



February 27, 2026

To: House Finance Committee  
From: Emily Leak-Michie, Executive Director of the Alaska Voter Hub  
Re: Support for SB 64

Dear Honorable Members of the House Finance Committee:

The Alaska Voter Hub is a non-profit organization committed to strengthening democracy by expanding voter participation across Alaska. We coordinate a statewide coalition of partners to reach tens of thousands of voters. Through nonpartisan voter engagement and education, we ensure Alaskans in every community have access to clear information about how to participate in elections at every level. We work to reduce barriers to the ballot and promote transparent, secure, and accountable election systems.

We write in support of SB 64, the elections omnibus bill, which makes important improvements to Alaska's election system to strengthen voter access, transparency, and election integrity.

### **Establishing a Ballot Curing Process**

SB 64 establishes a clear and timely ballot curing process for absentee voters whose ballots are rejected due to missing signatures or insufficient identification. Under this bill, voters will be promptly notified through multiple methods including email, phone, text message, and mail and provided a defined opportunity to correct honest mistakes within a reasonable timeframe.

In 2024 alone, [1,303 ballots were rejected](#) many of which would have been curable for honest mistakes including insufficient or improper witness that accounted for nearly 40% of ballots, across the state from the North Slope to Wasilla to Southeast Alaska. These voters did not have a chance for their voice to be heard in this electoral process. Establishing a curing process ensures that eligible voters are not disenfranchised over minor, correctable issues while maintaining safeguards that verify voter identity. This is a balanced reform that protects both access and integrity. Ballot curing is a process that only allows identifier curing, not the opportunity to change your vote.

### **Creation of an Online Ballot-Tracking System and Paid Postage**

The bill requires the Division of Elections to implement a secure, mobile-accessible ballot-tracking system that allows voters to confirm when their ballot is sent, received, and counted, and provides information necessary to cure a ballot if needed. This increases



transparency and voter confidence while reducing confusion and administrative burdens. The addition of prepaid postage also expands access for voters across the state, especially in low-income and low propensity voters.

### **Improved Voter Roll Maintenance and Transparency**

This bill modernizes voter list maintenance by clarifying review timelines, requiring forwardable confirmation notices, defining “contact” with the Division, and aligning cancellation procedures with federal law. These reforms enhance transparency, ensure accurate voter rolls, and provide clear public reporting — strengthening trust in Alaska’s election system.

### **Strengthening Rural Access and Election Administration**

The bill creates a rural community liaison position to collaborate with tribes and municipalities to facilitate early and absentee voting access in rural communities and ensure adequate precinct staffing. It also requires a report to the Legislature on expanding early voting in rural and low-income communities. These provisions recognize Alaska’s unique geography and ensure that rural voters are not left behind. [In 2024 alone](#), 20 communities received ballots late and two communities didn’t open at all. The bill also codifies the inclusion of tribal IDs for registering to vote and for voting, which is allowed currently and TSA accepts, but may not be accepted by future administrations or division directors.

### **Election Security and Data Protections**

SB 64 strengthens criminal penalties for election interference, addresses election system tampering, enhances data breach transparency requirements, and improves interagency data security protocols related to Permanent Fund Dividend voter registration data sharing. These provisions reinforce election security while protecting sensitive voter information.

This bill represents a comprehensive and thoughtful effort to improve Alaska’s election system. It advances transparency, protects and expands voter access, strengthens list maintenance procedures, and reinforces election security. Importantly, it reflects a balanced approach — ensuring that eligible Alaskans can exercise their right to vote while maintaining strong safeguards that uphold the integrity of our elections.

Thank you for your continued work to ensure Alaska’s elections serve all voters fairly and effectively. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

In gratitude,

Emily Leak-Michie  
Executive Director



Alaska Voter Hub  
emily@alaskavoterhub.org



March 2, 2026

Rep. Neal Foster, House Finance Co-Chair  
Rep. Calvin Schrage, House Finance Co-Chair  
Rep. Andy Josephson, House Finance Co-Chair  
& House Finance Committee Members

Re: SB 64 – relating to elections

Dear Legislators,

The Anchorage Park Foundation encourages your support of Senate Bill 64 to strengthen Alaskans' ability to exercise their right to vote for essential services.

Anchorage Park Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that has been encouraging voters to support annual park and trail bonds offered by the Municipality of Anchorage for the past 20 years. Anchorage and other communities across Alaska rely on voters to fund essential services for local governments. For the past 14 years, voters have said yes to investing in Anchorage's quality of life through park and trail projects. There are many reasons why people don't choose to vote, but elected officials have the power to make sure voting is easy and accessible to all.

Senate Bill 64 will help make voting easier and more accessible. Please vote to:

- Remove witness signature requirements: Given that the DOE does not verify witness signatures, yet many ballots are rejected based on this criterion, a simple signature should suffice to determine their eligibility.
- Engage young voters and foster a more informed electorate by allowing Alaskans aged 16 and older to preregister to vote.
- Allow electronic signatures for voter applications to update our system and make it easier to register to vote.
- Enhance voter access by allowing registration up until Election Day, helping more young and low-income Alaskans cast their ballots.
- Reduce administrative burdens by creating a recurring absentee voter list, eliminating the need to process mail ballot applications every election cycle.

Sincerely,

Beth Nordlund, Anchorage Park Foundation, Executive Director

[beth@anchorageparkfoundation.org](mailto:beth@anchorageparkfoundation.org), Phone: 907-274-1003 | Cell: 907-350-9482

---

**From:** Melissa Morgan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 10, 2026 8:04 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Support SB 64

To: [House Finance Committee](#)

I urge you to support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

Things such as ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, and the presence of a rural voting liaison will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately.

And specific to the delegation representing Juneau -  
Greetings, Jesse, Sara, and Andi --

I trust you three already support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

So I want to say thank you, and good luck with it!

-Melissa Morgan

---

**From:** Anjuli Grantham [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 5:55 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** quick passage of SB 64

Dear House Finance,

I urge you to support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

Things such as ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, and the presence of a rural voting liaison will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately.

Sincerely,  
Anjuli Grantham  
Juneau

---

**From:** Amy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 5:19 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Support SB 64

Hello House Finance Committee Members:

Thank you for your work. I write to ask you to support SB 64. This bill would add election improvements that are very important and need to happen before the upcoming fall 2026 elections.

As a voter who has also been a pole worker and at the receiving end of many questions that relate to voting in person and using absentee ballots, the proposals in SB 64 would make huge improvements for voters in Alaska communities from the big cities to the rural villages.

Huge thanks for your work. Best of luck to you during this 2026 session.

Sincerely,  
Amy Kesten

---

**From:** Mary Hausler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 1:01 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64

I urge you to support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

Things such as ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, and the presence of a rural voting liaison will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately.

Thanks,

Mary Hausler  
[REDACTED]  
Juneau, AK 99801

---

**From:** Helena Fagan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 9:20 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64

## Members of the House Finance Committee,

I urge you to support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

Things such as ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, and the presence of a rural voting liaison will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately.

I have struggled with voting absentee in the past and was devastated when my vote was not counted. Thank you for helping voters avoid this situation in the future.

Sincerely,  
Helena Fagan

[REDACTED]  
Juneau, AK 99801

---

**From:** jetta whittaker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 8:54 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Support for SB 64

Please support SB 64, to put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections. Ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, as well as the presence of a rural voting liaison, will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately. What's not to like?

jetta whittaker  
concerned voter  
juneau ak

---

**From:** Laura Stats [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2026 8:15 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64

Finance Committee Members,

In November's 2024 November election 1300 absentee ballots were rejected. SB 64 is exactly what is needed to ensure our absentee ballots are dealt with more effectively. The bill tackles problematic issues that have been reported. I encourage this body to pass SB 64.

Thank you,  
Laura Stats  
Juneau, AK

---

**From:** Alyssa Quintyne [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 5:48 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Cc:** Rep. Frank Tomaszewski  
**Subject:** Approve SB 64

To Chairs Foster, Josephson, Schrage, and Committee,

My name is Alyssa Quintyne, I'm resident in Fairbanks.  
I'm emailing my support for SB 64.

I have worked very closely, both in municipal and state elections as a poll worker and volunteer, ballot deliverer, registrar, and voter educator since 2015. Making elections accessible, fair, and efficient for all Alaskans is something I'm excited to be a part of.

In my experience, we do have very pressing issues with state elections; lack of accessible information for voters, physical barriers and non-ADA compliance for voting locations, lack of resources and guidance for poll staff and volunteers in rural and remote cities, costs, and the most annoying one - inefficient processing and communication around ballots.

If any of you have not had the pleasure of processing or counting ballots, DON'T, if you value your short term sanity (I'm kidding, it's a valuable skill and experience, it's just incredibly and unnecessarily hard). And it's not the staff's fault, as many are quick to blame. Regional election staff and workers are working with what we are given from the state - which isn't much. The problem is no consistent guidance or support from the state, no state ran and organized tracking system for both admin and the voter, and LOTS of confusion around when ballots are to be mailed in to be counted. Regional staff can only do so much. We need more leadership from the state, and SB64 provides some of those solutions.

While SB 64 doesn't address the pressing accessibility issues, it does provide a simple tracking solution, ballot curing to help with efficiency on the voter rolls and confirm accuracy, and I'm excited to see a liaison solution to provide needed support around the state.

I think anything staff, volunteers, and elected leaders can do to make elections easier to understand, participate in, and manage - accessibility, transparency, reciprocity - is what we should be doing.

With the recent changes on USPS postmark regulations, and the midterm elections coming up, I do not envy this committee on the environment and timeframe you all have to make a decision. I do however trust your collective and collaborative ability to do, because one has to be made.

Again, I feel whatever we can do to make elections accessible, transparent, and reciprocal will be the best thing for voters and the people who make the elections happen.

Thanks for your efforts,

*~ Alyssa*

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 4:45 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64

This is an easy bill to support. The only reason some folks oppose this bill is because it makes it easier to vote and more votes will get counted.

Now why the opponents want voting to be more difficult and why they want more ballots to be disqualified is their business.

But Alaska should do the right thing and pass this bill

Tom and Martha Nelson

[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK. 99507

---

**From:** Deborah Ward [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 4:26 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Cc:** Ky Holland Holland  
**Subject:** SB 64 & HB 16

Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am writing in support of ensuring that every Alaskan has the opportunity to cast their vote. All Alaskans, regardless of political affiliation, want safe and secure elections, which includes the opportunity to vote and trusting that each vote is counted. Also, we want to feel confident that elections aren't overly influenced by excessive campaign contributions. Please keep this in mind as you review SB 64 and vote on HB16. Nothing is more important to a democracy than the right to free and fair elections. Please codify this right in Alaska through the legislative process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deb Ward  
Anchorage, AK  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Laura Oden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 2:17 PM  
**To:** House Finance; Rep. Alyse Galvin; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson  
**Subject:** SB 64 - election improvements

I wholeheartedly support passage of SB 64

I have long been an advocate of changing the law so that people could be given an opportunity to correct minor mistakes on a ballot. This problem disproportionately affects people in villages. Plus - it's just wrong to not allow people to fix these minor mistakes.

There is nothing in this bill that I think should get removed. Just pass it!

Laura Oden

---

**From:** Larri Spengler [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 2:16 PM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** "yes" on SB 64

Greetings:

I urge you to support SB 64, which would put important election improvements into effect before the coming fall elections.

Things such as ballot curing, swifter and more efficient processing of absentee ballots, and the presence of a rural voting liaison will help make Alaska's elections work more smoothly and accurately.

Larri Spengler

--

Larri Irene Spengler

[REDACTED]  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Jacqueline Muehlbauer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 11:50 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Public Testimony in Support of SB 64 – Modernizing Alaska’s Election System

Chair and members of the House Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public testimony today. My name is Jacqueline Muehlbauer, and I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 64.

Alaska has a very narrow window to make improvements to our elections system in time for 2026, and SB 64 represents a thoughtful, balanced, and necessary update. This bill strengthens election integrity, improves efficiency, and most importantly ensures that every eligible Alaskan has a fair opportunity to have their voice heard.

One of the most important provisions in SB 64 is ballot curing for absentee voters. In the November 2024 election, more than 1,300 absentee ballots were rejected, many for simple technical errors such as a missing signature. Voters were often unaware that their ballot was rejected until after the election had concluded, leaving them with no opportunity to correct the issue. SB 64 would require timely notification and allow voters to fix these mistakes—bringing Alaska in line with the majority of states that already provide this basic safeguard for voter participation.

The bill also modernizes absentee voting by improving transparency and efficiency. An online ballot-tracking system, earlier processing of absentee ballots, a clear and uniform post-Election Day deadline, and the release of ballot-count data alongside unofficial results all help build public trust in our elections while reducing administrative strain on election workers.

SB 64 also addresses long-standing barriers faced by rural voters. Participation in rural districts consistently lags behind urban areas, not because of lack of civic interest, but because of real logistical and structural challenges. Creating a rural voting liaison and allowing the use of tribal identification for voter registration are practical, respectful steps toward greater inclusion and equity.

Finally, the bill improves government efficiency and election integrity through better data sharing and clearer timelines for maintaining accurate voter rolls. These provisions ensure our elections are both accessible and well-administered.

SB 64 is not about partisan advantage. It is about fairness, transparency, and making sure our election system works for all Alaskans, regardless of where they live or how they cast their ballot. I urge the committee to support SB 64 and move it forward this session.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jacqueline Muehlbauer  
Fairbanks

---

**From:** Sara's Email [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 10:52 AM  
**To:** House Finance; Rep. Andi Story  
**Subject:** Support SB 64

Dear Members of the Finance Committee and Rep. Story,

Thank you for considering SB 64. I support this common-sense package of changes that will improve our election system in a number of ways. In particular, I'm happy that SB 64 will include paid postage for absentee ballots, improved procedures for ballot curing, uniform standards for when mailed-in ballots will be accepted, and improved transparency in processing absentee ballots. As a rural resident, I'm also glad to see the rural liaison position, and the allowance of tribal ID's for voter registration.

I hope you'll pass SB 64 out of committee and vote for it on the floor so these election improvements can be implemented in time for elections this fall.

Best wishes,

Sara Chapell  
[REDACTED]  
Haines, AK 99827

---

**From:** STEVE ROUSCULP [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 10:52 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64 regarding election changes

I write in support of SB 64 so that every vote counts in the upcoming November elections.  
Thank you,

Joanne Rousculp  
Palmer, Alaska

---

**From:** Robert D. Martin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 10:50 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 64

Hello,

My name is Bob Martin and I live in Eagle River.

I'm writing to ask you to support SB-64.

The bill includes provisions for ballot curing, transparency in processing absentee ballots, establishing a rural voting liaison and a clean-up of our voter rolls.

All of these are reasonable improvements that will help our elections run better and insure that every registered Alaskan voter has their vote counted.

Thank you for your time,  
Bob

Robert D. Martin, Jr.  
[REDACTED]  
Eagle River, AK 99577

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Christy Everett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 10:29 AM  
**To:** House Finance; Rep. Mike Prax  
**Subject:** Please pass SB64

Dear Representative Prax and Members of the House Finance Committee:

As a 38 year resident of Alaska who has never missed voting in an election since I reached voting age (local, state or national), I urge you to pass SB64. This bill has already passed the Senate. It would institute a process for curing of absentee ballots so that a minor error doesn't cancel a vote. It would help alleviate the delay in getting results by allowing some processing of absentee ballots before Election Day (not including tabulation or release of vote counts). It would put a Rural Voting Liason in place so that rural voters are ensured that they will be able to vote and their votes will count. It also includes several measures that ensure more rigorous maintenance of voter rolls, as well as updating of procedures for the 21st century. This is a much needed bill and was developed on a bipartisan basis. Please vote yes! Thank you for your service to our state.

Sincerely,  
Christine Everett  
[REDACTED]  
North Pole, AK 99705  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Megan McBride [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 05, 2026 9:56 AM  
**To:** House Finance  
**Subject:** SB 64

House Finance Committee, I urge you to pass SB 64 modernize our election processes, and remove barriers to participation, especially for absentee voters.

Our democracy rests on our free and fair elections process. Alaska is a unique state and our elections process should be designed to support voter access to ensure that every eligible resident's voice is heard.

Thank you,  
Megan McBride  
[REDACTED] Anchorage, 99517