

30-LS1525\A
Bullard
3/13/18

HOUSE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Introduced:
Referred:**

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the duties of the Alaska Public Offices Commission; clarifying the**
2 **limits on making, accepting, and reporting certain cash campaign contributions;**
3 **relating to campaign finance reporting by certain groups; relating to the identification**
4 **of certain campaign communications; increasing the time the Alaska Public Offices**
5 **Commission has to respond to a request for an advisory opinion; repealing a reporting**
6 **requirement for certain contributions; relating to propositions and initiative proposals;**
7 **and providing for an effective date."**

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

9 *** Section 1.** AS 15.13.030 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 15.13.030. Duties of the commission.** The commission shall

11 (1) develop and provide all forms for the reports and statements
12 required to be made under this chapter, AS 24.45, and AS 39.50;

13 (2) prepare and publish a manual setting out uniform methods of

bookkeeping and reporting for use by persons required to make reports and statements under this chapter and otherwise assist all persons in complying with the requirements of this chapter;

(3) receive and hold open for public inspection reports and statements required to be made under this chapter and, upon request, furnish copies at cost to interested persons;

(4) compile and maintain a current list of all filed reports and statements;

(5) prepare a summary of each report filed under AS 15.13.110 and make copies of this summary available to interested persons at their actual cost;

(6) notify, by registered or certified mail, all persons who are delinquent in filing reports and statements required to be made under this chapter;

(7) examine, investigate, and compare [ALL] reports, statements, and actions required by this chapter, AS 24.45, and AS 39.50;

(8) prepare and publish a biennial report concerning the activities of the commission, the effectiveness of this chapter, its enforcement by the attorney general's office, and recommendations and proposals for change; the commission shall notify the legislature that the report is available;

(9) adopt regulations necessary to implement and clarify the provisions of AS 24.45, AS 39.50, and this chapter, subject to the provisions of AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act); and

(10) consider a written request for an advisory opinion concerning the application of this chapter, AS 24.45, AS 24.60.200 - 24.60.260, or AS 39.50.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.13.040(b) is amended to read:

(b) Each group shall make a full report on [UPON] a form prescribed by the commission, listing

(1) the name and address of each officer and director;

(2) the aggregate amount of all contributions made to it; and, for all contributions in excess of \$100 in the aggregate in a calendar year, the name, address, principal occupation, and employer of the contributor, and the date and amount contributed by each contributor; for purposes of this paragraph, "contributor" means

the true source of the funds, property, or services being contributed; and

(3) the date and amount of all contributions made by it and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by it.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.13.040(g) is amended to read:

(g) The provisions of (a), (b), and (l) of this section do not apply to a

(1) delegate to a constitutional convention, a judge seeking judicial retention, or a candidate for election to a municipal office under AS 15.13.010, if that delegate, judge, or candidate

(A) [(1)] indicates, on a form prescribed by the commission, an intent not to raise and not to expend more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections;

(B) [(2)] accepts contributions totaling not more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections; and

(C) [(3)] makes expenditures totaling not more than \$5,000 in seeking election to office, including both the primary and general elections;

(2) group, if the group

(A) indicates, on a form prescribed by the commission, an intent not to raise and not to expend more than \$2,500 in a calendar year;

(B) accepts contributions totaling not more than \$2,500 in a calendar year; and

(C) makes expenditures totaling not more than \$2,500 in a calendar year.

* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.13.040(m) is amended to read:

(m) Information required under this chapter shall be submitted to the commission electronically, except that the following information may be submitted in clear and legible black typeface or hand-printed in dark ink on paper in a format approved by the commission or on forms provided by the commission:

(1) information submitted by

(A) a candidate for election to a borough or city office of mayor, membership on a borough assembly, city council, or school board, or

any state office, who

(i) meets the requirements of (g)(1)(A) - (C) [(g)(1) - (3)] of this section; or

(ii) does not have reasonable access to the technology necessary to file electronically; in this sub-subparagraph, a candidate is considered not to have reasonable access to the technology necessary to file electronically if the candidate does not own a personal computer or does not have broadband Internet access at the candidate's residence; in this sub-subparagraph, "broadband Internet access" means high-speed Internet access that is always on and that is faster than traditional dial-up access; or

(B) a candidate for municipal office for a municipality with a population of less than 15,000; in this subparagraph, "municipal office" means the office of an elected borough or city

(i) mayor; or

(ii) assembly, council, or school board member;

(2) any information if the commission determines that circumstances warrant an exception to the electronic submission requirement.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 15.13.072(b) is amended to read:

(b) **In a calendar year, a** [A] candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the document necessary to permit the individual to incur election-related expenses under AS 15.13.100, or a group, may not solicit or accept a cash contribution that exceeds \$100.

* **Sec. 6.** AS 15.13.074(e) is amended to read:

(e) A person or group may not make a cash contribution that exceeds \$100 **in a calendar year.**

* **Sec. 7.** AS 15.13.090 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(g) A "paid for by" identifier for a printed communication is clearly identified and easily discernible under this section if, for a communication

(1) smaller than 24 inches by 36 inches in size or that includes a video component, the "paid for by" identifier is

(A) in a font not smaller than 12 points;

(B) separate from the body of the text of the communication;

and

(C) if applicable, viewable for a period sufficient to be read

fully;

(2) greater than or equal to 24 inches by 36 inches in size, the "paid for by" identifier is

(A) in a font not smaller than 10 percent of the largest font size

used in the communication;

(B) separate from the body of the text of the communication;

and

(C) if applicable, on both sides of a two-sided communication.

* **Sec. 8.** AS 15.13.374(c) is amended to read:

(c) Within **10 business** [SEVEN] days after receiving a request satisfying the requirements of (b) of this section, the executive director of the commission shall recommend a draft advisory opinion for the commission to consider at its next meeting.

* **Sec. 9.** AS 15.13.040(k) is repealed.

* **Sec. 10.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2019.