

**HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

**A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter  
2 registration; relating to election administration; relating to campaign contributions;  
3 relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful  
4 interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating to voter  
5 registration on permanent fund dividend applications; relating to the duties of the  
6 commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date."

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

8 \* **Section 1.** AS 15.07.060(c) is amended to read:

9 (c) Each applicant who requests registration in person before a registration  
10 official shall exhibit one form of identification to the official, including a driver's  
11 license, state identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth  
12 certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe**  
13 [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]. A registration official who knows the identity

1 of the applicant may waive the identification requirement.

2 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.07.060(e) is amended to read:

3 (e) For an applicant requesting initial registration by mail, by facsimile or  
4 other electronic transmission approved by the director under AS 15.07.050, or by  
5 completing a permanent fund dividend application, the director shall verify the  
6 information provided in compliance with (a)(2) and (3) of this section through state  
7 agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e). If the applicant cannot comply with the  
8 requirement of (a)(2) of this section because the applicant has not been issued any of  
9 the listed numbers, the applicant may instead submit a copy of one of the following  
10 forms of identification: a driver's license, state identification card, current and valid  
11 photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by a**  
12 **federally recognized tribe [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]**.

13 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.07.070 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

14 (n) The division may use information provided by the Department of Revenue  
15 under AS 43.23.015 and 43.23.101 only to register a voter and conduct voter roll  
16 maintenance. The division may not disclose personally identifiable information  
17 obtained from the Department of Revenue.

18 (o) The division, in cooperation with the Department of Revenue, shall submit  
19 an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the  
20 house of representatives on or before the first day of each regular session of the  
21 legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report shall detail

22 (1) the number of permanent fund dividend applicant records shared  
23 with the division;

24 (2) the effect that shared permanent fund dividend applications had on  
25 voter roll maintenance under (n) of this section and on election integrity; and

26 (3) security measures taken to protect voter information.

27 (p) In this section, "voter roll maintenance" includes confirming the residency  
28 of a registered voter, identifying duplicate registrations, detecting voters who have  
29 moved, and detecting voters who are ineligible to vote under AS 15.05.

30 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.07.130(a) is amended to read:

31 (a) Periodically, at times of the director's choosing, but **not** [NO] less

frequently than in January of each calendar year, the director shall examine the master register maintained under AS 15.07.120 and shall send, by forwardable [NONFORWARDABLE] mail to the voter's registration mailing address, and to the voter's electronic mail address, if available, a notice requesting address confirmation or correction. The notice must explain that the voter's registration will be inactivated unless the voter responds to the notice within 45 days after the date the notice is sent. The director shall send the notice to each voter

(1) whose mail from the division has been returned to the division in the two years immediately preceding the examination of the register;

(2) who has not contacted the division in the two years immediately preceding the examination of the register and [; OR (3)] who has not voted or appeared to vote in the 28 months [TWO GENERAL ELECTIONS] immediately preceding the examination of the register;

(3) who the division has learned, after registering to vote in this state and during the 28 months immediately preceding the examination of the register, has

(A) registered to vote in another state;

(B) received a driver's license from another state;

(C) registered a vehicle in another state;

(D) received public assistance from another state;

(E) served on a jury in another state;

(F) received a homestead or residential property tax exemption in another state;

(G) received a benefit available only to residents of another state; or

(H) maintained a physical address located outside the state for the full duration of the 28 months immediately preceding the examination of the register.

\* Sec. 5. AS 15.07.130(b) is amended to read:

(b) If a registered voter does [HAS] not respond to a notice sent under (a) of this section within 45 days after the date the notice is sent, the director shall

inactivate the voter's registration [, WITHIN THE PRECEDING FOUR CALENDAR YEARS, CONTACTED THE DIVISION AND HAS NEITHER VOTED NOR APPEARED TO VOTE IN A LOCAL, REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD, PRIMARY, SPECIAL, OR GENERAL ELECTION DURING THE LAST FOUR CALENDAR YEARS AND A NOTICE SENT TO THE VOTER UNDER (a) OF THIS SECTION WAS RETURNED AS UNDELIVERABLE, THE VOTER SHALL BE ADVISED BY A NOTICE SENT BY FORWARDABLE MAIL TO THE VOTER'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS THAT REGISTRATION WILL BE INACTIVATED UNLESS THE VOTER RESPONDS TO THE NOTICE NO LATER THAN 45 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE SENT UNDER THIS SECTION]. The director shall maintain on the master register the name of a voter whose registration is inactivated. The director shall cancel a voter's inactive registration in accordance with the procedures set out in 52 U.S.C. 20507 [42 U.S.C. 1973gg-6 (SEC. 8, NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993)] after the second general election that occurs after the registration becomes inactive if the voter does not contact the division or vote or appear to vote.

\* **Sec. 6.** AS 15.07.130(d) is amended to read:

(d) The notice sent under (a) [(b)] of this section must include a postage prepaid and pre-addressed return card on which the voter may state the voter's current address. The notice must indicate

(1) that the voter should return the card not later than 45 days after the date of the notice if the voter did not change residence;

(2) that failure to return the card by the 45-day deadline could result in removal of the voter's name from the official registration list for a subsequent election;

(3) that the voter's registration will be cancelled if the voter does not contact the division during, or vote or appear to vote in an election held during, the period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the last day of the **34th month** [FOURTH CALENDAR YEAR] that occurs after the date of notice; and

(4) how the voter can continue to be eligible to vote if the voter has changed residence.

1       \* **Sec. 7.** AS 15.07.130(f) is amended to read:

2               (f) For the purpose of this section, a voter "contacts" the division if the voter  
3       notifies the division of a change of address, responds to a notice sent under this  
4       section, signs a petition for a ballot measure, requests a new voter registration card, or  
5       otherwise communicates with the division other than to vote or register to vote. **An**  
6       **individual does not "contact" the division by registering to vote under**  
7       **AS 15.07.070(i) - (m).**

8       \* **Sec. 8.** AS 15.07.130 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

9               (g) The division shall adopt regulations to review voter registration records  
10       and update the master register. The regulations must include reviews for deceased  
11       voters, persons convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, persons not qualified  
12       to vote under AS 15.05, persons registered to vote in another state, whether the  
13       number of registered voters on the master register exceeds the number of eligible  
14       voters in the state, and voter registration information data breaches. In conducting  
15       these reviews, the division shall gather and examine available data from other states  
16       and information from the United States Postal Service forwarding databases,  
17       Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program, motor vehicle records,  
18       Department of Corrections records, property and sales tax records, United States  
19       Social Security Administration databases, jury duty records, National Change of  
20       Address records, and similar records. The division shall also review evidence that a  
21       person has undertaken the following activities in another state:

22                       (1) registered to vote;  
23                       (2) obtained a driver's license;  
24                       (3) registered a vehicle;  
25                       (4) received public assistance;  
26                       (5) served on a jury in another state; or  
27                       (6) received a benefit available only to residents of another state.

28               (h) The division shall, in consultation with an external, nationally recognized  
29       subject-matter expert selected by the division, annually audit the master register. The  
30       division shall consider the subject-matter expert's recommendations. By February 1 of  
31       each year, the division shall publish a report describing the most recent audit and

1 accounting for the criteria reviewed under (g) of this section. The report must include  
2 the expert's recommendations, identify protocols used under (g) of this section,  
3 provide election information including the number of voters on the master register and  
4 the total population eligible to vote, and highlight voting data problems, irregularities,  
5 errors, and vulnerabilities identified in the audit. The division shall submit the report  
6 to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the  
7 legislature that the report is available on or before the date the report is published.

8 (i) If the division reasonably determines that a voter is away from the state for  
9 a reason permissible under AS 15.05.011 or another state or federal law related to  
10 voting in elections, the division is not required to send a notice to the voter under  
11 (a)(3) of this section.

12 (j) In addition to a notice or response required under this section, at any time  
13 the division may contact a voter to obtain or a voter may contact the division to  
14 provide information to determine the voter's residence.

15 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 15.07.195 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (e) The director shall publish on the division's Internet website notice of the  
17 nature and severity of a data breach of information made confidential by this section  
18 and report the details of the breach to the president of the senate and the speaker of the  
19 house of representatives

20 (1) before the day of an election, if the data breach happens or is  
21 discovered within 14 days before an election; or

22 (2) before certifying the results of an election, if the data breach  
23 happens or is discovered on or after the day of the election but before certification of  
24 the election.

25 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 15.10.105 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

26 (c) The director shall employ a rural community liaison. The rural community  
27 liaison shall collaborate with tribes and municipalities to facilitate access to early and  
28 absentee voting in rural areas of the state and ensure that precincts in rural areas of the  
29 state are adequately staffed.

30 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 15.13.400(19) is amended to read:

31 (19) "true source" means,

(A) for a contribution made for the purpose of influencing a ballot proposition or question, the person or legal entity that makes the contribution or independent expenditure to support or oppose the proposition or question; or

**(B) for a contribution made for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate,**

**(i)** the person or legal entity whose contribution is funded from wages, investment income, inheritance, or revenue generated from selling goods or services;

(ii) a person or legal entity who derives [DERIVED] funds via contributions, donations, dues, or gifts is not the true source [,] but is [RATHER] an intermediary for the true source except that, for a contribution from [; NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, TO THE EXTENT] a membership organization that receives dues or contributions of less than \$2,000 per person per year, the organization itself is [SHALL BE CONSIDERED] the true source.

\* **Sec. 12.** AS 15.15.060(a) is amended to read:

(a) Immediately following the appointment of the election board, the election supervisor in conjunction with the election board chair shall secure polling places for holding the election, suitable ballot boxes that will ensure [ASSURE] security, and an adequate number of voting booths or screens, national flags, pens, and pencils. At every polling place, at least one voting booth shall be furnished and not less than one voting booth or screen shall be furnished for each 100 votes or fractional part of 100 votes cast in the previous election. [AT EVERY POLLING PLACE, AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF THE VOTING BOOTHS USED SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN SIX FEET IN HEIGHT, ENCLOSED ON THREE SIDES, AND PROVIDED WITH A CURTAIN EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE VOTING BOOTH TO WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 30 INCHES OF THE FLOOR. THE CURTAIN OF THE VOTING BOOTH MUST CONCEAL THE VOTER WHILE VOTING.] The election supervisor and the election board chair may, in an emergency, secure an alternate location for a polling place.

1       \* **Sec. 13.** AS 15.15.060(b) is amended to read:

2               (b) To ensure [ASSURE] administrative economy and to protect the secrecy  
3               of the ballot, the director may adopt regulations prescribing  
4                       (1) the type of polling place for holding the election;  
5                       (2) the requirements regarding ballot boxes, voting screens, national  
6                       flags, and other supplies; and  
7                       (3) [SUBJECT TO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF (a) OF THIS  
8                       SECTION,] the requirements regarding voting booths.

9       \* **Sec. 14.** AS 15.15.225(a) is amended to read:

10               (a) Before being allowed to vote, each voter shall exhibit to an election official  
11               one form of identification, including  
12                       (1) an official voter registration card, driver's license, state  
13                       identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or  
14                       identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe [HUNTING OR  
15                       FISHING LICENSE]; or  
16                       (2) an original or a copy of a [CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK  
17                       STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER] government  
18                       document that shows [; AN ITEM EXHIBITED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH  
19                       MUST SHOW] the name and current address of the voter and is dated within the  
20                       previous 60 days.

21       \* **Sec. 15.** AS 15.15.370 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

22               (b) Each day that the director releases unofficial totals of election results for a  
23               general election, the director shall also  
24                       (1) release an updated tabulation;  
25                       (2) identify the precincts that have been counted;  
26                       (3) identify the days on which absentee ballots have been logged and  
27                       counted, including a summary of the count codes used on ballots in each district each  
28                       day;  
29                       (4) identify the districts in which early votes were cast and the days on  
30                       which votes were cast in each district; and  
31                       (5) identify the precincts and count codes of questioned ballots that

1 have been counted.

2 (c) Each day that an absentee ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.201 or a  
3 questioned ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.207, the director shall display on the  
4 division's Internet website an updated unofficial total detailing the number of absentee  
5 ballots and questioned ballots counted for each count code.

6 (d) In this section, "count code" means a code assigned to a ballot by the  
7 division that designates the races in which the ballot is to be counted during a district  
8 absentee ballot counting review conducted under AS 15.20.203 or a district questioned  
9 ballot review conducted under AS 15.20.207.

10 \* **Sec. 16.** AS 15.15.380 is amended to read:

11 **Sec. 15.15.380. Payment of election board members.** The director shall pay  
12 each election board member for time spent at election duties, including the receiving  
13 of instructions. Election board chairpersons and the chairperson and members of the  
14 absentee ballot, questioned ballot, and state ballot counting review boards shall be  
15 paid for time spent at their election duties. The director shall set the compensation to  
16 be paid under this section [BY REGULATION].

17 \* **Sec. 17.** AS 15.20.030 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 15.20.030. Preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other material.** The  
19 director shall provide ballots for use as absentee ballots in all districts. The director  
20 shall provide a secrecy sleeve in which the voter shall initially place the marked ballot  
21 [,] and shall provide a postage-paid return [AN] envelope with the prescribed voter's  
22 certificate on it, in which the secrecy sleeve with ballot enclosed shall be placed. The  
23 director shall prescribe the form of and prepare the voter's certificate, envelopes, and  
24 other material used in absentee voting. The voter's certificate shall include a  
25 declaration, for use when required, that the voter is a qualified voter in all respects, a  
26 blank for the voter's signature, a certification that the affiant properly executed the  
27 marking of the ballot and gave the voter's identity, [BLANKS FOR THE  
28 ATTESTING OFFICIAL OR WITNESS,] and a place for recording the date the  
29 envelope was sealed and witnessed. The envelope with the voter's certificate may not  
30 identify a voter's party affiliation but must include a notice that false statements  
31 made by the voter or by the attesting official or witness on the certificate are

1 punishable by law.

2 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 15.20.081(f) is amended to read:

3 (f) The director shall require a voter casting an absentee ballot by mail to  
4 provide proof of identification or other information to aid in the establishment of the  
5 voter's identity as prescribed by regulations adopted under AS 44.62 (Administrative  
6 Procedure Act). If the voter is a first-time voter who initially registered by mail or by  
7 facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the director under  
8 AS 15.07.050 and has not met the identification requirements set out in AS 15.07.060,  
9 the voter must provide one of the following forms of proof of identification:

10 (1) a copy of a driver's license, state identification card, current and  
11 valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by**  
12 **a federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]; or

13 (2) **an original or** a copy of a [CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK  
14 STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER] government  
15 document **that shows** [; AN ITEM PROVIDED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MUST  
16 SHOW] the name and current address of the voter **and is dated within the previous**  
17 **60 days.**

18 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 15.20.081(h) is amended to read:

19 (h) Except as provided in AS 15.20.480, an absentee ballot returned by mail  
20 from outside the United States or from an overseas voter qualifying under  
21 AS 15.05.011 that has been marked and mailed not later than election day may not be  
22 counted unless the ballot is received by the election supervisor not later than the close  
23 of business on the

24 [(1)] 10th day following **the** [A PRIMARY] election [OR SPECIAL  
25 PRIMARY ELECTION UNDER AS 15.40.140; OR

26 (2) 15TH DAY FOLLOWING A GENERAL ELECTION OR  
27 SPECIAL ELECTION, OTHER THAN A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
28 DESCRIBED IN (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION].

29 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 15.20.170 is amended to read:

30 **Sec. 15.20.170. Disposition of ballots.** Each absentee voting official shall  
31 transmit the dated envelopes containing the marked ballots by the most expeditious

1 mail service to the election supervisor for the district. Upon receipt of the absentee  
2 ballots, the election supervisor shall stamp on the envelope the date on which the  
3 ballot is received. **In this section, "mail service" includes delivery by optical**  
4 **scanning and electronic transmission.**

5 \* **Sec. 21.** AS 15.20.201(a) is amended to read:

6 (a) **Not** [NO] less than **12** [SEVEN] days preceding the day of election, the  
7 election supervisor, in the presence and with the assistance of the district absentee  
8 ballot counting board, shall review all voter certificates of absentee ballots received by  
9 that date. The review of absentee ballots shall continue at times designated by the  
10 election supervisor until completed.

11 \* **Sec. 22.** AS 15.20.220(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) The state review board shall review and count absentee ballots under  
13 AS 15.20.081(e) and (h), **absentee ballots properly cured under AS 15.20.222,** and  
14 questioned ballots that have been forwarded to the director and that have not been  
15 reviewed or counted by a district counting board.

16 \* **Sec. 23.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Sec. 15.20.221. Ballot-tracking system.** (a) The director shall establish an  
18 online ballot-tracking system. If the director procures the system from a third party,  
19 the third party must be a corporation that is incorporated in the United States. The  
20 system must be designed to allow a voter to easily use the system through a mobile  
21 electronic device. The system must allow a voter to

22 (1) confirm that the voter's ballot has been sent by the division;  
23 (2) track the date of the ballot's delivery to the voter;  
24 (3) confirm the division's receipt of the voter's ballot;  
25 (4) determine whether the voter's ballot has been counted; and  
26 (5) provide the information necessary to cure a rejected ballot.

27 (b) The online ballot-tracking system must

28 (1) use multi-factor authentication to verify a voter's identity; and  
29 (2) indicate to a voter

30 (A) the process by which the voter may cure the lack of  
31 signature or verify the voter's identity, if the signature on the voter's ballot was

1 missing; and

2 (B) the reason the voter's ballot was not counted, if the ballot  
3 was not counted.

4 (c) The division may not charge a voter a fee to use the online ballot-tracking  
5 system.

6 \* **Sec. 24.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

7 **Sec. 15.20.222. Procedure for curing uncounted ballot.** (a) If a voter's ballot  
8 is rejected because the certificate is missing a signature or the voter provided  
9 insufficient voter identification, the director shall immediately make a reasonable  
10 effort to contact the voter, explain the ballot deficiency, explain how the deficiency  
11 may be cured, and inform the voter of the deadline to cure the ballot. The director  
12 shall, within 24 hours, send a notice of deficiency by electronic mail to the voter's  
13 electronic mail address if the voter has provided an electronic mail address. If the  
14 voter has provided a telephone number, the director shall, within 24 hours, attempt to  
15 notify the voter of the deficiency by telephone call and text message. The director  
16 shall, within 48 hours, but not later than five days after election day, send a notice of  
17 deficiency by first class, nonforwardable mail to the address in the voter's registration  
18 record.

19 (b) A notice of deficiency must include a form for the voter to confirm that the  
20 voter returned a ballot to the division, provide a copy of a form of identification  
21 accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a), and provide a signature. The director  
22 shall provide a printed copy of the form with the notice of deficiency mailed to the  
23 voter. The director shall also make the form available in a format that can be  
24 completed and returned electronically.

25 (c) The rejected ballot of a voter who received a notice of deficiency may be  
26 counted only if

27 (1) the voter returns the completed form sent with the notice of  
28 deficiency, the division receives the form within 10 days after election day, and the  
29 form confirms that the voter returned a ballot to the division;

30 (2) the voter provides a signature and includes a copy of a form of  
31 identification accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a); and

(3) the ballot is otherwise valid.

(d) A voter's rejected ballot may not be counted and the director shall, if applicable, send copies of the signature on the voter's return envelope to the attorney general for investigation if the voter returns the form and the form indicates that the voter did not return a ballot to the division.

\* **Sec. 25.** AS 15.20.480 is amended to read:

**Sec. 15.20.480. Procedure for recount.** In conducting the recount, the director shall review all ballots, whether the ballots were counted at the precinct or by computer or by the district absentee counting board or the questioned ballot counting board, to determine which ballots, or part of ballots, were properly marked and which ballots are to be counted in the recount, and shall check the accuracy of the original count, the precinct certificate, and the review. [THE DIRECTOR SHALL COUNT ABSENTEE BALLOTS RECEIVED BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE RECOUNT.] For administrative purposes, the director may join and include two or more applications in a single review and count of votes. The rules in AS 15.15.360 governing the counting of ballots shall be followed in the recount when a ballot is challenged on the basis of a question regarding the voter's intent to vote for the candidate, proposition, or question. The ballots and other election material must remain in the custody of the director during the recount, and the highest degree of care shall be exercised to protect the ballots against alteration or mutilation. The recount shall be completed within 10 days. The director may employ additional personnel necessary to assist in the recount.

\* **Sec. 26.** AS 15.56.030(d) is amended to read:

(d) For purposes of (a)(2) and (3) of this section, "other valuable thing"

(1) includes

(A) an entry in a game of chance in which a prize of money or other present or future pecuniary gain or advantage may be awarded to a participant wherein the total of the prizes offered is greater than \$2 per participant with a maximum of \$100; and

(B) government employment or benefits;

(2) does not include

(A) materials having a nominal value bearing the name, likeness, or other identification of a candidate, political party, political group, party district committee, or organization, or stating a position on a ballot proposition or question;

(B) food and refreshments provided incidental to an activity that is nonpartisan in nature and directed at encouraging persons to vote, or incidental to a gathering in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political party, political group, party district committee, organization, or ballot question or proposition;

(C) care of the voter's dependents provided in connection with the absence of a voter from home for the purpose of voting;

(D) services provided by a person acting as a representative under AS 15.20.072;

(E) services provided by an election official as defined in AS 15.80.010; [AND]

(F) transportation of a voter to or from the polls without charge; and

(G) postage-paid return envelopes required in

\* **Sec. 27.** AS 15.56.060(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with an election if the person

(1) induces or attempts to induce an election official to fail in the official's duty by force, threat, intimidation, or offers of reward;

(2) intentionally changes, attempts to change, or causes to be changed an official election document including ballots, tallies, and returns;

(3) intentionally delays, attempts to delay, or causes to be delayed the sending of the certificate, register, ballots, or other materials whether original or duplicate, required to be sent by AS 15.15.370; [OR]

(4) is contracted or employed by the state to print or reproduce in any manner an official ballot, and the person knowingly

(A) personally appropriates, or gives or delivers to, or permits to be taken by anyone other than a person authorized by the director, official ballots; or

(B) prints or reproduces or has printed or reproduced official ballots in a form or with a content other than that prescribed by law or as directed by the director;

**(5) intentionally opens or tampers with a signed absentee ballot certificate, sealed absentee ballot envelope, or package of ballots without express authorization from the director; or**

**(6) intentionally breaches, hacks, alters, or tampers with election machinery, including a tabulator, a program, a system, a server, or software used to verify identity, count or tabulate, or manage or control an election function.**

\* **Sec. 28.** AS 15.56.070(a) is amended to read:

(a) A person commits the crime of election official misconduct in the first degree if, while an election official, the person

(1) intentionally fails to perform an election duty or knowingly does an unauthorized act with the intent to affect an election or its results;

(2) knowingly permits or makes or attempts to make a false count of election returns; [OR]

(3) intentionally conceals, withholds, destroys, or attempts to conceal, withhold, or destroy election returns; **or**

**(4) knowingly discloses, shares, or reports to a person who is not an election official election results, returns, or any confidential election data before the polls close on election day.**

\* **Sec. 29.** AS 43.23.101 is amended to read:

**Sec. 43.23.101. Voter registration.** Each month, the [THE] commissioner shall [ESTABLISH BY RULE A SCHEDULE BY WHICH THE COMMISSIONER WILL PROVIDE, AND SHALL] provide [AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE] the director of elections with the following information for each permanent fund dividend applicant:

(1) the electronic record [RECORDS FROM THE PERMANENT

FUND DIVIDEND APPLICATIONS] of the information required by AS 15.07.060(a)(1) - (4) and (7) - (9) [,] and the attestation that the [SUCH] information is true [,] for each permanent fund dividend applicant; [WHO

(A) IS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES; AND

(B) IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE OR WILL BE

WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION; AND]

(2) the applicant's mailing address;

**(3) the applicant's affirmation of residency and the names and**

**contact information of persons the applicant listed for purposes of verifying residency;**

**(4) indication of the applicant's voter registration status, if known;**

**and**

**(5) whether the applicant has claimed residency in another state**

[ADDRESSES FOR ALL PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND APPLICANTS].

\* **Sec. 30.** AS 43.23.101 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(b) The commissioner shall develop security protocols that ensure data required to be stored or transferred under this section is securely stored or transferred.

(c) In cooperation with the division of elections under AS 15.07.070(o), the commissioner shall submit an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first day of each regular session of the legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available.

\* **Sec. 31.** AS 15.07.064(g) is repealed.

\* **Sec. 32.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE.** The division of elections shall provide a report to the legislature by November 1, 2026, recommending options for expanding early voting in rural communities and low-income neighborhoods. The division shall deliver the report to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available. In this section,

(1) "low-income neighborhood" means a neighborhood where the median family income is below 80 percent of the statewide median family income;

(2) "rural community" means a community with a population of 7,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks or a community with a population of 3,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

\* **Sec. 33.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

APPLICABILITY. AS 15.56.030(d), as amended by sec. 26 of this Act, AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 27 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec. 28 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of secs. 26 - 28 of this Act.

\* **Sec. 34.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

CONDITIONAL EFFECT. (a) AS 15.20.221, enacted by sec. 23 of this Act, takes effect only if AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 24 of this Act, takes effect.

(b) AS 15.20.222, enacted by sec. 24 of this Act, takes effect only if AS 15.20.221, enacted by sec. 23 of this Act, takes effect.

\* Sec. 35. Section 11 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2027.

\* **Sec. 36.** Except as provided in sec. 35 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2026.