

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR SHOWER

TO: CSHB 234(STA) am(efd fld)

Page 1, line 3, following "**available**":

Insert "**; requiring certain candidates to have the approval of a political party or political group to appear on a ballot as affiliated with the party or group**"

Page 4, following line 11:

Insert new bill sections to read:

"* Sec. 10. AS 15.15.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.15.030. Preparation of official ballot. The director shall prepare all official ballots to facilitate fairness, simplicity, and clarity in the voting procedure, to reflect most accurately the intent of the voter, and to expedite the administration of elections. The following directives shall be followed when applicable:

(1) The director shall determine the size of the ballot, the type of print, necessary additional instruction notes to voters, and other similar matters of form not provided by law.

(2) The director shall number ballots in series to ensure simplicity and secrecy and to prevent fraud.

(3) The director shall contract for the preparation of ballots under AS 36.30 (State Procurement Code).

(4) The director may not include on the ballot, as a part of a candidate's name, any honorary or assumed title or prefix but may include in the candidate's name any nickname or familiar form of a proper name of the candidate.

(5) The names of the candidates shall be placed in separate sections on the state general election ballot under the office designation to which they were

1 nominated. If a candidate is registered as affiliated with a political party or political
 2 group, the party affiliation, if any, may be designated after the name of the candidate,
 3 upon request of the candidate **and with the approval of the party or group under**
 4 **AS 15.15.042**. If a candidate has requested designation as nonpartisan or undeclared,
 5 that designation shall be placed after the name of the candidate. If a candidate is not
 6 registered as affiliated with a political party or political group and has not requested to
 7 be designated as nonpartisan or undeclared, the candidate shall be designated as
 8 undeclared. The lieutenant governor and the governor shall be included under the
 9 same section. Provision shall be made for voting for write-in candidates within each
 10 section. Paper ballots for the state general election shall be printed on white paper.

11 (6) The names of the candidates for each office shall be set out in the
 12 same order on ballots printed for use in each house district. The director shall
 13 randomly determine the order of the names of the candidates for state representative
 14 for each house district. The director shall rotate the order of placement of the names of
 15 candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, United States senator, United States
 16 representative, and state senator on the ballot for each house district.

17 (7) The general election ballot shall be designed with the names of
 18 candidates of each political party, and of any independent candidates qualified under
 19 AS 15.30.026, for the office of President and Vice-President of the United States
 20 placed in the same section on the ballot rather than the names of electors of President
 21 and Vice-President.

22 (8) The general or special election ballot shall be designed with the
 23 title and proposition for any initiative, referendum, or constitutional amendment
 24 formulated as prescribed by law and placed on the ballot in the manner prescribed by
 25 the director. When placed on the ballot, a state ballot proposition or ballot question
 26 shall carry the number that was assigned to the petition for the proposition or question.
 27 Provision shall be made for marking the proposition "Yes" or "No."

28 (9) The general or special election ballot shall be designed with the
 29 question of whether a constitutional convention shall be called placed on the ballot in
 30 the following manner: "Shall there be a constitutional convention?" Provision shall be
 31 made for marking the question "Yes" or "No."

(10) A nonpartisan ballot shall be designed for each judicial district in which a justice or judge is seeking retention in office. The ballot shall be divided into four parts. Each part must bear a heading indicating the court to which the candidate is seeking approval, and provision shall be made for marking each question "Yes" or "No." Within each part, the question of whether the justice or judge shall be approved or rejected shall be set out in substantially the following manner:

(A) "Shall be retained as justice of the supreme court for 10 years?";

(B) "Shall be retained as judge of the court of appeals for eight years?";

(C) "Shall be retained as judge of the superior court for six years?"; or

(D) "Shall be retained as judge of the district court for four years?"

(11) When the legislature by law authorizes a state debt for capital improvements, the director shall place the question of whether the specific authorization shall be ratified by placing the ballot title and question on the next general election ballot, or on the special election ballot if a special election is held for the purpose of ratifying the state debt for capital improvements before the time of the next general election. Unless specifically provided otherwise in the Act authorizing the debt, the ballot title shall, by the use of a few words in a succinct manner, indicate the general subject of the Act. The question shall, by the use of a few sentences in a succinct manner, give a true and impartial summary of the Act authorizing the state debt. The question of whether state debt shall be contracted shall be assigned a letter of the alphabet on the ballot. Provision shall be made for marking the question substantially as follows:

"Bonds Yes" or "Bonds No,"
followed by an appropriate oval.

(12) The director may provide for the optical scanning of ballots where the requisite equipment is available.

(13) The director may provide for voting by use of electronically

1 generated ballots by a voter who requests to use a machine that produces electronically
2 generated ballots.

3 (14) [THE DIRECTOR SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
4 STATEMENT ON THE BALLOT:

5 A CANDIDATE'S DESIGNATED AFFILIATION DOES NOT
6 IMPLY THAT THE CANDIDATE IS NOMINATED OR
7 ENDORSED BY THE POLITICAL PARTY OR GROUP OR
8 THAT THE PARTY OR GROUP APPROVES OF OR
9 ASSOCIATES WITH THAT CANDIDATE, BUT ONLY
10 THAT THE CANDIDATE IS REGISTERED AS
11 AFFILIATED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY OR
12 POLITICAL GROUP.

13 (15) INSTEAD OF THE STATEMENT PROVIDED BY (14) OF
14 THIS SECTION, WHEN CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-
15 PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES APPEAR ON A GENERAL ELECTION
16 BALLOT, THE DIRECTOR SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
17 ON THE BALLOT:

18 A CANDIDATE'S DESIGNATED AFFILIATION DOES NOT
19 IMPLY THAT THE CANDIDATE IS NOMINATED OR
20 ENDORSED BY THE POLITICAL PARTY OR POLITICAL
21 GROUP OR THAT THE POLITICAL PARTY OR
22 POLITICAL GROUP APPROVES OF OR ASSOCIATES
23 WITH THAT CANDIDATE, BUT ONLY THAT THE
24 CANDIDATE IS REGISTERED AS AFFILIATED WITH
25 THE PARTY OR GROUP. THE ELECTION FOR
26 PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
27 STATES IS DIFFERENT. SOME CANDIDATES FOR
28 PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT ARE THE OFFICIAL
29 NOMINEES OF THEIR POLITICAL PARTY.

30 (16)] The director shall design the general election ballots so that the
31 candidates are selected by ranked-choice voting.

1 **(15)** [(17)] The director shall design the general election ballot to
 2 direct the voter to mark candidates in order of preference and to mark as many choices
 3 as the voter wishes, but not to assign the same ranking to more than one candidate for
 4 the same office.

5 * **Sec. 11.** AS 15.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 15.15.042. Display of party affiliation on ballot.** For a candidate to
 7 appear on a ballot as affiliated with a political party or political group under
 8 AS 15.15.030(5), the political party or political group must approve the designation. A
 9 political party or political group shall, at least 90 days before an election, provide to
 10 the director a list of the candidates for state and federal office who are scheduled to
 11 appear on a ballot at the election who the party or group approves for affiliation with
 12 the party or group. The state chairperson of the party or group, or a person authorized
 13 by bylaws of the party or group to act in the absence of the chairperson, shall certify
 14 the list. For a candidate to be designated as affiliated with a political party or political
 15 group on a ballot under this section, the party or group must annually submit its
 16 bylaws to the director by June 1."

17
 18 Renumber the following bill sections accordingly.

19
 20 Page 4, line 30:

21 Delete "Section 13"

22 Insert "Section 15"