

# SB 129

**An Act Relating to  
Information on  
Judicial Officers  
Provided in Election  
Pamphlets**



# Introduction of CS for SB 129 (JUD)

- ◇ CS provides a broader depth of information regarding judicial officers than the original version of the bill.
- ◇ CS establishes three distinct sections of information for judicial officers in the election pamphlet
  - ◇ The first section will be required for all justices and judges standing for retention
  - ◇ The second will be for judicial officers that are standing for retention for the first time.
  - ◇ The third will be information that the Alaska Judicial Council may publish regarding a judicial officer including additional information that the judicial officer would like to publish.



# Judicial Officer that is Subject to a Retention Election

The Judicial Council shall provide the following information.

- i. Statement written by the justice or judge that describe the professional philosophy.
- ii. Description of the judicial, legal, or other education of the justice or judge.
- iii. Description of professional business experience and positions in the presiding 10 years.
- iv. List of service organizations with which the justice or judge is affiliated.
- v. Rating of justice or judge by law enforcement officers, attorneys, court employees, and jurors.
- vi. 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. Description of any public disciplinary proceedings against the justice or judge.
- viii. Self-assessment by the justice or judge that evaluates the justice's or judge's judicial performance.

# Judicial Officer that is Standing for Retention for the first time

Judicial Council shall provide the following:

- i. Previous political and governmental positions held, including any political office held.
- ii. Justices or judge primary practice areas before appointment, including the approximate percentage of pre-appointment career spent as a trial lawyer.
- iii. Types of clients the justice or judge represented before appointment.



# Information that the Alaska Judicial Council May Publish in the Election Pamphlet

Judicial Council may provide the following:

- i. One photo of the justice or judge.
- ii. Information regarding the residency of the justice or judge.
- iii. Information regarding the military service of the justice or judge.
- iv. Information regarding the professional activities of the justice or judge., including public outreach and administrative activities.
- v. Any additional information that the justice or judge would like published to support the justice's or judge candidacy.



# Expansion of Word Limits

- ◆ The CS establishes a word limit of 1,200 for information that shall be provided by the Alaska Judicial Council.
  - ◆ The statement describing professional philosophy by the justice or judge is not to exceed 150 words.
  - ◆ The self-assessment by the justice or judge to not to exceed 250 words.
- ◆ A word limit of 300 has been added for information that may be provided by the Alaska Judicial Council.



# SB 129 Questions

