

Alaska House of Representatives

Representative Calvin Schrage

Co-Chair: House Finance Committee

Session:

Alaska State Capitol

Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 465-4931



Interim:

1500 W. Benson

Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99503

(907) 269-0205

Proudly serving our friends and neighbors in the Abbott Loop - Lower Hillside Community

House Bill 16 - version N

Sectional Analysis

"An Act requiring a group supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot proposition in a state or local election to maintain an address in the state; amending campaign contribution limits for state and local office; directing the Alaska Public Offices Commission to adjust campaign contribution limits for state and local office once each decade beginning in 2031; relating to campaign contribution reporting requirements; relating to administrative complaints filed with the Alaska Public Offices Commission; relating to state election expenditures and contributions made by a foreign-influenced corporation or foreign national; and providing for an effective date."

Section 1 – states the legislative finding that political influence should not be based solely on wealth and that reasonable campaign contribution limits are necessary for equal rights and election integrity.

Section 2 – amends AS 15.13.050(a) to require any entity other than an individual making expenditures to support or oppose a candidate or ballot proposition to register an in-state physical address with the Alaska Public Offices Commission. [add physical address lang.]

Section 3 – adds new subsection to AS 15.13.050, specifying that an entity cannot register unless it has a physical address in Alaska or registers an in-state resident or a domestic corporation authorized to do business in Alaska as its agent. It also requires notification of changes to this information within 10 days.

Section 4 – amends AS 15.13.070(b) to change the limit an individual may contribute to a candidate, a write-in candidate, or to a non-group entity from \$500 per year to \$2,000 per election cycle. Changes the amount an individual may contribute to a group to \$5,000 a year. Specifies that these limits do not apply to independent expenditures.

Section 5 –amends AS 15.13.070(c) to change the limit a group that is not a political party may contribute per year to a candidate or write-in candidate from \$1,000 per year to \$4,000 per election cycle. Changes the amount a group that is not a political party may contribute to another group, nongroup entity, or political party to \$5,000 per year.

April 14, 2025

Section 6 – amends AS 15.13.070(f) to change the limit a nongroup entity may contribute to a candidate, write-in candidate, or another nongroup entity from \$1,000 per year to \$4,000 per election cycle. Changes the amount a nongroup entity may contribute to a political party or other group to \$5,000 per year.

Section 7 – amends AS 15.13.070(g) to change the limit an individual may contribute to a joint campaign for governor and lieutenant governor from \$1,000 per year to \$4,000 per election cycle. Changes the limit a group may contribute to a joint campaign for governor and lieutenant governor from \$2,000 per year to \$8,000 per election cycle.

Section 8 - amends AS 15.13.070 to include a new subsection (h) that states contribution limits provided under (b)(1), (c)(2), and (f) of this section do not apply to individuals, groups, or non-group entities contributing to a group or nongroup entity that makes solely independent expenditures.

Amends AS 15.13.070 to include a new subsection (i) directing the Alaska Public Offices Commission to update contribution limits every ten years, beginning the first quarter of 2031, based on consumer inflation rates for the preceding 10 years. These increases are rounded to the nearest \$50 increment.

Section 9 - amends AS 15.13.110 (i) prohibiting the Alaska Public Offices Commission from changing the manner or format in which a candidate must file a report during an election cycle.

Section 10 - amends AS 15.13.380(e) regarding administrative complaints filed with the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Added language will require the commission to complete an investigation within 90 days of receiving the complaint. The commission is also permitted to extend this requirement for “good cause”.

Section 11 – adds a new subsection (l) to AS 15.13.380, requiring the Alaska Public Offices Commission to provide the complainant with a status report on the investigation at least every 10 days, beginning 50 days after the complaint is filed.

Section 12 – amends AS.15.13.400 to include a new paragraph (20) defining “election cycle” as the period beginning on the date a candidate becomes eligible to receive campaign contributions and ending on the date that candidate must file a final report.

Section 13 – repeals AS 15.13.068(b), which clarifies that prohibitions on foreign-influenced corporate and foreign national contributions and expenditures are limited to the extent permitted by federal law, and 15.13.068(c), which provided an exception to the general prohibition under very specific conditions that prevent the funds from being used for direct campaign activities.

Section 14 – adds new section to the uncodified law of the State of Alaska specifying that this act does not apply to contributions made before the effective date of this act.

Section 15 – states that this Act takes effect immediately AS 01.10.070(c).