

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHENAULT, Tuck, Claman, Colver, Drummond, Edgmon, Foster, Gara, Gattis, Guttenberg, Hawker, Herron, Hughes, Johnson, Josephson, Kawasaki, Keller, Kito, Kreiss-Tomkins, LeDoux, Lynn, Millett, Muñoz, Nageak, Neuman, Olson, Ortiz, Pruitt, Reinbold, Saddler, Seaton, Stutes, Talerico, Tarr, Thompson, Tilton, Vazquez, Wilson, Wool

Introduced: 2/19/16

Referred: Special Order of Business

A RESOLUTION

1 **Dedicating the House Judiciary Committee Room of the Alaska State Capitol to the late**
2 **Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

4 **WHEREAS** Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., epitomized the ideal of civil
5 service through his countless hours of research and work and was dedicated to the institution
6 of the legislature; and

7 **WHEREAS** Representative Gruenberg served in the Alaska House of Representatives
8 during the Fourteenth through Seventeenth and Twenty-Third through Twenty-Ninth Alaska
9 State Legislatures, including service as the Majority Leader during the Fifteenth and
10 Seventeenth Alaska State Legislatures and Minority Whip in the Twenty-Ninth Alaska State
11 Legislature; and

12 **WHEREAS** Representative Gruenberg was a member of the Veterans of Foreign
13 Wars, having served in the United States Navy in Vietnam and receiving both a Meritorious
14 Unit Commendation and Vietnam Service Medal (three campaign stars); during his legislative
15 service, he was dedicated to representing veterans and their families; and

16 **WHEREAS**, at the time of his death, Representative Gruenberg was the most senior

1 member of the Alaska House of Representatives; his knowledge of the law and legislative
2 procedure was beyond compare, and he used that knowledge to make legislation consistent
3 with its intent and make the legislative process conform to its rules and procedures; and

4 **WHEREAS** Representative Gruenberg was a skilled and dedicated attorney, having
5 graduated, from the UCLA Law School in 1970, where he was editor-in-chief of the UCLA -
6 Alaska Law Review; he practiced family law in the state for 31 years and served his
7 profession and the public as co-chair of the Alaska Bar Association Family Law section, as a
8 fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and as a board member of the
9 Alaska Legal Services Corporation; as an attorney, he received an AV rating, the highest
10 peer-review legal rating; and

11 **WHEREAS** Representative Gruenberg used his legal knowledge, skills, and abilities
12 in public service in other branches of state and federal government by serving as legislative
13 assistant to Senator Ted Stevens and law clerk to Alaska Supreme Court Justice Roger
14 Connor, and he served as a member of the Suggested State Legislation Committee of the
15 Council of State Governments; and

16 **WHEREAS** Representative Gruenberg served on the House Judiciary Committee
17 during every session of his legislative service, including service as co-chair of the committee
18 during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Alaska State Legislatures;

19 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of Representatives that the House Judiciary
20 Committee Room, currently Room 120 of the Alaska Capitol, be dedicated to Representative
21 Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., for his exemplary service as a member of the Alaska House of
22 Representatives and the House Judiciary Committee for more than 21 years; and be it

23 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a bronze plaque shall be placed on or near the door of
24 the room celebrating Representative Gruenberg's legislative achievements, dedication, and
25 service to the legislature and the House Judiciary Committee, bearing the following
26 inscription:

27 **THE MAX F. GRUENBERG, JR., COMMITTEE ROOM**

28 The Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., Committee Room memorializes the
29 dedication and service of Max F. Gruenberg, Jr., who served as a member of
30 the Alaska House of Representatives and a member of the House Judiciary
31 Committee during the Fourteenth through Seventeenth and Twenty-Third

1 through Twenty-Ninth Alaska State Legislatures. He served as Majority
2 Leader and Minority Whip during his time in the legislature. He served as Co-
3 Chair and Vice-Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. His love and
4 dedication to the law, the legislature, and the people of the state were
5 unequalled. He was often called the "Great Amender" because of his numerous
6 amendments in committee and on the floor, amendments that were always in
7 service of creating a more perfect bill or resolution. Max, as he was insistent he
8 be called, possessed a keen sense of humor, which he used to defuse tension.
9 He was a great parliamentarian, he protected the public process, and he
10 zealously guarded the honor of the legislature as an institution. He stood by his
11 principles and fought for those less fortunate. He cared about passing good
12 laws, regardless of whether he received credit for his ideas. His knowledge,
13 experience, and integrity were universally acknowledged by his peers.

14 **A COPY** of this resolution shall be presented to his wife, Kayla Epstein, and the
15 family of the late Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.