

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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SENATOR PETER A. MICCICHE

DISTRICT Q

Anchor Point

Clam Gulch

Cohoe

Diamond Ridge

Fox River

Fritz Creek

Funny River

Halibut Cove

Happy Valley

Homer

Kachemak City

Kachemak Selo

Kalifornsky

Kasilof

Kenai

Nikolaevsk

Ninilchik

Razdolna

Ridgeway

Seldovia

Soldotna

Voznesenka

Sponsor Statement

SB 213

An Act relating to the appointment of municipal election boards

Statutes governing municipal elections currently require the appropriate governing body to appoint election boards for each precinct in every election. However, as technology advances, methods of submitting ballots are changing. For example, ballots may be submitted by mail or electronic transmission. Elections not involving in-person voting do not need election boards as there are no polling places except for an absentee precinct. The requirement of the appointment of an election board for each precinct is costly and not necessary for such elections.

The language in Section 1 is revised to be consistent with the new language proposed in AS 29.26.010(b) which is contained in Section 2. This clarifies that election boards are only required for elections and precincts in which voters cast ballots in person.

Please join me in helping give our local governments that choose to implement elections by mail the ability to avoid the unnecessary cost of appointing elections boards.