ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel Senate District N

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SENATE BILL 4

SB 4 amends the filing date for the Annual Public Official Financial Disclosure which is required by the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC). Currently, the disclosure is due on March 15th of each year. SB 4 changes the due date to May 15th of each year. APOC requires annual financial disclosures from all citizens serving on certain boards and commissions, as well as public officials statewide.

Moving the date to May 15 of each year, after the federal tax deadline of April 15, will assist citizens who serve on certain boards and commissions. The information required in the Annual Public Official Financial Disclosure is contained in the federal tax form 1040. Changing the date to May 15 allows citizens on boards and commissions to simply transfer this information accurately to their Annual Public Official Financial Disclosure.

Many public officials are involved in the legislative process and amending this date will benefit them as well. Moving the date back 2 months will allow public officials to remain focused on committee actions, legislation, and other time consuming legislative issues during the 90-day session.

The current due date of March 15th for the Annual Public Official Financial Disclosure falls in the middle of the Alaska State Legislative session. By amending the due date to May 15th, this will allow for the disclosure to be filed after the legislative session has adjourned. This change would not alter any APOC disclosure requirements contained within the Annual Public Official Financial Disclosure document.

Please join me in support of Senate Bill 4.