chairperson Gotham called the question on the motion to approve the increase for school board (Resolution 85-3) members and it passed by a majority voice vote.

Resolution 85-2 (see Attachment B)

Ms. Sipe moved,  
seconded by Mr. Piazza,

that the commission adopt  
Resolution 85-2 establishing  
compensation for the Anchorage  
Assembly in the amount of  
\$1,725 for the Chair and  
\$1,400 for other assembly  
members.

Chairperson Gotham opened the motion for commission's comment.

Ms. Sipe pointed out the salaries for elected officials were last increased in 1981. If one considers the amount of increase over the three year period, it represents only 5% per year, at a time when the cost of living increased at a rate between 5% and 7%

each year. The commission seems to have established a pattern of considering raising salaries only every two to three years. If the pattern persists, the commission will not seriously consider another increase until 1987. If one spreads the increase of a six year period, the salary increase amounts to about a 2.5% increase per year, which at the most, just keeps pace with inflation.

Chairperson Gotham noted that under Proposition 24, any salary increases approved by the Salary and Emoluments Commission means some place somebody is losing those dollars. Public service is a short term commitment, not a long term money making commitment. She then opened the meeting to public comments.

MR. DAVID WALSH urged the commission to keep the assembly salary at the current level. Increasing the assembly members' salaries would mean cutting dollars elsewhere in the budget. Eventhough the increase might be justified, it is large for one year. Increasing the compensation to \$20,000 per year makes it possible for a person to pay his bills, maintain his lifestyle and be totally involved in public service. That becomes the first step towards a full-time assembly. The workload is growing and the assembly may have to consider either becoming full time or adding significant staff support in the next few years. But the level of compensation really doesn't determine the level of dedication of the individual. None of the members are in it for the money. The money does provide minimal compensation for time away from family, expenses that go with the job and compensation for a job well done. If one wanted to set a figure equal to what the job is worth, the salary would be too high. To go to zero, really isn't recognizing the sacrifices people make in order to be a public official. The level should be low: considering that (1) it is a part-time salary, and (2) budget constraints as a result of Proposition 24. The current salary level is adequate. In response to Ms. Sipe, he supported the additional money paid to the Chairman of the Assembly because of additional time required to do that job.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER commented according to his calculations, the average salary was \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year. Assembly members should not be short changed as a result of increases to other salaries. He agreed the public did not want full-time assembly members. But it is a consuming job and should be fairly compensated. He noted the cost of campaigning is reaching a point where the average citizen cannot run for assembly or school board.

MR. CHARLES BARCERON stated that being an assembly member is not a full time job. He felt a 15% increase was too much in one year. The public isn't aware the salaries have not been raised for three years. No figures have been presented which show the salaries of similar positions in similar sized cities. Without such information, it is difficult for the public to judge whether the compensation is fair.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER CAROL MASER, 2526 Glenwood, felt the people she represented would object to any of the raises being proposed. The public tends to view assembly members in the same light as the state legislators who recently increased their salaries. The people don't think it is time for raises. It is difficult to sit on the assembly and cut expenditures when the assembly has received an increase in its salary. Being an assembly member is a public service. The position is not sought because of the level of compensation for the job. People run because they feel they can return something to the community. The salary level does not compensate the members for the time spent on municipal affairs. It is important to realize the public does not support this salary increase at this time.

MR. JOE GRAHAM emphasized this is an area where the consumer needs protection. The assembly sets the mill level. The assembly used to sit as a Board of Equalization and set its own salary. Neither of those functions is performed by the assembly now. They are ducking their job. He suggested members be paid \$200 per regular meeting and only for meetings attended. He questioned whether the public was getting its money's worth with the level of service provided by the assembly members, i.e., are packets being read? There are a lot of people who haven't received a raise in salary but that is not reported. Salary surveys often only consider salaries paid by large companies rather than a cross section of wages. He opposed increasing the assembly members' salaries.

MR. CHARLES BARGERON felt the commission should meet every year and consider increasing salaries rather than only consider increases once every three years which makes any increase proposed appear excessive and raise public ire.

MR. RICHARD MARKEY agreed with Mrs. Maser's comments.

Chairperson Gotham called the question on the motion to adopt Resolution 85-2 and it failed by a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting recessed at 5:05 p.m. and reconvened at 5:10 p.m.

Resolution 85-1 (see Attachment C).

Ms. Sipe moved,  
seconded by Mr. Piazza,

that the commission adopt  
Resolution 85-1 which  
establishes compensation for  
the Mayor of Anchorage in the  
amount of \$80,500 per annum  
starting fiscal year 1985.

Chairperson Gotham opened the floor to discussion of the motion.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER CAROL MASER, 2526 Glenwood, felt people sought the position of mayor as a matter of community service. One does not serve the community well by expecting one's salary to continually

be increased. The public in general opposes increases in elected officials' salaries at this time. It is difficult to hold the spending line while accepting increases in pay.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER felt the mayor's salary should be kept in perspective of the average municipal salary. He personally didn't think this particular mayor required additional compensation. He thought the mayor had gone on public record as opposing this increase.

MR. RICHARD MARKEY opposed the pay raise. The morning newspaper reported Mayor Knowles would not accept a pay raise if one were approved by the commission. Mayor Knowles indicated he would give the increase to charity and that is not what the taxpayers have in mind when they pay someone.

MR. CHARLES BARGERON opposed the raise.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER added part of the cause of inflation is government spending on salaries of top government officials.

MR. JOE GRAHAM said the consumers were worried about the big figure increase proposed for the mayor. One shouldn't be overly concerned about the relation of salary strata to job strata. Government is not completely similar to industry. Recently published reports showed that several policemen were paid more annually than the Chief of Police. This decision comes on the heels of the dirty deal of General Motors and Ford Motor Company which gave large raises to executives after jockeying employees into contracts with concession and no pay raises. Government is getting on shaky ground with what it tries to extract from people. He didn't think people were getting what they paid for and the mayor didn't deserve a \$10,000 raise.

MR. DAVID WALSH stated the job of mayor has changed since unification. It is a difficult job and worth the proposed amount of compensation. Traditionally, the mayor has received the highest salary in local government. The result has been salary compression. In the last administration, there were people who wanted to stay in public service but simply couldn't afford to stay. Government can't offer its top executives stock options or offer them very many PERKS at all. Perhaps a little more in salary could have kept those highly qualified people. On the other hand, if the top executive's salary goes up, we can expect the same percentage raise in pay of non-executives. The mayor's salary should go up but not as much as proposed. MR. WALSH felt that perhaps a 5% to 6% increase was reasonable.

Ms. Sipe noted the commission discussed at its last meeting salaries of municipal employees who because of longevity and other factors earn more than the mayor. She stated that Mr. Turpin had asked members of his industry to do an informal study of comparable positions and the results indicated the pay should

be at least \$20,000 more than currently paid. The commission has attempted to look into what other people in similar jobs are paid.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER agreed that salary compression was an important factor to consider. Anchorage is in an escalator role with regard to salaries, especially government salaries. Salaries are not necessarily increasing in relation to other segments of society. There has been a disproportionate increase in government salaries which has created compression at higher levels which may or may not have forced some of the top people out. At some point there will have to be a cap put on salary increases.

MR. JOE GRAHAM agreed the problem of inflation was very bad. The one segment of society which can do something about it is government. Government had better do something about inflation soon.

Chairperson Gotham called the question on the motion to adopt Resolution 85-1 and it failed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Sipe moved,  
seconded by Mr. Piazza,

that the commission pass a resolution establishing compensation for the municipal mayor at an amount 5% above the current level or \$73,500.

Chairperson Gotham opened the motion to discussion.

MR. RICHARD MARKEY commented a lot of money was spent running for the office of mayor. People don't run for the salary.

Mr. Piazza noted the mayor's salary had not been increased since 1981. Compensation for the position should take into account inflation and whether the amount is adequate for the responsibility regardless of the financial standing of the person who holds the position. Five percent after four years of no increase is on line.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER felt giving the mayor a raise at this time might have undesirable public repercussions especially in light of the budget constraints invoked by Proposition 24. The mayor has publicly stated he does not want an increase.

MR. JOE GRAHAM thought the public felt the budget was overloaded with positions paying \$50,000 per year which are actually worth \$25,000. Part of the job of getting a handle on rising costs of government belongs to the Salary and Emoluments Commission.

Chairperson Gotham called for the vote on the motion to increase the mayor's salary by 5% and it passed:

AYES: Sipe, Piazza.

NAYS: Gotham.

Chairperson Gotham announced the resolution would be numbered Resolution 85-4.

Ms. Sipe moved,  
seconded by Mr. Piazza,  
and it died,

that consideration of each of  
the salaries be placed on next  
year's agenda for the Salary  
and Emoluments Commission.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER felt the commission should meet more often than once a year. The problem is so great it cannot be dealt with successfully unless the commission meets periodically throughout the year.

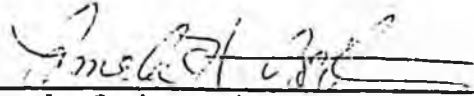
Chairperson Gotham pointed out the Charter provides the commission must meet every two years but prohibits more frequent meetings than every year. In order to change this, it would require a charter amendment approved by the voters. In response to MR. MARKEY, she outlined the Charter requirements for commission composition.

MR. TOM OBERMEYER felt it was important for salaries of elected officials to be reviewed on a frequent basis. In the current situation, very few people with very little information and time set very important salaries.

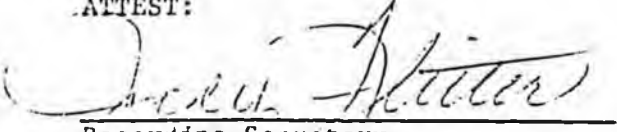
Ms. Sipe inquired of the Municipal Clerk whether meeting more frequently would work a hardship on the Clerk's office staff. The Charter says the commission cannot consider salaries more frequently than once a year but does not preclude more frequent meetings.

Chairperson Gotham suggested the question be tabled until the commission discussed this with the Municipal Clerk. Chairperson Gotham then ordered a meeting convene in one year and one of the topics of the meeting be consideration of the salaries of elected officials.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Gotham, Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

*dm*

**SB 498 AN ACT RELATING TO BONDS OF CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS OR WORKS**

AMENDED TITLE: HCS CS \* (RLS)

PRIME SPONSORS: RULES

BY REQUEST OF: GOVERNOR

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
01/14/76	01	0031	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
01/23/76	02	0138	S.A. -- CS05
01/27/76	03	0170	SECOND READING
01/27/76	04	0170	S.A. CS ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
01/27/76	05	0170	READ AGAIN SECOND TIME
01/27/76	06	0170	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT
01/27/76	07	0170	THIRD READING
01/27/76	08	0170	PASSED BY VOICE VOTE
05/25/76	17	1351	CONCURRED IN HOUSE AMS BY UNAN CONSENT
05/27/76	18	1446	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR
** 07/01/76	19	1664	SIGNED BY GOVERNOR-CHO130, EFF 09/14/76

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION
01/28/76	09	0174	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
05/04/76	10	1195	L&M -- DPIAM101, CS03
05/22/76	11	1520	RLS -- CS02, NR01 TAKEN UP IMMEDIATELY
05/24/76	12	1555	SECOND READING
05/24/76	13	1555	RLS CS ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
05/24/76	14	1555	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT
05/24/76	15	1556	THIRD READING
05/24/76	16	1556	PASSED BY DIV 32-07-01

**SB 499 AN ACT RELATING TO COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES; CREATING THE ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION; EFFECTIVE DATE**

AMENDED TITLE: FCCS HCS CS \*

PRIME SPONSORS: RULES STATE AFF.

BY REQUEST OF: GOVERNOR

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
01/14/76	01	0032	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
02/11/76	02	0281	S.A. -- CS03, NR02
02/18/76	03	0334	FIN -- S.A. CS(AM104, NR02)
02/25/76	04	0388	SECOND READING
02/25/76	05	0388	S.A. CS ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT
02/25/76	06	0388	AM TO AM01 NOT ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
02/25/76	07	0388	POSTPNMT TO 02/26/76 FLD BY VOICE VOTE
02/25/76	08	0388	AM01 ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
02/25/76	09	0388	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT
02/25/76	10	0388	THIRD READING
02/25/76	11	0389	PASSED BY DIV 17-02-01
02/25/76	12	0389	EFFECTIVE DATE VOTE SAME AS PASSAGE
02/25/76	13	0389	NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION GIVEN
02/26/76	14	0398	RECONSIDERATION NOT TAKEN UP
05/25/76	27	1352	FAILED TO CONC IN (H) AMS BY VOICE VOTE
05/26/76	30	1398	FCC -- CROFT MILLER, T. TILLION
06/01/76	32	1616	FCC REPORT ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT
06/04/76	33	1650	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR
07/01/76	34	1745	SIGNED BY GOVERNOR-CHO263, EFF 06/25/76
** 07/01/76	35	0032	VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION
02/27/76	15	0427	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
05/11/76	16	1301	JUD -- CS04
05/22/76	17	1520	FIN -- JUD CS07
05/24/76	18	1556	SECOND READING
05/24/76	19	1556	JUD CS ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
05/24/76	20	1556	AM01 WITHDRAWN
05/24/76	21	1557	AM02 ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
05/24/76	22	1557	AM03 NOT ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE
05/24/76	23	1557	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT
05/24/76	24	1557	THIRD READING
05/24/76	25	1557	PASSED BY DIV 28-11-01
05/24/76	26	1558	EFFECTIVE DATE VOTE SAME AS PASSAGE
05/25/76	28	1590	FAILED TO RECEDE FRM AMS BY VOICE VOTE
05/25/76	29	1590	FCC -- GARDNER GRUENING BRADNER
05/31/76	31	1791	FCC REPORT ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE

*no Sen State Aff committees  
no bill file*

*nothing in H. Judiciary Committee  
no bill file*



# LAWS OF ALASKA

1976

Source

Chapter No.

FCCS HCS CSSB 499

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:

#### CHAPTER 23. ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION.

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. 80 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. RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) Before November 15, 1976, and every two years thereafter, 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 compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, only if approved by concurrent resolution before the end of a session. 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. LEGISLATIVE PER DIEM. The rate of per diem instead of subsistence for each member of the legislature shall be prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23.

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

Sec. 24.15.020. ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SALARIES. Each member of the legislature is entitled to receive annual compensation prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23 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. ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES. In addition, each member of the legislature is entitled to an annual allowance prescribed in accordance with AS 39.23 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).

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)

ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION

(AS 39.23.010; 5 members appointed by the governor; 1-year staggered terms; members are subject to financial disclosure)

NAMES AND ADDRESSES	Replacing	New	Appt.	Acct.	Term Expires
Dr. Cliff R. Hartman 1433 West 13th Anchorage 99501			11/8/77		1981
Kim Elton 410 Calhoun Juneau 99801			3/27/76		1979
William P. Fell 549 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage 99503					1978
Kathlene Diebels Chairman RR 6 Box 4136 Juneau 99803			11/5/77*		1981
Karl Johnstone 360 K Street Anchorage 99501			12/28/77		1980

Note: terms decided by lot at first meeting of commission.

CONTACT AGENCY: Administration 465-2200

AK SALARY COMMISSION REPORTS (4) ARE IN THE HISTORICAL LIBRARY  
 (call #) — JK 9557  
 A 46  
 1977

NOV 5, 1976  
 JAN 18, 1977  
 NOV 14, 1978  
 JAN 23, 1979

10 TO 12 R each

## ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION

(AS 39.23.010) 5 members appointed by the governor; 4-year staggered terms; members are subject to financial disclosure.

MEMBERS	REPLACING	APPT.	TERM
Dr. Cliff R. Hartman 1433 West 13th Anchorage, Alaska 99501		77/11/08	81/00/00
Mr. Richard Freer 115 Troy Avenue Juneau, Alaska 99801	Kim Elton (effective 78/11/21)	79/01/15	79/00/00
Mr. William P. Fell 549 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99503		78/03/09	82/00/00
Ms. Kathlene Diebels RR 6, Box 4136 Juneau, Alaska 99803 (Chairman)		77/11/08	81/00/00
Mr. Karl Johnstone 360 K Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501		77/12/28	80/00/00

## CONTACT AGENCY:

Department of Administration  
(465-2200)  
ID #91

(Note: Terms decided by lot at first meeting of commission.)

## ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION

(AS 39.23.010) 5 members appointed by the governor; 4-year staggered terms; members are subject to financial disclosure.

MEMBERS	REPLACING	APPT.	TERM
Dr. Cliff R. Hartman 1433 West 13th Anchorage, Alaska 99501		77/11/08	81/00/00
Mr. Richard Freer 115 Troy Avenue Juneau, Alaska 99801	Kim Elton (effective 78/11/21)	79/01/15	79/00/00
Mr. William P. Fell 549 W. Fireweed Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99503		78/03/09	82/00/00
Ms. Kathlene Diebels RR 6, Box 4136 Juneau, Alaska 99803 (Chairman)		77/11/08	81/00/00
Vacant	Karl S. Johnstone (effective 79/04/01)	77/12/28	80/00/00

## CONTACT AGENCY:

Department of Administration  
(465-2200)  
ID #91

(Note: Terms decided by lot at first meeting of commission.)

HC2\_43 APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE TESORC-ALASKAN PETROLEUM COMPANY AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE ROYALTY CRUDE OIL TAKEN IN-KIND

PRIME SPONSORS: RULES

BY REQUEST OF: GOVERNOR

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
03/23/77	01	0622	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	05/07/77	08	1153	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
04/15/77	02	0878	RES COMM REFERRAL ADDED BY UNAN CONSENT	05/10/77	09	1185	RES -- DP07
04/19/77	03	0902	FIN -- DP07, NR02	05/12/77	10	1219	FIN -- DP06, NR01
04/26/77	05	1029	RES -- DP05	05/13/77	12	1239	RES -- OTHER03 TAKEN UP IMMEDIATELY
05/06/77	06	1233	SECOND READING	05/13/77	13	1248	SECOND READING
05/06/77	07	1233	PASSED BY VOICE VOTE	05/13/77	14	1248	PASSED BY DIV 19-00-01
04/20/77	04	0923	LETTER OF INTENT HSE FIN	05/13/77	15	1248	NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION GIVEN
05/16/77	17	1374	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR	05/13/77	16	1249	PASSED ON RECONSIDERATION BY DIV 19-00-01
05/19/77	18	1406	READ BY GOVERNOR -- SENT TO LT GOVERNOR				
** 06/22/77	19	6000	LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO 78	05/12/77	11	1219	LETTER OF INTENT-S SUP 41

HC2\_44 REQUESTING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA TO HONOR A LEGISLATIVE FINDING

PRIME SPONSORS: RUDD

CO-SPONSORS: BRADLEY, R. CARPENTER DANKWORTH GARDINER GRUENING MCKINNON MEEKINS MILLER  
SWANSON

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
03/24/77	01	0639	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS				
** 04/20/77	02	0923	HESS -- DNPO2, CS02, NR02 JUDICIARY RULES				

HC2\_45 APPROVING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SALARY COMMISSION

AMENDED TITLE: CS - AM

PRIME SPONSORS: GARDINER

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
03/24/77	01	0640	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	04/29/77	08	1010	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
04/26/77	02	1029	JUD -- DNPO1, CS04	05/19/77	09	1321	FIN -- CS02, OTHER05
04/28/77	03	1075	SECOND READING	05/21/77	12	1354	RES -- OTHER03
04/28/77	04	1075	JUD CS ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT	05/25/77	13	1422	SECOND READING
04/28/77	05	1075	AM01 NOT ADOPTED BY DIV 07-31-02	05/25/77	14	1422	PASSED BY DIV 13-06-01
04/28/77	06	1076	AM02 ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT				
04/28/77	07	1076	PASSED BY DIV 29-09-02	05/19/77	10	1321	LETTER OF INTENT-S SUP 45
05/26/77	15	1542	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR	05/19/77	11	1321	SEN SUPPL 45 FISCAL NOTE
06/03/77	16	1666	READ BY GOVERNOR -- SENT TO LT GOVERNOR				
** 06/22/77	17	6000	LEGISLATIVE RESOLVE NO 94				

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative  
Resolve No.

CSHCR 45 Jr.

94



Approving certain recommendations of the Salary Commission.

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

WHEREAS Chapter 263, Session Laws of Alaska 1976 established the Alaska Salary Commission; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission was granted the responsibility of conducting an on-going review of compensation and retirement benefits for members of the legislature, the governor and lieutenant governor, commissioners, deputy commissioners and directors of executive departments, members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, the Alaska Pipeline Commission, the Alaska Transportation Commission, and the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, and members of the judiciary; and

WHEREAS the recommendations of the Salary Commission as to compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, 1977, only if approved by concurrent resolution of the legislature before the end of the first session of the legislature; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission has submitted its recommendations to the legislature regarding the compensation of the officers covered under ch. 263 SLA 1976 and the legislature has considered them; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (1)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of the governor of Alaska at \$52,992; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (2)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of the lieutenant governor of Alaska at \$47,304; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (3)(A) of the Salary Commis-

sion proposes to set the annual salary of commissioners of principal executive departments at \$47,304; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (3)(C) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to the commissioners of the principal executive departments at the discretion of the governor which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the commissioner for each two years of continuous service, with service accrual to begin January 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (4)(A) proposes that there be no change in the annual salary of \$42,372 for beginning deputy department commissioners; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (4)(C) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to the deputy commissioners of the principal executive departments at the discretion of the departmental commissioner which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the deputy commissioner, for each two years of continuous service, with service accrual to commence from the date of the last step increase or upon the date of hire following approval of this recommendation; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(A) proposes that there be no change in the salary level of directors and the Salary Commission also recommends that the administrative rules be changed so that the salary entry level of new directors be in the "A" step of the salary range at which they are hired; the commission recognized that promotions from deputy director to director of a division may sometimes necessitate that those receiving a promotion move into a step other than "A" in order to be assured a salary increase; in such cases, that person receiving the promotion should enter at the lowest step necessary to receive a salary increase; the commission also recognized that some directors are now covered by a negotiated agreement and the commission's recommendations will not apply to them until that agreement expires; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(B) proposes that the salary progression for directors follow the steps outlined in the state salary schedule as outlined in AS 39.27.011; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission be paid \$39,372 annually; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(B) proposes that the chairman of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(D) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to each commissioner of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission at the discretion of the governor which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the commissioner for each two years of service, with service accrual beginning January 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS Recommendation (7)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska Transportation Commission be paid \$39,372 annually; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (7)(B) proposes that the chairman of the Alaska Transportation Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (7)(D) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to each commissioner of the Alaska Transportation Commission at the discretion of the governor which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the commissioner for each two years of service, with service accrual beginning January 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid \$39,372 annually; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(B) proposes that the chairman of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(D) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to each commissioner of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission at the discretion of the governor which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the commissioner for each two years of service, with service accrual beginning January 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (9)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska Pipeline Commission be paid \$39,372 annually; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (9)(B) proposes that the chairman of the Alaska Pipeline Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (9)(D) proposes to grant longevity pay increases to each commissioner of the Alaska Pipeline Commission at the discretion of the governor which are equal to 3.75 per cent of the annual salary of the commissioner for each two years of service, with service accrual beginning January 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (10)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to confirm the annual salary of supreme court judges at \$52,992; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (11)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to confirm the annual salary of the superior court judges at \$48,576; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to confirm the annual salary of district court judges at \$41,068; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (13)(A) proposes that state legislators be paid an annual salary of \$11,750; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (13)(B) proposes that the president of the senate and the speaker of the house each receive an additional \$500 per year payable on the opening day of each regular session of the legislature or upon confirmation by the House or Senate after the opening of a regular session

of the legislature; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (13)(D) proposes that legislators receive an annual allowance of \$4,000; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (13)(F) proposes that legislators receive per diem at the same rate as state employees, including regional variations where applicable; legislators who do not live in their city of residence during regular or special legislative sessions will receive per diem at the short-term rate; interim committee work should be paid at the short-term per diem rate; however, per diem is to be paid at the long-term (lower) rate if legislators are able to stay in their city of residence while on legislative business;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature approves the listed Recommendations in the language and form stated in this resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that those parts of Recommendation 13 which are not quoted above are considered by the legislature to be beyond the authority of the Salary Commission, are therefore not part of a proper Recommendation, and are not approved.

from H. J. [unclear] till [unclear]  
on HB 274

Terry Gardiner

Box 6032, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 Pouch V, Juneau, Alaska 99811

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 3/17/77

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gardiner at 7:00p.m.

Present were: Chairman Gardiner

Vice - Chairman Miles

Rep. Brown

Rep. Specking

Rep. Dankworth

Absent were:

Rep. Eliason

Rep. Rudd

The Committee first took up the salary commission report and heard testimony from Kay Deeble of the Salary Commission. Ms. Deeble briefly went over parts of the report, dealing with the executive and judicial categories and discussed the three major aspects of legislative provisions dealing with salary, per diem, and vouchers. Ms. Deeble was questioned by the Committee and other Legislators and observed at the meeting regarding specific methods by which they arrived at the per diem recommendation and the vouchery recommendations.

The Committee then heard from LAA Attorney, Dick Bradley, regarding a request that had been made by Chairman Gardiner for a legal opinion dealing with aspects of the Salary Commission report. A three page memo was handed out to the Committee members prior to the meeting in the full report had not been typed as of the time of the meeting but Mr. Bradley gave an oral presentation.

Rep. Swanson testified briefly on HB 8 which would repeal the salary commission and the salary commission recommendations.

Speaker Malone testified on HB 8 and HB 274, 275, 276, 277, 278 & 279. Malone testified in favor of repealing the salary commission report with respect to legislative compensation or taking the legislative compensation out of the preview of the salary commission.

Rep. Parr testified in favor of amending the existing law governing the salary commission but basically letting it continue in its work. He also testified that the legislative recommendations of the report should be ignored and the legislature enact its own salary and benefit levels.

The Committee discussed the various proposals brought up through the testimony but did not reach a conclusion on how to treat the salary commission report nor the other items of legislation pending a presentation of the issue to the full Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907-465-3800

M E M O R A N D U M

March 14, 1977

SUBJECT: Final Report of Salary Commission (W.O. #3646)  
TO: Representative Terry Gardiner  
FROM: Richard A. Bradley <sup>B</sup>  
Legislative Counsel

By your request of March 7, you have requested my comments on the January 18, 1977 report of the Alaska Salary Commission to the Legislature.

Your request asked:

- (1) Do the Salary Commission recommendations follow the law (AS 39.23)? If they do not, set out the questionable areas.
- (2) May a resolution approving the request amend the recommendations and condition legislative approval or is the legislature limited to an approval or rejection of the recommendations?

You also asked that I draft a resolution consistent with my conclusions.

An analysis of AS 39.23 is required in order to provide you the advice you request.

AS 39.23.080(c) provides that the Salary Commission will make a

"final report of its findings and recommendations as to the rate and form of compensation and retirement benefits ... within 10 days after the first regular session of a legislature convenes. The recommendations regarding compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, only if approved by concurrent resolution before the end of a session. The recommendations regarding retirement become effective if enacted into law by the legislature." (Emphasis added.)

Representative Terry Gardiner  
March 14, 1977  
Page 2

Sec. 80(d) allows the commission to submit amendments to its report, apparently without any limitation as to time, except that a new report is required for a new legislature. Recommendations as to compensation lapse if not affirmatively approved during the first session of each legislature and the law contains no express mechanism for resubmission of proposals regarding compensation to the second session of the legislature of the first recommendations lapse.

Sec. 120 provides the "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. (Emphasis added)

In my opinion, the legislature by the enactment of AS 39.23 has divested itself of the authority to set the compensation of the public officers listed in AS 39.23.060. While legislative approval is required, it is by a resolution of relatively low dignity, a concurrent resolution. Uniform Rules, Alaska State Legislature, Rule 51(c). If a concurrent resolution is used, in my opinion the legislature is limited to an approval or disapproval of the recommendations as to compensation. If a recommendation is disapproved, the legislature has in effect directed the commission to resubmit recommendations. I note that §80(d) allows the commission to amend its recommendations and it may clearly amend if a recommendation is rejected.

A more difficult question is presented by the possibility that the legislature may wish to reject some recommendations while approving the remainder. The charge to the commission in §110 of the law is to establish a "schedule" "based upon equitable relationships being maintained among state positions." At least in theory, an approval that is less than total may cause the establishment of inequity among the positions. Nonetheless, in my judgment the legislature may approve or disapprove all the recommendations or it may approve only a part. Note that while in my opinion the legislature retains an option to disapprove recommendations, its failure to approve a recommendation becomes a rejection at the "end of [the] session." Sec. 80(c).

A proposal as to retirement benefits must be adopted by an amendment to the retirement act by law.

I assume that you recognize, moreover, that my opinion as to the limited options that the legislature possesses is neces-

Representative Terry Gardiner  
March 14, 1977  
Page 3

sarily founded on a decision by the legislature to remain within the framework of AS 39.23. The legislature cannot, by the enactment of any law, divest itself of the underlying constitutional prerogative of setting the compensation of the officers listed in AS 39.23.060.

Accordingly, in my opinion, the legislature

- (1) must approve a recommendation before it can take effect.
- (2) may approve less than all of the recommendations.
- (3) may not change a recommendation as to compensation by a concurrent resolution.
- (4) may approve a recommendation as to retirement benefits only by amending the retirement law.

My opinion as to the consistency of the Commission's recommendations with AS 39.23, existing law, and the Constitution is contained in a separate memorandum.

RAB:hjd

HB 273 AN ACT RELATING TO BOROUGHS

AMENDED TITLE: CS \* AM

PRIME SPONSORS: PARR

CO-SPONSORS: BENNETT BROWN CARPENTER SMITH

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
02/25/77	01	0394	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	04/28/77	17	0986	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
04/18/77	02	0890	CRA -- CS04, NRO2	05/13/77	18	1237	CRA -- DP01, ONP01, NRO1
04/26/77	03	1032	SECOND READING	05/14/77	19	1261	RLS -- OTHER03 TAKEN UP IMMEDIATELY
04/26/77	04	1032	CRA CS ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT	05/14/77	20	1262	SECOND READING
04/26/77	05	1033	AM01 ADOPTED BY UNAN CONSENT	05/14/77	21	1262	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT
04/26/77	06	1033	ACTION 005 NOT RESCINDED BY DIV 14-21-05	05/14/77	22	1263	THIRD READING
04/26/77	07	1033	ADVANCED TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT	05/14/77	23	1263	PASSED BY DIV 17-03-00
04/27/77	13	1058	AM02 ADOPTED BY DIV 23-15-02	05/14/77	24	1263	NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION GIVEN
04/27/77	14	1058	ADV. NCEO TO 3RD READING BY UNAN CONSENT	05/14/77	25	1263	PASSED ON RECONSIDERATION BY DIV 13-03-04
04/26/77	08	1033	THIRD READING				
04/25/77	09	1034	PASSED BY DIV 27-08-05				
04/26/77	10	1034	NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION GIVEN				
04/27/77	11	1056	READ AGAIN THIRD TIME				
04/27/77	12	1057	RETURNED TO 2ND READING BY DIV 24-14-02				
04/27/77	15	1058	READ AGAIN THIRD TIME				
04/27/77	16	1059	PASSED ON RECONSIDERATION BY DIV 32-06-02				
05/19/77	26	1421	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR				
** 06/02/77	27	1670	LAW WITHOUT APPROVAL-CH0093, EFF 09/09/77				

HB 274 AN ACT REPEALING THE ALASKA SALARY COMMISSION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

PRIME SPONSORS: MALONE

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
** 02/25/77	01	0394	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS JUDICIARY FINANCE RULES				

HB 275 AN ACT RELATING TO COMPENSATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF CERTAIN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE STATE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

PRIME SPONSORS: MALONE

DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	HOUSE ACTION	DATE	SEQ. NO.	JOURNAL PAGE	SENATE ACTION
** 02/25/77	01	0394	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS JUDICIARY FINANCE RULES				

HCR 1 DIRECTING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CONDUCT A STUDY RELATING TO THE EXTENT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT  
IN ALASKA'S FISHERIES

PRIME SPONSORS: RULES

BY REQUEST OF: LEG. CNCL.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>HOUSE ACTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>SENATE ACTION</u>
01/29/79	01	0088	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	03/17/79	08	0532	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
02/07/79	03	0160	RES -- DP06, DNP01, NR01	04/02/79	09	0691	RES -- DP05, NR01
03/14/79	04	0561	REFERRAL RECOMMENDED TO FINANCE FIN -- DP07, NR03				
03/16/79	06	0618	SECOND READING	** 05/06/79	10	0001	EXPIRED AT END OF FIRST SESSION
03/16/79	07	0618	PASSED BY DIV 30-05-05				
01/29/79	02	0088	INTERIM CMTE ON BOTTMFISH				
03/14/79	05	0561	FISCAL NOTE-HSC SUPPL #27				

HCR 2 APPROVING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SALARY COMMISSION

PRIME SPONSORS: STATE AFF.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>HOUSE ACTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SEQ. NO.</u>	<u>JOURNAL PAGE</u>	<u>SENATE ACTION</u>
02/07/79	01	0162	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS	04/06/79	15	0741	FIRST READING -- COMMITTEE REPORTS
02/14/79	02	0236	S.A. -- DNP01, CS04, NR02				
02/21/79	03	0335	FIN COMM REFERRAL ADDED BY UNAN CONSENT				
02/28/79	04	0408	FIN -- DNP06, CS01, NR02	** 05/06/79	16	0001	EXPIRED AT END OF FIRST SESSION
04/04/79	05	0837	SECOND READING				
04/04/79	06	0837	S.A. CS NOT ADOPTED BY DIV 13-25-02				
04/04/79	07	0837	AM01 NOT ADOPTED BY DIV 12-26-02				
04/04/79	08	0838	PASSED BY DIV 25-13-02				
04/04/79	10	0839	NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION GIVEN				
04/05/79	11	0856	READ AGAIN SECOND TIME				
04/05/79	12	0856	PASSED ON RECONSIDERATN BY DIV 24-16-00				
04/04/79	09	0838	LEGIS INTENT ADOPTED				
04/05/79	13	0857	LEGIS INTENT ADOPTED				
04/06/79	14	0867	FISCAL NTS-HSE SUPPL #39				

Introduced: 2/7/79  
Referred: State Affairs

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Approving certain recommendations of  
the Salary Commission.

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

WHEREAS AS 39.23 establishes the Alaska Salary Commission; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission is granted the responsibility of conducting an on-going review of compensation and retirement benefits for members of the legislature, the governor and lieutenant governor, commissioners, deputy commissioners and directors of executive departments, members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, the Alaska Pipeline Commission, the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, and members of the judiciary; and

WHEREAS the recommendations of the Salary Commission as to compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, 1979, only if approved by concurrent resolution of the legislature before the end of the first session of the legislature; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission has submitted its recommendations to the legislature regarding the compensation of the officers covered under AS 39.23 and the legislature has considered them; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (1)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of the governor of Alaska at \$57,231; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (2)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of the lieutenant governor of Alaska at \$51,088; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (3)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of commissioners of principal executive departments at \$51,088; and

1 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (4)(A) proposes to set the annual salary  
2 of deputy department commissioners at \$45,762, except that a state employee  
3 accepting an appointment as deputy commissioner whose salary exceeds \$45,762  
4 shall continue to receive the higher salary; and

5 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(A) proposes that there be no change in  
6 the salary level of division directors; the Salary Commission recognizes that  
7 promotions from deputy director to director of a division may sometimes  
8 necessitate that those receiving a promotion move into a step other than "A"  
9 in order to be assured a salary increase; in such cases, that person re-  
10 ceiving the promotion should enter at the lowest step necessary to receive a  
11 salary increase; and

12 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(B) proposes that the salary progres-  
13 sion for directors follow the steps outlined in the state salary schedule in  
14 AS 39.27.011 to a maximum of \$50,000 annually; and directors whose salaries  
15 exceeded \$50,000 annually on December 31, 1978, remain at that salary without  
16 further increases; and

17 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(C) proposes that directors who, as of  
18 December 31, 1978, have their salaries frozen shall, as of January 1, 1979,  
19 be placed within the state salary schedule in AS 39.27.011 at the appropriate  
20 range closest to, but not less than, their current salary and their salary  
21 progression shall follow the steps outlined in the salary schedule to a  
22 maximum of \$50,000 annually; and

23 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(D) of the Salary Commission proposes  
24 that a state employee who, without a break in continuous service, is  
25 appointed to a position of division director after December 31, 1978, be  
26 placed, at the time of appointment, within the state salary schedule in AS  
27 39.27.011 at the appropriate range and step closest to, but not less than,  
28 his current salary, and his salary progress shall follow the steps outlined  
29 in the salary schedule to a maximum of \$50,000 annually; and

1 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska  
2 Public Utilities Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

3 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(B) proposes that the chairman of the  
4 Alaska Public Utilities Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually,  
5 prorated as part of the regular salary; and

6 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (7)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska  
7 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

8 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (7)(B) proposes that the chairman of the  
9 Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid an additional \$500  
10 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

11 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska  
12 Pipeline Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

13 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(B) proposes that the chairman of the  
14 Alaska Pipeline Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as  
15 part of the regular salary; and

16 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (9)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes  
17 that the annual salary of supreme court justices be \$57,231; and

18 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (10)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes  
19 that the annual salary of the superior court judges be \$52,462; and

20 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (11)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes  
21 that the annual salary of district court judges be \$44,353; and

22 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(A) proposes that state legislators be  
23 paid an annual salary of \$12,690; and

24 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(B) proposes that the president of the  
25 senate and the speaker of the house each receive an additional \$500 per year  
26 payable on the opening day of each regular session of the legislature or upon  
27 confirmation by the House or Senate after the opening of a regular session of  
28 the legislature; and

29 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(D) proposes that legislators receive

1 an annual allowance of \$4,320; and

2 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(F) proposes that legislators receive  
3 per diem at the same rate as state employees, including regional variations  
4 where applicable; legislators who do not live in their city of residence  
5 during regular or special legislative sessions will receive per diem at the  
6 short-term rate; interim committee work should be paid at the short-term per  
7 diem rate; however, per diem is to be paid at the long-term (lower) rate if  
8 legislators are able to stay in their city of residence while on legislative  
9 business; and

10 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(G) proposes that each legislator be  
11 reimbursed at cost, and upon presentation of proof, for one round trip to his  
12 home district during each regular session; and

13 WHEREAS Recommendations Numbers (1)(B), (2)(B), (3)(B), (4)(B), (6)(C),  
14 (7)(C), (8)(C), (9)(B), (10)(B), (11)(B), and (12)(B) propose that the  
15 salaries of the governor, lieutenant governor, commissioners of principal  
16 executive departments, deputy department commissioners, members of the Alaska  
17 Public Utilities Commission, Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission,  
18 Alaska Pipeline Commission, supreme court justices, superior court judges,  
19 district court judges, and legislators, respectively, be increased, beginning  
20 January 1, 1980, by an amount equal to the increase, expressed in terms of  
21 percentage, in the United States Department of Labor Consumer Price Index  
22 (Urban and Clerical Workers) for Anchorage, Alaska from January, 1979, to  
23 January, 1980; and that any such increase be calculated to the nearest tenth  
24 of a percentage point increase in the Consumer Price Index;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature approves the listed  
26 Recommendations in the language and form stated in this resolution.

Original sponsor: State Affairs Committee

Offered: 2/14/79  
Referred: Rules

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Approving certain recommendations of  
the Salary Commission.

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

WHEREAS AS 39.23 establishes the Alaska Salary Commission; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission is granted the responsibility of conducting an on-going review of compensation and retirement benefits for members of the legislature, the governor and lieutenant governor, commissioners, deputy commissioners and directors of executive departments, members of the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, the Alaska Pipeline Commission, the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, and members of the judiciary; and

WHEREAS the recommendations of the Salary Commission as to compensation become effective, retroactive to January 1, 1979, only if approved by concurrent resolution of the legislature before the end of the first session of the legislature; and

WHEREAS the Salary Commission has submitted its recommendations to the legislature regarding the compensation of the officers covered under AS 39.23 and the legislature has considered them; and

WHEREAS Recommendation Number (1)(A) of the Salary Commission proposes to set the annual salary of the governor of Alaska at \$57,231; and

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1           WHEREAS Recommendation Number (4)(A) proposes to set the annual salary  
2 of deputy department commissioners at \$45,762, except that a state employee  
3 accepting an appointment as deputy commissioner whose salary exceeds \$45,762  
4 shall continue to receive the higher salary; and

5           WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(A) proposes that there be no change in  
6 the salary level of division directors; and that the entry level of new  
7 directors continue to be the "A" step of the salary range at which they are  
8 hired; the Salary Commission recognizes that promotions to director of a  
9 division may sometimes necessitate that those receiving a promotion move into  
10 a step other than "A" in order to be assured a salary increase; in such  
11 cases, that person receiving the promotion should enter at the lowest step  
12 necessary to receive a salary increase; and

13           WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(B) proposes that the salary progres-  
14 sion for directors follow the steps outlined in the state salary schedule in  
15 AS 39.27.011 to a maximum of \$50,000 annually; and directors whose salaries  
16 exceeded \$50,000 annually on December 31, 1978, remain at that salary without  
17 further increases; and

18           WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(C) proposes that directors who, as of  
19 December 31, 1978, are on frozen salary shall, as of January 1, 1979, be  
20 placed within the state salary schedule in AS 39.27.011 at the appropriate  
21 range closest to, but not less than, their current salary and their salary  
22 progression shall follow the steps outlined in the salary schedule to a  
23 maximum of \$50,000 annually; and

24           WHEREAS Recommendation Number (5)(D) of the Salary Commission proposes  
25 that a state employee who, without a break in continuous service, is appointed  
26 to a position of division director after December 31, 1978, be placed, at the  
27 time of appointment, within the state salary schedule in AS 39.27.011 at the  
28 appropriate range and step closest to, but not less than, his current salary,  
29 and his salary progress shall follow the steps outlined in the salary schedule

1 to a maximum of \$50,000 annually; and

2 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska  
3 Public Utilities Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

4 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (6)(B) proposes that the chairman of the  
5 Alaska Public Utilities Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually,  
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8 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

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10 Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission be paid an additional \$500  
11 annually, prorated as part of the regular salary; and

12 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (8)(A) proposes that members of the Alaska  
13 Pipeline Commission be paid \$44,353 annually; and

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15 Alaska Pipeline Commission be paid an additional \$500 annually, prorated as  
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22 that the annual salary of district court judges be \$44,353; and

23 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(A) proposes that state legislators be  
24 paid an annual salary of \$12,690; and

25 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(B) proposes that the president of the  
26 senate and the speaker of the house each receive an additional \$500 per year  
27 payable on the opening day of each regular session of the legislature or upon  
28 confirmation by the House or Senate after the opening of a regular session of  
29 the legislature; and

1 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(D) proposes that legislators receive  
2 an annual allowance of \$4,320; and

3 WHEREAS Recommendation Number (12)(F) proposes that legislators receive  
4 per diem at the same rate as state employees, including regional variations  
5 where applicable; legislators who do not live in their city of residence  
6 during regular or special legislative sessions will receive per diem at the  
7 short-term rate; interim committee work should be paid at the short-term per  
8 diem rate; however, per diem is to be paid at the long-term (lower) rate if  
9 legislators are able to stay in their city of residence while on legislative  
10 business; and

11 WHEREAS Recommendations Numbers (1)(B), (2)(B), (3)(B), (4)(B), (6)(C),  
12 (7)(C), (8)(C), (9)(B), (10)(B), (11)(B), and (12)(B) propose that the  
13 salaries of the governor, lieutenant governor, commissioners of principal  
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16 Alaska Pipeline Commission, supreme court justices, superior court judges,  
17 district court judges, and legislators, respectively, be increased, beginning  
18 January 1, 1980, by an amount equal to the increase, expressed in terms of  
19 percentage, in the United States Department of Labor Consumer Price Index  
20 (Urban and Clerical Workers) for Anchorage, Alaska from January, 1979, to  
21 January, 1980; and that any such increase be calculated to the nearest tenth  
22 of a percentage point increase in the Consumer Price Index;

23 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature approves the listed  
24 Recommendations in the language and form stated in this resolution.

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Friday, January 30, 1976  
8:40 a.m.

All members were present except Rep. Itta. Others present were Alison Farnan, Fiscal Analyst of Legislative Finance; Ron Lind, Deputy Director, Budget & Management; and Kent Dawson, Director, Budget & Management.

PRESENT

The meeting was called to order to discuss HB 661.

HB 661

Rep. Buchholdt asked if community college instructors weren't already under a union and had collective bargaining. Rep. Duncan said that some were covered, but others weren't. Chairman Malone explained that this particular bill was for teachers not covered under collective bargaining.

COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
INSTRUCTORS

The committee discussed SB 499. Alison Farnan, Legislative Finance, said it was basically a general government salary schedule which changes monthly salary figures to yearly figures so that the computation of bi-monthly payments is easier.

SB 499

Rep. Naughton said there was no provision under HB 661 for paying legislature's permanent employees.

Chairman Malone commented that the bill took care of cost of living and salary increases for some employees not covered by collective bargaining. There is a bill in senate which would be, if adopted, enabling legislation for this kind of raise. They are also considering including the permanent staff of the judiciary and legislative branches. A general pay raise would automatically raise legislature again. The senate thinks that might defeat the purpose of the initiative if it is on the ballot.

Chairman Malone told the committee they must make a choice to keep the bill or send it to the senate and let them figure out what the final figures would be.

Copies of the committee substitute for SB 499 were distributed (see file). Chairman Malone said it was confusing to have the bills in different houses.

Chairman Malone asked for comments from Ron Lind, Budget & Management. Mr. Lind said SB 499 was originally a housekeeping measure to change salary figures to yearly figures so that they could be divided for bi-weekly pay. The sections through Section 16 deal with this.

DESCRIPTION  
OF SB 499

Mr. Lind continued saying that under Section 16 deputy commissioners would receive an increase, but the new language says that no deputy commissioner can be raised to above the commissioner. Section 17 is for some of the people in the executive branch. Section 19 discusses CPI change and would do the same thing as the general government contract. Section 20 is the section not funded in the appropriation bill. It would take \$890,000 to fund it. It would give the same kind of raise to permanent employees of the legislative branch. The \$890,000 would cover legislative and judicial. The rest of the bill explains calculating and making retroactive portions of the payment. Basically it would give these people the same salary schedule as under the general government contract.

Rep. Duncan asked Mr. Lind if in order to appropriate for SB 499 it would be necessary to increase HB 661 by \$886,000. Mr. Lind confirmed this.

Chairman Malone asked how the figures had been calculated. Mr. Lind replied that the \$1.5 million for the executive branch was calculated in the same way as general government. Actual payroll data was used. The University of Alaska didn't have payroll data, so that is based on budget figures. For the costing on the judiciary and legislative branch the amounts for judges and legislators was subtracted from the total payroll. Executive branch was done in the same way.

Mr. Lind said that because of fluctuations they would prefer that the appropriation be an overall appropriation so that funding could go back and forth.

OVERALL  
APPROPRIATION

Chairman Malone asked if the figure for University of Alaska was not broken out. Mr. Lind responded that the bill said not more than that figure.

Rep. Buchholdt asked Mr. Lind if what he was saying was that he didn't think the appropriation should be line budgeted. Mr. Lind said that all of the calculations were based on what happened in the first half of the year. There is no way of knowing growth.

Rep. Cowper asked if it was customary for the governor to introduce an authorization bill in one house and an appropriation bill in the other. Mr. Lind said that originally there had been two bills and one had been pulled out.

Rep. Buchholdt asked how many employees were covered under this bill. Mr. Lind replied that he didn't have exact figures and would have to get them.

NUMBER OF  
EMPLOYEES  
AFFECTED

Rep. Cowper said he thought getting those figures might be a futile exercise as long as the other bill is in the senate. Perhaps this bill should be put aside until something comes out of there. Rep. Cowper said that he would like to know the positions that would be affected.

Chairman Malone asked if Mr. Lind could supply the committee with the information Rep. Cowper was asking for for the University of Alaska. Mr. Lind said everyone would be covered with the same increase, but he would have to find out what the people are paid now.

Chairman Malone said that the committee could wait for enabling legislation from the senate which ought to go through the house anyway or they could forward the appropriation for consideration there. It would be nice to get the two bills together in one place at one time to avoid slips.

Chairman Malone asked for questions. Then he said that if there was no recommendation the committee would wait for a little while. He asked Mr. Lind for the requested information so that the committee could make its own memorandum on what amount should be contained in the appropriation.

Mr. Lind and Mr. Dawson left the meeting at 9:17.

Chairman Malone said that it would be nice to have both bills in one place so that all of the appropriations could be included in one bill.

The committee discussed plans for presentations at the upcoming budget meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

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Tape # H76-7

Beg. 1846

End 2461

On SB 726 Rep. Buchholdt said the Resources Committee had reported it out majority do pass. Rep. Gruening moved and asked unanimous consent to report out CSSB 726. There was no objection, so the motion was adopted. The committee report was circulated and CSSB 726 was reported out with a "do pass" recommendation.

SB 726

CSSB 726  
REPORTED OUT  
DO PASS REC

The next topic was SB 474 am. Palmer McCarter testified on the bill and Rep. Buchholdt suggested reporting the bill out. Rep. Cowper moved and asked unanimous consent to amend the bill to repeal the business license tax in 1979 and further provide that money received by various communities and municipalities which was due on January 1, 1978, be appropriated to the communities in 1979 and subsequent years. He said Billy Berrier had the exact language. Rep. Buchholdt suggested Rep. Cowper draw up the amendment for the committee to view. Rep. Cowper suggested voting on the concept. Rep. Duncan said he saw no harm in having a CS drawn up. Rep. Miller said he could have a CS drawn up for tomorrow morning. Rep. Cotton suggested including another amendment increasing the money to hospitals. Rep. Gruening moved to include the business license tax amendment and the hospital amendment in a proposed Finance Committee Substitute. Rep. Miller outlined the hospital amendment. He said that in the Free Conference on the Budget there would have to be a line item on hospitals to keep it all from going into one pot. There was no objection to having a CS drafted, so it will be drafted for the committee's consideration.

SB 474am

CS TO BE DRAWN  
UP WITH  
COWPER AND  
COTTON AMEND-  
MENTS

There was a brief recess and the committee took up SB 499 am with Reps. Buchholdt, Itta, and Guy present. Rick Svobody was present to explain the bill. He said SB 404 was referred and would be on the ballot August 24. If the people vote to repeal that bill it will go to what law was before last year's bill. In SB 499 the decision was made to leave the referendum alone and let the people vote on it. This bill creates a salary commission to set salaries of legislators, judges, commissioners, and deputy commissioners. (Reps. Gruening and Duncan joined the meeting at 4:30).

SB 499am

Mr. Svobody said the bill was complicated and it would be easier if SB 404 were just repealed and it would be possible to start over. On judges salaries he said that once they are raised they cannot be lowered. (Rep. Malone joined the meeting at 5:00).

Rep. Malone suggested that the committee wait to hear from Rep. Gardiner before acting on this bill.

There was no further business to come before the committee, so the meeting was adjourned at 5:05.

replied that based on '76 it's in the neighborhood of \$55-60,000. The exact amount is hard to say.

SB 753

Chairman Malone asked the wishes of the committee. Rep. Duncan moved to report out HCS for SB 753 (Finance). Rep. Haugen objected to adding HB 290. It would get a better rate of interest going by itself. It seems a little rich. Rep. Duncan said he felt the concept is needed. Possibly the fiscal notes could be looked at separately, but the concept needs to be enacted this session. Rep. Haugen agreed but said they don't need the extra money in personal services. Rep. Duncan suggested reworking the fiscal note, and Rep. Haugen agreed. Rep. Duncan suggested leaving the travel and contractual as it was listed but deleting the \$23,500 for personal services. Rep. Buchholdt suggested continuing with the \$5,900 that was included for a part-time employee to administer the program. Chairman Malone said they probably could manage the program at least starting up at the limit placed in the legislation with a half-time instead of a full-time person. If we put in \$11,000 for a half-time position that would bring it to \$18,000 for the first year of the program which is the approximate earnings rate on loans if all the money was out. Rep. Buchholdt moved to incorporate the amendment to the fiscal note so that the amount would be \$18,000. She said she would like to have the loan program self-generating to pay for the salary of the person running it. Chairman Malone said the motion was to adopt the main motion to report the bill out with a revised fiscal note for the program providing a half-time position for this function instead of a full-time person. There was no objection, so the motion was adopted. The committee report was circulated and HCS for SB 753 was reported out with a "do pass" recommendation. The bill will be sent to the Chief Clerk upon receipt of the CS from Legislative Affairs.

HCS for  
SF 753(Finance)  
REPORTED OUT  
DO PASS REC

FISCAL NOTE  
TO BE REVISED

Rep. Gardiner was present to speak on CSSB 499. He said this version of the bill left it to the voters to vote on the referendum. The bill is structured so that it goes into effect regardless of what happens in the primary election. The salary commission goes into effect 30 days after the bill goes into effect. They have responsibilities for making recommendations for next session. Nothing in the existing statutes will be affected until their recommendations have gone to the legislature and become effective.

CSSB 499

5-21-76

Rep. Gardiner said that constitutionally salaries and retirement of judges could not be lowered, but state employee's can. There was a 34-page opinion on this which wasn't really decisive. At the end they said the cleanest way is to repeal everything and then re-enact it. Our committee didn't want to do that.

CSSB 499

Rep. Gardiner continued, saying that the legislature doesn't have the power to amend the recommendations of the salary commission. This is modeled after the local boundary commission. The reason for this whole thing is that legislator's salaries have become too much of a political issue. This way a board will make a recommendation and the legislature will no longer be in a "conflict of interest" situation. Rep. Haugen said he felt the idea was long overdue.

Chairman Malone recessed the meeting at 10:25 to go to the floor session.

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Friday, May 21, 1976  
2:45 p.m.

In the absence of the chairman, vice chairman Buchholdt called the meeting to order with Duncan, Gruening Cowper and Guy forming the quorum. Milt Barker, budget analyst also was present as were Gene Lawn, administrative officer for child support and Rich Burnham of the Attorney General's office, as well as Don Clocksin from Alaska Legal Aid services.

PRESENT

First order of business was House committee substitute for SB 499 am for which Gruening moved and asked unanimous consent to report out. Duncan objected for the purpose for holding it over for an updated fiscal note. Duncan sounded an assumption it will be the commissioner's per diem and travel and removed his objection. The vote was majority do pass.

SB 499 am  
DO PASS

Next item of business was HCS for sponsor substitute for SB 659 am. Here begins Tape #71.

HCS SB 659am

Susan Green of the Governor's office, Commissioner Williamson, H&SS and members of his staff deputy commissioners McGinnis and Lloyd were present for testimony.

Williamson had presented the proposed amendments to federal regulators in Seattle, Region 10, and he stated their opinion that federal funding might be in jeopardy with that piece of legislation. There could be a five percent loss of an annual amount of \$350,000 and other loss of full aid funding program to total six million dollars annually.

CHILD SUPPORT  
ENFORCEMENT

Cowper immediately registered objection to a ballooning of 35 people where once it took 7 to do the job in the program.

DISCUSSION  
PERSONAL SERVICES  
INCREASE

McGinnis said Mr. Snowden gave in his Saturday testimony ten or eleven fulltime equivalencies, four from the Dept. of Law, (if those figures are accurate), seven authorized in the Dept. of Health & Social Services,

The remainder of the meeting was not tape recorded.

Rip Andrews was present at the meeting and spoke to the committee briefly in support of the CS for SB 335, which would provide for a one-day fishing license at \$5. Rep. Buchholdt thanked him for speaking to the committee.

CS for SB 335

Rep. Buchholdt said there was a fiscal note now available on SB 499am. Jay Hogan, Director of Legislative Finance, had expressed concern that materials weren't provided in this bill. He had told Rep. Buchholdt that a figure of \$25,000 should be added so that comparative figures on legislative salaries could be sought. Rep. Gruening objected to the addition because comparative figures are already available through the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor. Rep Buchholdt said she didn't feel any more money should be put in this project. Rep. Duncan pointed out that it would be going to Free Conference, and the fiscal note could be revised there if it was deemed necessary.

SB 499am

There was no further business to come before the committee, so the meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

-----  
Tape H76-72  
Beg. 0000  
Stopped at 1302.

Senator Ray next brought up COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. CSSB 499  
499 (Method of compensating state officers and employees).

Senator Ray moved to amend the bill on page 2, line 14 by changing "S14,720" to read "S12,700". The motion failed 3:4. Amendment

Senator Poland suggested they amend page 2, line 23 by upping the  
Lt. Governor's salary to equal that of the Commissioner's.

Senator Sackett agreed, and moved that on page 2, line 23 they change "\$44,000" to read "\$48,500". The motion carried. Motion

Senator Ray renewed his motion to amend page 2, line 23. This time the motion carried 4:2. Motion

Senator Poland moved to put the bill as amended out with individual recommendations. The motion carried, and the bill went out with a majority voting "Do Pass". Motion

Senator Sackett asked to bring up SENATE BILL NO. 586 (Relating to alcoholic treatment facilities) because it was the companion bill to the bond bill SB 585. It allows the municipalities to accept the facilities after they are built. There was no objection. SB 586

Senator Sackett moved to put SB 586 out with individual recommendations. The motion carried, and the bill went out with a majority voting "Do Pass". Motion

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. ADJOURN

Original sponsors: Josephson, V.Fischer,  
Kelly and Sturgulewski

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 161 (Judiciary)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to compensation of elected offi-  
6 cials; and providing for an effective date."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 24.10.100 is repealed and reenacted to read:

9 Sec. 24.10.100. COMPENSATION OF LEGISLATORS. The Commission on  
10 Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensation of legis-  
11 lators.

12 \* Sec. 2. AS 24.10.130 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 24.10.130. LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION. A member of the  
14 legislature is entitled to reimbursement for the expense of moving  
15 between the member's place of residence and the capital city for the  
16 purpose of attending a regular session of the legislature. Reimburse-  
17 ment shall be as provided by order of the Commission on Compensation  
18 of Elected Officials [REGULATIONS COVERING STATE EMPLOYEES ADOPTED BY  
19 THE COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION UNDER AS 39.20.160].

20 \* Sec. 3. AS 39.20.010 is repealed and reenacted to read:

21 Sec. 39.20.010. COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNOR. The Commission on  
22 Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensation of the  
23 governor.

24 \* Sec. 4. AS 39.20.030 is repealed and reenacted to read:

25 Sec. 39.20.030. COMPENSATION OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. The Com-  
26 mission on Compensation of Elected Officials shall set the compensa-  
27 tion of the lieutenant governor.

28 \* Sec. 5. AS 39.20.050 is amended to read:

1           Sec. 39.20.050.   EXCLUSIVE COMPENSATION.   Retirement benefits  
2 established by law and the [THE] compensation fixed by the Commission  
3 on Compensation of Elected Officials [LAW] for the governor and lieu-  
4 tenant governor are full compensation [IS IN FULL] for all services  
5 rendered by each of them in any official capacity or employment what-  
6 soever during their respective terms of office, and shall be paid  
7 throughout their respective terms of office unless the office becomes  
8 vacant.

9       \* Sec. 6. In making initial appointments to the Commission on Compen-  
10 sation of Elected Officials, the governor shall appoint one member to a  
11 term of two years, one member to a term of three years, one member to a  
12 term of four years, one member to a term of five years, and one member to a  
13 term of six years.

14       \* Sec. 7. The compensation of the governor, lieutenant governor, and  
15 legislators established by law on the day before the effective date of this  
16 Act shall remain in effect until the Commission on Compensation of Elected  
17 Officials has issued an order setting the compensation.

18       \* Sec. 8. This Act takes effect on the effective date of an amendment  
19 to the Constitution of the State of Alaska creating a commission on compen-  
20 sation of elected officials.

STATE OF ALASKA 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SB161  
 Title: Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials  
 Sponsor: Josephson  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Request: March 1, 1985

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor  
 Program Category Affected: Executive Operations  
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Executive Office

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
<b>OPERATING</b>						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL		8.9		9.7		
400 SUPPLIES		7.1		7.8		
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		16.0		17.5		

<b>CAPITAL</b>						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

<b>REVENUE</b>						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		16.0		17.5		
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Assumptions: 1) One Commissioner appointed from Juneau, Fairbanks and Nome, 2 from Anchorage. 2) Two meetings held in Anchorage, 1 each in Nome, Juneau and Fairbanks.

Prepared By: Michael A. Nizich Phone: 465-3616  
 Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/5/85

Approved by Commissioner: Sandra J. Herman Date: 3/6/85  
 Agency: Office of the Governor

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):  
 Legislative Finance  
 Legislative Sponsor  
 Requestor  
 Office of Management and Budget  
 Impacted Agency(ies)

Contractual Services:

Advertising - 3 times in local paper for each meeting  
@ \$130/day (5 1/4" x 5") = \$1950.00

Room rentals - 1 @ \$75/day = \$ 75.00  
                  2 @ \$100/day = \$200.00  
                  3 @ \$150/day = \$450.00

\$725.00

Secretarial and transcription services: \$4340.00

Secretarial = \$40/hour x 46 hours (2 4-hour mtgs  
  + 4 8-hour mtgs  
  + 1 hour each for  
  set up and take  
  down) = \$1840.00

Transcription = \$5/page x 500 = \$2500.00

FY 88 estimated using 10% inflation factor.

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

JOE P. JOSEPHSON  
DISTRICT H — ANCHORAGE  
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WHILE IN JUNEAU  
POUCH V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
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COMMITTEES  
BUDGET & AUDIT  
HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES  
RULES  
TRANSPORTATION  
SENATE CHAIR, ANCHORAGE CAUCUS

OFFICE OF MINORITY WHIP

February 13, 1985

Dear Colleague:

On Monday, February 18, I will introduce a bill and a resolution to establish, by constitutional amendment, the Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials.

I invite you to co-sponsor these measures. A copy of each is enclosed.

The measures have the following objectives:

First, they will take legislators out of the unseemly and misunderstood business of setting our own salaries. The measures are based on a very successful feature of the Anchorage Municipal Charter, where assembly and mayoralty salaries are set by the Commission on Salaries and Emoluments.

Second, they assure a public hearing process, in each judicial district, at least every other year on the issue of gubernatorial and legislative salary.

Third, they eliminate the twin dangers of the existing system -- on the one hand, the possibility of legislative decisions that might be selfish or self-serving; on the other hand, the possibility of attacks that are demagogical and politically motivated upon reasonable decisions regarding salary.

Under the measures, the proposed Commission members would be appointed for six-year terms and would not be removable during their terms. Thus, the Commission would have independence, once appointed, from the Governor and the Legislature.

As I see it, the enactment of these measures would not make moot the pending voter initiative proposition scheduled to be on the ballot in 1986. A decision by the voters to repeal the pay increase adopted in 1983 would be compatible with approval of the proposed constitutional amendment.

February 13, 1985  
Page Two

Such a decision, would be one of the factors which the members of the Commission could take into account in setting legislative salary. A decision by the voters not to adopt the initiative would also be compatible with passage of the constitutional amendment. One result would be to reduce public passions about the pay repeal initiative by offering a different, depoliticized method of setting salaries, hitherto an insoluble problem. Energies and attention can then be focused on other questions and the critical races that will be on the ballot.

Should you wish to co-sponsor these measures, please advise my office at 4525 this week. If you do not wish to co-sponsor, please give your support, or at least your open-minded consideration, as they proceed through the committee system. I hope you will join me in this effort.

Sincerely,



Joe P. Josephson

JPJ:rak  
Enclosures

Front Page - Bottom

# Legislative raise repeal unlikely soon

By ANN CONY  
Daily News reporter

JUNEAU — Key members of the state legislature acknowledged Wednesday that it appears lawmakers are not likely to repeal their 1983 pay raise this session.

Many successful candidates for the legislature campaigned last fall against the pay raise, and several bills have been introduced to scale back legislative pay to its previous level.

The House majority coalition's stated goals for this session include "addressing the legislative pay raise," but apparently that doesn't necessarily mean repealing it.

"In the election of '86, the question (of repealing the pay raise) is going to be on the ballot," noted House Speaker Ben Grussendorf, D-Sitka. "Since it's going to be on the ballot, there's no rush to deal with it this session."

Grussendorf said the legislature has more pressing business to tackle, such as deciding where to cut the governor's proposed budget and how to resolve problems with the Alaska Longevity Bonus program.

See Back Page, REPEAL

Daily News  
2/21/85 (>

# Repeal of legislators' 1983 pay raise not likely during this session, key lawmakers say

Continued from Page A-1

"There are a lot more important things coming up right now," agreed Sen. Mitch Abood, R-Anchorage. "Given the problems we have now and the 120-day session limit, it doesn't seem likely we'll get something substantial done on that (repeal) bill."

Abood is chairman of the Senate State Affairs Committee, which has before it three bills aimed at repealing the pay raise and establishing a commission to deal with legislative salaries.

Before the pay hike, lawmakers drew an annual salary of \$20,000 and were paid an \$80-a-day expense allowance during the session. They also received \$4,000 a year for miscellaneous office expenses, but were not required to show receipts for those expenses.

In 1983, lawmakers more than doubled their salary, to \$46,800, and kept the additional \$4,000 office allowance. They abolished the \$80-a-day expense allowance and cited that as part of the justification for the pay increase.

But under the new system, lawmakers' pensions, which are based on the salary and office allowance, benefited.

For most lawmakers, pension payments are calculated on the highest average salary collected in any three consecutive years as a public employee.

If the pay raise were repealed this year, the old salary would bring down the high average of the last two years.

Abood and Grussendorf said it's likely the legislature will work on the pay raise, and the salary commission idea, in the interim between

this session and next.

Senate Majority Leader Rick Halford said he hasn't paid much attention to bills aimed at repealing the pay raise but acknowledged that he would know about it if passage were a high priority for the Senate majority coalition this session.

Senate President Don Bennett, R-Fairbanks, said he didn't have time Wednesday to discuss repeal of the pay raise.

Rep. Katie Hurley, D-Wasilla, is the prime sponsor of a House bill to roll back the pay hike. Her bill and similar ones are in the House State Affairs Committee, which she chairs.

Hurley, who campaigned against the pay raise, said she wants to see the raise repealed this session, in part to assure the question can be

removed from the 1986 ballot.

"If it's on the ballot in '86 it becomes a big campaign issue again when we ought to be talking about more substantive issues," she said.

Hurley estimated there's a 50-50 chance of the repeal passing the House this session but conceded that repeal is not likely to go anywhere without the support of the leadership in both houses of the legislature.

Grussendorf, as part of his duties as Speaker of the House, has referred the repeal and related bills to four committees, instead of the usual three, which will make it more difficult for those bills to reach the House floor for a vote this session.

State Affairs is the first of the four committees, and one of the next stops will be the House Judiciary Committee.

Judiciary Chairman Mike Miller, D-Juneau, proposed the pay raise in 1983.

Grussendorf and Abood defended the pay raise, although Grussendorf said he voted against it in 1983 and Abood said he'd vote to repeal it if that's what his constituents demand.

Although the framers of the state constitution envisioned a part-time citizen legislature, the reality of handling billions of dollars a year in oil revenues and the problems accompanying state population growth have turned the job into year-round work, they said.

"You can't say to your constituents five months before the session starts, 'Hey, don't bother me now,'" Grussendorf said.

"There's a part of the public that wants to see the pay

raise repealed," Abood said. "I don't believe they understand what the situation

... They want us to be part-time legislators and deal with full-time problems. But it can't be done. The public has got to understand they can't have their cake and eat it too."

If repeal of the pay raise is put off until next year, Alaskans might see a virtual replay of events from the mid 1970s.

Lawmakers invoked public indignation in 1975, when they raised their salaries from \$9,000 to \$14,700.

In 1976, the legislature established a salary commission, and in the fall of that year voters took away the 1975 pay raise with a ballot initiative.

The salary commission was abolished in 1980.

P.O. Box 120449 Anchorage 99521

## Josephson urges salary commission

By ROBB FULCHER  
United Press International

JUNEAU, Alaska — A state senator told lawmakers Thursday they should not set their own salaries as they did in a controversial pay raise voted themselves in 1983.

Sen. Joe Josephson, D-Anchorage, told the Senate State Affairs Committee that a separate commission should be established to set legislative pay and take a sticky issue out of the hands of lawmakers.

"In my opinion, that would lead to greater respect for the legislature, greater confidence in the legislative branch, and remove from our agenda an issue we cannot handle comfortably," Josephson said.

There are several bills before the legislature that would repeal the 1983 pay raise that made Alaska's lawmakers the third-highest paid in the nation.

The salary increase, passed in the waning days of the 1983 session, set pay at \$46,800 for the state's 60 legislators.

Before the increase, Alaska lawmakers earned \$20,000 a

year plus an \$80 a day allowance for expenses, which placed each lawmaker's pay in the neighborhood of \$29,600.

An initiative that would repeal the pay raise has been placed on the 1986 general election ballot, in case legislators do not repeal the increase on their own.

Josephson has introduced a bill, Senate Bill 161, which would set up a commission to pay elected state officials.

Josephson told the Senate committee that he helped establish the Anchorage Salaries and Emoluments Commission in 1975, and the commission was well received by Anchorage residents.

"That has been part of the Anchorage charter for 10 years now and there has never been public outcry. In Anchorage, there is public confidence that those salaries, of the mayor and assembly, are fairly set," Josephson said.

Josephson told his colleagues that they would have trouble as long as they are the ones responsible for setting their own pay.

Anchorage Daily News  
February 20, 1985

## Deciding fair pay

Some of the furor over the 1983 legislative pay raise has subsided lately, but that shouldn't keep the legislature from taking up a good idea introduced this week by Sen. Joe Josephson: a Commission on Compensation of Elected Officials. This is a solution, and not simply a battle cry.

People have argued endlessly over the role and worth of elected officials ever since the legislature more than doubled its own salary and benefits — while ending per diem payments — in 1983. Part of the furor arose because political opponents could easily take advantage of the issue; part of it had to do with the indecorous performance of the legislature that approved the raise; part of it had to do with the fact that legislators were voting *themselves* more money; and part of it had to do with some folks' general antipathy to government altogether.

But none of those, really, are good reasons for setting legislative pay. A salary commission for elected state officials could more easily focus on the value and fair compensation for legislative service. It also could assure public hearings on the question, end charges of self-interest by legislators, and lessen public passions about the whole matter by taking it out of legislative politics.

This, surely, is an idea worth considering.