

# Senator Robert Myers

*Alaska State Legislature*

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## *Senate District B*

### **Explanation of Changes SB 129 Version B to CS SB 129 (JUD) Version O**

#### **Section 1: New section amends AS 15.58.030(g). Material filed by a candidate for election pamphlet.**

New section broadens information that may be filed by a person seeking retention in office as a justice or judge. Clarifies information that may be filed by a person seeking retention in office as a justice or judge and establishes a 300-word limit.

- Adds information regarding residency of the justice or judge.
- Adds information regarding military service of the justice or judge.
- Adds information regarding professional activities of the justice or judge, including public outreach and administrative activities.
- Adds any additional information that the justice or judge would like to publish to support the justice or judge's candidacy.

#### **Section 2: AS 15.58.050. Information and recommendations on judicial officers.**

Section is amended to distinguishes information requirements for justices and judges that are subject to retention election for the first time and individuals seeking continued retention.

#### Information requirements for judges seeking continued retention.

- Added information requirements.
  - (A) "Statement describing the professional philosophy not exceeding 150 words."
  - (E) "Rating of justice or judge by law enforcement officers, attorneys, court employees, jurors."
  - (F) "Number of decisions that were appealed and the rate at which the decisions of the justice or judge were affirmed."
  - (G) "a description of any public disciplinary proceedings against the justice or judge."
  - (H) "Self-assessment evaluating the individual's judicial performance, not to exceed 250 words."
- Amended information requirements.
  - Amend (A), "law school from which the justice or judge graduated" to (B) "a description of the judicial, legal, or other education."
  - Amend (B), "primary practices areas of the justice or judge before appointment" to (C) "description of professional business experience and positions in the preceding 10 years."
  - Amend (G) "organizations in which the justice or judge is a current member" to (D) "a list of service organization with which the justice or judge is affiliated."
- Removed information requirements.
  - Remove (D), "pro bono work has been removed for justices or judges."

- Information requirements for justices seeking continued retention.
  - Information required includes material described for a judge that is subject to a retention election except the number of decisions that were appealed and the rate at which the decisions that were affirmed.
  
- Information requirements for justice or judge standing for retention for the first time.
  - Amend and merge (E) “elected offices held by the justice or judge” and (F) “political party offices held by justices or judge” to (A) “previous political and governmental positions held, including any political office held.”
  - Amends (B) “the primary practice areas of the justice or judge before appointment, including the percentage of the justice’s or judge’s pre-appointment career spent as a trial lawyer” to (B) “the justice’s or judge’s primary practice areas before appointment, including the approximate percentage of the justice’s or judge’s pre-appointment career spent as a trial lawyer.”
  - Amend (H) “clients and employers of members of the justices’ or judge’s household” to “types of clients the justice or judge represented before appointment” and establishes the information requirement for only justice or judge standing for retention for first time.

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