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Fisher
5/11/21

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 129()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): SENATOR MYERS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to information on judicial officers provided in election pamphlets."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

*** Section 1.** AS 15.58.050 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.58.050. Information and recommendations on judicial officers. Not

[NO] later than August 7 of the year in which the state general election will be held, the judicial council shall file with the lieutenant governor a statement including information about each supreme court justice, court of appeals judge, superior court judge, and district court judge who will be subject to a retention election. The statement **must** [SHALL] reflect the evaluation of each justice or judge conducted by the judicial council according to law and, **except for information required by law to be kept confidential,**

(1) must contain, in fewer than 1,200 words total,

(A) for a justice or judge subject to retention,

(i) a statement written by the justice or judge, not to exceed 150 words, describing the professional philosophy of the

justice or judge;

(ii) a description of the judicial, legal, or other education of the justice or judge;

(iii) a description of the business experience of and professional positions held by the justice or judge in the preceding 10 years;

(iv) a list of service organizations with which the justice or judge is affiliated;

(v) ratings of the justice or judge by law enforcement officers, attorneys, court system employees, and jurors;

(vi) the number of decisions by the justice or judge that were appealed and the rate at which the decisions of the justice or judge were affirmed;

(vii) a description of any public disciplinary proceedings against the justice or judge;

(viii) a self-assessment by the justice or judge, not to exceed 250 words, evaluating the justice's or judge's judicial performance; a self-assessment under this sub-subparagraph may include comments on the justice's or judge's satisfaction with the justice's or judge's judicial role, specific contributions to the judiciary or the field of law, growth in legal knowledge and judicial skills, or other measures of judicial abilities that the justice or judge believes to be important;

(B) for a justice or judge standing retention for the first time, a description of

(i) previous political and governmental positions held by the justice or judge, including any political office held;

(ii) the justice's or judge's primary practice areas before appointment, including the approximate percentage of the justice's or judge's pre-appointment career spent as a trial lawyer;

(iii) the types of clients the justice or judge represented before appointment;

(2) may contain the following additional information, not to exceed 300 words:

(A) one picture of the justice or judge;

(B) information regarding the residency of the justice or judge;

(C) information regarding the military service of the justice or judge;

(D) information regarding the professional activities of the justice or judge, including public outreach and administrative activities;

(E) any additional information that the justice or judge would like published to support the justice's or judge's candidacy [SHALL

CONTAIN A BRIEF STATEMENT DESCRIBING EACH PUBLIC REPRIMAND, PUBLIC CENSURE, OR SUSPENSION RECEIVED BY THE JUDGE UNDER AS 22.30.011(d) DURING THE PERIOD COVERED IN THE EVALUATION. A STATEMENT MAY NOT EXCEED 600 WORDS].