

[REDACTED]

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Subject:

[REDACTED]
Monday, April 12, 2021 4:08 PM

Senate State Affairs

[REDACTED]

Senate Bill 23

Senator Shower, Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee:

I strongly support Senate Bill 23, a bill designed to recover and retain the integrity of the petition process. The Court's should not be allowed to abridge the intent of a petitioner and signers by editing a submitted petition and then sending it on to the voters without the approval of the original petitioner and signers. Said document no longer represents the intent of the petitioner nor signers and therefore becomes an instrument of the Court with which to write law. This is basically wrong and in addition is unconstitutional.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Paul S. Glavinovich
Anchorage, AK

April 9, 2021

GEOMETALLICA



Senate.State.Affairs@akleg.gov
Via e-mail

Re: SB 23 -- INITIATIVE SEVERABILITY

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for SB 23 -- INITIATIVE SEVERABILITY. This bill will ensure the integrity of the ballot initiative process and in my opinion should be of the highest importance. To help ensure integrity in our ballot initiative system, voter-casting their ballots for or against an initiative during an election should know unconditionally that the language on the ballot was exactly the same as what was presented for signature support earlier in the initiative process. Anything short of that should not be allowed. Furthermore, courts should not be allowed to pick and choose what is and is not constitutional! The bill must prohibit the ability of a court and unelected judges to pick, choose, and delete language in a ballot initiative -- which we have seen happen. This will require authors of initiatives to carefully frame the initiative to be considered, and specifically to vet their language to meet constitutional requirements or risk having their initiative thrown out. The proposed bill would keep judges out of the business of crafting legislation -- which they have no business doing as judges. These are basic civics and separation of power lessons that we all learned in high school!

Not imposing a prohibition on severability robs Alaskan voters of the assurance that language on the ballot when they vote is the same as the language they supported during the signature-gathering process. Let's keep the process above board and transparent and not have judges decide what voters want ahead of an election. Ballot initiatives are complicated enough to understand without adding another layer of uncertainty resulting from the language in the initiative being different from what sponsors envisioned.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Broman

From:

Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 4:34 PM

To: Senate State Affairs

Subject: Comment Letter on SB23

Attachments: SB23 Comments Letter.pdf

Please accept my comments on SB23 below and in signed PDF attached. Thanks you!

Senate.State.Affairs@akleg.gov

Via e-mail

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I am writing to express my support for SB 23 -- INITIATIVE SEVERRABILITY. This bill will ensure the integrity of the ballot initiative process and in my opinion should be of the highest importance. To help ensure integrity in our ballot initiative system, voters casting their ballots for or against an initiative during an election should know unconditionally that the language on the ballot was exactly the same as what was presented for signature support earlier in the initiative process. Anything short of that should not be allowed. Furthermore, courts should not be allowed to pick and choose what is and is not constitutional – that is getting the cart before the horse or perhaps the horse in the cart! The bill must prohibit the ability of a court and unelected judges to pick, choose, and delete language in a ballot initiative. This will require authors of initiatives to carefully frame the initiative to be considered, and specifically to vet their language to meet constitutional requirements or risk having their initiative thrown out. The proposed bill would keep judges out of the business of crafting legislation – which they have no business doing as judges. These are basic civics and separation of power lessons that we all learned in high school!

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Sincerely,

Rick Van Nieuwenhuyse

President & CEO

April 9, 2021



Senate.State.Affairs@akleg.gov
Via e-mail

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April 9, 2021

Sincerely,



Rick Van Nieuwenhuyse
President & CEO

[Redacted]



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[REDACTED]

From: Skeet Black
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Senate State Affairs
Subject: Re: Support for SB 23

I support SB 23. When I sign a ballot initiative and it makes it to the polls, the language should be exactly what I signed. We all know how important a single word in a law can be. Changing those words can certainly change the intent, and or make it difficult to determine the intent in the future. If the language must be changed, the process needs to be started over with the new improved language.

Thank you for your time and service.

S

Skeet Black
Client Executive, Property & Casualty
USI Insurance Services
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LinkedIn



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