

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s):- SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter**
2 **registration; relating to election administration; relating to campaign contributions;**
3 **relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful**
4 **interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter**
5 **registration on permanent fund dividend applications; relating to the duties of the**
6 **commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date."**

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

8 *** Section 1.** AS 15.07.060(c) is amended to read:

9 (c) Each applicant who requests registration in person before a registration
10 official shall exhibit one form of identification to the official, including a driver's
11 license, state identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth
12 certificate, passport, or identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe
13 [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]. A registration official who knows the identity

1 of the applicant may waive the identification requirement.

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.07.060(e) is amended to read:

3 (e) For an applicant requesting initial registration by mail, by facsimile or
4 other electronic transmission approved by the director under AS 15.07.050, or by
5 completing a permanent fund dividend application, the director shall verify the
6 information provided in compliance with (a)(2) and (3) of this section through state
7 agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e). If the applicant cannot comply with the
8 requirement of (a)(2) of this section because the applicant has not been issued any of
9 the listed numbers, the applicant may instead submit a copy of one of the following
10 forms of identification: a driver's license, state identification card, current and valid
11 photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by a**
12 **federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE].

13 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.07.070 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

14 (n) The division may use information provided by the Department of Revenue
15 under AS 43.23.015 and 43.23.101 only to register a voter and conduct voter roll
16 maintenance. ~~The~~Except as provided in AS 15.07.195(c), the division may not
17 disclose ~~personally identifiable~~confidential information obtained from the Department
18 of Revenue.

19 (o) The division, in cooperation with the Department of Revenue, shall submit
20 an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the
21 house of representatives on or before the first day of each regular session of the
22 legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report shall detail

23 (1) the number of permanent fund dividend applicant records shared
24 with the division during the previous year;

25 (2) the effect that shared permanent fund dividend applications had on
26 voter roll maintenance under (n) of this section and on election integrity; and

27 (3) security measures taken to protect voter information.

28 (p) In this section, "voter roll maintenance" includes confirming the residency
29 of a registered voter, identifying duplicate registrations, detecting voters who have
30 moved, and detecting voters who are ineligible to vote under AS 15.05.

31 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.07.130(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) Periodically, at times of the director's choosing, but **not** [NO] less
 2 frequently than in January of each calendar year, the director shall examine the master
 3 register maintained under AS 15.07.120 and shall send, by **forwardable**
 4 [NONFORWARDABLE] mail to the voter's registration mailing address, **and to the**
 5 **voter's electronic mail address, if available**, a notice requesting address
 6 confirmation or correction. **The notice must explain that the voter's registration**
 7 **will be inactivated unless the voter responds to the notice within 45 days after the**
 8 **date the notice is sent. The director shall send the notice** to each voter

9 (1) whose mail from the division has been returned to the division in
 10 the two years immediately preceding the examination of the register;

11 (2) who has not contacted the division in the two years immediately
 12 preceding the examination of the register **and** [; OR (3)] who has not voted or
 13 appeared to vote in the **28 months** [TWO GENERAL ELECTIONS] immediately
 14 preceding the examination of the register;

15 **(3) who the division has learned, after registering to vote in this**
 16 **state and during the 28 months immediately preceding the examination of the**
 17 **register, has**

18 **(A) registered to vote in another state;**

19 **(B) received a driver's license from another state;**

20 **(C) registered a vehicle in another state;**

21 **(D) received public assistance from another state;**

22 **(E) served on a jury in another state;**

23 **(F) received a homestead or residential property tax**
 24 **exemption in another state;**

25 **(G) received a benefit available only to residents of another**
 26 **state; or**

27 **(H) maintained a physical address located outside the state**
 28 **for the full duration of the 28 months immediately preceding the**
 29 **examination of the register.**

30 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.07.130(b) is amended to read:

31 (b) If a registered voter **does** [HAS] not **respond to a notice sent under (a) of**

1 **this section within 45 days after the date the notice is sent, the director shall**
2 **inactivate the voter's registration** [, WITHIN THE PRECEDING FOUR
3 CALENDAR YEARS, CONTACTED THE DIVISION AND HAS NEITHER
4 VOTED NOR APPEARED TO VOTE IN A LOCAL, REGIONAL SCHOOL
5 BOARD, PRIMARY, SPECIAL, OR GENERAL ELECTION DURING THE LAST
6 FOUR CALENDAR YEARS AND A NOTICE SENT TO THE VOTER UNDER (a)
7 OF THIS SECTION WAS RETURNED AS UNDELIVERABLE, THE VOTER
8 SHALL BE ADVISED BY A NOTICE SENT BY FORWARDABLE MAIL TO THE
9 VOTER'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS THAT REGISTRATION WILL BE
10 INACTIVATED UNLESS THE VOTER RESPONDS TO THE NOTICE NO
11 LATER THAN 45 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE SENT UNDER
12 THIS SECTION]. The director shall maintain on the master register the name of a
13 voter whose registration is inactivated. The director shall cancel a voter's inactive
14 registration in accordance with the procedures set out in **52 U.S.C. 20507** [42 U.S.C.
15 1973gg-6 (SEC. 8, NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993)] after the
16 second general election that occurs after the registration becomes inactive if the voter
17 does not contact the division or vote or appear to vote.

18 * **Sec. 6.** AS 15.07.130(d) is amended to read:

19 (d) The notice sent under **(a)** [(b)] of this section must include a postage
20 prepaid and pre-addressed return card on which the voter may state the voter's current
21 address. The notice must indicate

22 (1) that the voter should return the card not later than 45 days after the
23 date of the notice if the voter did not change residence;

24 (2) that failure to return the card by the 45-day deadline could result in
25 removal of the voter's name from the official registration list for a subsequent election;

26 (3) that the voter's registration will be cancelled if the voter does not
27 contact the division during, or vote or appear to vote in an election held during, the
28 period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the last day of
29 the **34th month** [FOURTH CALENDAR YEAR] that occurs after the date of notice;
30 and

31 (4) how the voter can continue to be eligible to vote if the voter has

1 changed residence.

2 * **Sec. 7.** AS 15.07.130(f) is amended to read:

3 (f) For the purpose of this section, a voter "contacts" the division if the voter
4 notifies the division of a change of address, responds to a notice sent under this
5 section, signs a petition for a ballot measure, requests a new voter registration card, or
6 otherwise communicates with the division other than to vote or register to vote. **An**
7 **individual does not "contact" the division by registering to vote under**
8 **AS 15.07.070(i) - (m).**

9 * **Sec. 8.** AS 15.07.130 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

10 (g) The division shall adopt regulations to review voter registration records
11 and update the master register. The regulations must include reviews for deceased
12 voters, persons convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, persons not qualified
13 to vote under AS 15.05, persons registered to vote in another state, whether the
14 number of registered voters on the master register exceeds the number of eligible
15 voters in the state, and voter registration information data breaches. In conducting
16 these reviews, the division shall, to the extent possible, gather and examine available
17 data from other states and information from the United States Postal Service
18 forwarding databases, Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, motor
19 vehicle records, Department of Corrections records, property and sales tax records,
20 United States Social Security Administration databases, jury duty records, National
21 Change of Address records, and similar records. The division shall also review
22 evidence that a person has undertaken the following activities in another state:

- 23 (1) registered to vote;
24 (2) obtained a driver's license;
25 (3) registered a vehicle;
26 (4) received public assistance;
27 (5) served on a jury in another state; or
28 (6) received a benefit available only to residents of another state.

29 (h) The division shall, in consultation with an external, nationally recognized
30 subject-matter expert selected by the division, annually audit the master register. The
31 division shall consider the subject-matter expert's recommendations. By

1 ~~February~~April 1 of each year, the division shall publish a report describing the most
2 recent audit and accounting for the criteria reviewed under (g) of this section. The
3 report must include the expert's recommendations, identify protocols used under (g) of
4 this section, provide election information including the number of voters on the master
5 register and the total population eligible to vote, and highlight voting data problems,
6 irregularities, errors, and vulnerabilities identified in the audit. The division shall
7 submit the report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of
8 representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available on or before the
9 date the report is published.

10 (i) If the division reasonably determines that a voter is away from the state for
11 a reason permissible under AS 15.05.011 or another state or federal law related to
12 voting in elections, the division is not required to send a notice to the voter under
13 (a)(3) of this section.

14 (j) In addition to a notice or response required under this section, at any time
15 the division may contact a voter to obtain or a voter may contact the division to
16 provide information to determine the voter's residence.

17 * **Sec. 9.** AS 15.07.195 is amended by adding a new ~~subsection~~subsections to read:

18 (e) The director shall publish on the division's Internet website notice of the
19 nature and severity of a data breach of information made confidential by this section
20 and report the details of the breach to the president of the senate and the speaker of the
21 house of representatives

22 (1) before the day of an election, if the data breach happens or is
23 discovered within 14 days before an election; or

24 (2) before certifying the results of an election, if the data breach
25 happens or is discovered on or after the day of the election but before certification of
26 the election.

27 (f) Notwithstanding (e) of this section, the director may delay publishing
28 notice of a data breach if a law enforcement agency investigating the data breach
29 informs the director that disclosure of the data breach would compromise an ongoing
30 investigation into the data breach.

31 * **Sec. 10.** AS 15.10.105 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 (c) The director shall employ a rural community liaison. The rural community
 2 liaison shall collaborate with tribes and municipalities to facilitate access to early and
 3 absentee voting in rural areas of the state and ensure that precincts in rural areas of the
 4 state are adequately staffed.

5 * **Sec. 11.** AS 15.13.400(19) is amended to read:

6 (19) "true source" means,

7 **(A) for a contribution made for the purpose of influencing a**
 8 **ballot proposition or question, the person or legal entity that makes the**
 9 **contribution or independent expenditure to support or oppose the**
 10 **proposition or question; or**

11 **(B) for a contribution made for the purpose of influencing**
 12 **the nomination or election of a candidate,**

13 **(i)** the person or legal entity whose contribution is
 14 funded from wages, investment income, inheritance, or revenue
 15 generated from selling goods or services;

16 **(ii)** a person or legal entity who **derives** [DERIVED]
 17 funds via contributions, donations, dues, or gifts is not the true source
 18 [,] but **is** [RATHER] an intermediary for the true source **except that,**
 19 **for a contribution from** [; NOTWITHSTANDING THE
 20 FOREGOING, TO THE EXTENT] a membership organization **that**
 21 receives dues or contributions of less than \$2,000 per person per year,
 22 the organization itself **is** [SHALL BE CONSIDERED] the true source.

23 * **Sec. 12.** AS 15.15.060(a) is amended to read:

24 (a) Immediately following the appointment of the election board, the election
 25 supervisor in conjunction with the election board chair shall secure polling places for
 26 holding the election, suitable ballot boxes that will **ensure** [ASSURE] security, and an
 27 adequate number of voting booths or screens, national flags, pens, and pencils. At
 28 every polling place, at least one voting booth shall be furnished and not less than one
 29 voting booth or screen shall be furnished for each 100 votes or fractional part of 100
 30 votes cast in the previous election. [AT EVERY POLLING PLACE, AT LEAST
 31 ONE-HALF OF THE VOTING BOOTHS USED SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN SIX

1 FEET IN HEIGHT, ENCLOSED ON THREE SIDES, AND PROVIDED WITH A
 2 CURTAIN EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE VOTING BOOTH TO
 3 WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 30 INCHES OF THE FLOOR. THE CURTAIN OF
 4 THE VOTING BOOTH MUST CONCEAL THE VOTER WHILE VOTING.] The
 5 election supervisor and the election board chair may, in an emergency, secure an
 6 alternate location for a polling place.

7 * **Sec. 13.** AS 15.15.060(b) is amended to read:

8 (b) To **ensure** [ASSURE] administrative economy and to protect the secrecy
 9 of the ballot, the director may adopt regulations prescribing

10 (1) the type of polling place for holding the election;

11 (2) the requirements regarding ballot boxes, voting screens, national
 12 flags, and other supplies; and

13 (3) [SUBJECT TO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF (a) OF THIS
 14 SECTION,] the requirements regarding voting booths.

15 * **Sec. 14.** AS 15.15.225(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) Before being allowed to vote, each voter shall exhibit to an election official
 17 one form of identification, including

18 ~~[(1)]~~ an official voter registration card, driver's license, state
 19 identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or
 20 **identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR
 21 FISHING LICENSE]; ~~or;~~ **OR**

22 (2) ~~an original or a copy of a~~ **AN ORIGINAL OR A COPY OF A**
 23 **CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT**
 24 **CHECK, OR OTHER** ~~government document~~ **that shows** ~~;~~ **GOVERNMENT**
 25 **DOCUMENT;** AN ITEM EXHIBITED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MUST
 26 ~~SHOW~~ ~~the name and current address of the voter~~ **and is dated within the previous**
 27 **60 days. THE NAME AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF THE VOTER.**

28 * **Sec. 15.** AS 15.15.370 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

29 (b) Each day that the director releases unofficial totals of election results for a
 30 general election, the director shall also

31 (1) release an updated tabulation;

- 1 (2) identify the precincts that have been counted;
- 2 (3) identify the days on which absentee ballots have been logged and
- 3 counted, including a summary of the count codes used on ballots in each district each
- 4 day;
- 5 (4) identify the districts in which early votes were cast and the days on
- 6 which votes were cast in each district; and
- 7 (5) identify the precincts and count codes of questioned ballots that
- 8 have been counted.

9 (c) Each day that an absentee ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.201 or a
 10 questioned ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.207, the director shall display on the
 11 division's Internet website an updated unofficial total detailing the number of absentee
 12 ballots and questioned ballots counted for each count code.

13 (d) In this section, "count code" means a code assigned to a ballot by the
 14 division that designates the races in which the ballot is to be counted during a district
 15 absentee ballot counting review conducted under AS 15.20.203 or a district questioned
 16 ballot review conducted under AS 15.20.207.

17 * **Sec. 16.** AS 15.15.380 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 15.15.380. Payment of election board members.** The director shall pay
 19 each election board member for time spent at election duties, including the receiving
 20 of instructions. Election board chairpersons and the chairperson and members of the
 21 absentee ballot, questioned ballot, and state ballot counting review boards shall be
 22 paid for time spent at their election duties. The director shall set the compensation to
 23 be paid under this section [BY REGULATION].

24 * **Sec. 17.** AS 15.20.030 is amended to read:

25 **Sec. 15.20.030. Preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other material.** The
 26 director shall provide ballots for use as absentee ballots in all districts. The director
 27 shall provide a secrecy sleeve in which the voter shall initially place the marked ballot
 28 [,] and shall provide a postage-paid return [AN] envelope with the prescribed voter's
 29 certificate on it, in which the secrecy sleeve with ballot enclosed shall be placed. The
 30 director shall prescribe the form of and prepare the voter's certificate, envelopes, and
 31 other material used in absentee voting. The voter's certificate shall include a

1 declaration, for use when required, that the voter is a qualified voter in all respects, a
 2 blank for the voter's signature, a certification that the affiant properly executed the
 3 marking of the ballot and gave the voter's identity, ~~[BLANKS FOR THE~~
 4 ~~ATTESTING OFFICIAL OR WITNESS.]~~blanks for the attesting official or witness,
 5 and a place for recording the date the envelope was sealed and witnessed. The
 6 envelope with the voter's certificate **may not identify a voter's party affiliation but**
 7 must include a notice that false statements made by the voter or by the attesting
 8 official or witness on the certificate are punishable by law.

9 * **Sec. 18.** AS 15.20.081(f) is amended to read:

10 (f) The director shall require a voter casting an absentee ballot by mail to
 11 provide proof of identification or other information to aid in the establishment of the
 12 voter's identity as prescribed by regulations adopted under AS 44.62 (Administrative
 13 Procedure Act). If the voter is a first-time voter who initially registered by mail or by
 14 facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the director under
 15 AS 15.07.050 and has not met the identification requirements set out in AS 15.07.060,
 16 the voter must provide one of the following forms of proof of identification:

17 ~~[(1)]~~ a copy of a driver's license, state identification card, current and
 18 valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by**
 19 **a federally recognized tribe** ~~[HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE];~~~~or;~~ OR

20 (2) ~~an original or a copy of a~~ ~~[A COPY OF A~~ CURRENT UTILITY
 21 BILL, BANK STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER]
 22 ~~government document that shows~~ ~~;~~ GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT; AN ITEM
 23 PROVIDED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MUST SHOW] ~~the name and current~~
 24 ~~address of the voter and is dated within the previous 60 days.~~ THE NAME AND
 25 CURRENT ADDRESS OF THE VOTER].

26 * **Sec. 19.** AS 15.20.081(h) is amended to read:

27 (h) Except as provided in AS 15.20.480, an absentee ballot returned by mail
 28 from outside the United States or from an overseas voter qualifying under
 29 AS 15.05.011 that has been marked and mailed not later than election day may not be
 30 counted unless the ballot is received by the election supervisor not later than the close
 31 of business on the

1 [(1)] 10th day following the [A PRIMARY] election [OR SPECIAL
2 PRIMARY ELECTION UNDER AS 15.40.140; OR

3 (2) 15TH DAY FOLLOWING A GENERAL ELECTION OR
4 SPECIAL ELECTION, OTHER THAN A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
5 DESCRIBED IN (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION].

6 * **Sec. 20.** AS 15.20.170 is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 15.20.170. Disposition of ballots.** Each absentee voting official shall
8 transmit the dated envelopes containing the marked ballots by the most expeditious
9 mail service to the election supervisor for the district. Upon receipt of the absentee
10 ballots, the election supervisor shall stamp on the envelope the date on which the
11 ballot is received. In this section, "mail service" includes delivery by optical
12 scanning and electronic transmission.

13 * **Sec. 21.** AS 15.20.201(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) **Not** [NO] less than **12** [SEVEN] days preceding the day of election, the
15 election supervisor, in the presence and with the assistance of the district absentee
16 ballot counting board, shall review all voter certificates of absentee ballots received by
17 that date. The review of absentee ballots shall continue at times designated by the
18 election supervisor until completed.

19 * **Sec. 22.** AS 15.20.220(b) is amended to read:

20 (b) The state review board shall review and count absentee ballots under
21 AS 15.20.081(e) and (h), absentee ballots properly cured under AS 15.20.222, and
22 questioned ballots that have been forwarded to the director and that have not been
23 reviewed or counted by a district counting board.

24 * **Sec. 23.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

25 **Sec. 15.20.221. Ballot-tracking system.** (a) The director shall establish an
26 online ballot-tracking system. If the director procures the system from a third party,
27 the third party must be a corporation that is incorporated in the United States. The
28 system must be designed to allow a voter to easily use the system through a mobile
29 electronic device. The system must allow a voter to

- 30 (1) confirm that the voter's ballot has been sent by the division;
- 31 (2) track the date of the ballot's delivery to the voter;

- 1 (3) confirm the division's receipt of the voter's ballot;
- 2 (4) determine whether the voter's ballot has been counted; and
- 3 (5) provide the information necessary to cure a rejected ballot.

4 (b) The online ballot-tracking system must

- 5 (1) use multi-factor authentication to verify a voter's identity; and
- 6 (2) indicate to a voter

7 (A) the process by which the voter may cure the lack of
8 signature or verify the voter's identity, if the signature on the voter's ballot was
9 missing; and

10 (B) the reason the voter's ballot was not counted, if the ballot
11 was not counted.

12 (c) The division may not charge a voter a fee to use the online ballot-tracking
13 system.

14 * **Sec. 24.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 **Sec. 15.20.222. Procedure for curing uncounted ballot.** (a) If a voter's ballot
16 is rejected because the certificate is missing a voter's signature or the signature of an
17 attesting official or witness or the voter provided insufficient voter identification, the
18 director shall immediately make a reasonable effort to contact the voter, explain the
19 ballot deficiency, explain how the deficiency may be cured, and inform the voter of
20 the deadline to cure the ballot. The director shall, within 24 hours, send a notice of
21 deficiency by electronic mail to the voter's electronic mail address if the voter has
22 provided an electronic mail address. If the voter has provided a telephone number, the
23 director shall, within 24 hours, attempt to notify the voter of the deficiency by
24 telephone call and text message. The director shall, within 48 hours, but not later than
25 five days after election day, send a notice of deficiency by first class, nonforwardable
26 mail to the address provided on the voter's absentee ballot application or, if no address
27 was provided on the voter's absentee ballot application, to the mailing address in the
28 voter's registration record.

29 (b) A notice of deficiency must include a form for the voter to confirm that the
30 voter returned a ballot to the division, provide a copy of a form of identification
31 accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a), and provide a signature. The director

1 shall provide a printed copy of the form with the notice of deficiency mailed to the
2 voter. The director shall also make the form available in a format that can be
3 completed and returned electronically.

4 (c) The rejected ballot of a voter who received a notice of deficiency may be
5 counted only if

6 (1) the voter returns the completed form sent with the notice of
7 deficiency, the division receives the form within 10 days after election day, and the
8 form confirms that the voter returned a ballot to the division;

9 (2) the voter ~~provides a signature~~ signs the form sent with the notice of
10 deficiency and includes a copy of a form of identification accepted by the division
11 under AS 15.15.225(a); and

12 (3) the ballot is otherwise valid.

13 (d) A voter's rejected ballot may not be counted and the director shall, if
14 applicable, send copies of the signature on the voter's return envelope to the attorney
15 general for investigation if the voter returns the form and the form indicates that the
16 voter did not return a ballot to the division.

17 * **Sec. 25.** ~~AS 15.20.480 is amended to read:~~

18 ~~**Sec. 15.20.480. Procedure for recount.** In conducting the recount, the director
19 shall review all ballots, whether the ballots were counted at the precinct or by
20 computer or by the district absentee counting board or the questioned ballot counting
21 board, to determine which ballots, or part of ballots, were properly marked and which
22 ballots are to be counted in the recount, and shall check the accuracy of the original
23 count, the precinct certificate, and the review. [THE DIRECTOR SHALL COUNT
24 ABSENTEE BALLOTS RECEIVED BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE
25 RECOUNT.] For administrative purposes, the director may join and include two or
26 more applications in a single review and count of votes. The rules in AS 15.15.360
27 governing the counting of ballots shall be followed in the recount when a ballot is
28 challenged on the basis of a question regarding the voter's intent to vote for the
29 candidate, proposition, or question. The ballots and other election material must
30 remain in the custody of the director during the recount, and the highest degree of care
31 shall be exercised to protect the ballots against alteration or mutilation. The recount~~

~~shall be completed within 10 days. The director may employ additional personnel necessary to assist in the recount.~~

~~* Sec. 26.~~ AS 15.56.030(d) is amended to read:

(d) For purposes of (a)(2) and (3) of this section, "other valuable thing"

(1) includes

(A) an entry in a game of chance in which a prize of money or other present or future pecuniary gain or advantage may be awarded to a participant wherein the total of the prizes offered is greater than \$2 per participant with a maximum of \$100; and

(B) government employment or benefits;

(2) does not include

(A) materials having a nominal value bearing the name, likeness, or other identification of a candidate, political party, political group, party district committee, or organization, or stating a position on a ballot proposition or question;

(B) food and refreshments provided incidental to an activity that is nonpartisan in nature and directed at encouraging persons to vote, or incidental to a gathering in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political party, political group, party district committee, organization, or ballot question or proposition;

(C) care of the voter's dependents provided in connection with the absence of a voter from home for the purpose of voting;

(D) services provided by a person acting as a representative under AS 15.20.072;

(E) services provided by an election official as defined in AS 15.80.010; [AND]

(F) transportation of a voter to or from the polls without charge; and

(G) postage-paid return envelopes required in

AS 15.20.030.

* ~~Sec. 27~~26. AS 15.56.060(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with an election if
2 the person

3 (1) induces or attempts to induce an election official to fail in the
4 official's duty by force, threat, intimidation, or offers of reward;

5 (2) intentionally changes, attempts to change, or causes to be changed
6 an official election document including ballots, tallies, and returns;

7 (3) intentionally delays, attempts to delay, or causes to be delayed the
8 sending of the certificate, register, ballots, or other materials whether original or
9 duplicate, required to be sent by AS 15.15.370; [OR]

10 (4) is contracted or employed by the state to print or reproduce in any
11 manner an official ballot, and the person knowingly

12 (A) personally appropriates, or gives or delivers to, or permits
13 to be taken by anyone other than a person authorized by the director, official
14 ballots; or

15 (B) prints or reproduces or has printed or reproduced official
16 ballots in a form or with a content other than that prescribed by law or as
17 directed by the director;

18 **(5) intentionally opens or tampers with a signed absentee ballot**
19 **certificate, sealed absentee ballot envelope, or package of ballots without express**
20 **authorization from the director; or**

21 **(6) intentionally breaches, hacks, alters, or tampers with election**
22 **machinery, including a tabulator, a program, a system, a server, or software used**
23 **to verify identity, count or tabulate, or manage or control an election function.**

24 * **Sec. 2827.** AS 15.56.070(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) A person commits the crime of election official misconduct in the first
26 degree if, while an election official, the person

27 (1) intentionally fails to perform an election duty or knowingly does an
28 unauthorized act with the intent to affect an election or its results;

29 (2) knowingly permits or makes or attempts to make a false count of
30 election returns; [OR]

31 (3) intentionally conceals, withholds, destroys, or attempts to conceal,

1 withhold, or destroy election returns; or

2 (4) knowingly discloses, shares, or reports to a person who is not
 3 an election official election results, returns, or any confidential election data
 4 before the polls close on election day.

5 * **Sec. 2928.** AS 43.23.101 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 43.23.101. Voter registration.** Each month, the [THE] commissioner
 7 shall [ESTABLISH BY RULE A SCHEDULE BY WHICH THE COMMISSIONER
 8 WILL PROVIDE, AND SHALL] provide [AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE] the
 9 director of elections with the following information for each permanent fund
 10 dividend applicant:

11 (1) the electronic record [RECORDS FROM THE PERMANENT
 12 FUND DIVIDEND APPLICATIONS] of the information required by
 13 AS 15.07.060(a)(1) - (4) and (7) - (9) [,] and the attestation that the [SUCH]
 14 information is true [,] for each permanent fund dividend applicant; [WHO

15 (A) IS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES; AND

16 (B) IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE OR WILL BE
 17 WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION; AND]

18 (2) the applicant's mailing address;

19 (3) the applicant's affirmation of residency and the names and
 20 contact information of persons the applicant listed for purposes of verifying
 21 residency;

22 (4) indication of the applicant's voter registration status, if known;

23 and

24 (5) whether the applicant has claimed residency in another state
 25 [ADDRESSES FOR ALL PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND APPLICANTS].

26 * **Sec. 3029.** AS 43.23.101 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

27 (b) The commissioner shall develop security protocols that ensure data
 28 required to be stored or transferred under this section is securely stored or transferred.

29 (c) In cooperation with the division of elections under AS 15.07.070(o), the
 30 commissioner shall submit an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary
 31 and chief clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first day of each

regular session of the legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available.

* ~~Sec. 31~~30. AS 15.07.064(g) is repealed.

* Sec. 31. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

~~* Sec. 32. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:~~

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE. The division of elections shall provide a report to the legislature by ~~November 1, 2026,~~the first day of the First Regular Session of the Thirty-Fifth Alaska State Legislature recommending options for expanding early voting in rural communities and low-income neighborhoods. The division shall deliver the report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available. In this section,

(1) "low-income neighborhood" means a neighborhood where the median family income is below 80 percent of the statewide median family income;

(2) "rural community" means a community with a population of 7,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks or a community with a population of 3,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

* Sec. 32. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

APPLICABILITY. AS 15.56.030(d), as amended by sec. 25 of this Act, AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 26 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec. 27 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of secs. 25 - 27 of this Act.

* Sec. 33. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

~~APPLICABILITY. AS 15.56.030(d), as amended by sec. 26 of this Act, AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 27 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec. 28 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of secs. 26 - 28 of this Act.~~

~~* Sec. 34. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:~~

1 CONDITIONAL EFFECT. (a) AS 15.20.221, enacted by sec. 23 of this Act, takes
2 effect only if AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 24 of this Act, takes effect.

3 (b) AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 24 of this Act, takes effect only if AS 15.20.221,
4 enacted by sec. 23 of this Act, takes effect.

5 * **Sec. ~~35~~34**. Section 11 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2027.

6 * **Sec. ~~36~~35**. Except as provided in sec. ~~35~~34 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2026.