

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

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - ~~FIRST~~SECOND SESSION

BY THE ~~SENATE~~HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 5/12/25

Offered: 5/9/25

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 ~~the Alaska Public Offices~~  
3 ~~Commission; relating to~~ campaign contributions; relating to the crimes of unlawful  
4 interference with voting in the first degree, unlawful interference with an election, and  
5 election official misconduct; relating to ~~synthetic media in electioneering~~  
6 ~~communications; relating to campaign signs; relating to~~ voter registration on permanent  
7 fund dividend applications; ~~relating to the Redistricting Board~~; relating to the duties of  
8 the commissioner of revenue; and providing for an effective date."

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

10 \* ~~Section 1. AS 15.05.020 is amended to read:~~

11 ~~See. 15.05.020. Rules for determining residence of voter. For the purpose of~~  
12 ~~determining residence for voting, the place of residence is governed by the following~~

1           rules:

2           (1) A person may not be considered to have gained a residence solely  
3           by reason of presence nor may a person lose it solely by reason of absence while in the  
4           civil or military service of this state or of the United States or of absence because of  
5           marriage to a person engaged in the civil or military service of this state or the United  
6           States, while a student at an institution of learning, while in an institution or asylum at  
7           public expense, while confined in public prison, while engaged in the navigation of  
8           waters of this state or the United States or of the high seas, while residing on [UPON]  
9           an Indian or military reservation, or while residing in the Alaska Pioneers' Home or  
10           the Alaska Veterans' Home.

11           (2) The residence of a person is that place in which the person's  
12           physical habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever absent, the person has an  
13           articulable and reasonable plan [THE INTENTION] to return. If a person resides in  
14           one place, but does business in another, the former is the person's place of residence.  
15           Temporary work sites do not constitute a dwelling place.

16           (3) [A CHANGE OF RESIDENCE IS MADE ONLY BY THE ACT  
17           OF REMOVAL JOINED WITH THE INTENT TO REMAIN IN ANOTHER  
18           PLACE.] There can only be one residence.

19           (4) A person does not lose residence if the person leaves home and  
20           goes to another country, state, or place in this state for temporary purposes only and  
21           with the intent of returning to the person's physical habitation.

22           (5) A person does not gain residence in any place to which the person  
23           comes without the present intention to establish a physical habitation  
24           [PERMANENT DWELLING] at that place indefinitely.

25           (6) A person loses residence in this state if the person establishes  
26           residence in another state or votes in another state's election, either in person or by  
27           absentee ballot, and will not be eligible to vote in this state until again qualifying  
28           under AS 15.05.010.

29           (7) The term of residence is computed by including the day on which  
30           the person's residence begins and excluding the day of election.

31           (8) The address of a voter as it appears on the official voter registration record is presumptive

1 evidence of the person's voting residence. This presumption is negated [ONLY] if the voter  
2 notifies the director in writing of a change of voting residence. When a voter's qualification  
3 is questioned under AS 15.15.210 or challenged in accordance with the procedure  
4 adopted in regulation under AS 15.20.215, the presumption may be rebutted by  
5 providing evidence to the division that the voter has established residence in another  
6 country, state, or place in this state or evidence that the voter is not a resident under (2)  
7 (7) of this section.

8 \* Sec. 2. 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  
14 of the applicant may waive the identification requirement.

15 \* Sec. 32. AS 15.07.060(e) is amended to read:

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

26 \* Sec. 43. AS 15.07.070 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

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

31 (o) The division, in cooperation with the Department of Revenue, shall submit

1 an annual report to the governor and to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the  
2 house of representatives on or before the first day of each regular session of the  
3 legislature and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report shall detail

4 (1) the number of permanent fund dividend applicant records shared  
5 with the division;

6 (2) the effect that shared permanent fund dividend applications had on  
7 voter roll maintenance under (n) of this section and on election integrity; and  
8 (3) security measures taken to protect voter information.

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

12 \* **Sec. 54.** AS 15.07.130(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) Periodically, at times of the director's choosing, but not [NO] less  
14 frequently than in January of each calendar year, the director shall examine the master  
15 register maintained under AS 15.07.120 and shall send, by forwardable  
16 [NONFORWARDABLE] mail to the voter's registration mailing address, and to the  
17 voter's electronic mail address, if available, a notice requesting address  
18 confirmation or correction. The notice must explain that the voter's registration  
19 will be inactivated unless the voter responds to the notice within 45 days after the  
20 date the notice is sent. The director shall send the notice to each voter

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

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

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

30 (A) registered to vote in another state;

31 (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) obtained a resident hunting or fishing license in another state;  
(G) enrolled in and paid the state resident tuition rate for a public university in another state;  
(H) received a homestead or residential property tax exemption in another state; or  
(I) received a benefit available only to residents of another state; or

(4) who, (H) maintained a physical address located outside the state for the full duration of the two years~~28 months~~ immediately preceding the creation of the register, has maintained a physical mailing address located outside the state, unless the division reasonably determines that the person is from the state for a reason permissible under AS 15.05.020 or another state  
general law related to voting in elections; a notice sent under this paragraph  
include a requirement that the voter respond by selecting from a list and  
swearing the truth of the voter's answer under penalty of perjury one of the  
following circumstances:

(A) the voter is absent from the state but has an articulable and reasonable plan to return to the place of physical habitation on the voter's registration;

(B) the voter is absent from the state solely because of a reason listed in AS 15.05.020(1);

(C) the voter is no longer a resident of the state and requests to have the voter's registration canceled; or

the voter has returned to the state.

\* **Sec. 65.** 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. 76. 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 ~~fourth calendar year~~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. 87.** 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. 98.** 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; ~~or~~  
26 (5) ~~obtained~~served on a resident huntingjury in another state; ~~or~~fishing  
27 license

28 (6) received a benefit available only to residents of another state.

29 (h) The division shall, in consultation with an external, nationally recognized  
30 subject-matter expert selected by the division, annually audit the master register. The  
31 division shall consider the subject-matter expert's recommendations. By February 1 of

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

(i) If the ~~director~~division reasonably determines that a voter is away from the state for a reason permissible under AS 15.05.011 or another state or federal law related to voting in elections, the division is not required under both (a)(4) of this section and (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section to ~~to~~ send a notice to ~~a voter, the director shall send the notice to~~ the voter under (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section and may not send a notice to the voter under (a)(4) of this section.

(j) A voter making a statement under (a)(4)(D) of this section shall provide the voter's current residence address in the sworn statement required under (a)(4) of this section.

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

\* ~~Sec. 10. AS 15.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:~~

~~See. 15.07.133. Process to cancel registration. The director shall develop a process to allow a voter to cancel the voter's registration electronically or in person before an election official. The process must include a requirement that the voter verify the voter's identity before the registration may be cancelled. The director shall prominently display instructions for a voter to cancel the voter's registration at each polling place.~~

\* ~~Sec. 119. AS 15.07.195 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:~~

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

1 house of representatives

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

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

7 \* **Sec. 1210.** AS 15.10.105 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

8 (c) The director shall employ a rural community liaison. The rural community  
9 liaison shall collaborate with tribes and municipalities to facilitate access to early and  
10 absentee voting in rural areas of the state and ensure that precincts in rural areas of the  
11 state are fully adequately staffed.

12 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 15.10.170(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) ~~The precinct party committee, where an organized precinct committee  
exists, or the party district committee where no organized precinct committee exists,  
or the state party chairperson where neither a precinct nor a party district committee  
exists, may appoint one or more [PERSONS AS] watchers in each precinct and  
counting center for any election. A [EACH] candidate may appoint one or more  
watchers for each precinct or counting center in the candidate's respective district or  
the state for any election. An [ANY] organization or organized group that sponsors or  
opposes a ballot proposition [AN INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM,] or question  
[RECALL] may have one or more [PERSONS AS] watchers at the polls and counting  
centers after first obtaining authorization from the director. A candidate, or an  
organization or organized group with authorization from the director, may  
appoint at least one watcher for each location where ballots or envelopes are  
reviewed or counted in a precinct or counting center. A state party chairperson, a  
precinct party committee, a party district committee, or a candidate may not have more  
than one watcher on duty at a time in any precinct or counting center. A watcher must  
be a United States citizen. The watcher may be present at a position inside the place of  
voting or counting that affords a full view of all action of the election officials taken  
from the time the polls are opened until the ballots are finally counted and the results  
certified by the election board or the data processing review board. The election board~~

or the data processing review board may require each watcher to present written proof showing appointment by the precinct party committee, the party district committee, the organization or organized group, or the candidate the watcher represents and that is signed by the respective chairperson or chairperson's designee of the precinct party committee or party district committee, the state party chairperson, the organization or organized group, or the candidate or candidate's designee.

~~\* Sec. 14. AS 15.13.020(j) is amended to read:~~

(j) The commission shall establish offices [AN OFFICE, WHICH MAY BE CALLED A REGIONAL OFFICE, IN EACH SENATE DISTRICT IN THE STATE TO KEEP ON FILE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION COPIES OF ALL REPORTS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION BY CANDIDATES FOR STATEWIDE OFFICE AND BY CANDIDATES FOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICE IN THAT DISTRICT; HOWEVER, WHERE ONE MUNICIPALITY CONTAINS MORE THAN ONE HOUSE DISTRICT, ONLY ONE COMMISSION OFFICE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN THAT MUNICIPALITY. THE REGIONAL OFFICE SHALL MAKE ALL FORMS AND PERTINENT MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO CANDIDATES. ALL REPORTS SHALL BE FILED BY CANDIDATES, GROUPS, AND INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY WITH THE COMMISSION'S CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICE. THE COMMISSION SHALL ENSURE THAT COPIES OF ALL REPORTS BY STATEWIDE AND LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES IN EACH SENATE DISTRICT ARE FORWARDED PROMPTLY TO THAT DISTRICT OR REGIONAL OFFICE].

\* **See. 1511.** AS 15.13.400(19) is amended to read:

(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. 1612. 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.

\* Sec. 1713. AS 15.15.060(b) is amended to read:

(b) To ensure [ASSURE] administrative economy and to protect the secrecy of the ballot, the director may adopt regulations prescribing

(1) the type of polling place for holding the election;

(2) the requirements regarding ballot boxes, voting screens, national voter supplies; and

(3) [SUBJECT TO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF (a) OF THIS

1 SECTION,] the requirements regarding voting booths.

2 \* Sec. 18. AS 15.15.060 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 (f) To the extent practicable, the division shall provide language assistance  
4 required under 52 U.S.C. 10503, as amended, at each polling place. An election  
5 supervisor shall post at each polling place information regarding the availability of  
6 language assistance in English and all other languages for which language assistance  
7 is required to be provided in the jurisdiction under federal law.

8 \* Sec. 1914. AS 15.15.225(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) Before being allowed to vote, each voter shall exhibit to an election official  
10 one form of identification, including

11 (1) an official voter registration card, driver's license, state  
12 identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or  
13 identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe [HUNTING OR  
14 FISHING LICENSE]; or

15 (2) an original or a copy of a [CURRENT] utility bill, bank statement,  
16 paycheck, government check, or other UTILITY BILL, BANK STATEMENT,  
17 PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER] government document; an  
18 item exhibited under this paragraph must show that shows [AN ITEM EXHIBITED  
19 UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MUST SHOW] the name and current address of the  
20 voter and must be is dated within the previous 60 days.

21 \* Sec. 20. AS 15.15.370 is amended to read:

22 See. 15.15.370. Results [COMPLETION] of ballot count [CERTIFICATE]. When the count of ballots is completed, and in no event later than  
23 the day after the election, the election board shall make a certificate in duplicate of the  
24 results. The certificate includes the number of votes cast for each candidate, including,  
25 for a candidate in a general election, the number of votes at each ranking [ROUND  
26 OF THE RANKED CHOICE TABULATION PROCESS] under AS 15.15.350, the  
27 number of votes for and against each proposition, yes or no on each question, and any  
28 additional information prescribed by the director. However, a precinct that counts  
29 results exclusively by hand may report the number of votes cast for each highest-  
30 ranked candidate and need not report the number of second place or lower

ranked votes cast for a candidate. The election board shall, immediately upon completion of the certificate or as soon thereafter as the local mail service permits, send in one sealed package to the director one copy of the certificate and the register. In addition, all ballots properly cast shall be mailed to the director in a separate, sealed package. Both packages, in addition to an address on the outside, shall clearly indicate the precinct from which they come. Each board shall, immediately upon completion of the certification and as soon thereafter as the local mail service permits, send the duplicate certificate to the respective election supervisor. The director may authorize election boards in precincts in those areas of the state where distance and weather make mail communication unreliable to forward their election results by telephone or radio. The director may authorize the unofficial totaling of votes on a regional basis by election supervisors, tallying the votes as indicated on duplicate certificates. To ensure adequate protection, the director shall prescribe the manner in which the ballots, registers, and all other election records and materials are thereafter preserved, transferred, and destroyed.

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

(b) Each day that the director releases unofficial totals of election results for a general election, the director shall also

(1) release an updated ~~ranked choice~~ tabulation;

(2) identify the precincts that have been counted;

(3) identify the days on which absentee ballots have been logged and counted, including a summary of the count codes used on ballots in each district each day;

(4) identify the districts in which early votes were cast and the days on which votes were cast in each district; and

(5) identify the precincts and count codes of questioned ballots that have been counted.

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

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

\* Sec. 2216. AS 15.15.380 is amended to read:

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

\* Sec. 23. AS 15.15.420 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.15.420. Duty to review the ballot counting. The director shall review the counting of the ballots [WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF AND] in the presence of the appointed representatives from the political parties. A candidate for an office that is on the ballots being counted and appointed representatives from the group supporting and from the group opposing a ballot proposition or question may be present and observe the counting of the ballots.

17 \* Sec. 24. AS 15.15.430(a) is amended to read:

(a) The review of ballot counting by the director must [SHALL] include [ONLY (1)] a review of the precinct registers, tallies, and ballots cast. The review must include [; (2)] a review of absentee and questioned ballots as prescribed by law. The review must include, for each house district except a house district where all races on the ballot are uncontested [; AND (3) UNLESS THE BALLOT FOR THE HOUSE DISTRICT CONTAINS NOTHING BUT UNCONTESTED OFFICES], a hand count of ballots from one randomly selected precinct in the [EACH] house district that accounts for at least five percent of the ballots cast in that district. The director shall adopt regulations prescribing additional review procedures employing statistical methods to limit the risk of certifying an election result that would be inconsistent with the result that would be obtained by conducting a recount.

1       \* See. 25. AS 15.20.030 is amended to read:

2       **Sec. 15.20.030. Preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other material.** The  
3       director shall provide ballots for use as absentee ballots in all districts. The director  
4       shall provide a secrecy sleeve in which the voter shall initially place the marked ballot  
5       [,] and shall provide a postage-paid return [AN] envelope with the prescribed voter's  
6       certificate on it, in which the secrecy sleeve with ballot enclosed shall be placed. The  
7       director shall prescribe the form of and prepare the voter's certificate, envelopes, and  
8       other material used in absentee voting. The voter's certificate shall include a  
9       declaration, for use when required, that the voter is a qualified voter in all respects, a  
10      blank for the voter's signature, and a space for recording the date certification that  
11      the voter affiant properly executed the certificate. An envelope may not identify a  
12      voter's party affiliation [, A CERTIFICATION THAT THE AFFIANT PROPERLY  
13      EXECUTED THE MARKING OF THE BALLOT AND GAVE THE VOTER'S  
14      IDENTITY, marking of the ballot and gave the voter's identity, BLANKS FOR THE  
15      ATTESTING OFFICIAL OR WITNESS, AND A PLACE FOR RECORDING THE  
16      DATE THE ENVELOPE WAS SEALED AND WITNESSED], and a place for  
17      recording the date the envelope was sealed and witnessed. The envelope with the  
18      voter's certificate may not identify a voter's party affiliation but must include a  
19      notice that false statements made by the voter FOR BY THE ATTESTING OFFICIAL  
20      OR WITNESS or by the attesting official or witness on the certificate are punishable  
21      by law.

22       \* Sec. 26. AS 15.20.072(e) is amended to read:

23       (e) A representative requesting a special needs ballot shall provide  
24       current and valid photo identification card or an identification card issued by a  
25       federally recognized tribe and sign a register provided by an election official. The  
26       register must require that the representative provide the representative's printed  
27       name, the name of the authority that issued the provided identification card, the  
28       type of provided identification card, the number associated with the provided  
29       identification card, the representative's phone number if available, the  
30       representative's electronic mail address if available, the name of the voter who  
31       requested the special needs ballot, and the dates on which the specials needs

1 ballet is provided to the representative and returned to the division. The election  
2 official shall verify that the representative's name, and, if applicable, likeness,  
3 match the provided identification card by signing or initialing the register. After  
4 the election official signs or initials the register, the election official shall explain  
5 to the representative the duties of a representative and a voter under (d) of this  
6 section and give the representative an envelope that includes a printed record of  
7 information required to be filled out by the representative. An election official  
8 may not issue the special needs ballot until the representative has provided the  
9 information required on the record. The record [IF THE REQUEST FOR A  
10 SPECIAL NEEDS BALLOT IS MADE THROUGH A REPRESENTATIVE, THE  
11 REPRESENTATIVE SHALL SIGN A REGISTER PROVIDED BY AN ELECTION  
12 OFFICIAL. THE REGISTER] must include the following information:

- 13 (1) the representative's name;
- 14 (2) the representative's residence and mailing address;
- 15 (3) the representative's social security number, voter identification  
number, or date of birth;
- 16 (4) the name of the voter on whose behalf the representative is  
requesting a ballot and voting materials;
- 17 (5) an oath that the representative  
18 (A) is receiving a ballot and voting materials on behalf of the  
19 voter;  
20 (B) will not vote the ballot for the voter;  
21 (C) will not coerce the voter;  
22 (D) will not divulge the vote cast by the voter; and  
23 (E) has been notified that unlawful interference with voting is  
24 punishable under AS 15.56.030;
- 25 (6) the representative's signature.

26 \* See. 27. AS 15.20.072(d) is amended to read:

- 27 (d) The representative shall deliver the special needs ballot, envelope, seereevy  
28 sleeve, and other voting materials provided by the division to the voter as soon as  
29 practicable. The voter shall mark the ballot in seeret, place the ballot in the seereevy

1 sleeve, and place the secrecy sleeve in the envelope [PROVIDED]. The voter shall  
2 provide the information on the envelope that would be required for absentee voting if  
3 the voter voted in person. The voter shall sign the voter's certificate in the presence of  
4 the representative. The representative shall sign as attesting official and date the  
5 voter's signature.

6 \* Sec. 28. AS 15.20.072 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

7 (h) If a qualified voter satisfies the requirements of (d) of this section, the  
8 division may not reject the voter's special needs ballot based on an error by an election  
9 official or a representative. If the circumstances show evidence of unlawful  
10 interference or misconduct, a special needs ballot may be held for further review.

11 (i) The director shall train each absentee voting official, election supervisor,  
12 and member of a precinct election board on the requirements of this section.

13 \* Sec. 29. AS 15.20.081(d) is amended to read:

14 (d) Upon receipt of an absentee ballot by mail, the voter [, IN THE  
15 PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC, COMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE  
16 ARMED FORCES INCLUDING THE NATIONAL GUARD, DISTRICT JUDGE  
17 OR MAGISTRATE, UNITED STATES POSTAL OFFICIAL, REGISTRATION  
18 OFFICIAL, OR OTHER PERSON QUALIFIED TO ADMINISTER OATHS,] may  
19 proceed to mark the ballot in secret, to place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve, to place  
20 the secrecy sleeve in the envelope provided, and to sign the voter's certificate on the  
21 envelope. The [IN THE PRESENCE OF AN OFFICIAL LISTED IN THIS  
22 SUBSECTION WHO SHALL SIGN AS ATTESTING OFFICIAL AND SHALL  
23 DATE THE SIGNATURE. IF NONE OF THE OFFICIALS LISTED IN THIS  
24 SUBSECTION IS REASONABLY ACCESSIBLE, AN ABSENTEE VOTER  
25 SHALL SIGN THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE IN THE PRESENCE OF AN  
26 INDIVIDUAL WHO IS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, WHO SHALL SIGN AS  
27 A WITNESS AND ATTEST TO THE DATE ON WHICH THE VOTER SIGNED  
28 THE CERTIFICATE IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S PRESENCE, AND, IN ADDITION,  
29 THE] voter shall certify, as prescribed in AS 09.63.020, under penalty of perjury, that  
30 the statements in the voter's certification are true.

31 \* Sec. 30. AS 15.20.081(e) is amended to read:

(e) An absentee ballot must be marked on or before the date of the election. Except as provided in (h) of this section, a voter who returns the absentee ballot by mail, whether provided to the voter by mail or by electronic transmission, shall use a mail service at least equal to first class and mail the ballot not later than the day of the election to the election supervisor for the house district in which the voter seeks to vote. Except as provided in AS 15.20.480, the ballot may not be counted unless it is received by the close of business on the 10th day after the election. [IF THE BALLOT IS POSTMARKED, IT MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE ELECTION DAY.] After the day of the election, ballots may not be accepted unless received by mail. A ballot received after the day of the election that is not postmarked or is postmarked after the day of the election may not be counted unless the ballot envelope is marked with a United States Postal Service tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was mailed on or before the day of the election or with a division of elections ballot tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was mailed on or before the day of the election.

~~\* See. 31.~~ AS 15.20.081(f) is amended to read:

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

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

(2) an original or a copy of a [CURRENT] utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other UTILITY BILL, BANK STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER] government document; an item provided under this paragraph must show that shows [; AN ITEM PROVIDED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MUST SHOW] the name and current address of the

1 voter and must be~~s~~ dated within the previous 60 days.

2 \* **Sec. 3219.** AS 15.20.081(h) is amended to read:

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

8 [ (1) 10th day following the [A PRIMARY] election [OR SPECIAL  
9 PRIMARY ELECTION UNDER AS 15.40.140; OR

10 (2) 15TH DAY FOLLOWING A GENERAL ELECTION OR  
11 SPECIAL ELECTION, OTHER THAN A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION  
12 DESCRIBED IN (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION].

13 \* **Sec. 33.** AS 15.20.081 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 (m) An absentee ballot application must include an option for a qualified voter  
15 to choose to receive absentee ballots by mail for future regularly scheduled state  
16 elections. The division may not require a voter who chooses this option to reapply for  
17 an absentee ballot by mail unless

18 (1) the voter has not voted an absentee ballot for a period of four years;  
19 or

20 (2) the voter's previous absentee ballot sent under this section was  
21 returned to the division as undeliverable.

22 \* See. 34.20. AS 15.20.170 is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 15.20.170. Disposition of ballots.** Each absentee voting official shall  
24 transmit the dated envelopes containing the marked ballots by the most expeditious  
25 mail service to the election supervisor for the district. Upon receipt of the absentee  
26 ballots, the election supervisor shall stamp on the envelope the date on which the  
27 ballot is received. In this section, "mail service" includes delivery by optical  
28 scanning and electronic transmission.

29 \* **Sec. 3521.** AS 15.20.201(a) is amended to read:

30 (a) Not [NO] less than 12 [SEVEN] days preceding the day of election, the  
31 election supervisor, in the presence and with the assistance of the district absentee

1 ballot counting board, shall review all voter certificates of absentee ballots received by  
2 that date. The review of absentee ballots shall continue at times designated by the  
3 election supervisor until completed.

4 \* **Sec. 2236. AS 15.20.203(b)** is amended to read:

5 (b) An absentee ballot must be rejected [MAY NOT BE COUNTED] if

6 (1) the voter has failed to properly execute the certificate;

7 (2) [AN OFFICIAL OR THE WITNESSES AUTHORIZED BY LAW  
8 TO ATTEST THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE FAIL TO EXECUTE THE  
9 CERTIFICATE, EXCEPT THAT AN ABSENTEE BALLOT CAST IN PERSON  
10 AND ACCEPTED BY AN ABSENTEE VOTING OFFICIAL OR ELECTION  
11 SUPERVISOR MAY BE COUNTED DESPITE FAILURE OF THE ABSENTEE  
12 VOTING OFFICIAL OR ELECTION SUPERVISOR TO PROPERLY SIGN AND  
13 DATE THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE AS ATTESTING OFFICIAL AS REQUIRED  
14 UNDER AS 15.20.061(e);

15 (3) THE BALLOT IS NOT ATTESTED ON OR BEFORE THE  
16 DATE OF THE ELECTION;

17 (4) the ballot envelope and certificate, if delivered by mail after the  
18 day of the election [POSTMARKED],

19 (A) is not postmarked or is postmarked after [ON OR  
20 BEFORE] the date of the election and is not marked with a United States  
21 Postal Service tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was  
22 mailed on or before the day of the election or with a division of elections  
23 ballot tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was mailed on or  
24 before the day of the election;

25 (B) has a United States Postal Service tracking barcode  
26 verifying that the ballot was mailed after the date of the election or a  
27 division of elections ballot tracking barcode verifying that the ballot was  
28 mailed after the date of the election; or

29 (C) is executed after the date of the election;

30 (3) [(5)] after the day of election, the ballot was delivered by a means  
31 other than mail; or

1                   (4) [OR (6)] the voter voted

2                    (A) in person and is a

3                            (i) first time voter who initially registered by mail or by  
4                            facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the director  
5                            under AS 15.07.050, has not provided the identification required by  
6                            AS 15.15.225(a), was not eligible for waiver of the identification  
7                            requirement under AS 15.15.225(b), and has not provided the  
8                            identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2) and (3) that can be verified  
9                            through state agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e); or

10                            (ii) voter other than one described in (i) of this  
11                            subparagraph, did not provide identification described in  
12                            AS 15.15.225(a), was not personally known by the election official,  
13                            and has not provided the identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2) and  
14                            (3); or

15                            (B) by mail or electronic transmission, is a first time voter who  
16                            initially registered by mail or by facsimile or other electronic transmission  
17                            approved by the director under AS 15.07.050 to vote, has not met the  
18                            identification requirements set out in AS 15.07.060, and does not submit with  
19                            the ballot a copy of a

20                                    (i) driver's license, state identification card, current and  
21                                    valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or identification  
22                                    card issued by a federally recognized tribe [HUNTING OR  
23                                    FISHING LICENSE]; or

24                                    (ii) an original or a copy of a [CURRENT] utility bill,  
25                                    bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government  
26                                    document; an item described in this sub subparagraph must show the  
27                                    name and current address of the voter and must be dated within the  
28                                    previous 60 days.

29                            \* Sec. 37. AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

30                            See. 15.20.215. Rules for challenging ballot. The director shall adopt by  
31                                    regulation a procedure and time frame for a person present at the ballot counting

1        ~~review to challenge the decision of whether to count an absentee, special needs, or~~  
2        ~~questioned ballot. The procedure must provide a reasonable amount of time to submit~~  
3        ~~a challenge.~~

4        ~~\* See. 38.~~ AS 15.20.220(b) is amended to read:

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

9        ~~\* Sec. 3923.~~ AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new sectionssection to read:

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

- 15            (1) confirm that the voter's ballot has been sent by the division;
- 16            (2) track the date of the ballot's delivery to the voter;
- 17            (3) confirm the division's receipt of the voter's ballot;
- 18            (4) determine whether the voter's ballot has been counted; and
- 19            (5) provide the information necessary to cure a rejected ballot.

20        (b) The online ballot-tracking system must

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

23            (A) the process by which the voter may cure the lack of  
24        signature or verify the voter's identity, if the signature on the voter's ballot was  
25        missing; and

26            (B) the reason the voter's ballot was not counted, if the ballot  
27        was not counted.

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

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

31        **Sec. 15.20.222. Procedure for curing uncounted ballot.** (a) If a voter's ballot

1 is rejected because the certificate is missing a signature or the voter provided  
2 insufficient voter identification, the director shall immediately make a reasonable  
3 effort to contact the voter, explain the ballot deficiency, explain how the deficiency  
4 may be cured, and inform the voter of the deadline to cure the ballot. The director  
5 shall, within 24 hours, send a notice of deficiency by electronic mail to the voter's  
6 electronic mail address if the voter has provided an electronic mail address. If the  
7 voter has provided a telephone number, the director shall, within 24 hours, attempt to  
8 notify the voter of the deficiency by telephone call and text message. The director  
9 shall, within 48 hours, but not later than five days after election day, send a notice of  
10 deficiency by first class, nonforwardable mail to the address in the voter's registration  
11 record.

12 (b) A notice of deficiency must include a form for the voter to confirm that the  
13 voter returned a ballot to the division, provide a copy of a form of identification  
14 accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a), and provide a signature. The director  
15 shall provide a printed copy of the form with the notice of deficiency mailed to the  
16 voter. The director shall also make the form available in a format that can be  
17 completed and returned electronically.

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

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

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

25 (3) the ballot is otherwise valid.

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

30 \* **Sec. 4025.** AS 15.20.480 is amended to read:

31 **Sec. 15.20.480. Procedure for recount.** In conducting the recount, the director

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

16 \* **Sec. 41. AS 15.20** is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Article 4A. Ballot Drop Boxes.**

18 **See. 15.20.850. Ballot drop boxes.** The director shall provide secure ballot  
19 drop boxes. The director shall adopt regulations governing the use and location of  
20 ballot drop boxes. The director shall provide a drop box at each division regional  
21 office. When selecting drop box locations, the director may consult with  
22 municipalities, school districts, tribal organizations, and nonpartisan civic  
23 organizations. The director shall include in the regulations the criteria for selecting the  
24 locations of drop boxes, the security requirements for the drop boxes, and a  
25 requirement that drop boxes be open 24 hours a day in the 10 days before an election  
26 day. The regulations must require that each drop box be open on the election day until  
27 8:00 p.m. A municipality may provide a drop box under regulations adopted by the  
28 director.

29 \* **Sec. 4226.** AS 15.56.030(d) is amended to read:

30 (d) For purposes of (a)(2) and (3) of this section, "other valuable thing"  
31 (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. 4327.** 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

1 an official election document including ballots, tallies, and returns;

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 \* Sec. 4428. AS 15.56.070(a) is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

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

31 \* Sec. 45. AS 15.80 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1            **See. 15.80.006. Cybersecurity.** The lieutenant governor shall, by regulation,  
2 develop a cybersecurity program to defend the voter registration records kept by the  
3 division against cyber attacks and data breaches and enable the division to detect and  
4 recover from cyber attacks. The program must include cybersecurity training for  
5 election officials.

6            **\* See. 46. AS 15.80 is amended by adding a new section to read:**

7            **See. 15.80.009. Synthetic media in electioneering communications.** (a) A  
8 person may not knowingly use synthetic media in an electioneering communication  
9 with the intent to influence an election.

10            (b) An individual who is harmed by an electioneering communication that  
11 violates this section may bring an action in the superior court to recover damages, full  
12 reasonable attorney fees, and costs from

13            (1) the person who created the electioneering communication or  
14 retained the services of another to create the electioneering communication;

15            (2) a person who disseminates an electioneering communication  
16 knowing that the electioneering communication includes synthetic media; or

17            (3) a person who removes a disclosure statement described in (d) of  
18 this section from an electioneering communication with the intent to influence an  
19 election and knowing that the electioneering communication includes synthetic media.

20            (c) An individual who is harmed by an electioneering communication that  
21 violates this section may seek injunctive relief in the superior court to prohibit  
22 publication of the synthetic media.

23            (d) It is a defense to an action under this section that

24            (1) the electioneering communication included the following  
25 disclosure statement: "This (image/video/audio) has been manipulated" and

26            (A) for visual media that included other text, the text of the  
27 disclosure statement remained visible throughout the entirety of the  
28 communication, was easily readable by the average viewer, and was in a font  
29 not smaller than the largest font size of any other text that appeared in the  
30 visual component;

31            (B) for visual media that did not include any other text, the

1 disclosure statement was in a font size that was easily readable by the average  
2 viewer;

3 (C) for a communication that consisted of only audio, the  
4 disclosure statement was read

5 (i) at the beginning of the audio, at the end of the audio,  
6 and, if the audio was longer than two minutes in duration, at intervals  
7 interspersed within the audio that occurred at least once every two  
8 minutes; and

9 (ii) in a clear manner and in a pitch and at a speed that  
10 was easily heard by the average listener; or

11 (2) the synthetic media constitutes satire or parody.

12 (e) An interactive computer service, Internet service provider, cloud service  
13 provider, telecommunications network, or radio or television broadcaster, including a  
14 cable or satellite television operator, programmer, or producer, is not liable under this  
15 section for hosting, publishing, or distributing an electioneering communication  
16 provided by another person. For purposes of this section, a developer of the  
17 technology used to create synthetic media that is in an electioneering communication  
18 is not the creator of the electioneering communication. This subsection does not  
19 prevent an individual from bringing an action under (b)(3) of this section for removing  
20 a disclosure statement.

21 (f) In this section,

22 (1) "access software provider" means a provider of client, server, or  
23 other software or enabling tools that

24 (A) filter, screen, allow, or disallow content;

25 (B) pick, choose, analyze, or digest content; or

26 (C) transmit, receive, display, forward, cache, search, subset,  
27 organize, reorganize, or translate content;

28 (2) "artificial intelligence" means a machine-based system that, for  
29 explicit or implicit objectives, infers, from the input the system receives, how to  
30 generate outputs, including predictions, content, recommendations, and decisions that  
31 can influence physical or virtual environments, with different artificial intelligence

systems varying in levels of autonomy and adaptiveness after deployment;

(3) "electioneering communication" means a communication that

(A) directly or indirectly identifies a candidate or political party;

(B) is disseminated through a mailing, a newspaper, the Internet, or broadcast media, including radio, television, cable, or satellite, to an audience that includes voters who will have the opportunity to vote on a candidate identified in the communication or on a candidate of a party identified in the communication; and

(C) when read as a whole and with limited reference to outside events, is susceptible of no other reasonable interpretation but as an exhortation to vote for or against a specific candidate;

(4) "interactive computer service" means an information service, system, or access software provider that provides or enables computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the Internet and systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions;

(5) "synthetic media"

(A) means an image, audio recording, or video recording of an individual's appearance, speech, or conduct that is manipulated by artificial intelligence in a manner that creates a realistic but false image, audio recording, or video recording and produces

(i) a depiction that a reasonable person would believe is of a real individual in appearance, speech, or conduct but did not actually occur in reality; and

(ii) a materially different understanding or impression than a reasonable person would have from the unaltered, original version of the image, audio recording, or video recording;

(B) does not include an image, audio recording, or video recording that is minimally edited, adjusted, or enhanced by artificial intelligence without materially altering how the meaning or significance of the

1 depiction would be perceived by a reasonable person.

2 ~~\* See. 47. AS 19.25.105(a) is amended to read:~~

3 ~~(a) Outdoor advertising may not be erected or maintained within 660 feet of~~  
4 ~~the nearest edge of the right of way and visible from the main traveled way of the~~  
5 ~~interstate, primary, or secondary highways in this state except the following:~~

6 ~~(1) directional and other official signs and notices that [WHICH]~~  
7 ~~include [, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO,] signs and notices pertaining to natural~~  
8 ~~wonders, scenic and historic attractions, which are required or authorized by law, and~~  
9 ~~which shall conform to federal standards for interstate and primary systems;~~

10 ~~(2) signs, displays, and devices advertising the sale or lease of property~~  
11 ~~on [UPON] which they are located or advertising activities conducted on the property;~~

12 ~~(3) signs determined by the state, subject to concurrence of the United~~  
13 ~~States Department of Transportation, to be landmark signs, including signs on farm~~  
14 ~~structures or natural surfaces of historic or artistic significance, the preservation of~~  
15 ~~which would be consistent with the provisions of this chapter;~~

16 ~~(4) directional signs and notices pertaining to schools;~~

17 ~~(5) advertising on bus benches or bus shelters, and adjacent trash~~  
18 ~~receptacles, if the state determines that the advertising conforms to local, state, and~~  
19 ~~federal standards for interstate and primary highways;~~

20 ~~(6) temporary political campaign signs not larger than 32 square~~  
21 ~~feet in size displayed on private property if the owner or resident of the property~~  
22 ~~is not being compensated for the display, the sign is not a risk to the public, and~~  
23 ~~the sign is outside of an interstate, primary, or secondary highway right of way.~~

24 ~~\* Sec. 48. AS 24.45.091 is amended to read:~~

25 ~~Sec. 24.45.091. Publication of reports. Copies of the statements and reports~~  
26 ~~filed under this chapter shall be made available to the public at the commission's~~  
27 ~~offices and on the commission's Internet website [CENTRAL OFFICE, THE~~  
28 ~~OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE~~  
29 ~~LIBRARY OF THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY, AND AT THE~~  
30 ~~COMMISSION'S DISTRICT OFFICES PRESCRIBED IN AS 15.13.020(j)] as soon~~  
31 ~~as practicable after each reporting period.~~

1       \* See. 49. AS 24.45.111(b) is amended to read:

2               (b) The commission shall preserve the statements and reports required to be  
3               filed under this chapter for a period of six years from the date of filing. Copies [IF  
4               THE COMMISSION'S CENTRAL OFFICE IS NOT IN THE STATE CAPITAL,  
5               COPIES] of all statements and reports filed under this chapter shall be maintained in  
6               the commission's offices and be made available on the commission's Internet  
7               website [AN OFFICE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION IN THE STATE  
8               CAPITAL OR IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR].

9       \* See. 50. AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

10               (65) Redistricting Board.

11       \* See. 51. AS 43.23.015(b) is amended to read:

12               (b) The department shall prescribe and furnish an application form for  
13               claiming a permanent fund dividend. The application must include

14               (1) notice of the penalties provided for under AS 43.23.270;  
15               (2) a statement of eligibility and a certification of residency;  
16               (3) the means for an applicant eligible to vote under AS 15.05, or a  
17               person authorized to act on behalf of the applicant, to furnish information required by  
18               AS 15.07.060(a)(1) (4) and (7) (9), and an attestation that such information is true,  
19               as well as a prominent notice informing the applicant that the applicant may  
20               decline to register to vote or update the applicant's voter information.

21       \* See. 52. AS 43.23.015 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

22               (k) When an applicant applies for a permanent fund dividend on an Internet  
23               website, the department shall inform the applicant that the applicant may decline to  
24               register to vote or update the applicant's voter information. The Internet webpage  
25               displaying the information required under this subsection must allow the applicant to  
26               decline to register to vote or update the applicant's voter information.

27       \* See. 5329. AS 43.23.101 is amended to read:

28               **Sec. 43.23.101. Voter registration.** Each month, the [THE] commissioner  
29               shall [ESTABLISH BY RULE A SCHEDULE BY WHICH THE COMMISSIONER  
30               WILL PROVIDE, AND SHALL] provide [AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE] the  
31               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 does not decline to register to vote or update the applicant's voter information under AS 43.23.015(b)(3) or (k); [WHO

H(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. 5430.** 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. 5531.** AS 44.62.310(h)(3)15.07.064(g) is amended to read: repealed.

(3) "public entity" means an entity of the state or of a political subdivision of the state including an agency, a board or commission, the Redistricting Board, the University of Alaska, a public authority or corporation, a municipality, a school district, and other governmental units of the state or a political subdivision of the state; it does not include the court system or the legislative branch

of state government.

\* Sec. 56. AS 15.07.064(g) and AS 15.10.170(b) are repealed.

\* Sec. 5732. 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. 5833.** 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. 4126 of this Act, AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 4327 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec. 4428 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. 59. This** Except as provided in sec. 35 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2026.