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## HB 371\Ver. A (34-LS1363\N) SPONSOR STATEMENT

*“An Act requiring a group supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot proposition in a state or local election to maintain an address in the state; et.al.”*

House Bill 371 strengthens transparency and accountability in Alaska’s elections by updating campaign finance laws to ensure voters have clear and timely information about who is funding political communications.

The bill requires groups that support or oppose candidates or ballot propositions to maintain a physical address in Alaska, ensuring an identifiable in-state presence. It enhances disclosure requirements for campaign contributions, including expanded reporting of contributors, officers, and directors of contributing entities, and requires disclosure of individuals who coordinate or aggregate significant “bundled” contributions.

HB 371 also improves transparency for independent expenditure groups, including those that receive a majority of their funding from outside Alaska. These entities must register as majority-nonresident-funded entities and include clear disclosures in their communications, so voters understand when substantial funding originates outside the state.

The bill strengthens reporting timelines for independent expenditures, including enhanced 24-hour reporting for significant expenditures made close to an election. It also updates post-election rules governing campaign assets to ensure appropriate disbursement of remaining funds.

HB 371 applies prospectively and takes effect immediately. This legislation promotes transparency, strengthens voter confidence, and supports the integrity of Alaska’s elections. I urge support for HB 371.