



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY
ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sponsor Statement

HB 129 Voter Registration

"An Act relating to voter registration; and providing for an effective date."

House Bill 129 tackles Alaska's over-inflated voter rolls that are estimated to be around 113 percent! The challenge facing the Division of Elections to maintain current and accurate voter rolls is exacerbated by a highly transit population, automatic voter registration on the Permanent Fund Dividend application, and a current law that allows people to stay registered in the state as long as they have an "intent of returning."

HB 129 addresses these concerns by requiring the director to send letters to confirm the address of all voters not domiciled in Alaska and an easier system to cancel voter registration. Furthermore, this bill adopts the best practices for verifying valid Alaskan voter status with multiple databases. Alaska is currently part of the ERIC system and does not have a 50-state data comparison in place to assure those voting in Alaska are domiciled in-state or are qualified to vote in our elections. This bill mandates adoption of a best practice voter registration system with a written maintenance schedule.

The foundation of secure and trustworthy elections begins with accurate voter rolls. Over-registering voters makes our election system inaccurate and vulnerable to the actions of bad actors. Compromised data invites those with nefarious intent to exploit inactive voters and invites those who do not live in Alaska to influence our elections.

HB 129 provides clear direction to help clean up our voter rolls to reflect a more accurate representation of the Alaskan electorate to build trust in our election system!