

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1992

Source
SCS HJR 43(JUD)

Legislative
Resolve No.
54



Congratulating the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws on its centennial, and expressing the gratitude of the state for the work of the conference.

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

WHEREAS the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate upon this auspicious occasion to highlight the achievements of the organization and to applaud its role in creating uniformity of the laws of the states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U. S. Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS the state has been an active participant in the national conference since 1912, with the appointment of Royal A. Gunnison of Juneau and Peter D. Overfield of Fairbanks as members, and the appointment of 28 additional members over the years since then; and

WHEREAS the state has been a major beneficiary of the work of the conference since 1913, with that year's enactment of the Uniform Bills of Lading Act, the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law, the Uniform Sales Act, and the Uniform Warehouse Receipts Act, and enactment of a total of 63 uniform acts to date; and

WHEREAS the existence and work of the conference recognize our nation's need for uniformity among the various United States jurisdictions in certain areas of the law, a need perceived at least as far back as 1881, when the Alabama State Bar Association took the first formal action to encourage development of uniform laws, and 1889, when the American Bar Association decided at its 12th annual meeting to work for uniformity of the laws of the then 44 states; and

WHEREAS, within a year after the American Bar Association's decision, the New York legislature authorized the governor to appoint three commissioners to explore the most effective manner in which to effect uniformity of law to ease problems developing between increasingly interdependent states, and the first meeting of the Conference of State Boards of Commissioners on Promoting Uniformity of Law in the U. S. was held in Saratoga Springs, New York, on August 24, 1892, with commissioners from seven states attending; and

WHEREAS, by the turn of the century, 33 of the then 45 states, along with two territories, were members, and in 1915 the name of the conference was changed to the present one; and

WHEREAS the acts produced by the conference, both uniform acts and model acts, solve many of the problems associated with wide variations in state laws, covering a great range of issues from commercial law and property law to probate and adoption; and

WHEREAS, among the most widely adopted uniform acts are the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act, Uniform Commercial Code, Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Uniform Partnership Act, Uniform Durable Power of Attorney Act, and Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, all providing crucial legislative answers to a vast array of human concerns and situations; and

WHEREAS, at the present time, more than 300 lawyers in private practice or government practice, justices, judges, and law professors, selected for their wide range of legal expertise and experience, serve as uniform law commissioners or associate members of the conference and donate hundreds and, in some cases, thousands of hours of their time to the conference, receiving no salary or fees for their work;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature congratulates the National

Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws on its 100th anniversary, applauds the work of the conference, expresses the state's most grateful and sincere appreciation for the opportunity to benefit from that work, and wishes the conference the greatest success in at least the next 100 years.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Dwight A. Hamilton, President, and William J. Pierce, Executive Director, of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.