

**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 write-in candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States;**  
4 **relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful**  
5 **interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter**  
6 **registration on permanent fund dividend applications; relating to the duties of the**  
7 **commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date."**

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

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

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

1 [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]. A registration official who knows the identity  
2 of the applicant may waive the identification requirement.

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

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

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

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

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; or**

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

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

28 (b) If a registered voter **does** [HAS] not **respond to a notice sent under (a) of**  
 29 **this section within 45 days after the date the notice is sent, the director shall**  
 30 **inactivate the voter's registration** [, WITHIN THE PRECEDING FOUR  
 31 CALENDAR YEARS, CONTACTED THE DIVISION AND HAS NEITHER

1 VOTED NOR APPEARED TO VOTE IN A LOCAL, REGIONAL SCHOOL  
 2 BOARD, PRIMARY, SPECIAL, OR GENERAL ELECTION DURING THE LAST  
 3 FOUR CALENDAR YEARS AND A NOTICE SENT TO THE VOTER UNDER (a)  
 4 OF THIS SECTION WAS RETURNED AS UNDELIVERABLE, THE VOTER  
 5 SHALL BE ADVISED BY A NOTICE SENT BY FORWARDABLE MAIL TO THE  
 6 VOTER'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS THAT REGISTRATION WILL BE  
 7 INACTIVATED UNLESS THE VOTER RESPONDS TO THE NOTICE NO  
 8 LATER THAN 45 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE SENT UNDER  
 9 THIS SECTION]. The director shall maintain on the master register the name of a  
 10 voter whose registration is inactivated. The director shall cancel a voter's inactive  
 11 registration in accordance with the procedures set out in 52 U.S.C. 20507 [42 U.S.C.  
 12 1973gg-6 (SEC. 8, NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993)] after the  
 13 second general election that occurs after the registration becomes inactive if the voter  
 14 does not contact the division or vote or appear to vote.

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

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

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

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

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

28 (4) how the voter can continue to be eligible to vote if the voter has  
 29 changed residence.

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

31 (f) For the purpose of this section, a voter "contacts" the division if the voter

1 notifies the division of a change of address, responds to a notice sent under this  
2 section, signs a petition for a ballot measure, requests a new voter registration card, or  
3 otherwise communicates with the division other than to vote or register to vote. **An**  
4 **individual does not "contact" the division by applying for a permanent fund**  
5 **dividend, unless the application for a permanent fund dividend is the voter's**  
6 **initial registration.**

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

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

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

27 (h) In performing its review under (g) of this section, the division may not  
28 transmit information made confidential under AS 15.07.195 to a person,  
29 nongovernmental organization, or government agency outside the division unless

- 30 (1) the information is encrypted; and
- 31 (2) the person, nongovernmental organization, or government agency

1 receiving the information

2 (A) uses the information only to assist the division in carrying  
3 out (g) of this section;

4 (B) agrees that the person, nongovernmental organization, or  
5 government agency will not retain the information after assisting the division;  
6 and

7 (C) agrees that the person, nongovernmental organization, or  
8 government agency will not transmit the information to another person,  
9 nongovernmental organization, government agency, or other entity.

10 (i) The division shall, in consultation with an external, nationally recognized  
11 subject-matter expert selected by the division, annually audit the master register. The  
12 division shall consider the subject-matter expert's recommendations. By April 1 of  
13 each year, the division shall publish a report describing the most recent audit and  
14 accounting for the criteria reviewed under (g) of this section. The report must include  
15 the expert's recommendations, identify protocols used under (g) of this section,  
16 provide election information including the number of voters on the master register and  
17 the total population eligible to vote, and highlight voting data problems, irregularities,  
18 errors, and vulnerabilities identified in the audit. The division shall submit the report  
19 to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the  
20 legislature that the report is available on or before the date the report is published.

21 (j) If the division reasonably determines that a voter is away from the state for  
22 a reason permissible under AS 15.05.011 or another state or federal law related to  
23 voting in elections, the division is not required to send a notice to the voter under  
24 (a)(3) of this section.

25 (k) In addition to a notice or response required under this section, at any time  
26 the division may contact a voter to obtain or a voter may contact the division to  
27 provide information to determine the voter's residence.

28 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 15.07.195 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

29 (e) The director shall publish on the division's Internet website notice of the  
30 nature and severity of a data breach of information made confidential by this section  
31 and report the details of the breach to the president of the senate and the speaker of the

house of representatives

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

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

(3) within 30 days after the data breach, if the data breach happens or is discovered 14 or more days before an election or after the certification of the election results.

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

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

(c) The director shall employ a rural community liaison. The rural community liaison shall collaborate with tribes and municipalities to facilitate access in rural areas of the state to absentee voting and, where it is available, early voting and ensure that precincts in rural areas of the state are adequately staffed.

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

(19) "true source" means,

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

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

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

**(ii)** a person or legal entity who **derives** [DERIVED] funds via contributions, donations, dues, or gifts is not the true source

[,] but is [RATHER] an intermediary for the true source except that, for a contribution from [; NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, TO THE EXTENT] a membership organization that receives dues or contributions of less than \$2,000 per person per year, the organization itself is [SHALL BE CONSIDERED] the true source.

\* **Sec. 12.** 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 nominated. If a candidate is registered as affiliated with a political party or political group, the party affiliation, if any, may be designated after the name of the candidate, upon request of the candidate. If a candidate has requested designation as nonpartisan or undeclared, that designation shall be placed after the name of the candidate. If a candidate is not registered as affiliated with a political party or political group and has not requested to be designated as nonpartisan or undeclared, the candidate shall be designated as undeclared. The lieutenant governor and the governor shall be included under the same section. Provision shall be made for voting for write-in candidates within each section. Paper ballots for the state general election shall be printed on

1 white paper.

2 (6) The names of the candidates for each office shall be set out in the  
3 same order on ballots printed for use in each house district. The director shall  
4 randomly determine the order of the names of the candidates for state representative  
5 for each house district. The director shall rotate the order of placement of the names of  
6 candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, United States senator, United States  
7 representative, and state senator on the ballot for each house district.

8 (7) The general election ballot shall be designed with the names of  
9 candidates of each political party, and of any independent candidates qualified under  
10 AS 15.30.026, for the office of President and Vice-President of the United States  
11 placed in the same section on the ballot rather than the names of electors of President  
12 and Vice-President. **Provision shall be made for voting for write-in candidates for**  
13 **President and Vice-President.**

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

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

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

30 (A) "Shall ..... be retained as justice of the supreme court for  
31 10 years?";

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

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

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

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

19 "Bonds..... Yes" or "Bonds..... No,"

20 followed by an appropriate oval.

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

23 (13) The director may provide for voting by use of electronically  
24 generated ballots by a voter who requests to use a machine that produces electronically  
25 generated ballots.

26 (14) The director shall include the following statement on the ballot:

27 A candidate's designated affiliation does not imply that  
28 the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political  
29 party or group or that the party or group approves of or  
30 associates with that candidate, but only that the  
31 candidate is registered as affiliated with the political

party or political group.

(15) Instead of the statement provided by (14) of this section, when candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States appear on a general election ballot, the director shall include the following statement on the ballot:

A candidate's designated affiliation does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or political group or that the political party or political group approves of or associates with that candidate, but only that the candidate is registered as affiliated with the party or group. The election for President and Vice-President of the United States is different. Some candidates for President and Vice-President are the official nominees of their political party.

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

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

\* **Sec. 13.** AS 15.15.060(a) is amended to read:

(a) Immediately following the appointment of the election board, the election supervisor in conjunction with the election board chair shall secure polling places for holding the election, suitable ballot boxes that will ensure [ASSURE] security, and an adequate number of voting booths or screens, national flags, pens, and pencils. At every polling place, at least one voting booth shall be furnished and not less than one voting booth or screen shall be furnished for each 100 votes or fractional part of 100 votes cast in the previous election. [AT EVERY POLLING PLACE, AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF THE VOTING BOOTHS USED SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN SIX FEET IN HEIGHT, ENCLOSED ON THREE SIDES, AND PROVIDED WITH A CURTAIN EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE VOTING BOOTH TO

1           WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 30 INCHES OF THE FLOOR. THE CURTAIN OF  
2           THE VOTING BOOTH MUST CONCEAL THE VOTER WHILE VOTING.] The  
3           election supervisor and the election board chair may, in an emergency, secure an  
4           alternate location for a polling place.

5           \* **Sec. 14.** AS 15.15.060(b) is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20                           (2) AN ORIGINAL OR A COPY OF A CURRENT UTILITY BILL,  
21          BANK STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER  
22          GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT; AN ITEM EXHIBITED UNDER THIS  
23          PARAGRAPH MUST SHOW THE NAME AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF THE  
24          VOTER].

25          \* **Sec. 16.** AS 15.15.360(d) is amended to read:

26                   (d) Write-in votes shall be counted according to the following rules:

27                           (1) writing in the name of a candidate whose name is printed on the  
28          ballot does not invalidate a write-in vote unless the director determines, on the basis of  
29          other evidence, that the ballot was so marked for the purpose of identifying the ballot;

30                           (2) in order to vote for a write-in candidate, the voter must write in the  
31          candidate's name in the space provided and fill in the oval opposite the candidate's

1 name in accordance with (a)(1) of this section;

2 (3) a vote for a write-in candidate, other than a write-in vote for  
3 governor and lieutenant governor **or for President and Vice-President of the United**  
4 **States**, shall be counted if the oval is filled in for that candidate and if the name of the  
5 candidate, as it appears on the write-in declaration of candidacy, or the last name of  
6 the candidate is written in the space provided;

7 (4) if the write-in vote is for governor and lieutenant governor, the vote  
8 shall be counted if the oval is filled in and the names of the candidates for governor  
9 and lieutenant governor, as they appear on the write-in declaration of candidacy, or the  
10 last names of the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor, or the name of the  
11 candidate for governor, as it appears on the write-in declaration of candidacy, or the  
12 last name of the candidate for governor is written in the space provided;

13 (5) **if the write-in vote is for President and Vice-President of the**  
14 **United States, the vote shall be counted if the oval is filled in and the names of the**  
15 **candidates for President and Vice-President, as they appear on the write-in**  
16 **declaration of candidacy, or the last names of the candidates for President and**  
17 **Vice-President, or the name of the candidate for President, as it appears on the**  
18 **write-in declaration of candidacy, or the last name of the candidate for President**  
19 **is written in the space provided;**

20 (6) in counting votes for a write-in candidate, the director shall  
21 disregard any abbreviation, misspelling, or other minor variation in the form of the  
22 name of a candidate if the intention of the voter can be ascertained.

23 \* **Sec. 17.** AS 15.15.370 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

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

- 26 (1) release an updated tabulation;
- 27 (2) identify the precincts that have been counted;
- 28 (3) identify the days on which absentee ballots have been logged and  
29 counted, including a summary of the count codes used on ballots in each district each  
30 day;
- 31 (4) identify the districts in which early votes were cast and the days on

1 which votes were cast in each district; and

2 (5) identify the precincts and count codes of questioned ballots that  
3 have been counted.

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

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

12 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 15.15.380 is amended to read:

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

19 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 15.20.030 is amended to read:

20 **Sec. 15.20.030. Preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other material.** The  
21 director shall provide ballots for use as absentee ballots in all districts. The director  
22 shall provide a secrecy sleeve in which the voter shall initially place the marked ballot  
23 [.] and shall provide a postage-paid return [AN] envelope with the prescribed voter's  
24 certificate on it, in which the secrecy sleeve with ballot enclosed shall be placed. The  
25 director shall prescribe the form of and prepare the voter's certificate, envelopes, and  
26 other material used in absentee voting. The voter's certificate shall include a  
27 declaration, for use when required, that the voter is a qualified voter in all respects, a  
28 blank for the voter's signature, a certification that the affiant properly executed the  
29 marking of the ballot and gave the voter's identity, blanks for the attesting official or  
30 witness, and a place for recording the date the envelope was sealed and witnessed. The  
31 envelope with the voter's certificate may not identify a voter's party affiliation but

1 must include a notice that false statements made by the voter or by the attesting  
2 official or witness on the certificate are punishable by law.

3 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 15.20.081(f) is amended to read:

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

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

14 (2) A COPY OF A CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK  
15 STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER  
16 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT; AN ITEM PROVIDED UNDER THIS  
17 PARAGRAPH MUST SHOW THE NAME AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF THE  
18 VOTER].

19 \* **Sec. 21.** AS 15.20.081(h) is amended to read:

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

25 [(1)] 10th day following **the** [A PRIMARY] election [OR SPECIAL  
26 PRIMARY ELECTION UNDER AS 15.40.140; OR

27 (2) 15TH DAY FOLLOWING A GENERAL ELECTION OR  
28 SPECIAL ELECTION, OTHER THAN A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
29 DESCRIBED IN (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION].

30 \* **Sec. 22.** AS 15.20.170 is amended to read:

31 **Sec. 15.20.170. Disposition of ballots.** Each absentee voting official shall

1 transmit the dated envelopes containing the marked ballots by the most expeditious  
2 mail service to the election supervisor for the district. Upon receipt of the absentee  
3 ballots, the election supervisor shall stamp on the envelope the date on which the  
4 ballot is received. **In this section, "mail service" includes delivery by optical**  
5 **scanning and electronic transmission.**

6 \* **Sec. 23.** AS 15.20.201(a) is amended to read:

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

12 \* **Sec. 24.** AS 15.20.207(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) A questioned ballot may not be counted if the voter  
14 (1) has failed to properly execute the certificate;  
15 (2) is a first-time voter who initially registered by mail or by facsimile  
16 or other electronic transmission approved by the director under AS 15.07.050, has not  
17 provided the identification required by AS 15.15.225(a) **or 52 U.S.C. 21083(b)(2)(A)**,  
18 was not eligible for waiver of the identification requirement under AS 15.15.225(b),  
19 and has not provided the identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2) and (3) that can be  
20 verified through state agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e); or  
21 (3) is a voter other than one described in (2) of this subsection, did not  
22 provide identification described in AS 15.15.225(a), was not personally known by the  
23 election official, and has not provided the identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2)  
24 and (3).

25 \* **Sec. 25.** AS 15.20.220(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) The state review board shall review and count absentee ballots under  
27 AS 15.20.081(e) and (h), **absentee ballots properly cured under AS 15.20.222(c)**,  
28 and questioned ballots that have been forwarded to the director and that have not been  
29 reviewed or counted by a district counting board.

30 \* **Sec. 26.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

31 **Sec. 15.20.221. Ballot-tracking system.** (a) The director shall establish an

1 online ballot-tracking system. If the director procures the system from a third party,  
2 the third party must be a corporation that is incorporated in the United States. The  
3 system must be designed to allow a voter to easily use the system through a mobile  
4 electronic device. The system must allow a voter to

5 (1) confirm that the voter's ballot has been sent by the division;

6 (2) track the date of the ballot's delivery to the voter;

7 (3) confirm the division's receipt of the voter's ballot;

8 (4) determine whether the voter's ballot has been counted; and

9 (5) provide the information necessary to cure a rejected ballot.

10 (b) The online ballot-tracking system must

11 (1) use multi-factor authentication to verify a voter's identity; and

12 (2) indicate to a voter

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

16 (B) the reason the voter's ballot was not counted, if the ballot  
17 was not counted.

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

20 \* **Sec. 27.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

21 **Sec. 15.20.222. Procedure for curing uncounted ballot.** (a) If a voter's ballot  
22 is rejected because the certificate is missing a voter's signature or the signature of an  
23 attesting official or witness or the voter provided insufficient voter identification, the  
24 director shall immediately make a reasonable effort to contact the voter, explain the  
25 ballot deficiency, explain that the deficiency may be cured under this section, and  
26 inform the voter of the deadline to cure the ballot. The director shall, within 24 hours,  
27 send a notice of deficiency by electronic mail to the voter's electronic mail address if  
28 the voter has provided an electronic mail address. If the voter has provided a telephone  
29 number, the director shall, within 24 hours, attempt to notify the voter of the  
30 deficiency by telephone call and text message. The director shall, within 48 hours, but  
31 not later than five days after election day, send a notice of deficiency by first class,

1 nonforwardable mail to the address provided on the voter's absentee ballot application  
2 or, if no address was provided on the voter's absentee ballot application, to the mailing  
3 address in the voter's registration record.

4 (b) A notice of deficiency must include a form for the voter to confirm that the  
5 voter returned a ballot to the division, provide a copy of a form of identification  
6 accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a), and provide a signature. The director  
7 shall provide a printed copy of the form with the notice of deficiency mailed to the  
8 voter. The director shall also make the form available in a format that can be  
9 completed and returned electronically.

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

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

15 (2) the voter signs the form sent with the notice of deficiency and  
16 includes a copy of a form of identification accepted by the division under  
17 AS 15.15.225(a); and

18 (3) the ballot is otherwise valid.

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

23 \* **Sec. 28.** AS 15.25.105 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

24 (d) A write-in candidate running for the office of President of the United  
25 States must file a letter with the director certifying the information required under  
26 AS 15.30.026(b).

27 \* **Sec. 29.** AS 15.56.030(d) is amended to read:

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

29 (1) includes

30 (A) an entry in a game of chance in which a prize of money or  
31 other present or future pecuniary gain or advantage may be awarded to a

1 participant wherein the total of the prizes offered is greater than \$2 per  
2 participant with a maximum of \$100; and

3 (B) government employment or benefits;

4 (2) does not include

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 **(G) postage-paid return envelopes required in**  
23 **AS 15.20.030.**

24 \* **Sec. 30.** AS 15.56.060(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with an election if  
26 the person

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

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

31 (3) intentionally delays, attempts to delay, or causes to be delayed the

1 sending of the certificate, register, ballots, or other materials whether original or  
2 duplicate, required to be sent by AS 15.15.370; [OR]

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

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

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

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

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

17 \* Sec. 31. AS 15.56.070(a) is amended to read:

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

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

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

24 (3) intentionally conceals, withholds, destroys, or attempts to conceal,  
25 withhold, or destroy election returns; **or**

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

29 \* Sec. 32. AS 43.23.101 is amended to read:

30 **Sec. 43.23.101. Voter registration. Each month, the** [THE] commissioner  
31 shall [ESTABLISH BY RULE A SCHEDULE BY WHICH THE COMMISSIONER

1 WILL PROVIDE, AND SHALL] provide [AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE] the  
2 director of elections with **the following information for each permanent fund**  
3 **dividend applicant:**

4 (1) **the** electronic **record** [RECORDS FROM THE PERMANENT  
5 FUND DIVIDEND APPLICATIONS] of the information required by  
6 AS 15.07.060(a)(1) - (4) and (7) - (9) [,] and the attestation that **the** [SUCH]  
7 information is true [,] for each permanent fund dividend applicant who

8 (A) is a citizen of the United States; and

9 (B) is at least 18 years of age or will be within 90 days of the  
10 date of the application; [AND]

11 (2) the **applicant's** mailing **address; and**

12 **(3) whether the applicant has claimed residency in another state**

13 [ADDRESSES FOR ALL PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND APPLICANTS].

14 \* **Sec. 33.** AS 43.23.101 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

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

17 (c) In cooperation with the division of elections under AS 15.07.070(o), the  
18 commissioner shall submit an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary  
19 and chief clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first day of each  
20 regular session of the legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available.

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

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

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

31 (2) "rural community" means a community with a population of 7,500 or less

1 that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks or a community with a  
2 population of 3,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

3 \* **Sec. 35.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
4 read:

5 APPLICABILITY. (a) AS 15.56.030(d), as amended by sec. 29 of this Act,  
6 AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 30 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec.  
7 31 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of secs. 29 - 31 of  
8 this Act.

9 (b) Notwithstanding the amendment and enactment of laws in secs. 1 - 10, 12 - 24,  
10 and 28 - 37 of this Act, the division of elections shall administer an election of regional school  
11 board members occurring in October 2026 as provided in AS 15 as that title read on the day  
12 before the effective date of secs. 1 - 10, 12 - 24, and 28 - 37 of this Act.

13 \* **Sec. 36.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
14 read:

15 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The division of elections may adopt regulations  
16 necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under  
17 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law  
18 implemented by the regulation.

19 \* **Sec. 37.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
20 read:

21 TRANSITION: PROCUREMENT. The division of elections may, under AS 36.30  
22 (State Procurement Code), procure equipment, supplies, services, and professional services  
23 necessary to implement the changes made by this Act.

24 \* **Sec. 38.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
25 read:

26 CONDITIONAL EFFECT. (a) AS 15.20.221, enacted by sec. 26 of this Act, takes  
27 effect only if AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 27 of this Act, takes effect.

28 (b) AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 27 of this Act, takes effect only if AS 15.20.221,  
29 enacted by sec. 26 of this Act, takes effect.

30 \* **Sec. 39.** Section 11 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2027.

31 \* **Sec. 40.** Sections 25 - 27 and 38 of this Act take effect September 19, 2026.

1 \* **Sec. 41.** Except as provided in secs. 39 and 40 of this Act, this Act takes effect  
2 immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).