



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Andrew Gray

House District 20: University Area, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, and Campbell Park

House Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

House Judiciary Committee

House Ways and Means Committee

Sponsor Statement

House Bill 225

"An Act relating to the tabulation of ballots; and requiring the division of elections to provide unofficial election results before the results of an election are certified."

In 2020, Alaskan voters approved Ballot Measure 2, which implemented ranked choice voting (RCV) for general elections. This system of elections allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference, eliminating the candidate with the lowest vote totals and reallocating their second-choice votes, and repeating this process until one candidate has over 50% of the vote.

However, in the 2022 election, voters did not receive the final results until 15 days after the election, causing some confusion. As with any electoral system, transparency and timely results must be prioritized to the voters.

HB 225 addresses this concern by requiring the Division of Elections to release the ranking data necessary to conduct RCV tabulations on the day after the general election, and also when it releases unofficial election results. Knowing the vote totals along with ranking data will allow voters and candidates to have a more up-to-date picture of the standings before the final tabulation.

HB 225 is a simple bill that will help increase transparency around our electoral process, so I ask for your support.