

Joe Hayes

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Senate State Affairs Committee

SB116 public testimony

March 28, 2025

This is Paul Seaton, former State Representative 2002-2018. I live in Homer, Alaska.

I support SB116 to reenact Alaska's campaign contribution limits updated for inflation.

Having the updated contribution limits changed from a \$1,000 annual basis to the \$2,000 for the 2-year election cycle basis will eliminate reporting problems with APOC.

Most donations above this limit come from outside the State which lowers candidates' reliance on constituent Alaska voters. Limiting personal contributions from Alaskans and non-Alaskans helps keep the average Alaskan's voice important .

A large donation received directly from an individual has a different impact on the candidate than an expenditure that is not coordinated with the candidate even if it supports the candidate or issue.

Thank you for your consideration and I request you support SB116.