

HOUSE BILL NO. 16

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHRAGE

Introduced: 1/22/25

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act amending campaign contribution limits for state and local office; directing the**
2 **Alaska Public Offices Commission to adjust campaign contribution limits for state and**
3 **local office once each decade beginning in 2031; and relating to campaign contribution**
4 **reporting requirements."**

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

6 * **Section 1.** The uncoded law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
7 to read:

8 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that the people of the state believe
9 that political power and influence with public officials should not be allocated solely based on
10 wealth. Instead, reasonable limits on the amount of campaign contributions are necessary to
11 secure equal rights for Alaskans and to preserve the integrity of our elections.

12 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.13.070(b) is amended to read:

13 (b) **Except as provided in (h) of this section, an** [AN] individual may
14 contribute not more than

(1) **\$2,000 each election cycle** [\$500 PER YEAR] to a nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, to a candidate, **or** to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate [, OR TO A GROUP THAT IS NOT A POLITICAL PARTY];

(2) \$5,000 **each** [PER] year to a political party **or other group**.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.13.070(c) is amended to read:

(c) **Except as provided in (h) of this section, a** [A] group that is not a political party may contribute not more than [\$1,000 PER YEAR]

(1) **\$4,000 each election cycle** to a candidate [,] or to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate;

(2) **\$5,000 each year** to another group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party.

* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.13.070(f) is amended to read:

(f) **Except as provided in (h) of this section, a** [A] nongroup entity may contribute not more than

(1) **\$4,000 each election cycle** [\$1,000 A YEAR] to another nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, to a candidate, **or** to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate;

(2) **\$5,000 each year** [, TO A GROUP, OR] to a political party **or other group**.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 15.13.070(g) is amended to read:

(g) Where contributions are made to a joint campaign for governor and lieutenant governor,

(1) an individual may contribute not more than **\$4,000 each election cycle** [\$1,000 PER YEAR]; and

(2) a group may contribute not more than **\$8,000 each election cycle** [\$2,000 PER YEAR].

* **Sec. 6.** AS 15.13.070 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(h) The contribution limits set out in (b)(1), (c)(2), and (f) of this section do not apply to an individual, group, or nongroup entity contributing to a group or nongroup entity that makes only independent expenditures.

(i) Beginning in the first quarter of calendar year 2031 and once every 10 years thereafter, the commission shall by regulation adjust the contribution limits set out in this section by a percentage equal to the percentage of increase over the preceding 10-year period in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for urban Alaska prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, rounded to the nearest \$50 increment.

* **Sec. 7.** AS 15.13.110(i) is amended to read:

(i) During **an election cycle** [A CAMPAIGN PERIOD], the commission may not change the manner or format in which reports required of a candidate under this chapter must be filed. [IN THIS SUBSECTION, "CAMPAIGN PERIOD" MEANS THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE DATE THAT A CANDIDATE BECOMES ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER THIS CHAPTER AND ENDING ON THE DATE THAT A FINAL REPORT FOR THAT SAME CAMPAIGN MUST BE FILED.]

* **Sec. 8.** AS 15.13.400 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(20) "election cycle" means the period beginning on the date that a candidate becomes eligible to receive campaign contributions under this chapter and ending on the date that a final report for that same campaign must be filed.

* **Sec. 9.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

APPLICABILITY. This Act does not apply to contributions made to influence the outcome of an election that occurred before the effective date of this Act.