

Alaska Judicial Council
Voting Information
For the Senate Judiciary Committee
Feb. 20, 2014

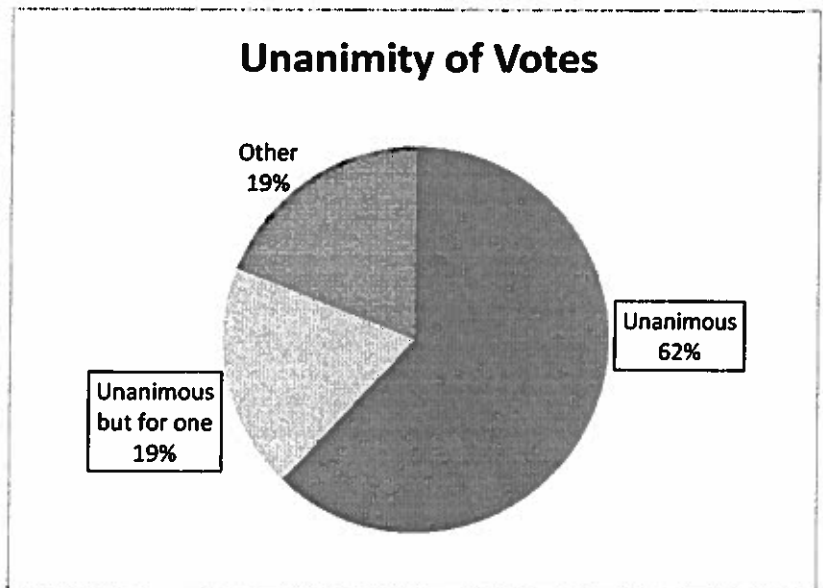
The Council members voted on **1,136 applications** between January 1, 1984 and December 31, 2013. This fact sheet shows how some of those votes were taken.

- **Council members have a high rate of agreement about nomination decisions**

Historically, most Council votes have been unanimous (62%).

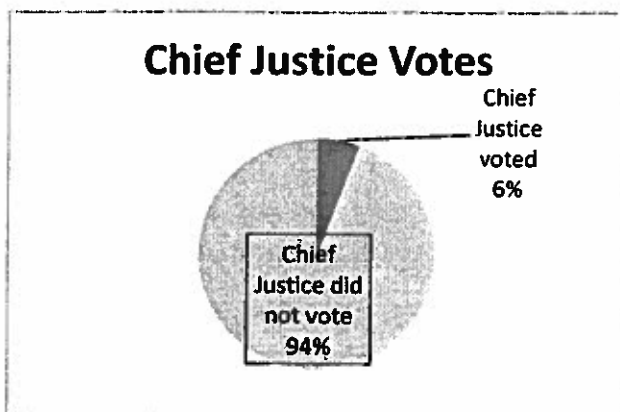
In an additional 19% of all votes, only one person voted differently from the others.

Thus, in 81% of the votes, Council members have been unanimous or nearly so in their assessment of whether an applicant's name should be forwarded to the governor.



- **Attorney/nonattorney vote splits are rare**

Our records show only 15 times (out of 1,136) votes in which disagreements about nomination decisions broke along attorney-nonattorney lines. This situation occurred in less than 2% of all votes.



- **The Chief Justice rarely votes**

The Chief Justice votes only when to do so would change the outcome. Over the past 29 years, chief justices have voted only 68 times. Thus, 94% of the time, the chief justice does not vote.

When called upon to vote, the chief justices usually forward the name in question to the governor.

75% of the time, chief justices voted “yes” to forward the name in question to the governor.

- **The Council usually forwards more than two names to the governor**

In about seventy-three percent (73%) of all judicial selections, the Council members forward more than two names to the governor. Instances in which the Council sends fewer names often occur on vacancies in small rural areas.