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ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH RESOURCES

Materials Prepared Before the Constitutional Convention for Use by the Delegates

The Act establishing the Alaska Statehood Committee authorized the Committee to “have ready, in preparation for the Constitutional Convention, fully detailed information and analyses for use by the Convention in preparing the required draft of a constitution for Alaska, to the end that the people may have the opportunity of passing upon an entirely sound and thoroughly prepared document.” Ch. 108, § 3(c), SLA 1949.

Constitutional studies, prepared on behalf of the Alaska Statehood Committee for the Alaska Constitutional Convention convened November 8, 1955 (1955).

Call #: KFA 1601 1955.A28 (Reading Room and Microfilm)

The Alaska Statehood Committee contracted with the Public Administration Service, a non-profit organization that provided research, analysis, and advice to government organizations, to prepare a 3-volume set of twelve staff reports (often cited by paper number, e.g., Staff Paper IX) on behalf of the Alaska Statehood Committee for use by the delegates to the Alaska Constitutional Convention. The reports cover topics such as the function of state constitutions within the American political system; the place of states within the federal system; principles of constitutional government, including separation of powers, civil rights and liberties; and the major elements of state constitutions and constitutional structure.

Handbook for delegates to the Alaska Constitutional Convention, convened at College, Alaska, November 8, 1955 (1955).

Call #: KFA 1601 1959.A283 (Reading Room and Microfiche)

Fourteen-page handbook prepared by the Alaska Statehood Committee for the delegates to the Alaska Constitutional Convention that describes the organization of the convention and the procedures to be followed by the convention. It includes a list of delegates to the convention and a copy of the Constitutional Convention Act, Ch. 46, SLA 1955.

Model state constitution: with explanatory articles, 5th ed.

Call #: KF 4545.S7M63 1948 (Reading Room)

Prepared by the Committee on State Government of the National Municipal League.

Constitutional Convention Materials and Related Finding Aids

Alaska Constitutional Convention Recordings

See the Alaska State Archives website at archives.alaska.gov/audio/ConstConv/intro.html

A digitized collection of recordings representing approximately 220 hours of all plenary sessions and most meetings of the Committee of the Whole during the Alaska Constitutional Convention held at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks from November 8th, 1955 until February 6th, 1956.

Minutes of the daily proceedings, Alaska Constitutional Convention (1965).

Call #: KFA 1601 1956 .A22 1965 (Reading Room, Microfiche, and on the Department of Law website at www.law.state.ak.us/doclibrary/cc_minutes.html)

Official transcript of the proceedings of the Alaska Constitutional Convention, organized by day. The minutes were transcribed in 1962 from tape recordings of the original proceedings. The paper copy consists of Parts 1-5, which contain the minutes of the meetings in chronological order; Part 6, which contains several appendices, including the transcript of certain speeches, a copy of the enabling act, committee proposals and commentary, and a copy of the Alaska Constitution; and Part 7, which is a subject Index that was not published until 1978.

The library also owns two Indexes specific to Article VIII, Natural Resources, which were published by the Legal Services Division of the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Index and subject index to the proceedings of the Alaska Constitutional Convention on article VIII, Natural Resources, and related provisions of the constitution of the state of Alaska

Call # KFA 1601 1956 .A22 1989 (Reading Room)

Subject index and index to the proceedings of the Alaska Constitutional Convention on article VIII, natural resources, and related provisions of the Constitution of the State of Alaska : (November 8, 1955 -February 6, 1956)

Call # KFA 1601 1956 .A22 1990 (Reading Room)

Suggested Citation Format for the Proceedings:

5 Proceedings of the Alaska Constitutional Convention (PACC) 3414-15 (January 28, 1956).

6 PACC App. II at 3 (November 8, 1955).

Papers of the Alaska Constitutional Convention, 1955-1956.

Call #: KFA 1601 1956 .A2839 1981 (Microfilm)

Four microfilm reels of all of the materials in the Legislative Reference Library's Constitutional Convention Collection, with the exception of the Minutes of the Daily Proceedings, which were published separately. The set includes source reports relied upon by delegates, committee proposals and draft constitutional provisions, and committee minutes.

The papers are arranged by file number. Files 100-199 are "General" files; files 200-299 are "Committee" files (including minutes of committee meetings); files 300-399 are "Proposals"; files 400-499 pertain to particular "Articles" of the constitution; and files 500-599 contain "Records" of the proceedings, including the official calendar, ledgers, and the Chief Clerk's Original Journal. Further access to the Papers is provided by **The Alaska Constitutional Convention, November 8, 1955 to February 5, 1956: guide to the files (1981)** (see below).

The Alaska Constitutional Convention, November 8, 1955 to February 5, 1956: guide to the files (1981)

Call #: KFA 1601 1956 .A2839 1981 Guide (Reading Room, Microform reader room (top of cabinet), and at the beginning of each microfilm reel of the **Papers of the Alaska Constitutional Convention, 1955-1956**)

The Guide provides access to the **Papers of the Alaska Constitutional Convention, 1955-1956** (see above). The Guide, like the Papers, is organized by file number. The Guide provides the title of each file and the microfilm reel number and footage or counter number where each file appears on the microfilm. The Guide also contains a checklist of Committee Proposals (often referred to as "C/P"), which provides cross-references between the number of the proposal, the subject of the proposal, the date of the proposal, and the Article of the Constitution to which the proposal is related.

Alaska constitutional convention: report of Committee on Judiciary Branch (1955).

Call #: KFA 1601 1959.A282 (Reading Room and Microfiche)

The Judiciary Committee's proposed Judiciary Article of the constitution, also known as Committee Proposal 2 or C/P 2, with section-by-section commentary from the Judiciary Committee.

The constitution of the state of Alaska [microform]: agreed upon by the delegates of the people of Alaska, University of Alaska, February 5, 1956.

Call #: KFA 1601 1959 .A252 (Microfiche)

The version of the constitution published by the Alaska Constitutional Convention. Includes a map of the Alaska State Constitution Election Districts, February 1956.

Proposed constitution for the state of Alaska: a report to the people of Alaska from the Alaska Constitutional Convention, College, Alaska, February, 1956.

Call #: KFA 1601 1956 .A252 (Reading Room and Microfiche)

A pamphlet to be distributed to the citizens of Alaska which provides a summary and explanation of the basic facts about and highlights of the proposed constitution. Includes the three questions regarding the proposed constitution placed on the Primary Election ballot of April 24, 1956.

Constitution of the State of Alaska (1959).

An annotated version of the current Alaska State Constitution is set forth in Volume One of the Alaska Statutes. The constitution is also available on the Alaska Legislature's website at www.legis.state.ak.us/folhome.htm.

Selected Secondary Sources

Victor Fischer, **Alaska's constitutional convention**

Call #: JK 9525 1955 .F57 (1975) (Reading Room)

Fischer, a convention delegate, provides a historical account of the making and ratification of Alaska's state constitution, based on the proceedings, minutes, and other documents of the constitutional convention, the recollections of convention participants and observers, and newspaper stories published during the period. Includes a copy of the Constitution, the enabling act, the permanent rules of the convention, a list of the members of each committee, and short biographies of the convention delegates and consultants.

Gordon Harrison, **Alaska's constitution: a citizen's guide**

Call #: KFA 1602.H37 1992 (Reading Room and Reference)

Published by the Legislative Research Agency, this is designed as a general primer on the constitution for Alaska citizens and a basic reference work for students and practitioners of Alaska state government. Provides a section-by-section explanation of the constitution's provisions, including citations to judicial opinions and statutes related to specific constitutional provisions; a chart of constitutional amendments appearing on the ballot; a table of cases; and an index.

Gerald McBeath, **The Alaska state constitution: a reference guide**

Call #: KFA 1601 1956.A6M33 1997 (Reading Room)

Contains a brief history of the development of the constitution, followed by a section-by-section analysis of the 1997 version of the constitution, including commentary explaining each provision and tracing its origins and interpretations by the courts and attorneys general. Includes a list of proposals to amend the constitution, organized by date; an annotated bibliography of constitutional resources, including citations to specific law review articles; a table of cases cited; and a short index.

Colloquy on the natural resources article of the Alaska Constitution, May 8, 1991.

Call #: KFA 1651 .A75 C65 1991 (Reading Room)

A collection of three articles pertaining to Article VIII of the Constitution prepared for the Wildlife and Fisheries Law Institute. Included are:

Alaska Constitution Article VIII, Section 17: A Brief Review of Alaska's Constitutional History and Supreme Court Applications, Bruce B. Weyhrauch

The Sustained Yield Principle of Article VIII, Section 4, Gregory F. Cook

Equal Protection in Allocation of Fisheries Resources in Alaska, Michael A. D. Stanley

Also includes a copy of the 1990 revision of the Subject index and index to the proceedings of the **Alaska Constitutional Convention on article VIII, natural resources, and related provisions of the Constitution of the State of Alaska : (November 8, 1955-February 6, 1956)** (see above).