Representative Sara Rasmussen

Alaska State Legislature District 22

Toll Free: (866) 465-3892

SESSION ADDRESS: Alaska State Capitol Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 465-3892



Rep.Sara.Rasmussen@akleg.gov

INTERIM ADDRESS: 1500 W. Benson Blvd Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: (907) 269-0234

CS House Bill 157

Sectional Analysis

"An Act requiring the disclosure of the identity of certain persons, groups, and nongroup entities that expend money in support of or in opposition to an application filed for a state referendum or recall election; and providing for an effective date."

Section 1: AS 15.13.010(b) – Applicability related to State Election Campaigns. Adds language to the applicability section that state the chapter applies to contributions, expenditures, and communications that are made to influence the nomination or election of a candidate. And for the purpose of influencing a ballot proposition or question or for supporting or opposing and initiative proposal, recall, or referendum.

Section 2: AS 15.13.020(j) – Alaska Public Offices Commission. Removes the requirement for an APOC office to be located in each Senate District.

Section 3: AS 15.13.030 – Duties of the commission. Removes the word "ALL" from the phrase "examine, investigate, and compare [all] reports, statements, and actions required by this chapter."

Sections 4-8: AS 15.13.040(b), 15.13.072(b), and 15.13.074(e). Clarifies that contributions and expenditures are in a calendar year instead of left open ended.

Section 5: AS 15.13.050(a) – Registration before expenditure. Adds language regarding referendums or recalls to the statute that requires persons to register with APOC prior to making an expenditure.

Section 6: AS 15.13.065(c) – Contributions. Adds language related to referendum and recall applications to what is included in the definition of proposition.

Section 9: AS 15.13.110(e) – **Filing of Reports.** Rewrites the language related to those receiving or making expenditures to support or oppose referendums. This language is identical to the language contained in AS 15.13.040(k) for ballot proposition reporting requirements and AS 15.13.110(g) for ballot initiative reporting requirements.

Section 10: AS 15.13.110 – Filing of Reports. Adds a new subsection (k) for those receiving or making expenditures to support or oppose a recall. This language is similar to Section 4 of this bill and AS 15.13.040(k) for ballot proposition reporting requirements and AS 15.13.110(g) for ballot initiative reporting requirements.

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(This is the conforming language to align the recall/referendum reporting requirement with the ballot props and initiatives. Section 12 – 14 are modify definitions to include the new language for recall and referendums.)

Sections 12-14: AS 15.13.400(4), and (7) – Definitions. Modifies the definition of "contributions" to include groups and referendum and recall applications, modifies the definition of "expenditures" to include referendum and recall applications, and modifies the definition of "group" to include referendum and recall applications.

Sections 15-16: AS 24.45.091 Publication of reports. Provides for publication of reports and archives of statements and reports to be posted on their website as well as have copies available at the central office.

Section 17: Repeals AS 15.13.040(k). Provides that recall applications are subject to group contribution limitations whereas referendum applications are not.

Sections 18: Uncodified law. States that this Act applies only to referendums or recalls that are filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

Sections 19: Provides for a January 1, 2022 effective date.

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