



March 12, 2026

House Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Via: [house.finance@akleg.gov](mailto:house.finance@akleg.gov)

Dear Members of Alaska House Finance Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Alaska Native Justice Center (“ANJC”) to encourage your support for Senate Bill 64: Elections. This critical legislation will remove barriers to voting to improve our election process and increase access to voting for all Alaskans.

ANJC is a non-profit affiliate of Cook Inlet Tribal Council (“CITC”). Since 2019, ANJC has provided legal representation and training and technical assistance for Alaska Tribes. CITC is an Alaska Native Tribal organization that serves as the primary provider of culturally responsive social services for Alaska Native and American Indian people in southcentral Alaska.

ANJC and CITC are strong advocates for voting rights and for ensuring that no matter where Alaskans live, they have equitable access to voting. Most of our state’s communities are located off the road system and are accessible only by boat or plane, as you well know. While that remoteness is part of what makes Alaska special, it also creates real challenges for voting. The bill contains several provisions that will ease access to voting, especially in rural areas:

- Tribal Identification Cards: SB64 will allow voters to present tribal identification cards as an allowable form of ID when casting their ballots. Tribal ID cards are more accessible than other forms of ID to many rural residents, especially those who live in roadless areas or have no access to a DMV.
- Rural liaisons: SB64 will create a rural community liaison to help facilitate access to early and absentee voting in rural areas of the state and ensure that precincts are fully staffed. More robust staffing in rural precincts will increase awareness, preparation, and commitment to voting in upcoming elections.
- Ballot curing: SB64 will allow voters the opportunity to cure simple mistakes on ballots. Casting errors happen; it doesn’t mean votes should not be counted. More than 30 other

states already allow ballot curing. Alaska needs to join the majority of states in this respect to ensure all individuals' voices are heard.

- Pre-paid postage: SB64 will also allow prepaid postage on ballots cast by mail. Postal service can pose a significant challenge in Alaska. Some communities lack post offices or have limited mail services. Providing prepaid postage would help ensure ballots reach the Division of Elections and prevent voters from forgoing participation simply because they cannot find postage—something we have heard occurs in communities with limited postal access.

ANJC supports the removal of barriers to voting for all Alaskans, and we feel this election reform is a chance to make voting a more equitable experience in the pursuit of a more representative government. We appreciate your consideration and swift passage of SB64.

Sincerely,



Gloria O'Neill  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Cook Inlet Tribal Council