

# Important Sections of the Alaska Constitution: Page 1

1

Article 1, Section 1. The Constitution is dedicated to the principles that all persons have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the enjoyment of the rewards of their own industry; that all persons are equal and entitled to equal rights, opportunities, and protection under the law...

2

Article 1, Section 3: No person is to be denied the enjoyment of any civil or political right because of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

3

Article 1, Section 4: No law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

4

Article 1, Section 5: Every person may freely speak, write and publish on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right.

5

Article 1, Section 7: No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law. The right of all persons to fair and just treatment in the course of the legislative and executive investigations shall not be infringed.

6

Article 1: Section 9: No person shall be put in jeopardy twice for the same offense. No person shall be compelled in any criminal proceeding to be a witness against himself.

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7

Article I, Section 14: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses and other property, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated. No warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

8

Article I, Section 18: Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation.

9

Article 1: Section 22: The right of the people to privacy is recognized and shall not be infringed. The legislature shall implement this section.

10

Article VIII, Section III: Whenever occurring in the natural state, fish and wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use.

11

Article VIII, Section IV: Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands and all other replenishable resources belonging to the state shall be utilized, developed and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.

# What Important Sections of the Alaska Constitution Mean

A

*Translation: The government cannot restrict speech, expression, or newspapers except under certain circumstances such as obscenity and defamation.*

B

*Translation: Governments should treat all persons fairly in actions that might deprive them of "life, liberty or property."*

C

*Translation: You cannot be forced to testify against yourself.*

D

*Translation: Searches of your home or property can happen only if authorities have a reasonable belief that a particular person has committed a crime.*

E

*Translation: The state's resources belong to the state's people.*

F

*Translation: Renewable resources should be used in a way to ensure that they will exist in the future.*

# What Important Sections of the Alaska Constitution Mean

## Page 2

G

*Translation: People have a right to be left alone.*

H

*Translation: The government has the power to take private property for public use such as highways, dams, railroads, etc., but the government must compensate owners if private property is seized.*

I

*Translation: The government cannot create an official church, and the government cannot interfere with the expression of religious beliefs.*

J

*Translation: This clause prohibits unreasonable discrimination. If a law treats people differently, the state must demonstrate a good reason for the difference.*

K

*Translation: This law prohibits discrimination based on your ancestry, color of skin, religion, gender or nationality.*