



# Alaska State Legislature

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**Senator Anna Fairclough — Senate District M**

## **Sponsor Statement**

### **Senate Bill 63**

**"An Act making contracts for the preparation of election ballots subject to the provisions of the state procurement code."**

Senate Bill 63 is legislation that would require the Alaska Division of Elections to use the state procurement code to solicit bids for the preparation of election ballots.

While it is of the utmost importance to all Alaskans that our ballots be prepared properly and with attention to all aspects of fair elections, the bidding process is one that is essential to providing an equal opportunity for businesses across Alaska.

The procurement process will allow the Division to have control over the evaluating criteria used to award the contract of printing ballots for our statewide elections.

Currently, Alaska's election ballots are sole sourced and prepared by one company that has been printing our ballots since 2002. While it may come to be that the current company is awarded the bid following the procurement process, it is only reasonable to allow others to compete for that business with our state, ensuring the state pays the most competitive and fair amount.

I appreciate your support and consideration of this legislation.