

AFP-AK Letter of Support for SB 180

As one of the largest grassroots organizations in the nation, Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is dedicated to bringing people together to change our government and public policies for the better.

Through broad-based grassroots outreach, AFP is driving long-term solutions to the country's biggest problems. AFP activists engage friends and neighbors on key issues and encourage them to take an active role in building a culture of mutual benefit, where individuals succeed by helping one another. AFP recruits and unites activists in 35 states behind a common goal of advancing policies that will help people improve their lives.

One public policy that will do this is the Alaska Online Checkbook Act. Alaskans deserve to know how exactly tax dollars are being spent. This Checkbook site will be a user-friendly tool that will help Alaskans and elected officials root out wasteful government spending. Increasing transparency and accountability is key to restoring trust in government and should not be a partisan issue.

To that end, I am pleased to support the Alaska Online Checkbook Act, SB 180. This legislation, if enacted, would allow the citizens of Alaska to see more easily see what our state government funds. Senate Bill 180 would require all state expenditures greater than \$1,000 to be placed on a website and presented in such a way that every citizen can navigate and understand.

Nearly every state in the nation has some kind of transparency website, including Alaska, but some are better than others. According to a report by the United States Public Interest Research Groups Education Fund (U.S. PIRG), Alaska is one of only four states that holds an F grade and ranks 46th out of the 50 states.¹

It's time to empower Alaskans to see what our state government funds. I look forward to working with the committee and the legislature to see this legislation passed.

Ryan McKee
State Director
Americans for Prosperity Alaska

¹ https://uspig.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/FtM%20NATIONAL%20FINAL%20VERSION_0.pdf