



HANDBOOK FOR DELEGATES

to the

ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

convened at

College, Alaska

November 8, 1955

prepared by

ALASKA STATEHOOD COMMITTEE

HANDBOOK FOR DELEGATES

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FOREWORD

The Act establishing the Alaska Statehood Committee (Chapter 108 of the Session Laws of 1949) sets forth the following Statement of Purpose for the Committee:

"In recognition of near attainment of Statehood for Alaska and the responsibility that will devolve upon the people of Alaska in framing a fundamentally sound and workable state constitution embodying the best provisions that have evolved in the interest of better government in the several states, and in recognition of the many problems that will attend transition from Territorial status to Statehood, it is deemed necessary in the public interest to establish a Committee, non-governmental in character, to assemble applicable material, make studies and provide recommendations in a timely manner."

This Handbook which has been prepared for the Delegates deals primarily with the form and mechanics of a constitutional convention. It is based on a review of the practices of other recent constitutional conventions, and is intended to serve essentially as a check list of the procedural steps that Alaska's Constitutional Convention will be considering.

In the preparation of this Handbook, the Committee acknowledges the assistance derived from the experiences of other constitutional conventions, in particular those of Hawaii and New Jersey.

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STUDY MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO DELEGATES

To assist the Delegates in their day-to-day work of formulating constitutional provisions, the Alaska Statehood Committee has had prepared or has assembled a wide selection of pertinent study and reference materials. These materials will be placed at a convenient location at the Convention site. The materials are intended for the individual use of Delegates, for committee use, and for the conduct of such on the spot research as the Delegates may request of the technical staff.

1. Staff Papers prepared by Public Administration Service.

Under the auspices of the Alaska Statehood Committee, Public Administrative Service has prepared a series of papers on major constitutional problems and issues for the delegates. These papers, most of which were circulated to the Delegates prior to the Convention, and all of which are available to the Delegates in three volumes, summarize the experience and practice of other jurisdictions, indicate recent constitutional trends, and point out significant constitutional considerations for the Delegates. These papers are as follows:

Volume 1

Staff Paper I -- The State Constitution Within the American Political System

Staff Paper II -- Civil Rights and Liberties

Staff Paper III -- The Alaskan Constitution and the State Patrimony (Natural Resources)

Staff Paper IV -- Suffrage and Elections

Volume 2

Staff Paper V -- The Legislative Department

Staff Paper VI -- The Executive Department

Staff Paper VII -- The Judicial Department

Volume 3

Staff Paper VIII -- The Constitution and Local Government

Staff Paper IX -- State Finance

Staff Paper X -- Legislative Structure and Apportionment

Staff Paper XI -- Constitutional Amendment and Revision

Staff Paper XII -- Initiative, Referendum, and Recall

2. Constitutions.

Several copies of the United States Constitution, and of all state constitutions, as well as those of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and

the Territory of Hawaii are available.

3. Documentary Material.

Books, pamphlets, monographs, tables, and materials in other forms are catalogued and available on all of the subjects listed above to permit more detailed study of the citations made in the Staff Papers or to be used for independent inquiry.

4. Illustrative Material.

This material covers the experience and practices of other constitutional conventions, notably those of Hawaii and New Jersey.

5. U.S. Enabling Legislative Proposals and Territorial Enactments pertaining to the Convention.

Several copies are available.

6. Miscellaneous Materials.

Maps, dictionaries, tabulations, and other reference items are also on hand.

Some of the materials listed above have been made available through the courtesy of the University of Alaska Library, the Legislative Council, the Economist on the Staff of the Governor, and other Territorial agencies, and the Territorial Librarian has assisted in the cataloguing of the materials.

INITIAL ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The Constitutional Convention will have full authority to establish its own organization and rules for procedure, following its call to order by the Governor of Alaska at its opening session on November 8, 1955. This memorandum, prepared by the staff of the Alaska Statehood Committee, is intended to outline the major initial steps in the organizational process and procedure of the Convention, and to suggest some alternative approaches which may be considered.

A. Initial Procedures

1. The law establishing the Convention provides that the Governor shall preside until temporary officers are selected.
2. Election of a temporary chairman.
3. Appointment by temporary chairman of necessary temporary committees, if any, such as, temporary committees on credentials, distinguished guests, or allocation of seats.
4. Adoption of temporary rules (these may be some pre-existing rules, such as those of the Territorial House or Senate, Roberts Rules of Order, or others, with a proviso that such rules are adopted in so far as they are consistent with and applicable to the Convention.
5. The Act establishing the Convention states:

"Following its organization the convention shall declare on behalf of the people of the proposed State that they adopt the Constitution of the United States."

B. Establishing the Convention's Permanent Organization and Procedure.

1. Election of permanent officers. Permanent officers must by law include a President and Secretary, and may include other appropriate officers, such as one or more vice presidents, and a sergeant at arms.
2. Selection of technical and administrative staffs (see sections of this Handbook on Technical and

Administrative Staffs).

- a. May be appointed by resolution of Convention.
 - b. Rules may authorize President to select staff and set salaries.
3. Provision of permanent rules of Convention.
- a. Appointment by President of permanent committee on rules. (Convention by resolution may require inclusion of particular rules, such as those dealing with selection of committees).
 - b. Report of committee, with draft of proposed rules.
 - c. Discussion and adoption of rules by Convention.
4. Appointment of committees and committee chairmen.
- a. Rules may provide for appointment by President of all committee members and chairmen.
 - b. Rules may require polling of Delegates to determine preferences for committee assignments, and consideration of stated preferences by President in making appointments.
 - c. Committee chairmen may be elected:
 - (1) by the entire Convention, or
 - (2) by the members of each committee.

Thereafter the Convention will proceed with the work of drafting a Constitution, in accordance with such rules as the Convention adopts.

CONSIDERATION OF CONVENTION RULES

In common with a legislature or other deliberative body, the Convention has need to establish and adopt rules for the orderly conduct of its work and to prescribe for such officers as it deems necessary with a general statement of the duties and powers to be exercised by them. There are, however, certain unique features of a constitutional convention which require departure from the usual legislative rules. A most important distinctive feature of the deliberations of the Convention is that its end product, a Constitution, must be a unified instrument which expresses with consistency and clarity, in logical order, and in harmonious, understandable style, the multiple and broad topics of which it treats. Such a unified instrument is to be fashioned by the fifty-five Delegates from the many and diverse ideas and proposals initially introduced and can therefore be readily recognized as a difficult task. This feature is in large contrast to the deliberations of a legislature where the end product is composed of numerous laws which are introduced, considered, and finally passed upon separately and independently of each other. The Convention rules and procedures should be designed to accomplish the task of coordinating the work of the various committees and bringing together efficiently and effectively the articles produced into a unified whole: the Constitution.

Another distinctive feature as compared to the typical legislature is that the Convention sits as a single house, so that legislative rules contemplating a bicameral body may not be in point in many particulars. The Convention is also distinctive in that it is a single session body which acts without continuity of procedure with preceding or subsequent sessions and without necessary reference to an established body of legislative law.

All of these distinctive factors have given rise to the adoption of a special set of rules for constitutional conventions, adapted to the circumstances of the particular convention. The Delegates at College may wish, therefore, to operate under temporary rules during a period of time sufficient to consider carefully a suitable set of permanent rules. To aid in this consideration there will be available for the use of the Delegates, copies of the rules used in other recent constitutional conventions, including those of Missouri, Hawaii, and New Jersey.

The subjects normally dealt with in permanent rules are set forth below:

1. Officers of the Convention and a general description of their duties and authority.
2. Standing committees including their method of selection and the scope of their activities.

3. Committee of the whole including its purposes, use and procedures.
4. Conduct of business including quorum, order of business, motion, debate, decorum, and parliamentary authority to be followed, such as Roberts or Cushing.
5. Procedures and form for proposals, submissions, and other information addressed to the people.

CONSIDERATION OF CONVENTION OFFICERS

The Territorial Act establishing the Constitutional Convention provides, with respect to officers of the Convention, as follows:

"The Governor of Alaska shall open the convention and preside until temporary officers are selected
. . . (The Convention) shall have the power by vote of a majority of the delegates to which the body is entitled to choose a president and secretary and all other appropriate officers, to prescribe their functions, powers and duties...."

The only duty assigned to an officer of the Convention by the Act relates to the payment of Convention expenses:

"The disbursements for all costs attributable to the elections of delegates to the convention, not to exceed \$60,000, shall be made upon vouchers certified by the Governor of Alaska. All other disbursements of moneys appropriated hereunder (total appropriation-\$300,000) shall be made upon vouchers certified by the president of the convention."

The Hawaii Constitutional Convention in 1950 provided for the following officers:

President
Vice Presidents (1 from each of four senatorial districts)
Secretary

The President in addition to his duties as presiding officer was according to the Rules of the Convention assigned the responsibility of naming all committees, except as the Convention otherwise ordered. The Secretary kept a journal of the proceedings, determined the calendar of business of the Convention in conformity to the Rules, and was the official custodian of all papers and documents. (The Secretary may or may not be a delegate). In addition to the officers named, the Hawaii Convention elected a Chief Clerk, an Assistant Chief Clerk, two Sergeants at Arms, and a Chaplain. Other staff were appointive.

The Constitutional Convention of Puerto Rico had a President and two Vice Presidents. Other officials of the Convention included a Secretary, a Sergeant at Arms, three Assistant Secretaries, a Paymaster and a Property Clerk.

The New Jersey Constitutional Convention Enabling Act of 1947 specifically provides for the election of a president and a secretary. In addition, the delegates were authorized to choose "all other appropriate officers, to prescribe their functions, powers, and duties." In the conduct of the convention a president, first and second vice presidents, and a secretary were chosen. Among other duties prescribed in the rules of the convention, the president, with the secretary, was to certify all official acts and all vouchers for payment of expenditures of the convention. In addition, he was authorized to appoint all committees, except where the convention otherwise ordered. The first and second vice presidents were assigned no specific duties in the rules other than to preside and assume the duties of the president in his temporary absence or temporary inability. A temporary absence or disability was defined as one of less than five consecutive convention days.

CONSIDERATION OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

The number and size of the Committees which are to be established to facilitate the work of the Convention depends upon a logical division of the work and considerations of the maximum number of committees that each delegate can be expected to serve.

Both the experience of other constitutional conventions and the particular problems facing the Alaska Constitutional Convention suggest that committees organized as follows would have reasonably equitable work loads:

1. Preamble and Bill of Rights
2. Suffrage and Elections
3. The Legislature and Legislative Apportionment
4. The Executive
5. The Judiciary
6. Lands and Other Resources
7. Finance and Taxation
8. Local Government
9. Constitutional Amendments; Initiative, Referendum, and Recall
10. Constitutional Ordinances and Statutory Provisions

In addition to the above committees dealing with substantive parts of the constitution, at least three other important committees will be required:

1. Committee on Convention Rules
2. Committee on Drafting and Style
3. Committee on Convention Administration

It is generally agreed that the work of a constitutional convention is expedited if each delegate is assigned to not more than two, and at the very most, three committees. With 54 delegates eligible to serve on committees (the President of the Convention is normally an ex-officio member of all committees), and with a maximum of two committee assignments per Delegate, there are 108 committee posts. One possible arrangement therefore would be to assign 12 or 13 memberships for the three committees on Convention Rules, Drafting and Style, and Convention Administration, and to assign each of the other 10 committees seven memberships.

CONVENTION TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Administrative Staff

Although the Alaska Statehood Committee has made arrangements for some temporary administrative staff to be available at the opening of the Constitutional Convention, the Convention itself through assigning responsibility for engaging staff in the Convention rules, or otherwise, must arrange for the permanent administrative staff.

The following list of the administrative staff used by the Hawaii Constitutional Convention is provided for the the information of the Delegates at College:

Chief Clerk	1 Supply Clerk
Assistant Clerk	4 Proof Readers
Staff Supervisor	Tape Recording Clerk
Assistant Supervisor	Assistant Recording Clerk
9 Secretaries	Machine operators,
4 Clerks	messengers, and others

(This staff is in addition to the Secretary, Sergeant at Arms, and other convention officers.) It is unlikely that a staff as large as that listed above will be needed at the outset of the Convention at College.

Technical Staff

Constitution drafting is a highly technical process, and the virtues of having a technical or consulting staff available have been proved in every recent constitutional convention. The Alaska Statehood Committee has arranged with Public Administration Service, the organization which prepared the Staff Papers for the Convention, to have at least one representative present throughout the Convention. In addition, the Statehood Committee has contacted a number of outstanding persons throughout the United States to determine their availability to serve briefly as technical aids to the Convention, and arrangements can probably be made with the University of Alaska, the Governor's office and the Legislative Council for some technical assistance.

In Hawaii, the Constitutional Convention by resolution recognized the preparatory work accomplished by the Legislative Reference Bureau of the University of Hawaii and designated it to provide technical assistance to the Convention. The coordination of technical services by the Bureau proved invaluable. The Alaska Statehood Committee similarly offers its facilities to the Convention at College.

CONVENTION ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS,
AND ORDERS

The Act establishing the Constitutional Convention provides that the Convention "shall have power to make ordinances and to take all measures necessary or proper in preparation for the admission of Alaska as a State of the Union." Three specific ordinances are required of the Convention:

1. An ordinance providing for submission of the constitution to a vote of the people.
2. An ordinance providing for submission of the constitution, after ratification by the people, through the President of the United States to the Congress.
3. An ordinance providing for the first election of the officers and representatives of the new State.

Other recent constitutional conventions have provided, either by ordinance or by a "Transitory Provisions" article of the constitution itself, for the effective date and implementation of the constitution, for the continuance in effect of all laws not inconsistent with the constitution, for the protection and transfer of the assets and liabilities of the existing government to the succeeding one, as well as for establishing the time and manner of the first elections under the new constitution.

A constitutional convention may also adopt resolutions in the manner provided by its rules. There is no inherent distinction between "ordinances" and "resolutions," but some distinction may be provided in the convention rules. Similarly the rules may provide for general and special orders of the day, which set forth the calendar of convention business.

TERRITORY OF ALASKA

AUDITOR OF ALASKA

JUNEAU, ALASKA

CHAPTER 46

AN ACT

To provide for the holding of a constitutional convention to prepare a constitution for the State of Alaska; to submit the constitution to the people for adoption or rejection; to prepare for the admission of Alaska as a State; to make an appropriation; and setting an effective date.

(C. S. for H. B. 1)

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Section 1. A constitutional convention, comprised of delegates elected by the legal voters of the Territory of Alaska, shall assemble at the University of Alaska, College, Alaska, on the 8th day of November, 1955, at ten o'clock a. m., or as soon thereafter as a quorum shall be present, for the purpose of preparing and agreeing upon a constitution for the proposed State of Alaska. The convention shall meet for not more than seventy-five days but may, at its discretion, recess for a period of not to exceed fifteen days for the purpose of holding public hearings in Alaska on proposed provisions of the constitution.

Section 2. Delegates to the convention shall possess the qualifications of legal voters of Alaska and shall have been residents of Alaska for not less than three years im-

mediately preceding the first day of the convention. The holding of the office of delegate or any other office of the convention shall not constitute a disqualification for selection for or the holding of any other office, and the holding of any other office, except an appointive office under the Federal Government, shall not constitute a disqualification for election to or the holding of office as a delegate or any other office of the convention.

Section 3. There are hereby created the following election districts from which delegates to the convention shall be elected. These election districts shall be comprised of the several recording districts of Alaska which shall be known as "local election districts", the judicial divisions of Alaska, and the Territory of Alaska at Large:

Election District No. 1—Ketchikan and Hyder Recording Districts.

Election District No. 2—Wran-

gell and Petersburg Recording Districts.

Election District No. 3—Sitka Recording District.

Election District No. 4—Juneau Recording District.

Election District No. 5—Haines and Skagway Recording Districts.

Election District No. 6—First Judicial Division.

Election District No. 7—Cape Nome and Wade Hampton Recording Districts.

Election District No. 8—Fairhaven and Noatak-Kobuk Recording Districts.

Election District No. 9—Second Judicial Division.

Election District No. 10—Cordova and McCarthy Recording Districts.

Election District No. 11—Valdez and Chitina Recording Districts.

Election District No. 12—Seward and Whittier Recording Districts.

Election District No. 13—Kenai, Homer and Seldovia Recording Districts.

Election District No. 14—Kodiak and Aleutian Islands Recording Districts.

Election District No. 15—Anchorage Recording District.

Election District No. 16—Palmer, Wasilla and Talkeetna Recording Districts.

Election District No. 17—Illiama, Kvichak and Bristol Bay Recording Districts.

Election District No. 18—Third Judicial Division.

Election District No. 19—Bethel, Kuskokwim, Mt. McKinley, Innoko, Nulato, Nenana, Hot Springs, Rampart and Fort Gibbon Recording Districts.

Election District No. 20—Fair-

banks Recording District.

Election District No. 21—Fourth Judicial Division.

Election District No. 22—Territory of Alaska at Large.

Section 4. The convention shall consist of fifty-five delegates apportioned among the election districts as follows:

Election District No. 1—One Delegate.

Election District No. 2—One Delegate.

Election District No. 3—One Delegate.

Election District No. 4—One Delegate.

Election District No. 5—One Delegate.

Election District No. 6—Seven Delegates.

Election District No. 7—One Delegate.

Election District No. 8—One Delegate.

Election District No. 9—Four Delegates.

Election District No. 10—One Delegate.

Election District No. 11—One Delegate.

Election District No. 12—One Delegate.

Election District No. 13—One Delegate.

Election District No. 14—One Delegate.

Election District No. 15—One Delegate.

Election District No. 16—One Delegate.

Election District No. 17—One Delegate.

Election District No. 18—Twelve Delegates.

Election District No. 19—One Delegate.

Election District No. 20—One

Delegate.

Election District No. 21—Eight Delegates.

Election District No. 22—Seven Delegates.

Section 5. A special election for the election of delegates shall be held throughout Alaska on September 13, 1955. The Governor of Alaska shall prepare and furnish all ballots, certificates, and forms necessary for the holding of the election, which shall in general be conducted, including the making of returns, the canvassing of ballots, and the ascertaining of results substantially in the manner fixed by the laws governing the election of legislators in general elections in Alaska, including rotation of names on the ballot. The Governor may employ such technical and other personnel as may be necessary to assist him in the preparation for and conduct of the election provided for herein. The Governor may make such reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of the election, the counting of ballots, the preparation, transmission and canvassing of returns, and other matters relating to the election, as may appear necessary and are consistent with the purposes of the special election provided for herein.

Section 6. Candidates for the office of delegate shall be nominated by petition filed in person or by mail with the clerk of the court of the judicial division in which the candidate is a resident on or before May 10, 1955. Each petition shall be accompanied by a fee of ten dollars, except that the fee for candidates for election from the Territory at large shall be forty dollars. Each nominating petition shall be signed

by legally qualified voters of Alaska residing within the election district in and for which the delegates nominated are to be elected equal in number to at least five per cent of the number of votes cast in the election district in the General Election of 1954, provided that no nominating petition need contain more than two hundred signatures nor may it contain less than fifty signatures, in any election district.

Section 7. Each nominating petition shall contain the name of not more than one candidate, and shall set forth the name, place of residence and post office address of the candidate thereby nominated, that the nomination is for the office of delegate to the constitutional convention to be convened on November 8, 1955, that the petitioners are legally qualified to vote for such candidates and pledge themselves to support and vote for the person named in such petition, and that this petition, together with all other petitions theretofore signed by them, does not nominate a greater number of candidates than the number of delegates to be elected in the election district for which the nominations are made. Every voter signing a nominating petition shall add to his signature his place of residence, post office address, and street number, if any. No voter shall sign a petition or petitions for a greater number of candidates than are to be elected in the election district in which he resides, except that any petitioner may sign not more than seven petitions of candidates for election as delegates from the district composed of the Territory of Alaska at large, in addition to the petition or petitions of candidates from the petitioner's

local and judicial election districts. It is the intent of this Act that qualified petitioners may sign not more nominating petitions than there are delegates authorized from the local and judicial election districts in which the petitioner resides, and in addition may sign not more than seven nominating petitions for candidates seeking election from the Territory at Large.

Section 8. Each nominating petition shall, before it may be filed with the clerk of the court, contain an acceptance of such nomination in writing, signed and verified by an oath or affirmation of the candidate therein nominated, upon or annexed to such petition. Such acceptance shall certify that the candidate shall have been a resident of the election district for which he is nominated for at least one year and that he is a qualified voter in the election district for which he is nominated. Such acceptance shall also certify that the nominee consents to enter as a candidate at the ensuing special election for the election of delegates to a constitutional convention, and that if elected he agrees to take office and serve as a delegate from the elected.

Section 9. If any delegate from tion district in which he is nominated election district shall die, resign, or otherwise become disqualified from serving, or if a vacancy occurs for any reason whatsoever, the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate not theretofore certified as elected who received the next highest number of votes amongst the candidates in the election district in which the vacancy occurred. If a vacancy should again occur in such district, it shall be filled in

like manner from amongst the remaining candidates. Any election contest which results in a tie shall be resolved by the drawing of lots between the competing candidates, and the loser of the drawing shall be considered second only to the winner and shall hold such standing among the balance of the winning candidates.

Section 10. All nominating petitions and their acceptances shall when filed be and remain open for public inspection during regular business hours, at the office where filed until May 20, 1955; thereafter they shall be transmitted to the Governor of Alaska for determination of the candidates nominated and for permanent filing in the office of the Secretary of Alaska. Determination of the validity of petitions shall be made initially by the Governor of Alaska, and recourse by candidates believing themselves aggrieved may be had by appeal from the determination of the Governor to the canvassing board, the decision of which shall be final. Objections to petitions may be raised by any qualified voter of the election district from which the candidate is nominated, and such objection must be stated in writing to the Governor of Alaska on or before May 25, 1955. Not later than May 31, 1955, the Governor shall make his determination as to the candidates nominated from each election district and shall thereupon certify the names designated for placement on the ballot for each such district.

Section 11. The election of delegates shall be conducted without any reference to the political party affiliations of the candidates, and the ballots used shall be nonparti-

san in every respect. A separate ballot shall be prepared for each local election district, and each such ballot shall contain (a) the names of the candidates running for the office of delegate from that district, (b) the names of the candidates running for the office of delegate from the judicial division election district in which the local election district is situate, and (c) the names of the candidates running for the office of delegate from the district which comprises the Territory at Large.

Section 12. The candidate or candidates receiving the greatest number of votes in the election district for which nominated shall be deemed elected for that district, and the Governor of Alaska shall issue to them certificates of election in the manner otherwise prescribed by law for persons elected to the Legislature of Alaska.

Section 13. The Governor of Alaska shall open the convention and preside until temporary officers are selected. The convention shall be the judge of the qualifications of its members, their election, or appointment. It shall have the power by vote of a majority of the delegates to which the body is entitled to choose a president and secretary and all other appropriate officers, to prescribe their functions, powers and duties, and to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. Following its organization the convention shall declare on behalf of the people of the proposed State that they adopt the Constitution of the United States; thereafter, the convention shall proceed to prepare a constitution, which shall be republican in form and shall contain the pro-

visions expressly required by any Act of the Congress of the United States providing for the admission of Alaska as a State, and a State government for the proposed State, and for this purpose the convention shall have power to make ordinances and to take all measures necessary or proper in preparation for the admission of Alaska as a State of the Union.

Section 14. After a constitution and State government have been framed, the convention shall provide by ordinance for submission of the constitution, and such ordinances as may properly be submitted, to the people of the proposed State for ratification or rejection at an election to be held at a date to be fixed by the convention not less than forty nor later than one hundred twenty days from the date of adjournment of the convention, at which election the persons entitled to vote for delegates under this Act shall be entitled to vote on the ratification or rejection of the constitution and the ordinances submitted, under such rules and regulations as the convention may prescribe. The returns of this election shall be made to the Governor of Alaska and shall be canvassed substantially in the manner now provided by law for the canvass of votes cast in Territorial elections.

Section 15. The convention shall provide by ordinance that after the constitution and ordinances submitted shall have been ratified by the people of the Territory by a majority of the legal votes cast thereon, the Governor shall forthwith submit a certified copy of the same through the President of the United States to the Congress for approval

or disapproval, together with a statement of the votes cast thereon.

Section 16. The convention shall provide by ordinance that in case of the ratification of the constitution by the people and of its approval by the Congress, or by the President, as may be provided in the Enabling Act, there shall be a process of election, at such time and in such manner as the convention may prescribe, in which the qualified voters of Alaska shall choose officers for a full State government, including a governor, members of the legislature, such other officers as the constitution shall prescribe, and the authorized number of Representatives and Senators in the Congress of the United States. The persons elected hereunder shall assume their offices, and the State government shall become in effect, at the time and in the manner that the Congress may provide in enabling the admission of Alaska as a State.

Section 17. Until the admission of Alaska as a State, all of the officers of the Territory shall continue to discharge the duties of their respective officers in and for the Territory of Alaska, and the laws of the Territory shall also remain in force and effect.

Section 18. The convention shall have power to incur such expenses as may be necessary, including but not limited to expenses for employment of such clerical, technical,

and professional personnel as it may require, in order to exercise the powers conferred and to perform the duties imposed by this Act.

Section 19. The delegates shall receive a per diem of twenty dollars for each day in attendance at, including time spent going to and returning from, the convention; and they shall be reimbursed for their actual travel costs incurred in attending upon their duties as delegates. In addition they shall receive for their services the sum of fifteen dollars per day as compensation for each day's attendance while the convention is in session.

Section 20. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$300,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for defraying the expenses of the elections provided for herein and the expenses of the convention, including compensation of the delegates, and for all other purposes of this Act. The disbursements for all costs attributable to the elections of delegates to the convention, not to exceed \$60,000, shall be made upon vouchers certified by the Governor of Alaska. All other disbursements of moneys appropriated hereunder shall be made upon vouchers certified by the president of the convention.

Section 21. This Act shall be in effect on and after its passage and approval, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

Approved March 19, 1955