

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1993-1994 8672

8169 HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

434

HJR

3

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

2/11

(7)  
Date Referred: January 11, 1993

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Judiciary  
Finance

Date of Committee Action: 2-11-93

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 3

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

LIMITING TERMS OF LEGISLATORS

Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska limiting tenure in the legislature.

RECOMMENDATIONS:  the same title  
 be replaced with CS HJR 3 (STA)  a new title  
 have attached amendments(s)  
 do pass  
 do not pass  
 no recommendations  
 individual recommendations  
 additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) \_\_\_\_\_  
 fiscal impact GOV  
 zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) \_\_\_\_\_  
 fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Al Vezev</i> Vezev	X	<i>F. Ulmer</i> Ulmer		X	
<i>H. Olberg</i> Olberg	✓	<i>B. Davis</i> B. Davis		X	
<i>G. Davis</i> G. Davis	✓				
<i>W. Sanders</i> Sanders	✓				
<i>Pete Kott</i> Kott	✓				

*Al Vezev* Vezev  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

ELECTIVE DISTRICT 14  
ELMENDORF A.F.B.  
EAST ANCHORAGE  
GOVERNMENT HILL

REP. TERRY MARTIN

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PHONE: 333-6990

DURING SESSION  
P.O. BOX V  
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
JUNEAU, AK 99811  
PHONE: 465-3783

Alaska House of Representatives

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 20, 1993  
TO: Representative Al Vezey, State Affairs Chair  
FROM: Representative Terry Martin *TMM*  
RE: HJR 3 - Scheduling

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At your earliest convenience, please schedule HJR 3, requiring a constitutional amendment for the limitation of terms in the Alaska State Legislature. If you have any questions, please contact my aide Tom Anderson at 6618.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 3

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: limiting tenure in the legislature  
Sponsor: Representatives Martin and Kott  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor  
BRU: Division of Elections  
Component: General and Primary Elections  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing an additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director Phone: 465-4611

Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Coohill

Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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Alaska House of Representatives

## SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

### HJR 3

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the  
State of Alaska limiting tenure in the legislature

#### Section 1.

States that no representative may serve consecutively more than four full or partial terms, no senator may serve consecutively more than two full or partial terms, and no legislator may serve consecutively during more than eleven full or partial calendar years.

#### Section 2.

Adds a new subsection, (29), relating to the tenure of legislators, stating that the 1994 amendment will only apply to office served after 1992.

#### Section 3.

States that the amendment proposed by HJR 3 will be placed on the ballot at the next general election.

ELECTIVE DISTRICT 14  
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Alaska House of Representatives

## SPONSOR SUMMARY

### HJR 3

An amendment to the Constitution of the  
State of Alaska relating to the limitation of terms  
in the Alaska State Legislature

HJR 3 is an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska requiring a limitation on legislators serving in the House of Representatives and the State Senate. A person in the House cannot serve consecutively more than four full or partial terms, and a person in the Senate may not serve consecutively more than two full or partial terms. In addition, no legislator may serve consecutively during more than eleven full or partial calendar years.

#### Need for Legislation

In retrospect of the past election in 1992, and in view of the current national trend against continuous incumbency, it would seem appropriate that a constitutional amendment be implemented through which career politicians are prevented from running for the same office.

At the original Alaskan Constitutional Convention, drafters and delegates concurred that lifelong politicians were not desired. Whereas knowledge and seniority accrued through long service in the House and Senate, the intent for creating a legislature was to maintain a continuous stream of fresh thoughts and ideas. This resolution would amend the constitution and impose the term limit.

In our recent national election on November 3rd, 14 states had the limitation of terms initiative for federal and state legislative seats on their ballots, all of which passed. In addition, 29 state legislatures introduced the term limit bill/resolution in their prospective states. In 1992, figures show that out of the 7,461 state legislators, 1,374 (18%) were new members. Indeed, the sentiment of today's voter is to limit the term of the legislator.

SUBMITTED BY  
 REP. MARTIN  
 RE: HJR 3  
 1/21/93

**Election Update: Focus on Legislatures**

# Term limits sweep country

**Veteran lawmakers are unable to hide**

By TODD SLOANE  
 Staff Writer

Love 'em or hate 'em, term limits for state legislators are here to stay in 15 states, and chances are they're coming soon to a state near you.

Within weeks of the Nov. 3 passage of term limits for state legislators in 12 states — which joined California, Colorado and Oklahoma in limiting legislative tenure — new term limit proposals came forth in Georgia and New Jersey.

Proposals already are working their way toward the ballot in Maine, Idaho, Utah and Massachusetts. And there are growing movements to limit terms in New York and Texas.

Typical of the latest proposals

was one from Georgia Lt. Gov. Pierre Howard, who pledged Nov. 9 to seek a limit to terms equal to eight years for state executive officers and 12 years for legislators.

Mr. Howard said the difference between a state government without term limits and one with term limits "is the difference between fishing in a stagnant pond and fishing in a trout stream where the water's running through." The proposal will be put in the hopper by Senate Majority Leader Wayne Garner, a fellow Democrat.

Voters, some attention-seeking politicians and taxpayer groups say they love term limits because the measures put an end to career politicians and their cozy, money-driven relationships with special interests while relaxing partisan gridlock.

By and large, legislative leaders and public policy analysts hate term limits, saying they will lead

See Term limits on Page 20



**Term limits**

Twelve states, including Washington (left), adopted term limits for state legislators on Nov. 3

- Arizona, Arkansas
- Florida, Michigan
- Missouri, Montana
- Nebraska, Ohio
- Oregon
- South Dakota
- Washington
- Wyoming

Three states already had term limits:

- California
- Colorado
- Oklahoma

**Election Update: Focus on Legislatures**

## Term limits

Continued from Page 3

to more gridlock as leadership loses control of the crowded government institutions. The loss of institutional and policy memory and fealty to leadership will lead to numerous agendas in constant conflict, they say.

It is too early to determine how term limits for state legislators will play out, but one of the major goals of the limits, "throwing the bums out," already has started to be realized in California, which adopted term limits in 1990. An Assembly member is allowed to serve no more than six years, or three two-year terms, in his or her lifetime. On the other side of the Legislature, senators get eight years, or two four-year terms.

The departure of Democrat Barry Keene, the one-time Senate majority leader who said he resigned out of frustration with gridlock in California's legislative process, was probably hastened by the knowledge that he would get to serve only his current term, which was scheduled to expire in 1996.

Bruce Bronzan, a Democrat considered one of the country's most experienced health policy experts and chairman of the California Assembly's Health Committee, left for an academic post, saying he couldn't pass up the opportunity; the knowledge that he would be out on his ear in just two years anyway influenced

his decision, say insiders in Sacramento.

**First limited crop of lawmakers**

The 28 new members of the California Assembly, who account for more than one-third of its 80 members, represent the first crop of elected lawmakers who know they can serve no more than six years, assuming that each is re-elected twice.

New Democratic Assemblyman Louis Caldera, who represents the area of central Los Angeles, said, "People have a sense that they've been elected to do a job and they have only a short period of time to do it. I'm not going there to occupy space."

Lewis K. Uhler, co-author of the state's term limit initiative, said this year's candidates were different because they knew before running that they could not make a career out of legislative service. He said the group was more experienced, older and also represented a broader cross-section of the populace than past legislative classes.

"This seems to be a group of people with more concern for solving the issues than simply getting re-elected, which is what we thought this process was all about," Mr. Uhler said.

How this new breed of legislator will change institutions and affect public policy is already being assessed nationally.

"Within a few years, we are

going to see entire leaderships being thrown out," said Karl Kurtz, director of state services for the National Conference of State Legislatures, Denver. Without seniority, "people will have only a few years to become and serve as legislative leaders. You will likely see one-term speakers, with their successors already in line before they take charge."

In large states like California, Michigan and Ohio, where political leaders have established large campaign funds to aid current and potential members of the same political parties, there will be no reason for leaders to maintain these funds because the loyalty to specific leaders won't be meaningful, Mr. Kurtz said.

**Lack of institutional memory**

Alan Rosenthal, director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., argued that term limits will eliminate institutional memory, causing a new kind of policy gridlock.

"You now have legislators who have honed their political expertise over many, many years, who know what has been tried and worked and what has been tried and didn't work," he says. "What will probably happen under term limits is that, as new people keep coming in, policy will be rewritten and rewritten. The real question will be whether local governments

will be able to absorb all of these policy changes."

If power shifts away from legislatures, it will go to executive branch agencies, which will have far more institutional memory. Governors will seem to be more effective than weak legislative leaders, Mr. Rosenthal argues.

**Measures differ considerably**

Two State University of New York professors, Gerald Benjamin and Michael J. Malbin, who both work with the Rockefeller Institute of Government, Albany, N.Y., pointed out in their book, "Limiting Legislative Terms," that not all term limits are alike.

For instance, California limits lifetime service to six and eight years in the Assembly and Senate, respectively, while Colorado opted for a limit on continuous service in one chamber. Once a person hits the limit of eight consecutive years, he or she must do something else for four years before serving again in that body.

However, those four years may be spent in the other house of the Legislature. The majority of term limit plans adopted Nov. 3 follow the Colorado method. This would have the effect of allowing skilled "entrepreneurial" career politicians to stay in business. Legislatures and other government offices will become a game of musical chairs, Messrs. Benjamin and Malbin speculate.

SUBMITTED BY REP. MARTIN  
RE: HDR3  
1/21/93

# Incumbents face trouble: state legislators

**CINCINNATI** — About 70% of state legislators agree that voter discontent will cause substantial numbers of incumbent state lawmakers to lose their seats in the general election, according to the results of a National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) poll.

Two-thirds of legislators who have held office at least seven years expect incumbents to lose their re-election bids Nov. 3. Nearly three-fourths of lawmakers with at least 12 years of legislative service expect incumbents to lose.

The lawmakers were polled at the annual NCSL convention in late July in Cincinnati. The poll was conducted on the floor of the ex-

hibition hall by LEXIS, part of Mead Data Central Inc., Dayton, Ohio, a full-text, computer-assisted legal research service.

Three-fourths of the lawmakers surveyed oppose limits on the number of terms they can serve. About 93% of Democratic legislators are against term limitations, while 58% of Republicans oppose such limits. Not surprisingly, more than 80% of the lawmakers who have held office for seven years or more oppose limits.

Nearly two-thirds of state legislators favor a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget. Of the lawmakers polled, 91% of the Republicans favor the amendment, but

59% of the Democrats oppose it.

In other poll findings, six of seven legislators agree that heavy reliance on property taxes to fund public schools creates fiscal inequities among school districts. To remedy such inequities, 44% of the legislators indicated they favor increasing state income taxes, 32% prefer hikes in state sales tax levels and 22% favor redistributing property taxes across school districts.

About 58% of legislators said they favor efforts to privatize government activities. About 83% of Republicans and 38% of Democrats indicated they look favorably on privatization.

— Ellen Shubart

## The Anchorage Times

"Believing in Alaskans, putting Alaska first"

Publisher: BILL J. ALLEN  
Editors: DENNIS FRADLEY, PAUL JENKINS, WILLIAM J. TOBIN

The Anchorage Times Community in this segment of the Anchorage Daily News does not represent the views of the Daily News. It is written and published under an agreement with former owners of The Times, in the interests of preserving a diversity of viewpoints in the community.

## Time for term limits

**THE ELECTION** campaign just ended — and we speak here of the local races for state offices — offered in a digesting way new evidence of the absolute necessity for limiting terms in the Alaska Legislature.

Tens of thousands of dollars were spent by candidates in some races. Maybe a hundred thousand or more in a few.

No matter how important we all might feel legislative service to be, it is not — and should not — be something to be bought at a huge cost.

Clearly, the candidates themselves are not spending their own money to win these big-buck seats in Juneau.

Instead, they are spending a little bit of yours — through individual contributions — and an awful lot that comes from special interests, the big spenders who are compelled (because that's the way the system works these days) to try to protect their backsides by seeing to it that friendly faces are elected to the Legislature.

And so we elect legislators who often are more committed to big money backers than they are to their constituents at large.

**AND THE PRESSURE** is always on to act in the Legislature, and to vote in the Legislature, in ways that will ensure re-election the next time around.

It's a way of doing things that no longer fits the mood of the people, or the needs of the state as the new century looms ahead.

The first priority of restoring good government to Juneau is to provide Alaska with a true citizen Legislature.

We haven't had that for decades — not since we started paying pensions to lawmakers, not since we permitted legislators to stay in Juneau more than four months a year, not since the members of the House and Senate elevated their positions to full-time jobs, and not since we let them become year-round professional politicians without jobs in the real world.

It's time for a change. And no constitutional amendment is required. All the 1993 session needs to do is to pass a term limitation law.

It should be right up near the top of priority matters when the ladies and gentlemen of the House and Senate convene in Juneau Jan. 11.

THE ANCHORAGE TIMES, P.O. Box 100040, Anchorage, AK

HJR

4

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 4

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: limiting tenure in the legislature  
Sponsor: Representative Nordlund  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor  
BRU: Division of Elections  
Component: General and Primary Elections  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing an additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director *Charlot E. Thickstun* Phone: 465-4611  
Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Coohill *J. B. Coohill*  
Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Official Business

P.O. Box V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Representative Jim Nordlund

HJR 4 Limiting Terms of Legislators

### Sponsor Statement

HJR 4 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska limiting the tenure in the legislature by an individual to three consecutive terms in the House of Representatives, and two consecutive terms in the Senate. This amendment does not preclude a legislator from moving from one house to the other, nor from serving in the legislature again after sitting out at least one term.

I feel that it is important to break the cycle of incumbency, which will make elections more competitive. As the situation now stands, incumbents have distinct benefits in raising campaign funds, reaching constituents, and other advantages which help to assure their re-election.

I believe that these proposed changes will result in a more citizen-oriented legislature. I subscribe to the opinion of many Alaskans who are not satisfied with entrenched politicians who become professional legislators. It is my belief that a regular infusion of new legislators with new ideas will improve the legislative process.

I think we should return to the concept envisioned by the framers of our Constitution: the "citizen legislator."



# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Official Business

P.O. Box V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Representative Jim Nordlund

HJR 4 Limiting Terms of Legislators

### Sectional Analysis

Section 1 limits the consecutive terms which any representative may serve to three full or partial terms. It limits the consecutive terms which any senator may serve to two full or partial terms.

Section 2 states that "the clock starts running" beginning with the Eighteenth Alaska Legislature. Thus any representative now in office may serve two additional consecutive terms, for a total of three consecutive terms. Any senator now in office, whether serving a two- or a four-year term, may serve one additional consecutive term, for a total of two consecutive terms.

Section 3 states that this proposed amendment to the Constitution will be submitted for voter approval at the next general election, November 1994.

## STATES WITH TERM LIMITS

**Arizona:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and congressmen to three consecutive terms. Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and members of the executive branch to two consecutive 4-year terms.

**Arkansas:** Limits statewide elected officials to two 4-year terms, state representatives to three 2-year terms, state senators to two 4-year terms. Holds U.S. representatives to three terms; U.S. senators to two terms.

**California:** Limits members of the U.S. House of Representatives to six years in an 11-year period and U.S. senators to 12 years during a 17-year period. Limits state lawmakers to three 2-year terms in the Assembly and two 4-year terms in the Senate.

**Colorado:** Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms in the House and two consecutive 4-year terms in the Senate. Congressional limitations are six consecutive 2-year terms in the House and two consecutive 6-year terms in the Senate. Limitations will not affect currently elected members of Congress until 2002.

**Florida:** No one can run for re-election to the Legislature, executive branch or U.S. Congress if by the end of their current term they have served for eight consecutive years.

**Michigan:** State representatives may serve only three terms, state senators and the executive branch only two terms. Limits U.S. representatives to three terms in any 12-year period and U.S. senators to two terms during 24 years

**Missouri:** Restricts state lawmakers to eight years in the same house and total years of legislative service to 16. U.S. representatives are limited to four terms and U.S. senators to two terms. Limits on congressional terms will not go into effect until enacted by half the states.

**Montana:** Limits state senators to eight years in a 16-year period, representatives to six years in a 12 year period, and the executive branch to eight years of service in 16 years. Holds U.S. representatives to six years out of 12 and U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period.

**Nebraska:** Limits statewide officials and legislators to two consecutive terms. Prohibits U.S. representatives from placing their name on the ballot after four consecutive terms and U.S. senators after two consecutive terms.

**North Dakota:** Restricts access to the ballot to members of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives after they have served 12 years in office in any combination. Can run again after a 2-year break.

**Ohio:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and members of the U.S. House of Representatives to four consecutive terms. Limits state senators to two consecutive terms and state representatives to four consecutive terms. Limits members of the executive branch to two consecutive terms. Terms are considered consecutive unless there is a break of four years.

**Oklahoma:** State lawmakers are limited to 12 years of legislative service.

**Oregon:** Holds state lawmakers to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate and no more than 12 years of legislative service. Statewide officeholders are limited to eight years and members of Congress to six years in the House and 12 years in the Senate.

**South Dakota:** Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and statewide officers to two consecutive terms. Limits members of Congress to six consecutive terms in the House and two consecutive terms in the Senate.

**Washington:** Limits state senators to eight out of 14 years, representatives to six out of 12 years and the governor and lieutenant governor to eight out of 14 years. U.S. senators are held to 12 out of 18 years and U.S. representatives to six out of 12 years. Terms served before November 1992 will not count toward limits and the measure will not go into effect for federal officers until nine other states limit ballot access or terms.

**Wyoming:** Limits state senators to three terms in any 24-year period, representatives to three terms in any 12-year period, and constitutional officers to two terms in any 16-year period. U.S. senators are limited to serving two terms in any 24-year period and U.S. representatives to three terms in 12 years.

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

December 1992



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# Wisconsin Briefs

from the Legislative  
Reference Bureau

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Brief 92-14

November 1992

## STATUS OF TERM LIMITATIONS AS OF NOVEMBER 1992

**Introduction.** Major term limitation initiatives or referenda were presented to the voters in 14 states in the November 1992 general elections, and all were adopted. (Nevada would have been a fifteenth state to consider term limits in 1992, but the measure was removed from the ballot by court order.<sup>1</sup>)

The electorates of all 14 states — Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming — voted in 1992 to restrict the length of service for members of their congressional delegations. Twelve of the 14 also placed limits on state legislative service.<sup>2</sup> North Dakota's initiative restricted only congressional service, and California had already voted to limit state legislative service as part of its 1990 Proposition 140. Also in 1990, 2 other states (Oklahoma and Colorado) joined California in adopting term limits for state legislators. Those 3 states were the first to impose such limits. In

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<sup>1</sup>The Nevada initiative proposed that any U.S. Representative who had served for 6 years in any 12-year period or any U.S. Senator who had served 12 years in a 24-year period be ineligible for the Nevada ballot. It did not place restrictions on state legislators or statewide officers.

The Nevada Supreme Court removed the measure from the ballot based on its 3 findings that: 1) states do not have the constitutional power to establish qualifications for federal office; 2) voters could not determine whether they were voting for a statutory provision or an amendment to the state constitution because the question was not drafted properly; and 3) the number of invalid signatures in 2 counties required that the measure be stricken from the ballot. Even the dissenting opinion expressed doubts about the constitutional validity of the measure if passed, but argued that voters should at least be given the opportunity to express their opinions on the issue.

<sup>2</sup>The limits do not apply to service before the effective date of the limitation measures.

Prepared by Bob Paolino, Research Analyst

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addition, Colorado took the more controversial step of also adopting limits for its congressional delegation that year.

The states differ on the specifics of their term limits. In some, the limits are on lifetime service. Others limit the number of successive terms or establish a periodic limit on the maximum number of years or terms served within a specified length of time. Some states create separate limits for each house of the state legislature or U.S. Congress, while others establish an overall maximum on legislative service. States that address the question of partial terms vary on how they treat them. Most consider an official who resigns from office to have served a full term. In the case of election or appointment to fill a vacancy, some states consider any part of a partial term as a full term, while others count a full term against the limit only if the legislator serves more than half a term.

Another variation among the states is whether the congressional limit applies to years of service or eligibility for a ballot listing. In 7 states those who have reached their limits in the U.S. Congress cannot be listed on the ballot, either for the remainder of their lives, if it is an absolute limit, or while waiting for an intervening term of office or time period to elapse. They are not, however, barred from additional service if they can win reelection as write-in candidates. Such provisions could enable popular senior members to seek reelection but would counter some of the advantages of incumbency. Ballot restrictions rather than prohibitions on service have another purpose, however. Some term limit advocates hope this approach will avoid a constitutional challenge to state-imposed limits on federal offices. By this method, they argue, states are only exercising their authority to regulate the manner in which they conduct elections, rather than changing the qualifications for holding a federal office.

**Congressional term limits.** Recent term limitation campaigns have focused on the legislative branches at the state and national levels. For congressional service, all 14 states voted to limit U.S. Senators to 2 terms, and 8 of them voted for a 3-term limit on U.S. Representatives. Florida, Missouri, Nebraska, and Ohio chose 4 terms for their congressional representatives. North and South Dakota decided on 6 terms to match the 12-year limit on U.S. Senators. (These term descriptions are based on the usual length of prescribed terms. Refer to the summary table at the end of this Brief for each state's specific provisions on limitations.)

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Colorado was the first state to adopt term limits on its congressional delegation. Congressional term limits were vigorously debated in Washington, but voters defeated the 1991 measure. That initiative differed from the successful 1992 ballot questions in that it courted previous service against the limits and would have permitted Washington's incumbent members of Congress (including Speaker of the House Tom Foley) to serve only one more term if their previous service exceeded the limits. The 1992 Washington referendum does not count previous service against the term limits.

Concern that term limits could be disadvantageous to a state's interests was evident in some of the 1992 ballot questions. For smaller states, the seniority of their members and the resulting opportunities to serve on important committees is a way to balance the numerically-based influence of larger states. For example, opponents of the 1991 Washington measure had argued that forcing the state's influential senior members to step down would handicap that state in its debates with California regarding water rights and other issues. For that reason, the federal provisions of Washington's 1992 term limit measure were drafted so that they would become effective only if at least 9 other states enacted limits. Missouri placed a more stringent restriction on the effective date; their 1992 term limit measure does not become effective for its congressional delegation unless half the states enact limits.

**Term limits on state legislative service.** Oklahoma was the first state to limit the tenure of state legislators. The September 1990 measure was approved by more than two-thirds of the voters. California and Colorado followed in November 1990.

The restrictions on length of state legislative service are similar across the states. Excluding California, which has already voted for lifetime limits, 6 states voted for 6-year limits on service in the lower house and 5 voted for 8-year limits. Of the same states, 10 now place 8-year limits on state senators, but Wyoming has a 12-year limit. Nebraska voted for an 8-year limit on members of its unicameral legislature, who are called senators. (Limits are categorized by the usual length of a state's legislative term in the specific house. Refer to the summary table for each state's specific provisions relating to limitations.)

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Term limits for governors and other constitutional officers. Constitutional limits on gubernatorial tenure have been fairly common. Before the 1992 November elections, 30 states limited the number of terms of service for their governors.<sup>3</sup> Of these, Kentucky and Mississippi forbid succession in office. Delaware, Missouri, and North Carolina have a lifetime limit of 2 terms, whether consecutive or not. The other 25 states limited gubernatorial tenure to 2 successive terms. (Oregon's limitation was written to limit service to 8 years in a 12-year period; in 1992, it changed to a simple 8-year limit.) In a number of instances, governors who have previously served 2 successive terms have returned to office after an intervening term.

Limits on other constitutional offices are less common. Prior to November 1992, lieutenant governors in 11 states and state treasurers in 12 states served under similar term limitations. Still fewer states limited the terms of their other constitutional offices.

The 1992 ballot measures in 11 of the 14 states added new limitations on service in statewide office, with most states extending the limits to other statewide offices, modifying gubernatorial limits or imposing limits for the first time. (The other 3 states, California, Missouri, and North Dakota, did not change existing limits.) Most of the 14 states voted to limit consecutive terms for statewide officials. Montana, Wyoming, and Washington chose period limits. Arkansas, Michigan, and Oregon were the most restrictive of the states approving new limits; their 2-term limits are for life.

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<sup>3</sup>Voters in Rhode Island did vote in 1992 to create a gubernatorial term limitation of 2 terms when they approved it in conjunction with a referendum to extend the governor's term from 2 to 4 years. (Only New Hampshire and Vermont still have 2-year gubernatorial terms.) Rhode Island was not included in national discussions of term limitation votes because this was a narrow application of term limitations and the majority of states already limit governors' terms.

TABLE I: LENGTH AND TYPES OF LIMITATIONS FOR U.S. CONGRESS

Table IA: Length of Term Limitations by House<sup>1</sup>

U.S. Senate

All 15 states (including Colorado) voted to limit U.S. Senators to 2 terms.

U.S. House of Representatives

3 terms

Arizona  
Arkansas  
California  
Michigan  
Montana  
Oregon  
Washington  
Wyoming

4 terms

Florida  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
Ohio

6 terms

*Colorado*  
North Dakota<sup>2</sup>  
South Dakota

Table IB: Types of Term Limitations for Both Houses

Consecutive terms

Arizona  
*Colorado*  
Florida  
Nebraska  
Ohio  
South Dakota

Period limits (H/S)<sup>3</sup>

California (H11/S17)  
Michigan (H12/S24)  
Montana (H12/S24)  
Washington (H12/S18)  
Wyoming (H12/S24)

Lifetime limits

Arkansas  
Missouri  
North Dakota<sup>2</sup>  
Oregon

*Italics denote voter approval before 1992.*

<sup>1</sup> Where a state expresses its limit in years rather than terms, the usual number of terms is shown. See Summary Table for more specific descriptions.

<sup>2</sup> The North Dakota measure limits service to a total of 12 years in either or both houses of Congress.

<sup>3</sup> Periodic limits are expressed as the number of years or number of terms a member may serve during a specified length of time. The numbers in parentheses show the state's period limit for each house. The first number is for the House of Representatives; the second is for the Senate. For example, California voted to limit representatives to 3 terms over an 11-year period, and senators to 2 terms over 17 years. See text or the Summary Table for a more specific description.

Table II: TERM LIMITATIONS FOR STATE LEGISLATURES

Limits for state representatives

SIX YEARS		EIGHT YEARS	TWELVE YEARS	
<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Consecutive terms</u>	<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Lifetime</u>
Arkansas	Montana (12)	Arizona	Missouri	Oklahoma <sup>2</sup>
California	Washington (12)	Colorado		
Michigan	Wyoming (12)	Florida		
Oregon		Ohio		
		South Dakota		

Limits for state senators

EIGHT YEARS			TWELVE YEARS	
<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Consecutive terms</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Lifetime</u>
Arkansas	Montana (16)	Arizona	Wyoming (24)	Oklahoma <sup>2</sup>
California	Washington (14)	Colorado		
Michigan		Florida		
Missouri		Nebraska <sup>3</sup>		
Oregon		Ohio		
		South Dakota		

*Italics denote pre-1992 limits*

<sup>1</sup> Restriction is based on service for a given number of years or terms during the number of years shown in parentheses, e.g., the ballot restriction in Washington applies once a state representative has served for 6 years during a 12-year period. See the Summary Table or the text for a more specific description.

<sup>2</sup> Total legislative service limited to 12 years, either in a single house or a combination of service in both houses.

<sup>3</sup> Unicameral legislature. Members are called Senators.

## Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Arizona	Arkansas	California	Florida
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is <b>FOUR</b> years, except as noted)	TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Secy. of State, Treas., AG, Supt. of Public Instr. (Corporation Comm.—ONE 6-yr term) (Mine Inspector—FOUR 2-yr terms)  ANY PART of a term served counts as a full term	TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, Treas., Auditor, AG, Comm. of State Lands	PRB—1992 LIMITS: TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Lt. Gov., AG, Controller, Secy. of State, Treas.	PRB—1992 LIMITS: TWO consecutive terms for Gov.  NEW LIMITS: EIGHT years for Lt. Gov. or a member of the Cabinet
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	FOUR 2-year terms FOUR 2-year terms ANY PART of a term served counts as a full term	TWO 4-year terms THREE 2-year terms	PRB—1992 LIMITS: TWO 4-year terms THREE 2-year terms Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term	EIGHT years
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	TWO terms THREE terms  Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term	TWO or more terms THREE or more terms	12 years' service in 17 6 years' service in 11	EIGHT years for each office A Senator would be eligible for the ballot in seeking a second term because the restriction is based on previous service at the time of election rather than at the end of the term sought.
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	TOTAL SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS Explicitly permits write-in campaigns	BALLOT ACCESS
<b>NOTES</b>	One full term must intervene for terms to be considered nonconsecutive.			

## Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Michigan	Missouri	Montana	Nebraska
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)	Elected for TWO TERMS per office Gov., Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG	PRE-1992 LIMITS: TWO TERMS for Gov. and Treas.	EIGHT years in a 16-year period Gov., Lt. Gov., AG, Secy. of State, Auditor, Supl. of Public Instr.	PRE-1992 LIMITS: TWO consecutive terms for Gov.  NEW LIMITS: TWO TERMS per office for Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Auditor, Treas., State Board of Education. (TWO consecutive 6-yr terms for Public Service Commission and Univ. of Neb. Bd. of Regents)
Type of Limit	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b>  Senate House/Assembly	Elected TWO terms  Elected THREE terms	SIXTEEN year total in both houses, not to exceed EIGHT in any one house	EIGHT years in a 16-year period	TWO 4-yr terms In the Unicameral legislature
Type of Limit	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>FEDERAL</b>  U.S. Senate U.S. House	Elected TWICE in a 24-year period  Elected THREE times in a 12-year period	TWO terms total* FOUR terms total*  FEDERAL LIMITS DO NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF THE STATES ENACT CONGRESSIONAL LIMITS.	TWELVE years in a 24-year period SIX years in a 12-year period	TWO terms FOUR terms
Type of Limit	PERIOD	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	LENGTH OF SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS
NOTES	For ALL offices listed, appointment or election to a vacancy for more than one-half term counts as being elected once.	*Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term for Missouri's congressional delegation.		

## Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Officers Affected	North Dakota	Ohio	Oregon	South Dakota
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)	NO LIMITS <i>except for preexisting TWO-term limit for Treasurer</i>	<i>PRB-1992 LIMITS:</i> TWO successive terms for Gov.  TWO successive terms per office for Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Auditor, Treas.*  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	EIGHT YEARS per office for Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Supt. of Public Instr., Treas., Labor Commissioner	<i>PRB-1992 LIMITS:</i> TWO terms for Governor & Lt. Gov.  NEW LIMITS: TWO terms per office for AG, Secy. of State, Auditor, Treas., Comm. of School and Public Lands
Type of Limit		SUCCESSIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	NO LIMITS	TWO successive 4-year terms* FOUR successive 2-year terms*  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	EIGHT years* SIX years* *provided that total legislative service does not exceed 12 years	FOUR 2-year terms FOUR 2-year terms
Type of Limit		LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	TWELVE years' total service in either or both houses  LIFETIME LIMIT unless permanent ineligibility is held unconstitutional. Then referendum provides member can again be eligible after two years have elapsed.	TWO successive terms* FOUR successive terms*  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	TWELVE years SIX years  Appointment/election to vacancy counted as full term	TWO terms SIX terms
Type of Limit		SUCCESSIVE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	BALLOT ACCESS	LENGTH OF SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	LENGTH OF SERVICE
NOTES		Appointment or election to fill partial term does not count if 4 years have elapsed since member held same office.	Bars candidacy if a new term would exceed limits. Appointment or election to fill vacancy counts as full term.	Appointment to partial terms does not count against the limit.


Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Washington	Wyoming	Rhode Island
<p><b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b></p> <p>(Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)</p>	<p>EIGHT years in a 14-year period for Gov. and Lt. Gov.</p>	<p>TWO terms in a 16-year period Gov., Secy. of State, Auditor, Treas., Supt. of Public Instr.</p>	<p>Extended terms for executive office to four years, with a limit of two terms</p>
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
<p><b>LEGISLATIVE</b></p> <p>Senate House/Assembly</p>	<p>EIGHT years in a 14-year period* SIX years in a 12-year period* *combined limit of FOURTEEN years for both houses in a 20-year period</p>	<p>THREE 4-year terms in a 24-year period<sup>d</sup> THREE 2-year terms in a 12-year period</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
<p><b>FEDERAL</b></p> <p>U.S. Senate U.S. House</p>	<p>TWELVE years in an 18-year period SIX years in a 12-year period</p>	<p>TWO terms in a 24-year period THREE terms in a 12-year period</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	<p>BALLOT ACCESS</p> <p>Write-in candidacies explicitly permitted</p>	LENGTH OF SERVICE	
NOTES	<p>FEDERAL PROVISIONS NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL NINE OTHER STATES ENACT LIMITS.</p>		

questions. Two of the Colorado questions propose to expand gambling from four to 31 towns and counties in rural areas, one would authorize casino gambling in Denver but exclude it from other metro areas, another authorizes gambling in a rural town in western Colorado but would also impose a moratorium on additional gaming throughout the state until 2000, and still another—proposed by the legislature—provides for a local veto on gambling, even where it has been previously approved by initiative. If more than one of the Colorado gaming issues passes, it could lead to California-style litigation, where two conflicting initiatives on the subject of campaign finance were approved by the voters in 1988 and the ensuing litigation stretched out over four years.

**E**nvironmental issues are not as prominent as they were two years ago, when California voters rejected "Big Green," sometimes characterized as the most ambitious environmental initiative ever offered and attacked by opponents on the grounds that it would increase food costs and would also lead to the elimination of many jobs. In Oregon this year, two questions involve a nuclear power plant and one concerns fishing on the lower Columbia river. Environmental questions in other states involve various aspects of wildlife, parks and recreation. There are 14 environmental questions on the 1992 ballots, compared to 16 in that category in 1990.

Abortion, a public policy issue frequently faced by voters in past elections, is noticeable by its absence in 1992, with only one question on that subject on this year's ballot in Arizona. The California ballot includes an equally controversial issue—physician-assisted death. The California initiative, sometimes labeled the euthanasia question, authorizes a mentally competent adult to request "aid in dying" when a terminal condition is diagnosed.

Whatever the questions, if voting patterns follow the trend of recent elections, relatively few initiatives will be approved. In 1990, 32 percent of the questions passed. Proposals placed on the ballot by legislative action fared much better, with a success rate of 56 percent in 1990. Questions placed on the ballot by legislative action, however, tend to be less controversial than those that result from successful petition drives. 

## Throwing Out the Rascals (And Those who Aren't)

Nobody's sure what is sparking term-limit proposals across the country. Maybe it's generalized rage; maybe it's a partisan plot. Whatever it is, it's spreading.

Nancy Rhyme

**J**ames Madison worried when he wrote in Federalist No. 53 that "a few members as happens in all such assemblies will by frequent re-election become masters of public business, and perhaps not unwilling to avail themselves of those advantages." Today's citizens are worried that there are far too many "members of long standing" in state legislatures and the Congress and they've reacted with term limit initiatives certified for the ballot in 15 states.

A movement to "throw the rascals out," that started two years ago in California, Colorado and Oklahoma, is raising a rumpus across the country. Some say it's an independent, grass-roots movement of state activists who believe that government under the status quo no longer works. Others believe it's an effort by the national Republican party to regain control of Congress. Whatever the motive, voters will have their say on the tenure of legislators on Nov. 3 in 15 of the 23 states with the initiative process, and it took hundreds of thousands of certified signatures to put the issue on those ballots. Whatever the outcome, the landscape of American politics has already been changed. In 29 states this year Democrats and Republicans alike introduced more than 100 bills to limit legislative terms, none of which survived.

Turnover statistics evidently haven't

Nancy Rhyme is NCSL's specialist on term-limit proposals.

been convincing. State senates turned over an average of 72 percent between 1979 and 1989. This means that roughly three out of every four senators elected in 1978 were not there when legislatures convened in 1989. In state assemblies and houses the average was 75 percent. The number of new state lawmakers coming into office after the November 1990 election was 13 percent. Of the 7,461 state legislators 1,374 were new members. Leadership figures show a similar turnover. A 10-year look indicates 88 percent of the senate presidents in 1989 were not senate presidents in 1979. The same for speakers. Ninety-four percent of those serving in 1989 were new since 1979.

No one can deny that public opinion of government and elected officials is at an all-time low. Citizens are frustrated by Congress' inability to reach consensus on budget matters, appalled by the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee's performance in the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and disgusted by the check bouncing fiasco in the House bank and the savings and loan scandal. They are equally frustrated by state and local governments' continual stalemate on a variety of issues. The Michigan Legislature and Governor John Engler locked horns over the elimination of general welfare assistance for 80,000 recipients. California Governor Pete Wilson and Speaker Willie Brown squared off for 64 days before the 1993 budget was adopted. Last year, 11 states missed their statutory

'deadlines for enacting 1992 budgets, including Maine, where state government ground to a halt for 16 days.

Even though Washington state voters, fearful of losing the congressional clout of U.S. House Speaker Thomas Foley, turned down a term limit proposal there last November, all the 1992 initiatives (including another one in Washington) seek also to limit the terms of federal officeholders. In Missouri and Washington, limits would not be placed on the congressional delegation until other states pass similar measures. The initiatives in Arkansas, Michigan, Missouri and Oregon would place an absolute limit on the length of service allowed, similar to those passed in California and Oklahoma that place a lifetime ban on the years an individual can serve in public office.

Questions remain as to whether the states can limit congressional terms. A court challenge is planned in Colorado, currently the only state with federal limits, by the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, which has petitioned the state Supreme Court.

Proponents of the Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Nebraska, North Dakota and Washington measures hope their wording to deny ballot access to incumbents who have served a certain number of years—meaning their names could not be placed on the ballot—will keep their measures out of court. The U.S. Constitution, by giving states the right to control suffrage in elections (people under 18 can't vote, for example), allows states to regulate ballot access, but the Congress, by law, can alter those regulations. Court challenges are more likely with the proposals that change the state constitution by limiting terms. California, North Dakota, Washington and Wyoming are amending their statutes to implement term limits. Although California and North Dakota can change their constitution through the initiative process, Washington and Wyoming cannot.

Court challenges against the ballot proposals in Florida and Missouri were unsuccessful and a challenge is still pending on the Nevada initiative. More challenges may come with passage of proposals. However, California's 1990 law was challenged and upheld by the state Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the case. ☐

## Term Limit Initiatives

**H**ere's what the 1992 term limit initiatives look like. All of them would start counting years of service after voter approval.

**Arizona:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and congressmen to three consecutive terms. Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and members of the executive branch to two consecutive 4-year terms.

**Arkansas:** Limits statewide elected officials to two 4-year terms, state representatives to three 2-year terms and state senators to two 4-year terms. Holds U.S. representatives to three terms; U.S. senators to two terms.

**California:** Limits members of Congress: representatives can serve only six years in an 11-year period; senators can serve only 12 years during a 17-year period.

**Florida:** No one can run for re-election to the Legislature, executive branch or U.S. Congress if by the end of his current term he has served for eight consecutive years.

**Michigan:** State representatives may serve only three terms, state senators and the executive branch only two terms. Limits U.S. congressmen to three terms in any 12-year period and U.S. senators to two terms during 24 years.

**Missouri:** Restricts state lawmakers to eight years in the same house and total years of legislative service to 16. A separate initiative limits U.S. representatives to four terms and U.S. senators to two terms. Limits on congressional terms will not go into effect until enacted by half the states.

**Montana:** Limits state senators to eight years in a 16-year period, representatives to six years out of 12 years, and the executive branch to eight years of service in 16 years. Holds congressmen to six years out of 12 and U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period.

**Nebraska:** Limits statewide officials and legislators to two consecutive terms. Prohibits U.S. representatives from placing their name on the ballot after four consecutive terms and U.S. senators after two consecutive terms.

**Nevada:** Limits federal officers effec-

tive Jan. 1, 1995. Restricts U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period. Constitutional amendments must pass at two successive elections.

**North Dakota:** Restricts access to the ballot to members of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives after they have served 12 years in office in any combination. Can run again after a 2-year break.

**Ohio: (#2)** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and members of the U.S. House of Representatives to four consecutive terms.

**Ohio: (#3)** Limits state senators to two consecutive terms and state representatives to four consecutive terms.

**Ohio: (#4)** Limits members of the executive branch to two consecutive terms. Terms are consecutive in all three proposals unless there is a break of four years.

**Oregon:** Holds state lawmakers to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate and no more than 12 years of legislative service. Statewide officeholders limited to eight years and members of Congress to six years in the House and 12 years in the Senate.

**South Dakota:** Limits state lawmakers to four 2-year consecutive terms and statewide officers to two consecutive terms. Limits members of Congress to six consecutive terms in the House and two consecutive terms in the Senate.

**Washington:** Limits state senators to eight out of 14 years, representatives to six out of 12 years and the governor and lieutenant governor to eight out of 14 years. U.S. senators are held to 12 out of 18 years and U.S. representatives to six out of 12 years. Terms served before November 1992 will not count toward limits and the measure will not go into effect for federal officers until nine other states limit ballot access or terms.

**Wyoming:** Limits state senators to three terms in any 24-year period, representatives to three terms in any 12-year period and constitutional officers to two terms in any 16-year period. U.S. senators are limited to serving two terms in any 24-year period and congressmen to three terms in 12 years.

HJR

5

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 5

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: duration of a regular session  
Sponsor: Representative Menard  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor  
BRU: Division of Elections  
Component: General and Primary Elections  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing and additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director Phone: 465-4611  
Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Coghill  
Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HJR 5

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Proposing an amendment to the  
Constitution...duration of a regular session.  
Sponsor: Representative Menard  
Requestor: Representative Menard

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: Legislative Council

Component: Session Expenses, Legal Svcs.,  
Sal & Allow., Public Svcs & Admin Services

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS		<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>
TOTAL OPERATING	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HJR 5 reduces the length of the legislative session from a 120 day limit to a 90 day limit. The estimated daily cost of the session is \$50,000 a day. If the session is reduced by 30 days, a savings of \$1,500,000 is calculated.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director

Division: Administrative Services

*Pamela A. Stoops*

Phone: 465-3850

Date: 1/18/93

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director

Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

*Warren W. Endicott*

Date: 1/18/93

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).

Page 1 of 1

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 5

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: duration of a regular session  
Sponsor: Representative Menard  
Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor  
BRU: Division of Elections  
Component: General and Primary Elections  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing and additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director *Charlot E. Thickstun* Phone: 465-4611  
Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Conrath *John B. Conrath*  
Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HJR 5

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Proposing an amendment to the  
Constitution...duration of a regular session.  
Sponsor: Representative Menard  
Requestor: Representative Menard

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: Legislative Council

Component: Session Expenses, Legal Svcs.,  
Sal & Allow., Public Svcs & Admin Services

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS		<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>	<1,500.0>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HJR 5 reduces the length of the legislative session from a 120 day limit to a 90 day limit. The estimated daily cost of the session is \$50,000 a day. If the session is reduced by 30 days, a savings of \$1,500,000 is calculated.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director  
Division: Administrative Services

*Pamela A. Stoops*

Phone: 465-3850  
Date: 1/18/93

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director  
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

*Warren W. Endicott*

Date: 1/18/93

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).



# Alaska State Legislature

Official Business

State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

January 22, 1993

REPRESENTATIVE CURT MENARD *CDM*  
SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR  
HJR 5, RELATING TO THE DURATION OF A REGULAR SESSION

HJR 5 would reduce the legislative session length from 120 days to 90 days. A shorter legislative session would enhance a citizen's ability to participate as a legislator since it would require less time away from home and his or her primary employment. Further, a shorter session would cost less in operating expenses since it would cut one-fourth of the time the legislature currently is allowed to operate.

Under HJR 5, the regular session would convene on the fourth Monday in February and be limited to 90 days. It is currently set to convene the fourth Monday in January and is limited to 120 days.

Much of the work of the legislature could be done within the confines of 90 days. Revenue forecasts are released in March and it has been my experience that not much substantive work really occurs before then. While committees are holding hearings throughout the legislative session, the bulk of our bills are passed in the last half of the legislative session.

I am convinced that the Alaska Legislature can accomplish its work within 90 days, and if a major issue arises it could be dealt with during a special session.



P.O. Box Y, State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100  
Mail Stop 3100  
(907) 465-3991

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
RESEARCH AGENCY

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR 5

January 14, 1988

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis

FROM: Sandi Depue *sd*  
Administrative Officer

RE: Number of Bills Passed By the Alaska Legislature During the Last  
Two Weeks of Session: 1985-1987  
Research Request 88.113

You requested that this agency determine how many bills were passed by the House of Representatives, Senate and both houses, on a daily basis, during the last two weeks of legislative sessions. You requested this information for the past three years.

Attached are bar graphs for 1985, 1986 and 1987 which show the number of bills passed by the House of Representatives, the Senate and both houses. The bar delineating passage of a bill by both houses corresponds to the date a bill (passed by both houses during the final 14 days) passed the nonoriginating house, i.e., the date a House Bill passed the Senate and vice versa. A table showing the same information is also attached.

If you have any questions or need further information, please let me know.

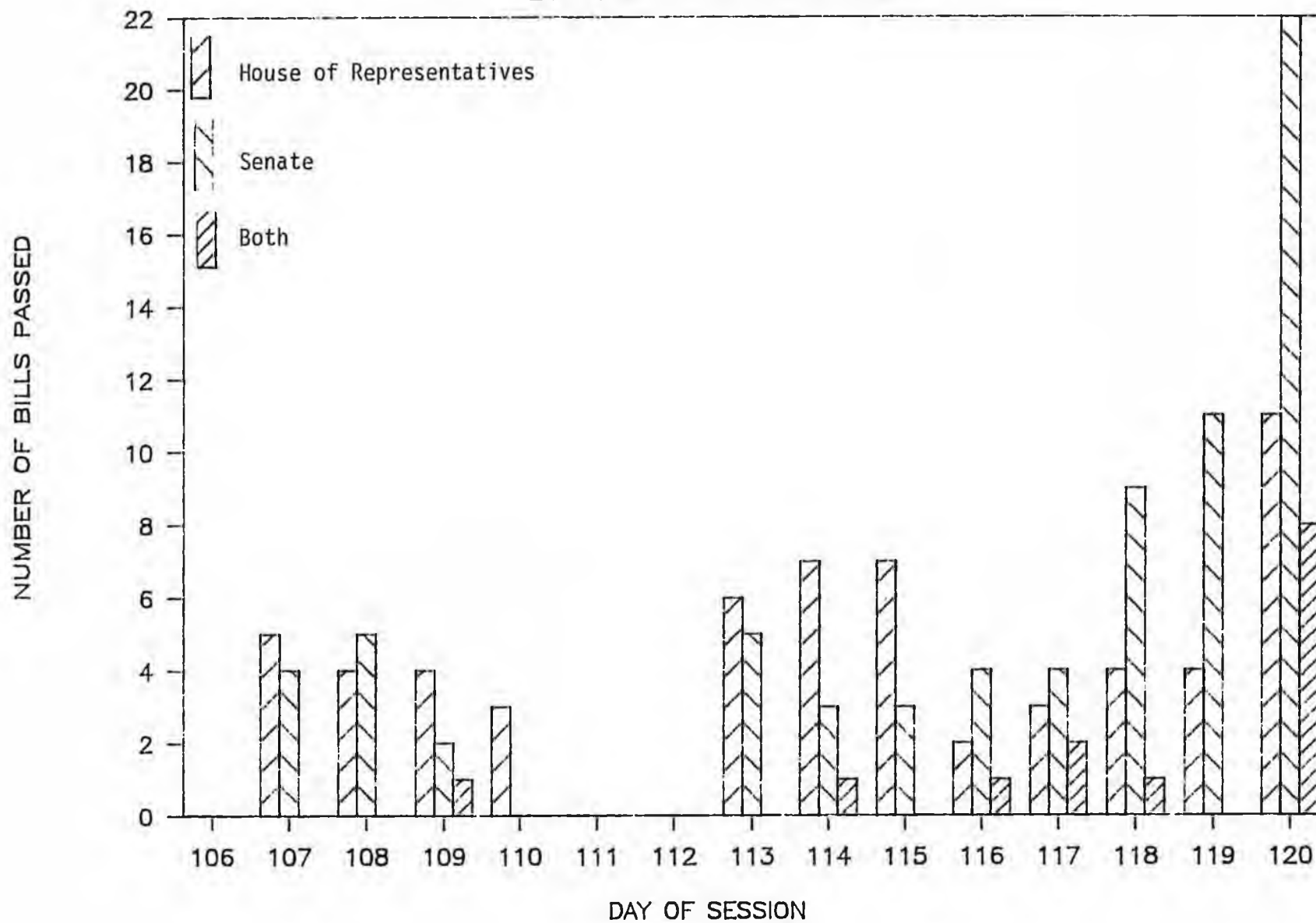
Attachments

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<sup>1</sup>The 1987 Legislature was in session two days which were both considered the 120th day. Both of these days are included on our graphs and in our table as the 120th day.

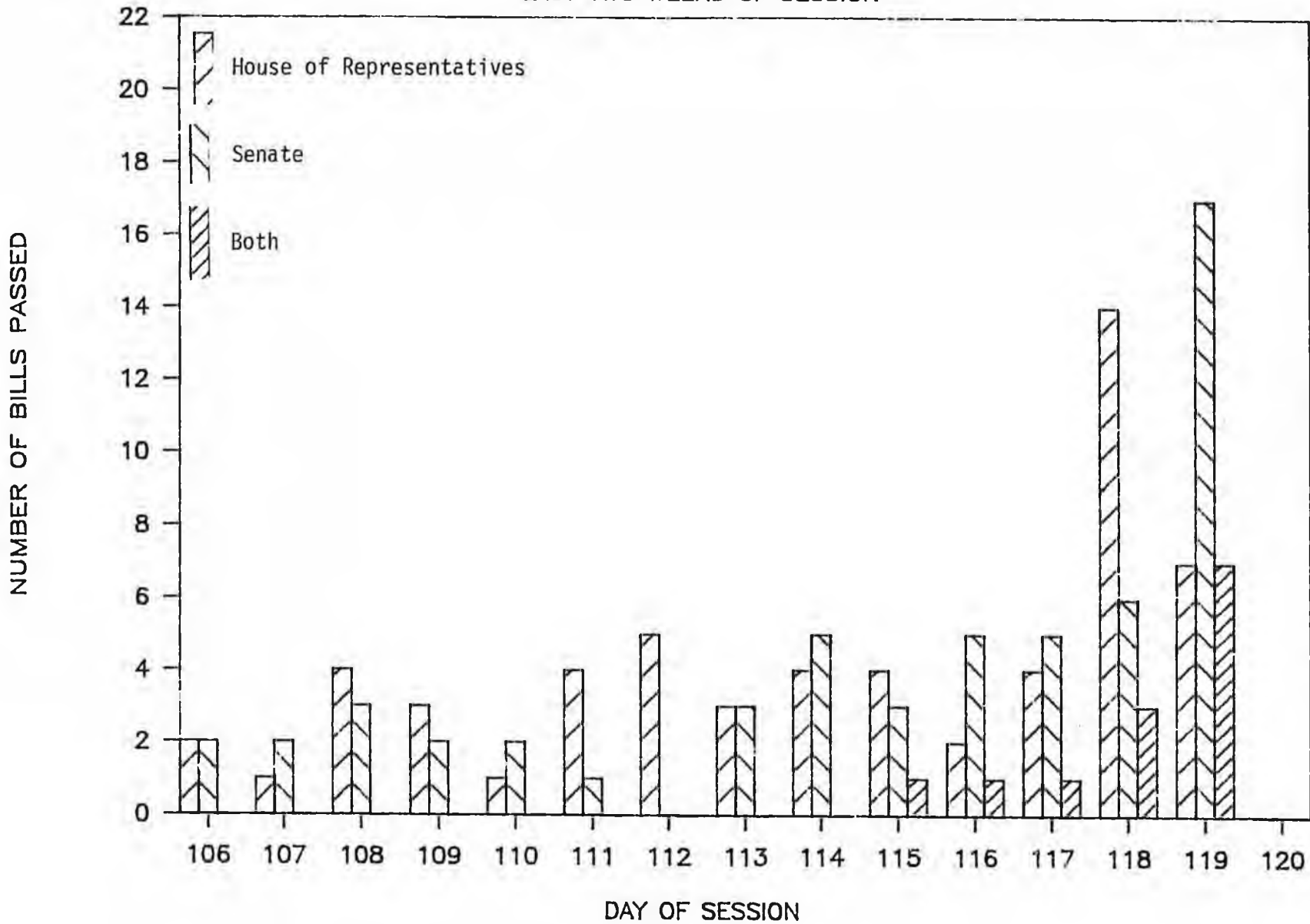
# BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE — 1986

LAST TWO WEEKS OF SESSION



# BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE — 1985

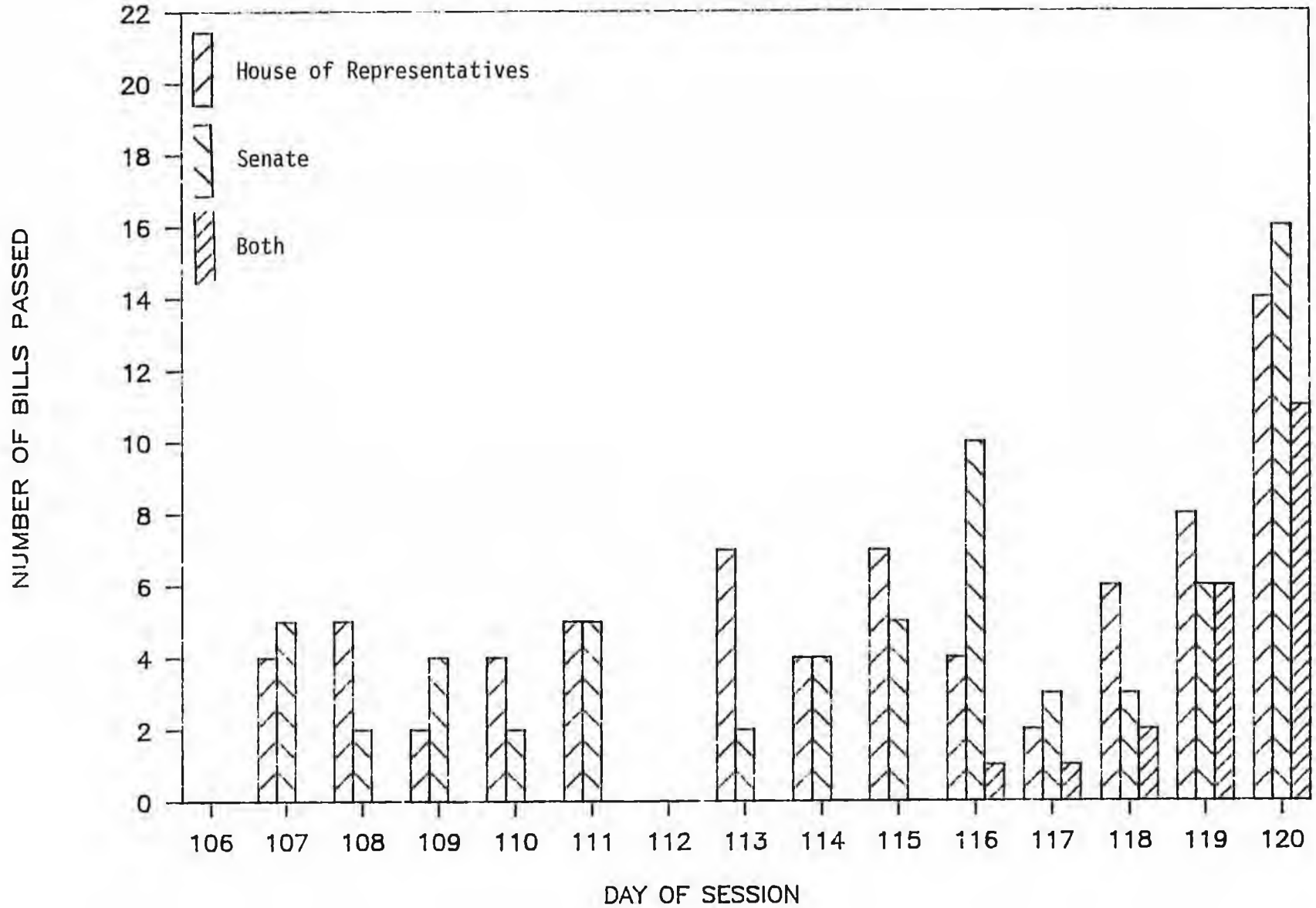
LAST TWO WEEKS OF SESSION



Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HTRS

# BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE — 1987

## LAST TWO WEEKS OF SESSION



REP. McEWIND  
 1/22/93  
 HJRS

BILLS PASSED BY THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE  
 DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF SESSION  
 1985-1987

1985				1986				1987			
DAY	BILLS PASSED BY			DAY	BILLS PASSED BY			DAY	BILLS PASSED BY		
	HOUSE	SENATE	BOTH		HOUSE	SENATE	BOTH		HOUSE	SENATE	BOTH
106	2.0	2.0		106				106			
107	1.0	2.0		107	5.0	4.0		107	4.0	5.0	
108	4.0	3.0		108	4.0	5.0		108	5.0	2.0	
109	3.0	2.0		109	4.0	2.0	1.0	109	2.0	4.0	
110	1.0	2.0		110	3.0			110	4.0	2.0	
111	4.0	1.0		111				111	5.0	5.0	
112	5.0			112				112			
113	3.0	3.0		113	6.0	5.0		113	7.0	2.0	
114	4.0	5.0		114	7.0	3.0	1.0	114	4.0	4.0	
115	4.0	3.0	1.0	115	7.0	3.0		115	7.0	5.0	
116	2.0	5.0	1.0	116	2.0	4.0	1.0	116	4.0	10.0	1.0
117	4.0	5.0	1.0	117	3.0	4.0	2.0	117	2.0	3.0	1.0
118	14.0	6.0	3.0	118	4.0	9.0	1.0	118	6.0	3.0	2.0
119	7.0	17.0	7.0	119	4.0	11.0		119	8.0	6.0	6.0
120				120	11.0	22.0	8.0	120	14.0	16.0	11.0
TOTAL	58.0	56.0	13.0		60.0	72.0	14.0		72.0	67.0	21.0
AVERAGE	4.1	4.0	0.9		4.3	5.1	1.0		5.1	4.8	1.5

Prepared by the House Research Agency, January 13, 1987, (100287-12; 88-113A).



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
RESEARCH AGENCY

Rer. Memorandum  
1/22/93  
HJR 5

P.O. Box Y, State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-3100  
Mail Stop 3100  
(907) 465-3991

January 22, 1988

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Johnny Ellis

ATTN: Jim Nordlund

FROM: Sandi Depue *JMD*  
Administrative Officer

RE: Number of Bills Passed By the Alaska Legislature During the Last  
Two Weeks of Session: 1985-1987  
Research Request 88.113 (Supplemental Information)

You asked our agency to determine the total number of bills and resolutions which passed the House of Representatives, the Senate, and both houses during the 1985, 1986 and 1987 legislative sessions. You also asked how many bills and resolutions passed each house, and both houses, during each of the last 14 days of the sessions.

The attached tables provide this information and include the number of bills and resolutions passed by each house detailed by House Bills, Senate Bills, House Resolutions, and Senate Resolutions. The tables also provide daily percentages and a cumulative 14 day percentage of total bills passed in each category.

House Research Agency memorandum 87.003 concerning scheduling of bills is also attached.

I hope you find this information useful.

Attachments

Table 2  
 Number of Bills and Resolutions Passed During Legislative Session  
 Fourteenth Alaska Legislature - 2nd Session - 1986

	HOUSE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				SENATE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				BOTH NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED			
	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR
	Session Total	144	64	24	19	90	94	15	32	90	64	15
Day 106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 107	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Day 108	4	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 109	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Day 110	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 113	6	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 114	4	3	1	0	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	0
Day 115	5	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 116	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Day 117	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Day 118	1	3	0	1	6	3	0	0	0	1	0	1
Day 119	0	4	0	1	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 120	1	10	1	2	22	0	3	0	6	2	0	0
14 Day Totals	32	28	4	4	44	28	3	5	8	6	0	1
Daily Percent of Total												
Day 106	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 107	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 108	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 109	2.1	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Day 110	1.4	1.6	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 111	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 113	4.2	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 114	2.8	4.7	4.2	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	9.4	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Day 115	3.5	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 116	0.7	1.6	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Day 117	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 118	0.7	4.7	0.0	5.3	6.7	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	5.3
Day 119	0.0	6.3	0.0	5.3	11.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 120	0.7	15.6	4.2	10.5	24.4	0.0	20.0	0.0	6.7	3.1	0.0	0.0
14 Day Totals	22.2	43.8	16.7	21.1	48.9	29.8	20.0	15.6	8.9	9.4	0.0	5.3

Note: HB - House Bills  
 SB - Senate Bills  
 HR - House Resolutions  
 SR - Senate Resolutions

Prepared by the House Research Agency, January 1988, (88-113S2; 100287-12).

Table 1  
 Number of Bills and Resolutions Passed During Legislative Session  
 Fourteenth Alaska Legislature - 1st Session - 1985

	HOUSE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				SENATE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				BOTH NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED			
	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR
Session Total	110	48	38	8	59	83	17	20	59	48	17	8
Day 106	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 107	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Day 108	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 109	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 110	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Day 111	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Day 112	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 113	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 114	4	0	0	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	0
Day 115	3	1	2	0	0	3	0	2	0	1	0	0
Day 116	1	1	2	0	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
Day 117	3	1	2	0	4	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Day 118	10	4	1	0	2	4	0	1	1	2	0	0
Day 119	1	6	0	0	16	1	0	1	4	3	0	0
Day 120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14 Day Totals	42	16	10	1	27	29	2	9	6	7	1	0

Daily Percent of Total

Day 106	1.8	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 107	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	5.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	0.0
Day 108	1.8	4.2	5.3	0.0	1.7	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 109	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 110	0.9	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.0	2.4	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 111	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 112	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 113	1.8	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 114	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	3.6	5.9	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0
Day 115	2.7	2.1	5.3	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	10.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0
Day 116	0.9	2.1	5.3	0.0	1.7	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0
Day 117	2.7	2.1	5.3	0.0	6.8	1.2	0.0	5.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 118	9.1	8.3	2.6	0.0	3.4	4.8	0.0	5.0	1.7	4.2	0.0	0.0
Day 119	0.9	12.5	0.0	0.0	27.1	1.2	0.0	5.0	6.8	6.3	0.0	0.0
Day 120	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
14 Day Totals	38.2	33.3	26.3	12.5	45.8	34.9	11.8	45.0	10.2	14.6	5.9	0.0

Note: HB - House Bills  
 SB - Senate Bills  
 HR - House Resolutions  
 SR - Senate Resolutions

*Rep. McCard*  
*HSRS*  
*1/22/93*

Table 3  
 Number of Bills and Resolutions Passed During Legislative Session  
 Fifteenth Alaska Legislature - 1st Session - 1987

	HOUSE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				SENATE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				BOTH NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED			
	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR
	Session Total	106	47	41	18	57	106	22	48	57	47	22
Day 106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 107	4	0	2	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0
Day 108	4	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 109	2	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Day 110	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Day 111	4	1	1	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Day 112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 113	7	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Day 114	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Day 115	6	1	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day 116	3	1	1	0	3	7	0	0	1	0	0	0
Day 117	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	0
Day 118	2	4	3	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	1
Day 119	1	7	0	0	4	2	0	1	1	5	0	0
Day 120	4	10	2	0	11	5	0	0	8	3	0	0
14 Day Totals	45	27	13	1	22	45	3	9	11	10	0	1
Daily Percent of Total												
Day 106	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 107	3.8	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 108	3.8	2.1	4.9	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 109	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 110	2.8	2.1	2.4	0.0	0.0	1.9	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 111	3.8	2.1	2.4	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 113	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 114	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	2.8	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 115	5.7	2.1	2.4	0.0	1.8	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 116	2.8	2.1	2.4	0.0	5.3	6.6	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 117	0.9	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	2.1	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0
Day 118	1.9	8.5	7.3	5.6	3.5	0.9	4.5	4.2	1.8	2.1	0.0	5.6
Day 119	0.9	14.9	0.0	0.0	7.0	1.9	0.0	2.1	1.8	10.6	0.0	0.0
Day 120	3.8	21.3	4.9	0.0	17.3	4.7	0.0	0.0	14.0	6.4	0.0	0.0
14 Day Totals	42.5	57.4	31.7	5.6	38.6	42.5	13.6	18.8	19.3	21.3	0.0	5.6

Note: HB - House Bills  
 SB - Senate Bills  
 HR - House Resolutions  
 SR - Senate Resolutions

*Rep. McDonald*  
 1/22/93  
 HJR5

# Alaska State Legislature

Rep. McEnard  
1/22/93  
HJR5

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Legislative Research Agency



April 8, 1990

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Steve Frank

ATTN: Rick Cooke

FROM: Deb Pomeroy  
Legislative Analyst

RE: History of Legislative Adjournment and Amount of Legislation Passed in the Last Fourteen Days of Session  
Research Request 90.313

On Friday, April 6, you requested updated versions of House Research Memorandums 86.213 "History of Legislative Adjournment" and 88.113 "Number of Bills Passed by the Alaska Legislature During the Last Two Weeks of Session: 1985-1987."

Listed below are the adjournment dates of the Alaska Legislature for the Fifteenth Legislature and the First Session of the Sixteenth Legislature.

<u>Legislature/Year</u>	<u>Chamber</u>	<u>Date/Time of Adjournment</u>	<u># of Bills Passed During Final Day</u>
Fifteenth/1987	House	5/20/87; 1:30 a.m.	14
	Senate	5/19/87; 11:58 p.m.	16
Fifteenth/1988	House	5/10/88; 6:04 a.m.	43
	Senate	5/10/88; 4:12 a.m.	48
Sixteenth/1989	House	5/9/89; 11:32 p.m.	20
	Senate	5/9/89; 11:59 p.m.	16

Tables 1 and 2, attached, list the number of bills and resolutions which passed each house by day during the last 14 days of the session. In addition, each table lists the number of bills and resolutions which passed both the House and the Senate during the last 14 days. The percent of the total bills passed in each category that these numbers represent is also provided.

A final memorandum incorporating the data from House Research Memorandums 86.213 and 88.113 will be forwarded to your office upon completion.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact this office.

Attachments

Table 1  
 Number of Bills and Resolutions Passed During Last 14 Days of Session  
 Fifteenth Alaska Legislature - 2nd Session - 1988

Day	HOUSE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				SENATE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				BOTH* NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED			
	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR
Session Total	134	94	45	36	88	135	33	62	84	92	34	43
107	4	1	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
108	2	1	3	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	1
109	6	2	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
110	4	5	0	0	1	5	0	1	0	3	0	0
111	6	3	0	0	1	4	0	2	0	1	0	0
112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
113	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
114	4	4	2	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
115	1	3	1	1	2	11	0	0	0	4	0	0
116	4	5	0	2	7	2	0	0	3	0	0	0
117	1	6	0	1	11	3	3	3	3	3	1	1
118	6	16	2	7	9	10	3	3	4	14	2	3
119	6	11	0	1	8	3	1	1	6	4	1	2
120	18	25	2	3	31	17	7	3	19	21	5	3
14 Day Totals	67	82	11	18	73	69	18	15	35	51	9	10
Daily Percent of Total												
107	3.0	1.1	0.0	5.6	2.3	0.7	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
108	1.5	1.1	6.7	2.8	0.0	2.2	3.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3
109	4.5	2.1	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.7	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
110	3.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.7	0.0	1.6	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0
111	4.5	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
113	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
114	3.0	4.3	4.4	0.0	1.1	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
115	0.7	3.2	2.2	2.8	2.3	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0
116	3.0	5.3	0.0	5.6	8.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
117	0.7	6.4	0.0	2.8	12.5	2.2	9.1	4.8	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.3
118	4.5	17.0	4.4	19.4	10.2	7.4	9.1	4.8	4.8	15.2	5.9	7.0
119	4.5	11.7	0.0	2.8	9.1	2.2	3.0	1.6	7.1	4.3	2.9	4.7
120	13.4	26.6	4.4	8.3	35.2	12.6	21.2	4.8	22.6	22.8	14.7	7.0
14 Day Totals	50.0	87.2	24.4	50.0	83.0	51.1	54.5	24.2	41.7	55.4	26.5	23.3

\*Bills which were passed out of both the House and Senate during the last 14 days of session.

*Rep. McFarland*  
*1/22/93*  
*HJR5*

Table 2  
 Number of Bills and Resolutions Passed During Last 14 Days of Session  
 Sixteenth Alaska Legislature - 1st Session - 1989

Day	HOUSE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				SENATE NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED				BOTH* NUMBER OF BILLS PASSED			
	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR	HB	SB	HR	SR
Session Total	98	60	39	42	59	95	31	54	59	95	31	54
107	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
108	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
109	5	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
110	3	1	4	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
111	4	1	1	1	1	6	0	0	1	0	0	0
112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
113	3	2	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
114	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
115	5	1	3	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
116	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	0
117	6	2	3	2	4	1	2	0	4	2	3	0
118	3	5	0	2	9	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
119	6	8	1	5	4	7	4	4	5	4	5	2
120	11	7	1	2	19	0	0	0	12	0	0	0
121	5	15	3	1	4	12	2	4	4	17	2	4
14 Day Totals	57	49	21	15	50	38	14	15	28	24	10	7
Daily Percent of Total												
107	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
108	0.0	1.7	5.1	0.0	3.4	1.1	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
109	5.1	3.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.1	3.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
110	3.1	1.7	10.3	0.0	1.7	1.1	0.0	1.9	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
111	4.1	1.7	2.6	2.4	1.7	6.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
113	3.1	3.3	2.6	0.0	1.7	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
114	2.0	3.3	2.6	0.0	1.7	1.1	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
115	5.1	1.7	7.7	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
116	1.0	3.3	2.6	4.8	1.7	2.1	6.5	3.7	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
117	6.1	3.3	7.7	4.8	6.8	1.1	6.5	0.0	6.8	2.1	9.7	0.0
118	3.1	8.3	0.0	4.8	15.3	1.1	3.2	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
119	6.1	13.3	2.6	11.9	6.8	7.4	12.9	7.4	8.5	4.2	16.1	3.7
120	11.2	11.7	2.6	4.8	32.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
121	5.1	25.0	7.7	2.4	6.8	12.6	6.5	7.4	6.8	17.9	6.5	7.4
14 Day Totals	58.2	81.7	53.8	35.7	84.7	40.0	45.2	27.8	47.5	25.3	32.3	13.0

\*Bills which were passed out of both the House and Senate during the last 14 days of session.

Table 3.2  
LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: LEGAL PROVISIONS

State or other jurisdiction	Year	Regular sessions			Special sessions		
		Legislature convenes		Limitation on length of session (a)	Legislature may call	Legislature may determine subject	Limitation on length of session
		Month	Day				
Alabama	Annual	Jan. Apr. Feb.	2nd Tues. (b) 3rd Tues. (c,d) 1st Tues. (c)	30 L in 105 C	No	Yes (f)	12 L in 30 C
Alaska	Annual	Jan. Jan.	3rd Mon. (c) 2nd Mon. (e)	120 C (g)	By 2/3 vote of members	Yes (h)	30 C
Arizona	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	(i)	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes (h)	None
Arkansas	Biennial- odd year	Jan.	2nd Mon.	60 C (g)	No	Yes (f,i)	(j)
California	(k)	Jan.	1st Mon. (d)	None	No	No	None
Colorado	Annual	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Tues	(l)	By request, 2/3 members, each house	Yes (h)	None
Connecticut	Annual (m)	Jan. Feb.	Wed. after 1st Mon. (n) Wed. after 1st Mon. (o)	(p)	Yes (q)	(q)	None (r)
Delaware	Annual	Jan.	2nd Tues.	June 30	Joint call, presiding officers, both houses	Yes	None
Florida	Annual	Apr.	Tues. after 1st Mon. (d)	60 C (g)	Joint call, presiding officers, both houses	Yes	20 C (g)
Georgia	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon. (d)	40 L	By petition, 3/5 members, each house	Yes (h)	(s)
Hawaii	Annual	Jan.	3rd Wed.	60 L (g)	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes	30 L (g)
Idaho	Annual	Jan.	Mon. on or nearest 9th day	None	No	No	20 C
Illinois	Annual	Jan.	2nd Wed.	None	Joint call, presiding officers, both houses	Yes	None
Indiana	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon. (d,t)	odd-61 L or Apr. 30; even-30 L or Mar. 15	No	Yes	30 L in 40 C
Iowa	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	(u)	By petition, 2/3 members, both houses	Yes	None
Kansas	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	odd-None; even-90 C (g)	Petition to governor or 2/3 members, each house	Yes	None
Kentucky	Biennial- even yr.	Jan.	Tues. after 1st Mon. (d)	60 L (v)	No	No	None
Louisiana	Annual	Apr.	3rd Mon.	60 L in 85 C	By petition, majority, each house	Yes (h)	30 C
Maine	(k,m)	Dec. Jan.	1st Wed. (b) Wed. after 1st Tues. (o)	100 L. (g) 50 L. (g)	Joint call, presiding officers, with consent of majority of members of each political party, each house	Yes (h)	None
Maryland	Annual	Jan.	2nd Wed.	90 C (g)	By petition, majority, each house	Yes	30 C
Massachusetts	Annual	Jan.	1st Wed.	None	By petition (w)	Yes	None
Michigan	Annual	Jan.	2nd Wed. (d)	None	No	No	None

LEGISLATURES

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
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## LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: LEGAL PROVISIONS—Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Regular sessions				Special sessions		
	Year	Legislature convenes		Limitation on length of session (a)	Legislature may call	Legislature may determine subject	Limitation on length of session
		Month	Day				
Minnesota	(x)	Jan.	Tues. after 1st Mon. (n)	120 L. or 1st Mon. after 3rd Sat. in May (x)	No	Yes	None
Mississippi	Annual	Jan.	Tues. after 1st Mon.	125 C (g,y); 90 C (g,y)	No	No	None
Missouri	Annual	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Mon.	odd-June 30; even-May 15	No	No	60 C
Montana	Biennial-odd yr.	Jan.	1st Mon.	90 L (g)	By petition, majority, both houses	Yes	None
Nebraska	Annual	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Mon.	odd-90 L (g); even-60 L (g)	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes	None
Nevada	Biennial-odd yr.	Jan.	3rd Mon.	60 C (u)	No	No	20 C(u)
New Hampshire	Annual	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Tues. (d)	45 L	By 2/3 vote of members	Yes	(u)
New Jersey	Annual	Jan.	2nd Tues.	None	By petition, majority, each house	Yes	None
New Mexico	Annual (m)	Jan.	3rd Tues.	odd-60 C; even-30 C	By petition, 3/5 members, each house	Yes (h)	30 C
New York	Annual	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Mon.	None	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes (h)	None
North Carolina	(x)	Jan.	Wed. after 2nd Mon. (n)	None (x)	By petition, 3/5 members, each house	Yes	None
North Dakota	Biennial-odd yr.	Jan.	Tues. after Jan. 1, but not later than Jan. 11 (d)	80 L (z)	No	Yes	None
Ohio	Annual	Jan.	1st Mon.	None	Joint call, presiding officers, both houses	Yes	None
Oklahoma	Annual	Feb.	(ff)	90 L.	By 2/3 vote of members	Yes	None
Oregon	Biennial-odd yr.	Jan.	2nd Mon.	None	By petition, majority, each house	Yes	None
Pennsylvania	Annual	Jan.	1st Tues.	None	By petition, majority, each house	No	None
Rhode Island	Annual	Jan.	1st Tues.	60 L (u)	No	No	None
South Carolina	Annual	Jan.	2nd Tues. (d)	1st Thurs. in June (g)	No	Yes	None
South Dakota	Annual	Jan.	Tues. after 1st Mon.	odd-40 L; even-35 L.	No	No	None
Tennessee	(x)	Jan.	(aa)	90 L (u)	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes	30 L (u)
Texas	Biennial-odd yr.	Jan.	2nd Tues.	140 C	No	No	30 C
Utah	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	60 C	No	No	30 C
Vermont	(x)	Jan.	Wed. after 1st Mon. (n)	(u)	No	Yes	None
Virginia	Annual	Jan.	2nd Wed.	odd-30 C (g); even-60 C (g)	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes	None
Washington	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	odd-105 C; even 60 C	By petition, 2/3 members, each house	Yes	30 C

LEGISLATURES

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJRS

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: LEGAL PROVISIONS—Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Regular sessions				Special sessions		
	Year	Legislature convenes		Limitation on length of session (a)	Legislature may call	Legislature may determine subject	Limitation on length of session
		Month	Day				
West Virginia	Annual	Feb. Jan.	2nd Wed. (c,d) 2nd Wed. (e)	60 C (g)	By petition, 1/3 members, each house	Yes (bb)	None
Wisconsin	Annual (cc)	Jan.	1st Tues. after Jan. 8 (d,n)	None	No	No	None
Wyoming	Annual (m)	Jan. Feb.	2nd Tues. (n) 2nd Tues. (o)	odd-40 L; even-20 L	No	Yes	None
Dist. of Columbia	(dd)	Jan.	2nd day	None			
American Samoa	Annual	Jan. July	2nd Mon. 2nd Mon.	45 L 45 L	No	No	None
Guam	Annual	Jan.	1st Mon. (cc)	None	No	No	None
Puerto Rico	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	Apr. 30 (g)	No	No	20 C
U.S. Virgin Islands	Annual	Jan.	2nd Mon.	75 L	No	No	15 C

LEGISLATURES

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR5

## LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: LEGAL PROVISIONS—Continued

*Note:* Some legislatures will also reconvene after normal session to consider bills vetoed by governor. Connecticut—if governor vetoes any bill, secretary of state must reconvene General Assembly on second Monday after the last day on which governor is either authorized to transmit or has transmitted every bill with his objections, whichever occurs first; General Assembly must adjourn *sine die* not later than three days after its reconvening. Hawaii—legislature may reconvene on 45th day after adjournment *sine die*, in special session, without call. Louisiana—legislature meets in a maximum five-day veto session on the 40th day after final adjournment. Missouri—if governor returns any bill or, after the fifth day before the last day on which legislature may consider bills (in even-numbered years), legislature automatically reconvenes on first Monday in September for a maximum 10 C session. New Jersey—legislature meets in special session (without call or petition) to act on bills returned by governor on 45th day after *sine die* adjournment of the first year of a two-year legislature; a special session may not be convened if the 45th day falls on or after the last day of the legislative year in which the second session occurs. Virginia—legislature reconvenes on sixth Wednesday after adjournment for a maximum three-day session (may be extended to seven days upon vote of majority of members elected to each house). Utah—if 2/3 of the members of each house favor reconvening to consider vetoed bills, a maximum five-day session is set by the presiding officers. Washington—upon petition of 2/3 of the members of each house, legislature meets 45 days after adjournment for a maximum five-day session.

**Key:**

- C — Calendar day  
L — Legislative day (in some states, called a session day or workday; definition may vary slightly, however, generally refers to any day on which either house of the legislature is in session)
- (a) Applies to each year unless otherwise indicated.  
(b) General election year (quadrennial election).  
(c) Year after quadrennial election.  
(d) Legal provision for organizational session prior to stated convening date. Alabama—in the year after quadrennial election, on the second Tuesday in January for 10 C. California—in the even-numbered, general election year, on first Monday in December for an organizational session, recess until the first Monday in January of the odd-numbered year. Florida—in general election year, 14th day after election. Georgia—in odd-numbered year. Indiana—third Tuesday after first Monday in November. Kentucky—in odd-numbered year. Tuesday after first Monday in January for 10 L. Michigan—held in odd-numbered year. New Hampshire—in even-numbered year, first Wednesday in December. North Dakota—in even-numbered year, Tuesday after first Monday in December of three-day session. South Carolina—in even-numbered year, Tuesday after certification of election of its members for a maximum three-day session. West Virginia—in year after general election, on second Wednesday in January.
- (e) Other years.  
(f) By 2/3 vote each house.  
(g) Session may be extended by vote of members in both houses. Alaska: 2/3 vote for 10-day extension. Arkansas: 2/3 vote. Florida: 3/5 vote. Hawaii: petition of 2/3 membership for maximum 15-day extension. Kansas: 2/3 vote. Maryland: 3/5 vote for maximum 30 C. Mississippi: 2/3 vote for 30-day extension, no limit on number of extensions. Nebraska: 4/5 vote. South Carolina: 2/3 vote. Virginia: 2/3 vote for 30-day extension. West Virginia: 2/3 vote (or if budget bill has not been acted upon three days before session ends, governor issues proclamation extending session). Puerto Rico: joint resolution. (In Galy if legislature convenes itself. Special sessions called by the legislature are unlimited in scope in Arizona, Georgia, Maine, and New Mexico.)
- (h) No constitutional or statutory provision, however, legislative rules require that regular sessions adjourn no later than Saturday of the week during which the 100th day of the session falls.

- (i) After governor's business has been disposed of, members may remain in session up to 15 C by a 2/3 vote of both houses.  
(k) Regular sessions begin after general election, in December of even-numbered year. In California, legislature meets in December for an organizational session, recesses until the first Monday in January of the odd-numbered year and continues in session until Nov. 30 of next even-numbered year. In Maine, session which begins in December of general election year runs into the following year (odd-numbered); second session begins in next even-numbered year.  
(l) A 1989 constitutional amendment imposed a time limit of 120 C on regular sessions.  
(m) Second session limited to consideration of specific types of legislation. Connecticut—individual legislators may only introduce bills of a fiscal nature. Maine—budgetary matters; legislation in the governor's call; emergency legislation; legislation referred to committees for study. New Mexico—budgets, appropriations and revenue bills; bills drawn pursuant to governor's message; vetoed bills. Wyoming—budget bills.  
(n) Odd-numbered years.  
(o) Even-numbered years.  
(p) Odd-numbered years—not later than Wednesday after first Monday in June; even-numbered years—not later than Wednesday after first Monday in May.  
(q) Constitution provides for regular session convening dates and allows that sessions may also be held "at such other times as the General Assembly shall judge necessary." Call by majority of legislators is implied.  
(r) Upon completion of business.  
(s) Limited to 40 days if called by governor and 30 days if called by petition of the legislature, except in cases of impeachment proceedings.  
(t) Legislators may reconvene at any time after organizational meeting; however, second Monday in January is the final date by which regular session must be in process.  
(u) Indirect limitation; usually restrictions on legislator's pay, per diem, or daily allowance.  
(v) May not extend beyond April 15.  
(w) Joint rules provide for the submission of a written statement requesting special session by a specified number of members of each chamber.  
(x) Legal provision for session in odd-numbered year; however, legislature may divide, and in practice has divided, to meet in even-numbered years as well.  
(y) A 1968 constitutional amendment calls for 90 C sessions every year, except the first year of a gubernatorial administration during which the legislative session runs for 125 C.  
(z) No legislative day is shorter than a natural day.  
(aa) Commencement of regular session depends on concluding date of organizational session. Legislature meets, in odd-numbered year, on second Tuesday in January for a maximum 15 C organizational session, then returns on the Tuesday following the conclusion of the organizational session.  
(bb) According to a 1955 attorney general's opinion, when the legislature has petitioned to the governor to be called into session, it may then act on any matter.  
(cc) The legislature, by joint resolution, establishes the session schedule of activity for the remainder of the biennium at the beginning of the odd-numbered year.  
(dd) Each Council period begins on January 2 of each odd-numbered year and ends on January 1 of the following odd-numbered year.  
(ee) Legislature meets on the first Monday of each month following its initial session in January.  
(ff) Odd number years will include the 1st Tues. after the 1st Mon. in January. On this day, limited constitutional duties can be performed.

LEGISLATURES

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR 5


# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
P.O. BOX AF  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0105  
PHONE (907) 465-4611

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Curt Menard  
Capitol, Room 405

FROM: Charlot E. Thickstun   
Office of the Governor  
Division of Elections

DATE: January 25, 1993

SUBJ: HJR No. 5 - Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to the duration of a regular session.

The Division of Elections does not take a position on the subject bill although Governor Walter J. Hickel expressed his support of referendums and initiatives in his State of the State address.

The fiscal impact, as outlined in our fiscal note, attached, would be the only impact felt by the Division of Elections.

Thank you for your interest in our position on this bill.

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993, LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 5

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

Department Affected: Office of the Governor

Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: duration of a regular session

BRU: Division of Elections

Sponsor: Representative Menard

Component: General and Primary Elections

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing and additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director *Charlot E. Thickstun* Phone: 465-4611

Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Cochrane *John B. Cochrane*

Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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HJR

6

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: HJR 6

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Proposing amendments to the  
Constitution...terms a person may serve in the legislature.  
Sponsor: Representative Menard  
Requestor: Representative Menard

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: Legislative Council  
Component: Salaries and Allowances

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director  
Division: Administrative Services

*Pamela A. Stoops*

Phone: 465-3555  
Date: 1/19/93

Approved By: Warren W. Endicott, Executive Director  
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

*Warren W. Endicott*

Date: 1/19/93

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 6

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

Department Affected: Office of the Governor

Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: terms of legislators

BRU: Division of Elections

Sponsor: Representatives Menard and Brown

Component: General and Primary Elections

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)\*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing and additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director *Charlot E. Thickstun* Phone: 465-4611

Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Coghill *J. B. Coghill*

Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS  
P.O. BOX AF  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0105  
PHONE (907) 465-4611

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Curt Menard  
Capitol, Room 405

FROM: Charlot E. Thickstun *CT*  
Office of the Governor  
Division of Elections

DATE: January 25, 1993

SUBJ: HJR No. 6 - Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska limiting the number of terms a person may serve in the legislature.

The Division of Elections does not take a position on the subject bill although Governor Walter J. Hickel expressed his support of referendums and initiatives in his State of the State address.

The fiscal impact, as outlined in our fiscal note, attached, would be the only impact felt by the Division of Elections.

Thank you for your interest in our position on this bill.

STATE OF ALASKA  
1993 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 6

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

Title: Amendment to the Constitution RE: terms of legislators

Sponsor: Representatives Menard and Brown

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Affected: Office of the Governor

BRU: Division of Elections

Component: General and Primary Elections

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

REVENUE FUND SOURCE:	0	0	0	0	0	0
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---

FUNDING:

1002 Federal Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2.2*	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY93) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.) \*This figure covers cost of inclusion of information about this issue in the Official Elections Pamphlet as required by AS 15.58, and programming for DataVote counting of votes cast on the measure. However, only 4 measures can be printed on a single ballot card. Should this measure require printing and additional ballot card, the fiscal impact would be 53.4.

Prepared by: Charlot E. Thickstun, Director *Charlot E. Thickstun* Phone: 465-4611

Division: Division of Elections Date: 1/15/93

Approved by Commissioner: Lt. Governor John B. Conhill *John B. Conhill*

Agency: Office of the Lt. Governor Date: 1/15/93

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# Alaska State Legislature

Official Business

State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

January 22, 1993

REPRESENTATIVE CURT MENARD *CDM*  
SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR

HJR 6, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: LIMIT LEGISLATIVE TERMS

HJR 6 proposes an amendment to the state constitution which would limit the number of terms a person may serve in the legislature. Under the resolution, a person could not serve more than four terms as a representative and two terms as senator. These amendments would be placed on the ballot at the next general election.

Term limits are valuable enough that our state constitution limits tenure for our Governor to two full successive terms, and requires a break of one full term before eligible for re-election. I think we should extend term limits to the legislature.

As legislators, we are well aware of the "boot the incumbent" mood in our country, much of which stems from frustration with our elected officials' performance. Many voters believe that special interest groups have undue influence over elected officials. Others are concerned about some legislators garnering too much power and being unduly influenced by lobbyists. A natural rotation required by our constitution would serve to encourage more citizens to file for office, thereby truly creating the citizen legislature our state founders envisioned.

Sixteen states currently have term limits and I have provided the committee with a packet which outlines the length and types of limitations for Congress and for other state legislatures.

I believe that my resolution is less restrictive than term limits many states have adopted, but HJR 6 will go a long way to help recapture voter confidence in our legislature.

Rep. Wienard  
1/22/93  
HJR6

## STATES WITH TERM LIMITS

**Arizona:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and congressmen to three consecutive terms. Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and members of the executive branch to two consecutive 4-year terms.

**Arkansas:** Limits statewide elected officials to two 4-year terms, state representatives to three 2-year terms and state senators to two 4-year terms. Holds U.S. representatives to three terms; U.S. senators to two terms.

**California:** Limits members of the U.S. House of Representatives to six years in an 11-year period and U.S. senators to 12 years during a 17-year period. Limits state lawmakers to three 2-year terms in the Assembly and two 4-year terms in the Senate.

**Colorado:** Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms in the House and two consecutive 4-year terms in the Senate. Congressional limitations are six consecutive 2-year terms in the House and two consecutive 6-year terms in the Senate. Limitations will not affect currently elected members of Congress until 2002.

**Florida:** No one can run for re-election to the Legislature, executive branch or U.S. Congress if by the end of their current term they have served for eight consecutive years.

**Michigan:** State representatives may serve only three terms, state senators and the executive branch only two terms. Limits U.S. representatives to three terms in any 12-year period and U.S. senators to two terms during 24 years.

**Missouri:** Restricts state lawmakers to eight years in the same house and total years of legislative service to 16. U.S. representatives are limited to four terms and U.S. senators to two terms. Limits on congressional terms will not go into effect until enacted by half the states.

**Montana:** Limits state senators to eight years in a 16-year period, representatives to six years in a 12 year period, and the executive branch to eight years of service in 16 years. Holds U.S. representatives to six years out of 12 and U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period.

**Nebraska:** Limits statewide officials and legislators to two consecutive terms. Prohibits U.S. representatives from placing their name on the ballot after four consecutive terms and U.S. senators after two consecutive terms.

**North Dakota:** Restricts access to the ballot to members of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives after they have served 12 years in office in any combination. Can run again after a 2-year break.

**Ohio:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and members of the U.S. House of Representatives to four consecutive terms. Limits state senators to two consecutive terms and state representatives to four consecutive terms. Limits members of the executive branch to two consecutive terms. Terms are considered consecutive unless there is a break of four years.

**Oklahoma:** State lawmakers are limited to 12 years of legislative service.

Rep. McEnard  
1/22/93  
HJR 6

**Oregon:** Holds state lawmakers to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate and no more than 12 years of legislative service. Statewide officeholders are limited to eight years and members of Congress to six years in the House and 12 years in the Senate.

**South Dakota:** Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and statewide officers to two consecutive terms. Limits members of Congress to six consecutive terms in the House and two consecutive terms in the Senate.

**Washington:** Limits state senators to eight out of 14 years, representatives to six out of 12 years and the governor and lieutenant governor to eight out of 14 years. U.S. senators are held to 12 out of 18 years and U.S. representatives to six out of 12 years. Terms served before November 1992 will not count toward limits and the measure will not go into effect for federal officers until nine other states limit ballot access or terms.

**Wyoming:** Limits state senators to three terms in any 24-year period, representatives to three terms in any 12-year period, and constitutional officers to two terms in any 16-year period. U.S. senators are limited to serving two terms in any 24-year period and U.S. representatives to three terms in 12 years.

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

December 1992



R.P. Menard  
1/22/93

HJR 6

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# Wisconsin Briefs

from the Legislative  
Reference Bureau

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Brief 92-14

November 1992

## STATUS OF TERM LIMITATIONS AS OF NOVEMBER 1992

**Introduction.** Major term limitation initiatives or referenda were presented to the voters in 14 states in the November 1992 general elections, and all were adopted. (Nevada would have been a fifteenth state to consider term limits in 1992, but the measure was removed from the ballot by court order.<sup>1</sup>)

The electorates of all 14 states — Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming — voted in 1992 to restrict the length of service for members of their congressional delegations. Twelve of the 14 also placed limits on state legislative service.<sup>2</sup> North Dakota's initiative restricted only congressional service, and California had already voted to limit state legislative service as part of its 1990 Proposition 140. Also in 1990, 2 other states (Oklahoma and Colorado) joined California in adopting term limits for state legislators. Those 3 states were the first to impose such limits. In

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<sup>1</sup>The Nevada initiative proposed that any U.S. Representative who had served for 6 years in any 12-year period or any U.S. Senator who had served 12 years in a 24-year period be ineligible for the Nevada ballot. It did not place restrictions on state legislators or statewide officers.

The Nevada Supreme Court removed the measure from the ballot based on its 3 findings that: 1) states do not have the constitutional power to establish qualifications for federal office; 2) voters could not determine whether they were voting for a statutory provision or an amendment to the state constitution because the question was not drafted properly; and 3) the number of invalid signatures in 2 counties required that the measure be stricken from the ballot. Even the dissenting opinion expressed doubts about the constitutional validity of the measure if passed, but argued that voters should at least be given the opportunity to express their opinions on the issue.

<sup>2</sup>The limits do not apply to service before the effective date of the limitation measures.

addition, Colorado took the more controversial step of also adopting limits for its congressional delegation that year.

The states differ on the specifics of their term limits. In some, the limits are on lifetime service. Others limit the number of successive terms or establish a periodic limit on the maximum number of years or terms served within a specified length of time. Some states create separate limits for each house of the state legislature or U.S. Congress, while others establish an overall maximum on legislative service. States that address the question of partial terms vary on how they treat them. Most consider an official who resigns from office to have served a full term. In the case of election or appointment to fill a vacancy, some states consider any part of a partial term as a full term, while others count a full term against the limit only if the legislator serves more than half a term.

Another variation among the states is whether the congressional limit applies to years of service or eligibility for a ballot listing. In 7 states those who have reached their limits in the U.S. Congress cannot be listed on the ballot, either for the remainder of their lives, if it is an absolute limit, or while waiting for an intervening term of office or time period to elapse. They are not, however, barred from additional service if they can win reelection as write-in candidates. Such provisions could enable popular senior members to seek reelection but would counter some of the advantages of incumbency. Ballot restrictions rather than prohibitions on service have another purpose, however. Some term limit advocates hope this approach will avoid a constitutional challenge to state-imposed limits on federal offices. By this method, they argue, states are only exercising their authority to regulate the manner in which they conduct elections, rather than changing the qualifications for holding a federal office.

**Congressional term limits.** Recent term limitation campaigns have focused on the legislative branches at the state and national levels. For congressional service, all 14 states voted to limit U.S. Senators to 2 terms, and 8 of them voted for a 3-term limit on U.S. Representatives. Florida, Missouri, Nebraska, and Ohio chose 4 terms for their congressional representatives. North and South Dakota decided on 6 terms to match the 12-year limit on U.S. Senators. (These term descriptions are based on the usual length of prescribed terms. Refer to the summary table at the end of this Brief for each state's specific provisions on limitations.)

---

Colorado was the first state to adopt term limits on its congressional delegation. Congressional term limits were vigorously debated in Washington, but voters defeated the 1991 measure. That initiative differed from the successful 1992 ballot questions in that it counted previous service against the limits and would have permitted Washington's incumbent members of Congress (including Speaker of the House Tom Foley) to serve only one more term if their previous service exceeded the limits. The 1992 Washington referendum does not count previous service against the term limits.

Concern that term limits could be disadvantageous to a state's interests was evident in some of the 1992 ballot questions. For smaller states, the seniority of their members and the resulting opportunities to serve on important committees is a way to balance the numerically-based influence of larger states. For example, opponents of the 1991 Washington measure had argued that forcing the state's influential senior members to step down would handicap that state in its debates with California regarding water rights and other issues. For that reason, the federal provisions of Washington's 1992 term limit measure were drafted so that they would become effective only if at least 9 other states enacted limits. Missouri placed a more stringent restriction on the effective date; their 1992 term limit measure does not become effective for its congressional delegation unless half the states enact limits.

**Term limits on state legislative service.** Oklahoma was the first state to limit the tenure of state legislators. The September 1990 measure was approved by more than two-thirds of the voters. California and Colorado followed in November 1990.

The restrictions on length of state legislative service are similar across the states. Excluding California, which has already voted for lifetime limits, 6 states voted for 6-year limits on service in the lower house and 5 voted for 8-year limits. Of the same states, 10 now place 8-year limits on state senators, but Wyoming has a 12-year limit. Nebraska voted for an 8-year limit on members of its unicameral legislature, who are called senators. (Limits are categorized by the usual length of a state's legislative term in the specific house. Refer to the summary table for each state's specific provisions relating to limitations.)

---

**Term limits for governors and other constitutional officers.** Constitutional limits on gubernatorial tenure have been fairly common. Before the 1992 November elections, 30 states limited the number of terms of service for their governors.<sup>3</sup> Of these, Kentucky and Mississippi forbid succession in office. Delaware, Missouri, and North Carolina have a lifetime limit of 2 terms, whether consecutive or not. The other 25 states limited gubernatorial tenure to 2 successive terms. (Oregon's limitation was written to limit service to 8 years in a 12-year period; in 1992, it changed to a simple 8-year limit.) In a number of instances, governors who have previously served 2 successive terms have returned to office after an intervening term.

Limits on other constitutional offices are less common. Prior to November 1992, lieutenant governors in 11 states and state treasurers in 12 states served under similar term limitations. Still fewer states limited the terms of their other constitutional offices.

The 1992 ballot measures in 11 of the 14 states added new limitations on service in statewide office, with most states extending the limits to other statewide offices, modifying gubernatorial limits or imposing limits for the first time. (The other 3 states, California, Missouri, and North Dakota, did not change existing limits.) Most of the 14 states voted to limit consecutive terms for statewide officials. Montana, Wyoming, and Washington chose period limits. Arkansas, Michigan, and Oregon were the most restrictive of the states approving new limits; their 2-term limits are for life.

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<sup>3</sup>Voters in Rhode Island did vote in 1992 to create a gubernatorial term limitation of 2 terms when they approved it in conjunction with a referendum to extend the governor's term from 2 to 4 years. (Only New Hampshire and Vermont still have 2-year gubernatorial terms.) Rhode Island was not included in national discussions of term limitation votes because this was a narrow application of term limitations and the majority of states already limit governors' terms.

TABLE I: LENGTH AND TYPES OF LIMITATIONS FOR U.S. CONGRESS

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR 6

Table IA: Length of Term Limitations by House<sup>1</sup>

U.S. Senate

All 15 states (including Colorado) voted to limit U.S. Senators to 2 terms.

U.S. House of Representatives

3 terms

Arizona  
Arkansas  
California  
Michigan  
Montana  
Oregon  
Washington  
Wyoming

4 terms

Florida  
Missouri  
Nebraska  
Ohio

6 terms

Colorado  
North Dakota<sup>2</sup>  
South Dakota

Table IB: Types of Term Limitations for Both Houses

Consecutive terms

Arizona  
*Colorado*  
Florida  
Nebraska  
Ohio  
South Dakota

Period limits (H/S)<sup>3</sup>

California (H11/S17)  
Michigan (H12/S24)  
Montana (H12/S24)  
Washington (H12/S18)  
Wyoming (H12/S24)

Lifetime limits

Arkansas  
Missouri  
North Dakota<sup>2</sup>  
Oregon

*Italics denote voter approval before 1992.*

<sup>1</sup> Where a state expresses its limit in years rather than terms, the usual number of terms is shown. See Summary Table for more specific descriptions.

<sup>2</sup> The North Dakota measure limits service to a total of 12 years in either or both houses of Congress.

<sup>3</sup> Periodic limits are expressed as the number of years or number of terms a member may serve during a specified length of time. The numbers in parentheses show the state's period limit for each house. The first number is for the House of Representatives; the second is for the Senate. For example, California voted to limit representatives to 3 terms over an 11-year period, and senators to 2 terms over 17 years. See text or the Summary Table for a more specific description.

Rep. Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR6

Table II: TERM LIMITATIONS FOR STATE LEGISLATURES

Limits for state representatives

SIX YEARS		EIGHT YEARS	TWELVE YEARS	
<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Consecutive terms</u>	<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Lifetime</u>
Arkansas	Montana (12)	Arizona	Missouri	Oklahoma <sup>2</sup>
California	Washington (12)	Colorado		
Michigan	Wyoming (12)	Florida		
Oregon		Ohio		
		South Dakota		

Limits for state senators

EIGHT YEARS			TWELVE YEARS	
<u>Lifetime</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Consecutive terms</u>	<u>Period</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Lifetime</u>
Arkansas	Montana (16)	Arizona	Wyoming (24)	Oklahoma <sup>2</sup>
California	Washington (14)	Colorado		
Michigan		Florida		
Missouri		Nebraska <sup>3</sup>		
Oregon		Ohio		
		South Dakota		

*Italics denote pre-1992 limits*

<sup>1</sup> Restriction is based on service for a given number of years or terms during the number of years shown in parentheses, e.g., the ballot restriction in Washington applies once a state representative has served for 6 years during a 12-year period. See the Summary Table or the text for a more specific description.

<sup>2</sup> Total legislative service limited to 12 years, either in a single house or a combination of service in both houses.

<sup>3</sup> Unicameral legislature. Members are called Senators.

Rep Menard  
1/22/93  
HJR 6

Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Arizona	Arkansas	California	Florida
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)	TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Secy. of State, Treas., AG, Supt. of Public Instr. (Corporation Comm. - ONE 6-yr term) (Mine Inspector - FOUR 2-yr terms)  ANY PART of a term served counts as a full term	TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, Treas., Auditor, AG, Comm. of State Lands	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> TWO TERMS per office for Gov., Lt. Gov., AG, Controller, Secy. of State, Treas.	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> TWO consecutive terms for Gov.  <b>NEW LIMITS:</b> EIGHT years for Lt. Gov. or a member of the Cabinet
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	FOUR 2-year terms FOUR 2-year terms ANY PART of a term served counts as a full term	TWO 4-year terms THREE 2-year terms	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> TWO 4-year terms THREE 2-year terms Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term	FIVE years
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	TWO terms THREE terms  Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term	TWO or more terms THREE or more terms	12 years' service in 17 6 years' service in 11	EIGHT years for each office A Senator would be eligible for the ballot in seeking a second term because the restriction is based on previous service at the time of election rather than at the end of the term sought.
Type of Limit	CONSECUTIVE TERMS	TOTAL SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE YEARS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS Explicitly permits write-in campaigns	BALLOT ACCESS
NOTES	One full term must intervene for terms to be considered nonconsecutive.			

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Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Michigan	Missouri	Montana	Nebraska
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is <b>FOUR</b> years, except as noted)	Elected for <b>TWO TERMS</b> per office Gov., Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> <b>TWO TERMS</b> for Gov. and Treas.	<b>EIGHT</b> years in a 16-year period Gov., Lt. Gov., AG, Secy. of State, Auditor, Supt. of Public Instr.	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> <b>TWO consecutive terms</b> for Gov. <b>NEW LIMITS:</b> <b>TWO TERMS</b> per office for Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Auditor, Treas., State Board of Education. (TWO consecutive 6-yr terms for Public Service Commission and Univ. of Neb. Bd. of Regents)
Type of Limit	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	Elected <b>TWO</b> terms Elected <b>THREE</b> terms	<b>SIXTEEN</b> year total in both houses, not to exceed <b>EIGHT</b> in any one house	<b>EIGHT</b> years in a 16-year period	<b>TWO</b> 4-yr terms in the Unicameral legislature
Type of Limit	LIFETIME SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	Elected <b>TWICE</b> in a 24-year period Elected <b>THREE</b> times in a 12-year period	<b>TWO</b> terms total* <b>FOUR</b> terms total* <b>FEDERAL LIMITS DO NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF THE STATES ENACT CONGRESSIONAL LIMITS.</b>	<b>TWELVE</b> years in a 24-year period <b>SIX</b> years in a 12-year period	<b>TWO</b> terms <b>FOUR</b> terms
Type of Limit	PERIOD	LIFETIME SERVICE	PERIOD	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	LENGTH OF SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	BALLOT ACCESS	BALLOT ACCESS
NOTES	For ALL offices listed, appointment or election to a vacancy for more than one-half term counts as being elected once.	*Service for at least ONE-HALF of a term is considered a full term for Missouri's congressional delegation.		

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### Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	North Dakota	Ohio	Oregon	South Dakota
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)	<b>NO LIMITS</b> <i>except for preexisting TWO-term limit for Treasurer</i>	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> <b>TWO successive terms for Gov.</b>  TWO successive terms per office for Lt. Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Auditor, Treas.*  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	<b>EIGHT YEARS</b> per office for Gov., Secy. of State, AG, Supt. of Public Instr., Treas., Labor Commissioner	<b>PRE-1992 LIMITS:</b> <b>TWO terms for Governor &amp; Lt. Gov.</b>  <b>NEW LIMITS:</b> TWO terms per office for AG, Secy. of State, Auditor, Treas., Comm. of School and Public Lands
Type of Limit		SUCCESSIVE TERMS	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	<b>NO LIMITS</b>	TWO successive 4-year terms* FOUR successive 2-year terms*  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	<b>EIGHT years*</b> <b>SIX years*</b> *provided that total legislative service does not exceed 12 years	<b>FOUR 2-year terms</b> <b>FOUR 2-year terms</b>
Type of Limit			LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	<b>TWELVE years*</b> total service in either or both houses	<b>TWO successive terms*</b> <b>FOUR successive terms*</b>  *successive defined as fewer than 4 years between terms	<b>TWELVE years</b> <b>SIX years</b>  Appointment/election to vacancy counted as full term	<b>TWO terms</b> <b>SIX terms</b>
Type of Limit	LIFETIME LIMIT unless permanent ineligibility is held unconstitutional. Then referendum provides member can again be eligible after two years have elapsed.	SUCCESSIVE	LIFETIME SERVICE	CONSECUTIVE TERMS
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	BALLOT ACCESS	LENGTH OF SERVICE	LIFETIME SERVICE	LENGTH OF SERVICE
NOTES		Appointment or election to fill partial term does not count if 4 years have elapsed since member held same office.	Bars candidacy if a new term would exceed limits. Appointment or election to fill vacancy counts as full term.	Appointment to partial terms does not count against the limit.

# Summary Table: SPECIFIC TERM LIMITATIONS BY STATE

Offices Affected	Washington	Wyoming	Rhode Island
<b>EXECUTIVE BRANCH</b>  (Term length for executive offices is FOUR years, except as noted)	EIGHT years in a 14-year period for Gov. and Lt. Gov.	TWO terms in a 16-year period Gov., Secy. of State, Auditor, Treas., Supt. of Public Instr.	Extended terms for executive offices to 12 years, with a limit of two terms
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Senate House/Assembly	EIGHT years in a 14-year period* SIX years in a 12-year period* *combined limit of FOURTEEN years for both houses in a 20-year period	THREE 4-year terms in a 24-year period THREE 2-year terms in a 12-year period	Not applicable
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
<b>FEDERAL</b> U.S. Senate U.S. House	TWELVE years in an 18-year period SIX years in a 12-year period	TWO terms in a 24-year period THREE terms in a 12-year period	Not applicable
Type of Limit	PERIOD	PERIOD	
Limit on ballot access or on service for federal office	BALLOT ACCESS Write-in candidacies explicitly permitted	LENGTH OF SERVICE	
NOTES			


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questions. Two of the Colorado questions propose to expand gambling from four to 31 towns and counties in rural areas, one would authorize casino gambling in Denver but exclude it from other metro areas, another authorizes gambling in a rural town in western Colorado but would also impose a moratorium on additional gaming throughout the state until 2000, and still another—proposed by the legislature—provides for a local veto on gambling, even where it has been previously approved by initiative. If more than one of the Colorado gaming issues passes, it could lead to California-style litigation, where two conflicting initiatives on the subject of campaign finance were approved by the voters in 1988 and the ensuing litigation stretched out over four years.

**E**nvironmental issues are not as prominent as they were two years ago, when California voters rejected "Big Green," sometimes characterized as the most ambitious environmental initiative ever offered and attacked by opponents on the grounds that it would increase food costs and would also lead to the elimination of many jobs. In Oregon this year, two questions involve a nuclear power plant and one concerns fishing on the lower Columbia river. Environmental questions in other states involve various aspects of wildlife, parks and recreation. There are 14 environmental questions on the 1992 ballots, compared to 16 in that category in 1990.

Abortion, a public policy issue frequently faced by voters in past elections, is noticeable by its absence in 1992, with only one question on that subject on this year's ballot in Arizona. The California ballot includes an equally controversial issue—physician-assisted death. The California initiative, sometimes labeled the euthanasia question, authorizes a mentally competent adult to request "aid in dying" when a terminal condition is diagnosed.

Whatever the questions, if voting patterns follow the trend of recent elections, relatively few initiatives will be approved. In 1990, 32 percent of the questions passed. Proposals placed on the ballot by legislative action fared much better, with a success rate of 56 percent in 1990. Questions placed on the ballot by legislative action, however, tend to be less controversial than those that result from successful petition drives. 

## Throwing Out the Rascals (And Those who Aren't)

Nobody's sure what is sparking term-limit proposals across the country. Maybe it's generalized rage; maybe it's a partisan plot. Whatever it is, it's spreading.

Nancy Rhyme

**J**ames Madison worried when he wrote in Federalist No. 53 that "a few members as happens in all such assemblies will by frequent re-election become members in long standing and will be masters of public business, and perhaps not unwilling to avail themselves of those advantages." Today's citizens are worried that there are far too many "members of long standing" in state legislatures and the Congress and they've reacted with term limit initiatives certified for the ballot in 15 states.

A movement to "throw the rascals out," that started two years ago in California, Colorado and Oklahoma, is raising a rumpus across the country. Some say it's an independent, grass-roots movement of state activists who believe that government under the status quo no longer works. Others believe it's an effort by the national Republican party to regain control of Congress. Whatever the motive, voters will have their say on the tenure of legislators on Nov. 3 in 15 of the 23 states with the initiative process, and it took hundreds of thousands of certified signatures to put the issue on those ballots. Whatever the outcome, the landscape of American politics has already been changed. In 29 states this year Democrats and Republicans alike introduced more than 100 bills to limit legislative terms, none of which survived.

Turnover statistics evidently haven't

Nancy Rhyme is NCSL's specialist on term-limit proposals.

been convincing. State senates turned over an average of 72 percent between 1979 and 1989. This means that roughly three out of every four senators elected in 1978 were not there when legislatures convened in 1989. In state assemblies and houses the average was 75 percent. The number of new state lawmakers coming into office after the November 1990 election was 18 percent. Of the 7,461 state legislators 1,374 were new members. Leadership figures show a similar turnover. A 10-year look indicates 88 percent of the senate presidents in 1989 were not senate presidents in 1979. The same for speakers. Ninety-four percent of those serving in 1989 were new since 1979.

No one can deny that public opinion of government and elected officials is at an all-time low. Citizens are frustrated by Congress' inability to reach consensus on budget matters, appalled by the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee's performance in the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and disgusted by the check bouncing fiasco in the House bank and the savings and loan scandal. They are equally frustrated by state and local governments' continual stalemate on a variety of issues. The Michigan Legislature and Governor John Engler locked horns over the elimination of general welfare assistance for 80,000 recipients. California Governor Pete Wilson and Speaker Willie Brown squared off for 64 days before the 1993 budget was adopted. Last year, 11 states missed their statutory


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deadlines for enacting 1992 budgets, including Maine, where state government ground to a halt for 16 days.

Even though Washington state voters, fearful of losing the congressional clout of U.S. House Speaker Thomas Foley, turned down a term limit proposal there last November, all the 1992 initiatives (including another one in Washington) seek also to limit the terms of federal officeholders. In Missouri and Washington, limits would not be placed on the congressional delegation until other states pass similar measures. The initiatives in Arkansas, Michigan, Missouri and Oregon would place an absolute limit on the length of service allowed, similar to those passed in California and Oklahoma that place a lifetime ban on the years an individual can serve in public office.

Questions remain as to whether the states can limit congressional terms. A court challenge is planned in Colorado, currently the only state with federal limits, by the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, which has petitioned the state Supreme Court.

Proponents of the Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Nebraska, North Dakota and Washington measures hope their wording to deny ballot access to incumbents who have served a certain number of years—meaning their names could not be placed on the ballot—will keep their measures out of court. The U.S. Constitution, by giving states the right to control suffrage in elections (people under 18 can't vote, for example), allows states to regulate ballot access, but the Congress, by law, can alter those regulations. Court challenges are more likely with the proposals that change the state constitution by limiting terms. California, North Dakota, Washington and Wyoming are amending their statutes to implement term limits. Although California and North Dakota can change their constitution through the initiative process, Washington and Wyoming cannot.

Court challenges against the ballot proposals in Florida and Missouri were unsuccessful and a challenge is still pending on the Nevada initiative. More challenges may come with passage of proposals. However, California's 1990 law was challenged and upheld by the state Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the case. 

## Term Limit Initiatives

**H**ere's what the 1992 term limit initiatives look like. All of them would start counting years of service after voter approval.

**Arizona:** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and congressmen to three consecutive terms. Limits state lawmakers to four consecutive 2-year terms and members of the executive branch to two consecutive 4-year terms.

**Arkansas:** Limits statewide elected officials to two 4-year terms, state representatives to three 2-year terms and state senators to two 4-year terms. Holds U.S. representatives to three terms; U.S. senators to two terms.

**California:** Limits members of Congress: representatives can serve only six years in an 11-year period; senators can serve only 12 years during a 17-year period.

**Florida:** No one can run for re-election to the Legislature, executive branch or U.S. Congress if by the end of his current term he has served for eight consecutive years.

**Michigan:** State representatives may serve only three terms, state senators and the executive branch only two terms. Limits U.S. congressmen to three terms in any 12-year period and U.S. senators to two terms during 24 years.

**Missouri:** Restricts state lawmakers to eight years in the same house and total years of legislative service to 16. A separate initiative limits U.S. representatives to four terms and U.S. senators to two terms. Limits on congressional terms will not go into effect until enacted by half the states.

**Montana:** Limits state senators to eight years in a 16-year period, representatives to six years out of 12 years, and the executive branch to eight years of service in 16 years. Holds congressmen to six years out of 12 and U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period.

**Nebraska:** Limits statewide officials and legislators to two consecutive terms. Prohibits U.S. representatives from placing their name on the ballot after four consecutive terms and U.S. senators after two consecutive terms.

**Nevada:** Limits federal officers effec-

tive Jan. 1, 1995. Restricts U.S. senators to 12 years in a 24-year period. Constitutional amendments must pass at two successive elections.

**North Dakota:** Restricts access to the ballot to members of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives after they have served 12 years in office in any combination. Can run again after a 2-year break.

**Ohio: (#2)** Limits U.S. senators to two consecutive terms and members of the U.S. House of Representatives to four consecutive terms.

**Ohio: (#3)** Limits state senators to two consecutive terms and state representatives to four consecutive terms.

**Ohio: (#4)** Limits members of the executive branch to two consecutive terms. Terms are consecutive in all three proposals unless there is a break of four years.

**Oregon:** Holds state lawmakers to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate and no more than 12 years of legislative service. Statewide officeholders limited to eight years and members of Congress to six years in the House and 12 years in the Senate.

**South Dakota:** Limits state lawmakers to four 2-year consecutive terms and statewide officers to two consecutive terms. Limits members of Congress to six consecutive terms in the House and two consecutive terms in the Senate.

**Washington:** Limits state senators to eight out of 14 years, representatives to six out of 12 years and the governor and lieutenant governor to eight out of 14 years. U.S. senators are held to 12 out of 18 years and U.S. representatives to six out of 12 years. Terms served before November 1992 will not count toward limits and the measure will not go into effect for federal officers until nine other states limit ballot access or terms.

**Wyoming:** Limits state senators to three terms in any 24-year period, representatives to three terms in any 12-year period, and constitutional officers to two terms in any 16-year period. U.S. senators are limited to serving two terms in any 24-year period and congressmen to three terms in 12 years.

# Alaska State Legislature

Rep. Menard  
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1/22/93

Legislative Research Agency



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February 13, 1991

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Mike Navarre

FROM: Deborah L. Davidson *DL*  
Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Turnover in the Alaska Legislature Since Statehood  
Research Request 91.127

You asked about the turnover of the Alaska House and Senate since statehood. Tables 1 and 2, attached, show the number and percentage of non-incumbent legislators in the House and Senate for each legislature since statehood. In addition, notations have been made regarding appointed legislators and those who previously served in the legislature. This information was compiled using the Legislative Affairs Agency publication *Alaska Legislature, Roster of Members, 1913-1988*, and current legislative membership.

You also asked for information regarding the turnover of the Alaska Congressional delegation since statehood. Listed below are the Congressional delegates and their dates of service.

U.S. House of Representatives:	Ralph J. Rivers	1959 - 1966
	Howard W. Pollock	1967 - 1970
	Nicholas J. Begich	1971 - 1972
	Donald Young	March 1973 - Present
U.S. Senate	E.L. Bartlett	1959 - 1968
	Ted Stevens	1969 - Present
	Ernest Gruening	1959 - 1968
	Mike Gravel	1969 - 1980
	Frank Murkowski	1981 - Present

I hope this information is useful to you. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call.

Attachment

**TABLE ONE  
TURNOVER IN THE ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SINCE STATEHOOD**

<u>Legislature</u>	<u>Incumbents</u>	<u>Freshmen</u>	<u>% Freshmen</u>	<u>Notes</u>
2nd (1961-1962)	17	23	57.5%	2nd session appointee replaced a freshman—did not return in 1963.
3rd (1963-1964)	23	17	42.5%	4 freshmen previously served in the house. 2nd session appointee replaced an incumbent—did not return in 1965
4th (1965-1966)	16	24	60.0%	2 freshmen previously served in the house (1 by appointment); 2 in the senate. Appointee replaced an incumbent—was elected in 1967
5th (1967-1968)	15	25	62.5%	2 freshmen previously served in the house; 1 in the senate. Appointee replaced freshman 2/68—was elected in 1969
6th (1969-1970)	23	17	42.5%	3 freshmen previously served in the house; 2 in the senate
7th (1971-1972)	19	21	52.5%	4 freshman previously served in the house. Appointee replaced freshman 1/72—did not return in 1973.
8th (1973-1974)	20	20	50.0%	4 freshmen previously served in the house. Appointee replaced an incumbent 1/74— did not return in 1975
9th (1975-1976)	18	22	55.0%	1 freshman previously served in the house; 1 was appointed 1/75—was elected in 1977. Appointee replaced an incumbent 4/75— was elected in 1977; appointee replaced an incumbent 1/76—was elected in 1977.
10th (1977-1978)	25	15	37.5%	1 freshman previously served in the house; Appointee replaced incumbent in 4/77— did not return in 1979.
11th (1979-1980)	23	17	42.5%	2 freshmen previously served in the house
12th (1981-1982)	28	12	30.0%	
13th (1983-1984)	17	23	57.5%	1 freshman previously served in the house. Appointee replaced a freshmen 5/84—was elected in 1985
14th (1985-1986)	21	19	47.5%	1 freshman previously served in the house; 1 in the senate
15th (1987-1988)	27	13	32.5%	1 freshman previously served in the house
16th (1989-1990)	33	7	17.5%	Appointee replaced an incumbent 1/90—was elected in 1991
17th (1991-1992)	26	14	35.0%	1 freshman had previously served in the house; 1 was appointed 1/91

Prepared by the Legislative Research Agency, February 1991 (91.127)

18<sup>th</sup> (1993-1994)      17      23      57.5%      2 freshmen had previously served in the house; 2 had previously served in the house & senate

TABLE TWO  
TURNOVER IN THE ALASKA SENATE SINCE STATEHOOD

Legislature	Incumbents	Freshmen	% Freshmen	Notes
2nd (1961-1962)	15	5	25.0%	
3rd (1963-1964)	12	8	40.0%	1 freshman previously served in the house; 1 was appointed in 1962--was elected in 1964; 1 was appointed in 1963--was elected in 1965
4th (1965-1966)	16	4	20.0%	1 freshman previously served in the senate; 2 in the house
5th (1967-1968)	6	14	70.0%	1 freshman previously served in the senate; 6 in the house
6th (1969-1970)	16	4	20.0%	3 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee replaced an incumbent 3/70--was elected in 1971
7th (1971-1972)	14	6	30.0%	5 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee replaced incumbent 1/72--was elected in 1973
8th (1973-1974)	15	5	25.0%	5 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee replaced incumbent 4/73--did not return in 1975
9th (1975-1976)	11	9	45.0%	5 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee (from house) replaced incumbent 1/75--was elected in 1977
10th (1977-1978)	18	2	10.0%	1 freshman previously served in the house.
11th (1979-1980)	13	7	35.0%	3 freshmen previously served in the house
12th (1981-1982)	16	4	20.0%	2 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee replaced incumbent 3/82--did not return in 1983
13th (1983-1984)	14	6	30.0%	1 freshman previously served in the senate; 2 in the house
14th (1985-1986)	16	4	20.0%	1 freshman previously served in the senate; 2 in the house
15th (1987-1988)	15	5	25.0%	4 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee replaced incumbent 2nd session--did not return in 1989
16th (1989-1990)	16	4	20.0%	4 freshmen previously served in the house
17th (1991-1992)	15	5	25.0%	4 freshmen previously served in the house; appointee (from house) replaced incumbent 1/91

Prepared by the Legislative Research Agency, February 1991 (91.127)

18<sup>th</sup> (1993-1994) 8 12 60.0% 9 freshmen previously served in the house; 1 in the senate.

# Alaska State Legislature

Rep. Memorial  
1/22/93  
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Legislative Research Agency



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February 25, 1991

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

FROM: Gordon S. Harrison, Director  
Deborah L. Davidson, Legislative Analyst

RE: Years of Service of Alaska Legislators  
Research Request 91.115

You asked this agency for information about the number of years served by members of the Alaska State Legislature. You asked for an analysis of the length of service of all members since statehood and of members elected in each of the three decades since statehood.

We presume your interest in this matter is related to the issue of limiting terms for legislators, and that the purpose of this research is to assess the potential impact of a measure to limit the number of years a legislator may serve. We concern ourselves with the purpose of the research because it has a bearing on how best to analyze and present the information.

A constitutional amendment to limit terms could take a variety of forms. It could limit *total* years (or terms) in either house or both houses, or it could limit *consecutive* years (or terms) in either house or both houses. Tables One and Two present three data sets on the length of service of legislators. The first data series counts total years of service (a legislator who served between 1959 and 1963 and again between 1971 and 1972 would be counted as one person serving six years). The second counts consecutive years of service only (the same legislator would be counted as one person serving four years and another serving two years). The third data series (titled "Appointments Not Considered") presents data on the service of only *elected* legislators for the full terms to which they were elected.<sup>1</sup> That is, for this data series we do not include legislators who were appointed to fill the unexpired term of an elected legislator, and we assume that the legislator leaving office before the end of his or her term (because of death or resignation) actually finished it.

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<sup>1</sup> A number of legislators obtained their seats by being appointed to serve the remainder of a term of an elected legislator who resigned or died while in office. These appointed legislators, and the foreshortened terms of the legislators who left office early, add statistical "clutter" to the data series. Because we are interested in the historical pattern of service by elected legislators, we thought it would be useful to present a data series without this "clutter."

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These three data sets are shown for membership only in the House of Representatives (Table One) and the Senate (Table Two). Information about years of service of legislators serving in both houses is shown in Table Three.

Tables Four and Five present information about length of service of legislators elected to the House of Representatives and the Senate in each of the three decades since statehood. In this case, the data counts only consecutive years of service (nonconsecutive service is considered to be rendered by different individuals).

Table One shows that, since statehood, between 66.3 and 72.1 percent of the members of the House of Representatives served four consecutive years or less; between 22.8 and 26.0 percent served between four and eight consecutive years; and between 5.3 and 6.9 percent served longer than eight consecutive years, depending on the analytical method used.

Table Two shows that, since statehood, between 56.1 and 59.0 percent of the members of the Senate served four consecutive years or less; between 24.6 and 27.2 percent served between four and eight consecutive years; and between 16.4 and 18.9 percent served longer than eight consecutive years.

Table Three shows that 57 individuals served in both the House and Senate. Approximately half of those--28 individuals--have combined service in both houses of ten years or more.

The average number of consecutive years served by a House member is 4. The average number of total (consecutive and nonconsecutive) years is 4.4. The average number of consecutive years served by a Senate member is 5.5. The average number of total years served by a Senate member is 6.

A total of 312 people have served in the House of Representatives since statehood (including those elected in the 1990 general election). If members were restricted to one term (100 percent turnover) in the House, 680 individuals would have served (assuming all served their full two-year term). Of the 312 individuals who have served in the House, 26 served two nonconsecutive terms, and two served three nonconsecutive terms.

A total of 117 individuals have served in the Senate since statehood. If members were restricted to one term, a total of 180 individuals would have served (ignoring the fact that reapportionment has created two-year Senate terms from time to time). Five of the 117 senators served two nonconsecutive terms.

I hope this information is useful to you. If you have any questions or would like additional analysis, please contact the agency.

Attachments