

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

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Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

HJR 42

10



Requesting the United States Congress and the executive branch of the United States Government to initiate studies to provide proposals to alleviate the effect of time zones on presidential elections.

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

WHEREAS there are seven different time zones within the boundaries of the 50 states of the United States; and

WHEREAS on the day of a presidential election the polls close on the east coast of the United States three hours before the polls on the west coast and six hours before the polls in western Alaska; and

WHEREAS this variety of time zones has the capacity to seriously affect the outcome of a presidential election; and

WHEREAS news coverage and projections of winners in eastern locations can substantially affect the voting decisions of voters in midwestern and western states; and

WHEREAS the unhealthy political situation created by this time zone situation is nonpartisan in nature and represents a threat to the entire election process; and

WHEREAS numerous proposals exist for rectifying the situation, including staggered voting hours under which all or most regions of the nation would vote at the same time;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of Alaska respectfully requests the United States Congress and the executive branch of the United States Government to initiate studies for proposals to alleviate the effect of time zones on the outcome of presidential elections.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; and to all

members of the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives.