

# Alaska State Legislature

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*A Communication From*

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## **SPONSOR STATEMENT**

### **HB 13**

**“An Act repealing the authority to include certain material from a political party in the election pamphlet.”**

Current statute allows political parties to purchase two pages of material in the Official Election Pamphlet, the state’s publication to alert the public of candidates for office. In the past, political parties have used the pages to give general information about their platforms, however, in the 2014 election, an attack ad against a candidate was placed in the Official Election Pamphlet for the first time by a party. It may be that no party realized they could use their space for this purpose, or only one party chose to do so. That is irrelevant. No political party has proven to be above placing attack ads, and in the future we can expect to see more of these from multiple parties, turning a relatively non-partisan pamphlet into one that adds to the excessive noise of undesirable attack ads during election season. This bill repeals those sections of the law that allow political parties to place ads in the Official Election Pamphlet.

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