

Senator Robert Myers

Alaska State Legislature

Session Address:

Alaska State Capitol, Rm. 510
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3719
Toll Free: (877) 465-3719



Interim Address:

1292 Sadler Way, Ste. 340
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-3172
Phone: (907) 451-2157

Senate District B

CS SB 129 – Sectional Analysis

“An Act relating to information on judicial officers seeking retention in office.”

Section 1: Amends AS 15.58.030(g) Material to be filed by a candidate for the election pamphlet.

- Establishes a 300-word limit for material that may be filed for the state election pamphlet.
- Clarifies additional information that may be filed for the state election pamphlet for a person seeking retention in office as a justice or judge.
 - Residency of the justice or judge.
 - Military service of the justice or judge.
 - Professional activities of justice or judge, including public outreach and administrative activities.
 - Any additional information that the justice or judge would like to publish to support the justice or judge’s candidacy.

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

- Establishes 1,200-word limit for material filed for the state election pamphlet by the judicial council.
 - Distinguishes information requirements for justices or judges that are subject to retention election for the first time and individuals seeking continued retention.
1. Superior Court Judge or District Court Judge that is subject to a retention election
 - A. Statement describing the professional philosophy of the judge not exceeding 150 words.
 - B. Description of the judicial, legal, or other education.
 - C. Description of professional business experience and professional positions held in preceding 10 years.
 - D. List of service organizations with which the justice or judge is affiliated.
 - E. If applicable, rating by law enforcement officers, attorneys, court employees, and jurors.
 - F. Number of decisions that were reviewed and disposed of by a written decision of an appellate court and the percentage of issues in those decisions that were affirmed by the appellate court.
 - G. 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.
 2. Supreme Court Justice or Court of Appeals Judge that is subject to a retention election
 - A. Information required includes material described AS15.58.050(1). Except AS15.58.050(1)(f), number of decisions that were reviewed and disposed of by a written decision of an appellate court and the percentage of issues in those decisions that were affirmed by the appellate court.
 3. Justice or judge that is standing for retention for the first time.
 - A. Previous political and governmental positions held, including any political office held.
 - B. Primary practice areas before appointment, including the approximate percentage of pre-appointment career spent as a trial lawyer.
 - C. Types of clients the justice or judge represented before appointment.

Staff Contact: Theresa Woldstad (907) 465-5834