

**Joe Hayes**

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**From:** Gwendalynn Macander <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2025 10:09 AM  
**To:** Senate State Affairs  
**Cc:** Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Bjorkman  
**Subject:** SB 64 and SB70 Testimony

To the State Affairs Committee,

My name is Gwen Macander and I live in Fairbanks. I support SB 64 because I think it's important for all Alaskans to have the same accessibility to the polls. Having a state with so many rural communities makes this challenging, but I think SB 64 includes important measures to give all Alaskans equal access to vote including making absentee voting easier by eliminating the witness signature requirement and keeping a list so those who have gotten absentee ballots in the past don't have to fill out lengthy applications every year. Along with making voting more equitable for rural communities, I think eliminating some barriers for voting by mail would make lines shorter at the polls in large communities. I know people who have busy schedules and were deterred by long voting lines for the Presidential election this year. Making voting by mail an easier option could alleviate some of the lines and help people who live busy lives to be able to vote. Thank you for your hard work to improve our election system.

Sincerely,  
Gwen Macander  
Fairbanks, AK