

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## Senator David Wilson

### Sectional Analysis

#### Senate Bill 246 v. S

**“An Act relating to a legal fund to pay attorney fees and costs in an election contest; and providing for an effective date.”**

**Section 1 (Page 1, line 4, through page 4, line 1): Amends AS 15 (Elections) .13 (State Election Campaigns) .116 (Disbursement of campaign assets after election)**

**Page 2, line 17, through line 21:** (a) (6) Repeals ambiguous language regarding a fund for costs related to an election challenge. Replaces it with a reference to a legal fund as established under section 3 of this bill.

**Section 2: Adds a new subsection to AS 24 (Legislature and Lobbying) .60 (Standards of Conduct) .080 (Gifts).**

**Page 4, line 2 through line 4:** (l) Specifies that contributions made to a legal fund as established under section 3 of this bill do not qualify as gifts if the reporting requirements under section 3 of this legislation are met.

**Section 3: Adds a new section .111 (Legal funds) to AS 24 (Legislature and Lobbying) .60 (Standards of Conduct).**

**Page 4, line 5 through line 17:** (a) Allows a legislator to establish a legal fund to pay attorney fees and costs incurred in an election contest.

(b) Specifies that a legislator may, at any time, solicit and accept contributions to a legal fund established under this section. Requires the Alaska Public Offices Commission to adopt regulations on the following:

- (1) establishing a legal fund,
- (2) identifying allowable uses of money in and the disposition of surplus money from a legal fund, and
- (3) requiring disclosure of contributions to and expenditures from a legal fund.

(c) Specifies a contribution to a legal fund is not subject to the restrictions on fund raising during session or the disclosure requirements for gifts under the Legislative Ethics Act.

**Section 4: Effective date.** Provides an immediate effective date.