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Dunmire  
3/11/25

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64( )**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to elections; relating to voters; relating to voting; relating to voter**  
2 **registration; relating to election administration; relating to the Alaska Public Offices**  
3 **Commission; relating to the crimes of unlawful interference with voting in the first**  
4 **degree, unlawful interference with an election, and election official misconduct; relating**  
5 **to campaign signs; relating to public official financial disclosures; relating to the**  
6 **Redistricting Board; and providing for an effective date."**

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

8 **\* Section 1.** AS 15.05.010 is amended to read:

9 **Sec. 15.05.010. Voter qualification.** A person may vote at any election who

10 (1) is a citizen of the United States;

11 (2) is 18 years of age or older;

12 (3) has been a resident of the state and of the house district in which  
13 the person seeks to vote for at least 30 days just before the election; and

1 (4) has registered [BEFORE THE ELECTION] as required under  
2 AS 15.07 and is not registered to vote in another jurisdiction.

3 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.05.020 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 15.05.020. Rules for determining residence of voter.** For the purpose of  
5 determining residence for voting, the place of residence is governed by the following  
6 rules:

7 (1) A person may not be considered to have gained a residence solely  
8 by reason of presence nor may a person lose it solely by reason of absence while in the  
9 civil or military service of this state or of the United States or of absence because of  
10 marriage to a person engaged in the civil or military service of this state or the United  
11 States, while a student at an institution of learning, while in an institution or asylum at  
12 public expense, while confined in public prison, while engaged in the navigation of  
13 waters of this state or the United States or of the high seas, while residing on [UPON]  
14 an Indian or military reservation, or while residing in the Alaska Pioneers' Home or  
15 the Alaska Veterans' Home.

16 (2) The residence of a person is that place in which the person's  
17 physical habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever absent, the person has an  
18 articulable and reasonable plan [THE INTENTION] to return. If a person resides in  
19 one place, but does business in another, the former is the person's place of residence.  
20 Temporary work sites do not constitute a dwelling place.

21 (3) [A CHANGE OF RESIDENCE IS MADE ONLY BY THE ACT  
22 OF REMOVAL JOINED WITH THE INTENT TO REMAIN IN ANOTHER  
23 PLACE.] There can only be one residence.

24 (4) A person does not lose residence if the person leaves home and  
25 goes to another country, state, or place in this state for temporary purposes only and  
26 with the intent of returning to the person's residence.

27 (5) A person does not gain residence in any place to which the person  
28 comes without the present intention to establish a permanent dwelling at that place.

29 (6) A person loses residence in this state if the person establishes  
30 residence in another state or votes in another state's election, either in person or by  
31 absentee ballot, and will not be eligible to vote in this state until again qualifying

1 under AS 15.05.010.

2 (7) The term of residence is computed by including the day on which  
3 the person's residence begins and excluding the day of election.

4 (8) The address of a voter as it appears on the official voter registration  
5 record is presumptive evidence of the person's voting residence. This presumption is  
6 negated [ONLY] if the voter notifies the director in writing of a change of voting  
7 residence. **When a voter's qualification is questioned under AS 15.15.210 or**  
8 **challenged in accordance with the procedure adopted in regulation under**  
9 **AS 15.20.215, the presumption may be rebutted by providing evidence to the**  
10 **division that the voter has established residence in another state or place in this**  
11 **state or evidence that the voter is not a resident under (2) - (7) of this section.**

12 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.07.060(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) Each applicant who requests registration or reregistration shall supply the  
14 following information:

- 15 (1) the applicant's name and sex;
- 16 (2) if issued, the applicant's State of Alaska driver's license number or  
17 State of Alaska identification card number, or the last four digits of the applicant's  
18 social security number;
- 19 (3) the applicant's date of birth;
- 20 (4) the applicant's Alaska residence address;
- 21 (5) a statement of whether the applicant has previously been registered  
22 to vote in another jurisdiction, and, if so, the jurisdiction and the address of the  
23 previous registration;
- 24 (6) a declaration that the applicant will be 18 years of age or older  
25 within 90 days after the date of registration;
- 26 (7) a declaration that the applicant is a citizen of the United States;
- 27 (8) the date of application;
- 28 (9) the applicant's signature, [OR] mark, **or electronic signature**;
- 29 (10) any former name under which the applicant was registered to vote  
30 in the state;
- 31 (11) an attestation that the information provided by the applicant in (1)

1 - (10) of this subsection is true; and

2 (12) a certification that the applicant understands that a false statement  
3 on the application may make the applicant subject to prosecution for a misdemeanor  
4 under this title or AS 11.

5 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.07.060(c) is amended to read:

6 (c) Each applicant who requests registration in person before a registration  
7 official shall exhibit one form of identification to the official, including a driver's  
8 license, state identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth  
9 certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe**  
10 **[HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]**. A registration official who knows the identity  
11 of the applicant may waive the identification requirement.

12 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 15.07.060(e) is amended to read:

13 (e) For an applicant requesting initial registration by mail, by facsimile or  
14 other electronic transmission approved by the director under AS 15.07.050, or by  
15 completing a permanent fund dividend application, the director shall verify the  
16 information provided in compliance with (a)(2) and (3) of this section through state  
17 agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e). If the applicant cannot comply with the  
18 requirement of (a)(2) of this section because the applicant has not been issued any of  
19 the listed numbers, the applicant may instead submit a copy of one of the following  
20 forms of identification: a driver's license, state identification card, current and valid  
21 photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by a**  
22 **federally recognized tribe** **[HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]**.

23 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 15.07.060 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

24 (g) The division shall provide an applicant the opportunity to designate, from  
25 among the written languages in which the division is required to print election  
26 materials under 52 U.S.C. 10503, as amended, the language in which the applicant  
27 prefers to receive ballots and other election materials printed for an election. The  
28 division shall provide the applicant with ballots and election materials in the  
29 applicant's designated language unless the applicant designates a language in which  
30 the division is not required to print ballots and election materials. The division shall  
31 notify an applicant when ballots and election materials printed in the designated

1 language are not available and allow the applicant another opportunity to designate a  
2 language under this subsection. The division shall provide an applicant with ballots  
3 and election materials in the designated language until the earlier of the date that

4 (1) the applicant's voter registration is inactivated or cancelled; or

5 (2) the division is no longer required under 52 U.S.C. 10503, as  
6 amended, to print ballots and election materials in the designated language.

7 (h) An applicant who requests registration within 30 days before an election  
8 shall supply a declaration stating whether the applicant established residency at least  
9 30 days before the date of the election in

10 (1) the state;

11 (2) the house district in which the applicant seeks to vote at the  
12 election.

13 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 15.07.070(b) is amended to read:

14 (b) To register by mail or by facsimile, scanning, or other electronic  
15 transmission approved by the director under AS 15.07.050, the director, the area  
16 election supervisor, or a voter registration agency shall furnish, at no cost to the voter,  
17 forms prepared by the director on which the registration information required under  
18 AS 15.07.060 shall be inserted by the voter, by a person on behalf of the voter if that  
19 person is designated to act on behalf of the voter in a power of attorney, or by a person  
20 on behalf of the voter if the voter is physically incapacitated. **The director shall**  
21 **accept the electronic signature of the voter or a person acting on behalf of the**  
22 **voter.** The director may require proof of identification of the applicant as required by  
23 regulations adopted by the director under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act).  
24 Upon receipt and approval of the completed registration forms, the director or the  
25 election supervisor shall forward to the voter an acknowledgment, and the voter's  
26 name shall immediately be placed on the master register. If the registration is denied,  
27 the voter shall immediately be informed in writing that registration was denied and the  
28 reason for denial. When identifying information has been provided by the voter as  
29 required by this chapter, the election supervisor shall forward to the voter a  
30 registration card.

31 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 15.07.070(c) is amended to read:

1 (c) The names of persons submitting completed registration forms by mail that  
2 are postmarked at least 30 days before the next election, or submitting completed  
3 registration forms by facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the  
4 director under AS 15.07.050 that are received at least 30 days before the next election,  
5 shall be placed on the official registration list for that election. If a registration form  
6 received by mail less than 30 days before an election does not have a legible and dated  
7 postmark, the name of the person submitting the form shall be placed on the official  
8 registration list for that election if the form was signed and dated by the person at least  
9 30 days before the election and if the form is received by the director or election  
10 supervisor at least 25 days before the election. The name of a person submitting a  
11 completed registration form by mail or by facsimile or other electronic transmission  
12 that does not meet the applicable requirements of this subsection may not be placed on  
13 the official registration list for that election but shall be placed on the master register  
14 after that election. **A person submitting a completed registration form that does**  
15 **not meet the requirements of this subsection for placement on the master register**  
16 **for the next election but who complies with AS 15.07.060(g) may vote an**  
17 **absentee, special needs, or questioned ballot at that election.**

18 \* Sec. 9. AS 15.07.070(d) is amended to read:

19 (d) Qualified voters may register in person before a registration official or  
20 through a voter registration agency at any time throughout the year. **A qualified voter**  
21 **who registers** [, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON REGISTERING] within 30 days **before**  
22 **or on the day of an election may vote only an absentee, special needs, or**  
23 **questioned ballot** [PRECEDING AN ELECTION IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE] at  
24 that election. **The division may not reject the absentee, special needs, or**  
25 **questioned ballot of a qualified voter who registers within 30 days before or on**  
26 **the day of an election on the grounds that the voter is not on the official**  
27 **registration list for the election.** Upon receipt and approval of the registration forms,  
28 the director or the election supervisor shall forward to the voter an acknowledgment in  
29 the form of a registration card, and the voter's name shall immediately be placed on  
30 the master register. Names of persons registering 30 or more days before an election  
31 shall be placed on the official registration list for that election.

1 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 15.07.090(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) A voter shall reregister if the voter's registration is cancelled as provided in  
3 AS 15.07.130. **A person reregistering under this subsection may vote only an**  
4 **absentee, special needs, or questioned ballot until** [THE REREGISTRATION IS  
5 EFFECTIVE FOR] the next election that occurs at least 30 days after the date of  
6 reregistration. **The division may not reject the absentee, special needs, or**  
7 **questioned ballot of a qualified voter who reregisters within 30 days before or on**  
8 **the day of an election on the grounds that the voter is not on the official**  
9 **registration list for the election.**

10 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 15.07.090(c) is amended to read:

11 (c) The director shall transfer the registration of a voter from one precinct to  
12 another within a house district when requested by the voter. **If a** [THE] request **is**  
13 [SHALL BE] made **within** 30 [OR MORE] days before [THE] election day **or on**  
14 **election day, a person transferring registration to a new precinct may vote only**  
15 **an absentee, special needs, or questioned ballot. The division may not reject the**  
16 **absentee, special needs, or questioned ballot of a qualified voter who transfers**  
17 **registration within 30 days before or on the day of an election on the grounds**  
18 **that the voter is not on the official registration list for the election.** The director  
19 shall transfer the registration of a voter from one house district to another when  
20 requested by the voter. The voter must reside in the new house district for at least 30  
21 days in order to vote **a ballot for that district.**

22 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 15.07.090(d) is amended to read:

23 (d) A person who claims to be a registered voter, but for whom no evidence of  
24 registration in the precinct can be found, **may vote only an absentee, special needs,**  
25 **or questioned ballot. The division may not reject the absentee, special needs, or**  
26 **questioned ballot of a qualified voter who registers within 30 days before or on**  
27 **the day of an election on the grounds that the voter is not on the official**  
28 **registration list for the election** [SHALL BE GRANTED THE RIGHT TO VOTE  
29 IN THE SAME MANNER AS THAT OF A QUESTIONED VOTER AND THE  
30 BALLOT SHALL BE TREATED IN THE SAME MANNER. THE BALLOT  
31 SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE A "QUESTIONED BALLOT" AND SHALL BE

1 SO DESIGNATED. THE DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S REPRESENTATIVE  
 2 SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER THE VOTER IS REGISTERED IN THE HOUSE  
 3 DISTRICT BEFORE COUNTING THE BALLOT. A VOTER WHO HAS FAILED  
 4 TO OBTAIN A TRANSFER AS PROVIDED IN (c) OF THIS SECTION SHALL  
 5 VOTE A "QUESTIONED BALLOT" IN THE PRECINCT IN WHICH THE VOTER  
 6 RESIDES].

7 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 15.07.130(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) Periodically, at times of the director's choosing, but **not** [NO] less  
 9 frequently than in January of each calendar year, the director shall examine the master  
 10 register maintained under AS 15.07.120 and shall send, by **forwardable**  
 11 [NONFORWARDABLE] mail to the voter's registration mailing address, **and to the**  
 12 **voter's electronic mail address, if available**, a notice requesting address  
 13 confirmation or correction. **The notice must explain that the voter's registration**  
 14 **will be inactivated unless the voter responds to the notice within 45 days after the**  
 15 **date the notice is sent. The director shall send the notice** to each voter

16 (1) whose mail from the division has been returned to the division in  
 17 the two years immediately preceding the examination of the register;

18 (2) who has not contacted the division in the two years immediately  
 19 preceding the examination of the register **and** [; OR (3)] who has not voted or  
 20 appeared to vote in the two general elections immediately preceding the examination  
 21 of the register;

22 **(3) who the division has learned, after registering to vote in this**  
 23 **state and during the period encompassing the two general elections immediately**  
 24 **preceding the examination of the register, has**

25 **(A) registered to vote in another state;**

26 **(B) received a driver's license from another state;**

27 **(C) registered a vehicle in another state;**

28 **(D) received public assistance from another state;**

29 **(E) served on a jury in another state;**

30 **(F) obtained a resident hunting or fishing license in another**

31 **state;**



1 (G) paid the state resident tuition rate for a public  
 2 university in another state;

3 (H) received a homestead or residential property tax  
 4 exemption in another state; or

5 (I) received a benefit available only to residents of another  
 6 state; or

7 (4) who became ineligible to receive a permanent fund dividend  
 8 under AS 43.23.005 in the two years immediately preceding the examination of  
 9 the register.

10 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 15.07.130(b) is amended to read:

11 (b) If a registered voter **does** [HAS] not **respond to a notice sent under (a) of**  
 12 **this section within 45 days after the date the notice is sent, the director shall**  
 13 **inactivate the voter's registration** [, WITHIN THE PRECEDING FOUR  
 14 CALENDAR YEARS, CONTACTED THE DIVISION AND HAS NEITHER  
 15 VOTED NOR APPEARED TO VOTE IN A LOCAL, REGIONAL SCHOOL  
 16 BOARD, PRIMARY, SPECIAL, OR GENERAL ELECTION DURING THE LAST  
 17 FOUR CALENDAR YEARS AND A NOTICE SENT TO THE VOTER UNDER (a)  
 18 OF THIS SECTION WAS RETURNED AS UNDELIVERABLE, THE VOTER  
 19 SHALL BE ADVISED BY A NOTICE SENT BY FORWARDABLE MAIL TO THE  
 20 VOTER'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESS THAT REGISTRATION WILL BE  
 21 INACTIVATED UNLESS THE VOTER RESPONDS TO THE NOTICE NO  
 22 LATER THAN 45 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE SENT UNDER  
 23 THIS SECTION]. The director shall maintain on the master register the name of a  
 24 voter whose registration is inactivated. The director shall cancel a voter's inactive  
 25 registration in accordance with the procedures set out in **52 U.S.C. 20507** [42 U.S.C.  
 26 1973gg-6 (SEC. 8, NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993)] after the  
 27 second general election that occurs after the registration becomes inactive if the voter  
 28 does not contact the division or vote or appear to vote.

29 \* **Sec. 15.** AS 15.07.130(d) is amended to read:

30 (d) The notice sent under **(a)** [(b)] of this section must include a postage  
 31 prepaid and pre-addressed return card on which the voter may state the voter's current

1 address. The notice must indicate

2 (1) that the voter should return the card not later than 45 days after the  
3 date of the notice if the voter did not change residence;

4 (2) that failure to return the card by the 45-day deadline could result in  
5 removal of the voter's name from the official registration list for a subsequent election;

6 (3) that the voter's registration will be cancelled if the voter does not  
7 contact the division during, or vote or appear to vote in an election held during, the  
8 period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the last day of  
9 the fourth calendar year that occurs after the date of notice; and

10 (4) how the voter can continue to be eligible to vote if the voter has  
11 changed residence.

12 \* **Sec. 16.** AS 15.07.130(f) is amended to read:

13 (f) For the purpose of this section, a voter "contacts" the division if the voter  
14 notifies the division of a change of address, responds to a notice sent under this  
15 section, signs a petition for a ballot measure, requests a new voter registration card, or  
16 otherwise communicates with the division other than to vote or register to vote. **An**  
17 **individual does not "contact" the division by registering to vote under**  
18 **AS 15.07.070(i) - (m).**

19 \* **Sec. 17.** AS 15.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

20 **Sec. 15.07.133. Process to cancel registration.** The director shall develop a  
21 process to allow a voter to cancel the voter's registration electronically or in person  
22 before an election official. The director shall prominently display instructions for a  
23 voter to cancel the voter's registration at each polling place.

24 \* **Sec. 18.** AS 15.10.105 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

25 (c) The director shall employ a rural community liaison. The rural community  
26 liaison shall collaborate with tribes, municipalities, corporations incorporated under  
27 AS 10.06, regional nonprofit corporations, and other community organizations to  
28 facilitate access to early and absentee voting in rural areas of the state and ensure that  
29 precincts in rural areas of the state are fully staffed.

30 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 15.10.170(a) is amended to read:

31 (a) The precinct party committee, where an organized precinct committee

1 exists, or the party district committee where no organized precinct committee exists,  
 2 or the state party chairperson where neither a precinct nor a party district committee  
 3 exists, may appoint one or more [PERSONS AS] watchers in each precinct and  
 4 counting center for any election. A [EACH] candidate may appoint one or more  
 5 watchers for each precinct or counting center in the candidate's respective district or  
 6 the state for any election. An [ANY] organization or organized group that sponsors or  
 7 opposes a ballot proposition [AN INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM,] or question  
 8 [RECALL] may have one or more [PERSONS AS] watchers at the polls and counting  
 9 centers after first obtaining authorization from the director. A candidate, or an  
 10 organization or organized group with authorization from the director, may  
 11 appoint at least one watcher for each location where ballots or envelopes are  
 12 reviewed or counted in a precinct or counting center. A state party chairperson, a  
 13 precinct party committee, a party district committee, or a candidate may not have more  
 14 than one watcher on duty at a time in any precinct or counting center. A watcher must  
 15 be a United States citizen. The watcher may be present at a position inside the place of  
 16 voting or counting that affords a full view of all action of the election officials taken  
 17 from the time the polls are opened until the ballots are finally counted and the results  
 18 certified by the election board or the data processing review board. The election board  
 19 or the data processing review board may require each watcher to present written proof  
 20 showing appointment by the precinct party committee, the party district committee,  
 21 the organization or organized group, or the candidate the watcher represents and that  
 22 is signed by the respective chairperson or chairperson's designee of the precinct  
 23 party committee or party district committee, the state party chairperson, the  
 24 organization or organized group, or the candidate or candidate's designee.

25 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 15.13.020(j) is amended to read:

26 (j) The commission shall establish offices [AN OFFICE, WHICH MAY BE  
 27 CALLED A REGIONAL OFFICE, IN EACH SENATE DISTRICT IN THE STATE  
 28 TO KEEP ON FILE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION COPIES OF ALL REPORTS  
 29 FILED WITH THE COMMISSION BY CANDIDATES FOR STATEWIDE OFFICE  
 30 AND BY CANDIDATES FOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICE IN THAT DISTRICT;  
 31 HOWEVER, WHERE ONE MUNICIPALITY CONTAINS MORE THAN ONE

1 HOUSE DISTRICT, ONLY ONE COMMISSION OFFICE SHALL BE  
2 ESTABLISHED IN THAT MUNICIPALITY. THE REGIONAL OFFICE SHALL  
3 MAKE ALL FORMS AND PERTINENT MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO  
4 CANDIDATES. ALL REPORTS SHALL BE FILED BY CANDIDATES, GROUPS,  
5 AND INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY WITH THE COMMISSION'S CENTRAL  
6 DISTRICT OFFICE. THE COMMISSION SHALL ENSURE THAT COPIES OF  
7 ALL REPORTS BY STATEWIDE AND LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES IN EACH  
8 SENATE DISTRICT ARE FORWARDED PROMPTLY TO THAT DISTRICT OR  
9 REGIONAL OFFICE].

10 \* **Sec. 21.** AS 15.15.060(a) is amended to read:

11 (a) Immediately following the appointment of the election board, the election  
12 supervisor in conjunction with the election board chair shall secure polling places for  
13 holding the election, suitable ballot boxes that will assure security, and an adequate  
14 number of voting booths or screens, national flags, pens, and pencils. At every polling  
15 place, at least one voting booth shall be furnished and not less than one voting booth  
16 or screen shall be furnished for each 100 votes or fractional part of 100 votes cast in  
17 the previous election. [AT EVERY POLLING PLACE, AT LEAST ONE-HALF OF  
18 THE VOTING BOOTHS USED SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN SIX FEET IN  
19 HEIGHT, ENCLOSED ON THREE SIDES, AND PROVIDED WITH A CURTAIN  
20 EXTENDING FROM THE TOP OF THE VOTING BOOTH TO WITHIN  
21 APPROXIMATELY 30 INCHES OF THE FLOOR. THE CURTAIN OF THE  
22 VOTING BOOTH MUST CONCEAL THE VOTER WHILE VOTING.] The election  
23 supervisor and the election board chair may, in an emergency, secure an alternate  
24 location for a polling place.

25 \* **Sec. 22.** AS 15.15.060(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) To assure administrative economy and to protect the secrecy of the ballot,  
27 the director may adopt regulations prescribing

- 28 (1) the type of polling place for holding the election;  
29 (2) the requirements regarding ballot boxes, voting screens, national  
30 flags, and other supplies; and  
31 (3) [SUBJECT TO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF (a) OF THIS

1 SECTION,] the requirements regarding voting booths.

2 \* **Sec. 23.** AS 15.15.060 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

3 (f) At each polling place, the division shall provide language assistance as  
4 required under 52 U.S.C. 10503, as amended. An election supervisor shall post at each  
5 polling place information regarding the availability of language assistance in English  
6 and all other languages for which language assistance is required to be provided in the  
7 jurisdiction under federal law.

8 \* **Sec. 24.** AS 15.15.225(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) Before being allowed to vote, each voter shall exhibit to an election official  
10 one form of identification, including

11 (1) an official voter registration card, driver's license, state  
12 identification card, current and valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or  
13 **identification card issued by a federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR  
14 FISHING LICENSE]; or

15 (2) an original or a copy of a [CURRENT] utility bill, bank statement,  
16 paycheck, government check, or other government document; an item exhibited under  
17 this paragraph must show the name and current address of the voter **and must be**  
18 **dated within the previous 90 days.**

19 \* **Sec. 25.** AS 15.15.370 is amended to read:

20 **Sec. 15.15.370. Results [COMPLETION] of ballot count [;**  
21 **CERTIFICATE].** When the count of ballots is completed, and in no event later than  
22 the day after the election, the election board shall make a certificate in duplicate of the  
23 results. The certificate includes the number of votes cast for each candidate, including,  
24 for a candidate in a general election, the number of votes at each **ranking** [ROUND  
25 OF THE RANKED-CHOICE TABULATION PROCESS] under AS 15.15.350, the  
26 number of votes for and against each proposition, yes or no on each question, and any  
27 additional information prescribed by the director. The election board shall,  
28 immediately upon completion of the certificate or as soon thereafter as the local mail  
29 service permits, send in one sealed package to the director one copy of the certificate  
30 and the register. In addition, all ballots properly cast shall be mailed to the director in a  
31 separate, sealed package. Both packages, in addition to an address on the outside, shall

1 clearly indicate the precinct from which they come. Each board shall, immediately  
2 upon completion of the certification and as soon thereafter as the local mail service  
3 permits, send the duplicate certificate to the respective election supervisor. The  
4 director may authorize election boards in precincts in those areas of the state where  
5 distance and weather make mail communication unreliable to forward their election  
6 results by telephone or radio. The director may authorize the unofficial totaling of  
7 votes on a regional basis by election supervisors, tallying the votes as indicated on  
8 duplicate certificates. To ensure adequate protection, the director shall prescribe the  
9 manner in which the ballots, registers, and all other election records and materials are  
10 thereafter preserved, transferred, and destroyed.

11 \* **Sec. 26.** AS 15.15.370 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

12 (b) Each day that the director releases unofficial totals of election results for a  
13 general election, the director shall also

14 (1) release an updated ranked-choice tabulation;

15 (2) identify the precincts that have been counted;

16 (3) identify the days on which absentee ballots have been logged and  
17 counted, including a summary of the count codes used on ballots in each district each  
18 day;

19 (4) identify the districts in which early votes were cast and the days on  
20 which votes were cast in each district; and

21 (5) identify the precincts and count codes of questioned ballots that  
22 have been counted.

23 (c) Each day that an absentee ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.201 or a  
24 questioned ballot is reviewed under AS 15.20.207, the director shall display on the  
25 division's Internet website an updated unofficial total detailing the number of absentee  
26 ballots and questioned ballots counted for each count code.

27 (d) In this section, "count code" means a code assigned to a ballot by the  
28 division that designates the races in which the ballot is to be counted during a district  
29 absentee ballot counting review conducted under AS 15.20.203 or a district questioned  
30 ballot review conducted under AS 15.20.207.

31 \* **Sec. 27.** AS 15.15.380 is amended to read:

1           **Sec. 15.15.380. Payment of election board members.** The director shall pay  
2 each election board member for time spent at election duties, including the receiving  
3 of instructions. Election board chairpersons and the chairperson and members of the  
4 absentee ballot, questioned ballot, and state ballot counting review boards shall be  
5 paid for time spent at their election duties. The director shall set the compensation to  
6 be paid under this section [BY REGULATION].

7 \* **Sec. 28.** AS 15.15.420 is amended to read:

8           **Sec. 15.15.420. Duty to review the ballot counting.** The director shall review  
9 the counting of the ballots [WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF AND] in the presence of  
10 the appointed representatives from the political parties. **A candidate for an office that**  
11 **is on the ballots being counted and appointed representatives from the group**  
12 **supporting and from the group opposing a ballot proposition or question may be**  
13 **present and observe the counting of the ballots.**

14 \* **Sec. 29.** AS 15.15.430(a) is amended to read:

15           (a) The review of ballot counting by the director **must** [SHALL] include  
16 [ONLY (1)] a review of the precinct registers, tallies, and ballots cast. **The review**  
17 **must include** [; (2)] a review of absentee and questioned ballots as prescribed by law.  
18 **The review must include, for each house district except a house district where all**  
19 **racess on the ballot are uncontested** [; AND (3) UNLESS THE BALLOT FOR THE  
20 HOUSE DISTRICT CONTAINS NOTHING BUT UNCONTESTED OFFICES], a  
21 hand count of ballots from one randomly selected precinct in **the** [EACH] house  
22 district that accounts for at least five percent of the ballots cast in that district. **The**  
23 **director may adopt regulations prescribing additional review procedures**  
24 **employing statistical methods to limit the risk of certifying an election result that**  
25 **would be inconsistent with the result that would be obtained by conducting a**  
26 **recount.**

27 \* **Sec. 30.** AS 15.20.030 is amended to read:

28           **Sec. 15.20.030. Preparation of ballots, envelopes, and other material.** The  
29 director shall provide ballots for use as absentee ballots in all districts. The director  
30 shall provide a secrecy sleeve in which the voter shall initially place the marked ballot  
31 [.] and shall provide **a postage-paid return** [AN] envelope with the prescribed voter's

1 certificate on it, in which the secrecy sleeve with ballot enclosed shall be placed. The  
 2 director shall prescribe the form of and prepare the voter's certificate, envelopes, and  
 3 other material used in absentee voting. The voter's certificate shall include a  
 4 declaration, for use when required, that the voter is a qualified voter in all respects, a  
 5 blank for the voter's signature, and a space for recording the date that the voter  
 6 executed the certificate. An envelope may not identify a voter's party affiliation [,  
 7 A CERTIFICATION THAT THE AFFIANT PROPERLY EXECUTED THE  
 8 MARKING OF THE BALLOT AND GAVE THE VOTER'S IDENTITY, BLANKS  
 9 FOR THE ATTESTING OFFICIAL OR WITNESS, AND A PLACE FOR  
 10 RECORDING THE DATE THE ENVELOPE WAS SEALED AND WITNESSED].  
 11 The envelope with the voter's certificate must include a notice that false statements  
 12 made by the voter [OR BY THE ATTESTING OFFICIAL OR WITNESS] on the  
 13 certificate are punishable by law.

14 \* **Sec. 31.** AS 15.20.072 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 (h) If a voter satisfies the requirements of (d) of this section, the division may  
 16 not reject a voter's special needs ballot based on an error by an election official or  
 17 representative on the register under (c) of this section or an error by a representative  
 18 under (d) of this section.

19 \* **Sec. 32.** AS 15.20.081(d) is amended to read:

20 (d) Upon receipt of an absentee ballot by mail, the voter [, IN THE  
 21 PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC, COMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE  
 22 ARMED FORCES INCLUDING THE NATIONAL GUARD, DISTRICT JUDGE  
 23 OR MAGISTRATE, UNITED STATES POSTAL OFFICIAL, REGISTRATION  
 24 OFFICIAL, OR OTHER PERSON QUALIFIED TO ADMINISTER OATHS,] may  
 25 proceed to mark the ballot in secret, to place the ballot in the secrecy sleeve, to place  
 26 the secrecy sleeve in the envelope provided, and to sign the voter's certificate on the  
 27 envelope. The [IN THE PRESENCE OF AN OFFICIAL LISTED IN THIS  
 28 SUBSECTION WHO SHALL SIGN AS ATTESTING OFFICIAL AND SHALL  
 29 DATE THE SIGNATURE. IF NONE OF THE OFFICIALS LISTED IN THIS  
 30 SUBSECTION IS REASONABLY ACCESSIBLE, AN ABSENTEE VOTER  
 31 SHALL SIGN THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE IN THE PRESENCE OF AN



1 INDIVIDUAL WHO IS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, WHO SHALL SIGN AS  
2 A WITNESS AND ATTEST TO THE DATE ON WHICH THE VOTER SIGNED  
3 THE CERTIFICATE IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S PRESENCE, AND, IN ADDITION,  
4 THE] voter shall certify, as prescribed in AS 09.63.020, under penalty of perjury, that  
5 the statements in the voter's certification are true.

6 \* **Sec. 33.** AS 15.20.081(e) is amended to read:

7 (e) An absentee ballot must be marked on or before the date of the election.  
8 Except as provided in (h) of this section, a voter who returns the absentee ballot by  
9 mail, whether provided to the voter by mail or by electronic transmission, shall use a  
10 mail service at least equal to first class and mail the ballot not later than the day of the  
11 election to the election supervisor for the house district in which the voter seeks to  
12 vote. Except as provided in AS 15.20.480, the ballot may not be counted unless it is  
13 received by the close of business on the 10th day after the election. [IF THE BALLOT  
14 IS POSTMARKED, IT MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE ELECTION  
15 DAY.] After the day of the election, ballots may not be accepted unless received by  
16 mail. **A ballot received after the day of the election that is not postmarked or is**  
17 **postmarked after the day of the election may not be counted unless the ballot**  
18 **envelope is marked with a United States Postal Service tracking barcode**  
19 **sufficient to verify that the ballot was mailed on or before the day of the election**  
20 **or with a division of elections ballot tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the**  
21 **ballot was mailed on or before the day of the election.**

22 \* **Sec. 34.** AS 15.20.081(f) is amended to read:

23 (f) The director shall require a voter casting an absentee ballot by mail to  
24 provide proof of identification or other information to aid in the establishment of the  
25 voter's identity as prescribed by regulations adopted under AS 44.62 (Administrative  
26 Procedure Act). If the voter is a first-time voter who initially registered by mail or by  
27 facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the director under  
28 AS 15.07.050 and has not met the identification requirements set out in AS 15.07.060,  
29 the voter must provide one of the following forms of proof of identification:

30 (1) a copy of a driver's license, state identification card, current and  
31 valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification card issued by**

1 **a federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE]; or

2 (2) **an original or** a copy of a [CURRENT] utility bill, bank statement,  
3 paycheck, government check, or other government document; an item provided under  
4 this paragraph must show the name and current address of the voter **and must be**  
5 **dated within the previous 90 days.**

6 \* **Sec. 35.** AS 15.20.081 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

7 (m) An absentee ballot application must include an option for a qualified voter  
8 to choose to receive absentee ballots by mail for future regularly scheduled state  
9 elections. The division may not require a voter who chooses this option to reapply for  
10 an absentee ballot by mail unless

11 (1) the voter has not voted an absentee ballot for a period of four years;

12 or

13 (2) the voter's previous absentee ballot sent under this section was  
14 returned to the division as undeliverable.

15 (n) If a voter requests under AS 15.07.060(g) or, at least 45 days before an  
16 election, requests in writing or by other means designated in regulations adopted by  
17 the director to receive a ballot or sample ballot in a language other than English in  
18 which the division is required to print election materials under 52 U.S.C. 10503, as  
19 amended, the director shall provide the voter with a ballot or sample ballot and  
20 election materials under this section in the language requested.

21 \* **Sec. 36.** AS 15.20.170 is amended to read:

22 **Sec. 15.20.170. Disposition of ballots.** Each absentee voting official shall  
23 transmit the dated envelopes containing the marked ballots by the most expeditious  
24 mail service to the election supervisor for the district. Upon receipt of the absentee  
25 ballots, the election supervisor shall stamp on the envelope the date on which the  
26 ballot is received. **In this section, "mail service" includes delivery by optical**  
27 **scanning and electronic transmission.**

28 \* **Sec. 37.** AS 15.20.201(a) is amended to read:

29 (a) **Not** [NO] less than **10** [SEVEN] days preceding the day of election, the  
30 election supervisor, in the presence and with the assistance of the district absentee  
31 ballot counting board, shall review all voter certificates of absentee ballots received by

1 that date. The review of absentee ballots shall continue at times designated by the  
2 election supervisor until completed.

3 \* **Sec. 38.** AS 15.20.203(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) An absentee ballot **must be rejected** [MAY NOT BE COUNTED] if

5 (1) the voter has failed to properly execute the certificate;

6 (2) [AN OFFICIAL OR THE WITNESSES AUTHORIZED BY LAW  
7 TO ATTEST THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE FAIL TO EXECUTE THE  
8 CERTIFICATE, EXCEPT THAT AN ABSENTEE BALLOT CAST IN PERSON  
9 AND ACCEPTED BY AN ABSENTEE VOTING OFFICIAL OR ELECTION  
10 SUPERVISOR MAY BE COUNTED DESPITE FAILURE OF THE ABSENTEE  
11 VOTING OFFICIAL OR ELECTION SUPERVISOR TO PROPERLY SIGN AND  
12 DATE THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE AS ATTESTING OFFICIAL AS REQUIRED  
13 UNDER AS 15.20.061(c);

14 (3) THE BALLOT IS NOT ATTESTED ON OR BEFORE THE  
15 DATE OF THE ELECTION;

16 (4)] the ballot **envelope and certificate**, if **delivered by mail after the**  
17 **day of the election** [POSTMARKED],

18 (A) is not postmarked **or is postmarked after** [ON OR  
19 BEFORE] the date of the election **and is not marked with a United States**  
20 **Postal Service tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was**  
21 **mailed on or before the day of the election or with a division of elections**  
22 **ballot tracking barcode sufficient to verify that the ballot was mailed on or**  
23 **before the day of the election;**

24 (B) **has a United States Postal Service tracking barcode**  
25 **verifying that the ballot was mailed after the date of the election or a**  
26 **division of elections ballot tracking barcode verifying that the ballot was**  
27 **mailed after the date of the election; or**

28 (C) **is executed after the date of the election;**

29 (3) [(5)] after the day of election, the ballot was delivered by a means  
30 other than mail; **or**

31 (4) [OR (6)] the voter voted

1 (A) in person and is a

2 (i) first-time voter who initially registered by mail or by  
3 facsimile or other electronic transmission approved by the director  
4 under AS 15.07.050, has not provided the identification required by  
5 AS 15.15.225(a), was not eligible for waiver of the identification  
6 requirement under AS 15.15.225(b), and has not provided the  
7 identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2) and (3) that can be verified  
8 through state agency records described in AS 15.07.055(e); or

9 (ii) voter other than one described in (i) of this  
10 subparagraph, did not provide identification described in  
11 AS 15.15.225(a), was not personally known by the election official,  
12 and has not provided the identifiers required in AS 15.07.060(a)(2) and  
13 (3); or

14 (B) by mail or electronic transmission, is a first-time voter who  
15 initially registered by mail or by facsimile or other electronic transmission  
16 approved by the director under AS 15.07.050 to vote, has not met the  
17 identification requirements set out in AS 15.07.060, and does not submit with  
18 the ballot a copy of a

19 (i) driver's license, state identification card, current and  
20 valid photo identification, birth certificate, passport, or **identification**  
21 **card issued by a federally recognized tribe** [HUNTING OR  
22 FISHING LICENSE]; or

23 (ii) **an original or a copy of a** [CURRENT] utility bill,  
24 bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government  
25 document; an item described in this sub-subparagraph must show the  
26 name and current address of the voter **and must be dated within the**  
27 **previous 90 days.**

28 \* **Sec. 39.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 **Sec. 15.20.215. Rules for challenging ballot.** The director shall adopt by  
30 regulation a procedure and time frame for a person present at the ballot counting  
31 review to challenge the decision of whether to count an absentee, special needs, or

1 questioned ballot. The procedure must provide a reasonable amount of time to submit  
2 a challenge.

3 \* **Sec. 40.** AS 15.20.220(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) The state review board shall review and count absentee ballots under  
5 AS 15.20.081(e) and (h), absentee ballots properly cured under AS 15.20.222, and  
6 questioned ballots that have been forwarded to the director and that have not been  
7 reviewed or counted by a district counting board.

8 \* **Sec. 41.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

9 **Sec. 15.20.221. Ballot-tracking system.** (a) The director shall establish an  
10 online ballot-tracking system. The director may procure the system from a third party.  
11 The system must be designed to allow a voter to easily use the system through a  
12 mobile electronic device. The system must allow a voter to

- 13 (1) confirm that the voter's ballot has been sent by the division;
- 14 (2) track the date of the ballot's delivery to the voter;
- 15 (3) confirm the division's receipt of the voter's ballot;
- 16 (4) determine whether the voter's certificate has been reviewed;
- 17 (5) determine whether the voter's ballot has been counted; and
- 18 (6) provide the information necessary to cure a rejected ballot.

19 (b) The online ballot-tracking system must

- 20 (1) verify a voter's identity; and
- 21 (2) indicate to a voter

22 (A) the process by which the voter may cure the lack of  
23 signature or verify the voter's identity, if the signature on the voter's ballot was  
24 missing; and

25 (B) the reason the voter's ballot was not counted, if the ballot  
26 was not counted.

27 (c) The division may not charge a voter a fee to use the online ballot-tracking  
28 system.

29 **Sec. 15.20.222. Procedure for curing uncounted ballot.** (a) If a voter's ballot  
30 is rejected because the certificate is missing a signature or the voter provided  
31 insufficient voter identification, the director shall immediately make a reasonable

1 effort to contact the voter, explain the ballot deficiency, explain how the deficiency  
2 may be cured, and inform the voter of the deadline to cure the ballot. The director  
3 shall, within 24 hours, send a notice of deficiency by electronic mail to the voter's  
4 electronic mail address if the voter has provided an electronic mail address. If the  
5 voter has provided a telephone number, the director shall, within 24 hours, attempt to  
6 notify the voter of the deficiency by telephone call and text message. The director  
7 shall, within 48 hours, but not later than five days after election day, send a notice of  
8 deficiency by first class, nonforwardable mail to the address in the voter's registration  
9 record.

10 (b) A notice of deficiency must include a form for the voter to confirm that the  
11 voter returned a ballot to the division, provide a copy of a form of identification  
12 accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a), and provide a signature. The director  
13 shall provide a printed copy of the form with the notice of deficiency mailed to the  
14 voter. The director shall also make the form available in a format that can be  
15 completed and returned electronically.

16 (c) The rejected ballot of a voter who received a notice of deficiency may be  
17 counted only if

18 (1) the voter returns the completed form sent with the notice of  
19 deficiency, the division receives the form within 14 days after election day, and the  
20 form confirms that the voter returned a ballot to the division;

21 (2) the voter provides a signature and includes a copy of a form of  
22 identification accepted by the division under AS 15.15.225(a); and

23 (3) the ballot is otherwise valid.

24 (d) A voter's rejected ballot may not be counted and the director shall, if  
25 applicable, send copies of the signature on the voter's return envelope to the attorney  
26 general for investigation if the voter returns the form and the form indicates that the  
27 voter did not return a ballot to the division.

28 \* **Sec. 42.** AS 15.20.480 is amended to read:

29 **Sec. 15.20.480. Procedure for recount.** In conducting the recount, the director  
30 shall review all ballots, whether the ballots were counted at the precinct or by  
31 computer or by the district absentee counting board or the questioned ballot counting

1 board, to determine which ballots, or part of ballots, were properly marked and which  
2 ballots are to be counted in the recount, and shall check the accuracy of the original  
3 count, the precinct certificate, and the review. [THE DIRECTOR SHALL COUNT  
4 ABSENTEE BALLOTS RECEIVED BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE  
5 RECOUNT.] For administrative purposes, the director may join and include two or  
6 more applications in a single review and count of votes. The rules in AS 15.15.360  
7 governing the counting of ballots shall be followed in the recount when a ballot is  
8 challenged on the basis of a question regarding the voter's intent to vote for the  
9 candidate, proposition, or question. The ballots and other election material must  
10 remain in the custody of the director during the recount, and the highest degree of care  
11 shall be exercised to protect the ballots against alteration or mutilation. The recount  
12 shall be completed within 10 days. The director may employ additional personnel  
13 necessary to assist in the recount.

14 \* **Sec. 43.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

15 **Article 4A. Ballot Drop Boxes.**

16 **Sec. 15.20.850. Ballot drop boxes.** The director shall provide secure ballot  
17 drop boxes. The director shall adopt regulations governing the use and location of  
18 ballot drop boxes. The director shall provide a drop box at each division regional  
19 office. When selecting drop box locations, the director may consult with  
20 municipalities, school districts, tribal organizations, and nonpartisan civic  
21 organizations. The director shall include in the regulations the criteria for selecting the  
22 locations of drop boxes, the security requirements for the drop boxes, and a  
23 requirement that drop boxes be open 24 hours a day in the 10 days before an election  
24 day. The regulations must require that each drop box be open on the election day until  
25 8:00 p.m. A municipality may provide a drop box under regulations adopted by the  
26 director.

27 \* **Sec. 44.** AS 15.56.030(d) is amended to read:

28 (d) For purposes of (a)(2) and (3) of this section, "other valuable thing"

29 (1) includes

30 (A) an entry in a game of chance in which a prize of money or  
31 other present or future pecuniary gain or advantage may be awarded to a

1 participant wherein the total of the prizes offered is greater than \$2 per  
2 participant with a maximum of \$100; and

3 (B) government employment or benefits;

4 (2) does not include

5 (A) materials having a nominal value bearing the name,  
6 likeness, or other identification of a candidate, political party, political group,  
7 party district committee, or organization, or stating a position on a ballot  
8 proposition or question;

9 (B) food and refreshments provided incidental to an activity  
10 that is nonpartisan in nature and directed at encouraging persons to vote, or  
11 incidental to a gathering in support of or in opposition to a candidate, political  
12 party, political group, party district committee, organization, or ballot question  
13 or proposition;

14 (C) care of the voter's dependents provided in connection with  
15 the absence of a voter from home for the purpose of voting;

16 (D) services provided by a person acting as a representative  
17 under AS 15.20.072;

18 (E) services provided by an election official as defined in  
19 AS 15.80.010; [AND]

20 (F) transportation of a voter to or from the polls without  
21 charge; **and**

22 **(G) postage-paid return envelopes required in**  
23 **AS 15.20.030.**

24 \* **Sec. 45.** AS 15.56.060(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with an election if  
26 the person

27 (1) induces or attempts to induce an election official to fail in the  
28 official's duty by force, threat, intimidation, or offers of reward;

29 (2) intentionally changes, attempts to change, or causes to be changed  
30 an official election document including ballots, tallies, and returns;

31 (3) intentionally delays, attempts to delay, or causes to be delayed the



1 sending of the certificate, register, ballots, or other materials whether original or  
2 duplicate, required to be sent by AS 15.15.370; [OR]

3 (4) is contracted or employed by the state to print or reproduce in any  
4 manner an official ballot, and the person knowingly

5 (A) personally appropriates, or gives or delivers to, or permits  
6 to be taken by anyone other than a person authorized by the director, official  
7 ballots; or

8 (B) prints or reproduces or has printed or reproduced official  
9 ballots in a form or with a content other than that prescribed by law or as  
10 directed by the director;

11 **(5) intentionally opens or tampers with a signed absentee ballot**  
12 **certificate, sealed absentee ballot envelope, or package of ballots without express**  
13 **authorization from the director; or**

14 **(6) intentionally breaches, hacks, alters, or tampers with election**  
15 **machinery, including a tabulator, a program, a system, a server, or software used**  
16 **to verify identity, count or tabulate, or manage or control an election function.**

17 \* Sec. 46. AS 15.56.070(a) is amended to read:

18 (a) A person commits the crime of election official misconduct in the first  
19 degree if, while an election official, the person

20 (1) intentionally fails to perform an election duty or knowingly does an  
21 unauthorized act with the intent to affect an election or its results;

22 (2) knowingly permits or makes or attempts to make a false count of  
23 election returns; [OR]

24 (3) intentionally conceals, withholds, destroys, or attempts to conceal,  
25 withhold, or destroy election returns; **or**

26 **(4) knowingly discloses, shares, or reports to a person who is not**  
27 **an election official election results, returns, or any confidential election data**  
28 **before the polls close on election day.**

29 \* Sec. 47. AS 15.80 is amended by adding a new section to read:

30 **Sec. 15.80.006. Cybersecurity.** The lieutenant governor shall, by regulation,  
31 develop a cybersecurity program to defend the voter registration records kept by the

1 division against cyber attacks and data breaches and enable the division to detect and  
 2 recover from cyber attacks. The program must include cybersecurity training for  
 3 election officials.

4 \* **Sec. 48.** AS 19.25.105(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Outdoor advertising may not be erected or maintained within 660 feet of  
 6 the nearest edge of the right-of-way and visible from the main-traveled way of the  
 7 interstate, primary, or secondary highways in this state except the following:

8 (1) directional and other official signs and notices **that** [WHICH]  
 9 include [, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO,] signs and notices pertaining to natural  
 10 wonders, scenic and historic attractions, which are required or authorized by law, and  
 11 which shall conform to federal standards for interstate and primary systems;

12 (2) signs, displays, and devices advertising the sale or lease of property  
 13 **on** [UPON] which they are located or advertising activities conducted on the property;

14 (3) signs determined by the state, subject to concurrence of the United  
 15 States Department of Transportation, to be landmark signs, including signs on farm  
 16 structures or natural surfaces of historic or artistic significance, the preservation of  
 17 which would be consistent with the provisions of this chapter;

18 (4) directional signs and notices pertaining to schools;

19 (5) advertising on bus benches or bus shelters, and adjacent trash  
 20 receptacles, if the state determines that the advertising conforms to local, state, and  
 21 federal standards for interstate and primary highways;

22 **(6) temporary political campaign signs not larger than 32 square**  
 23 **feet in size displayed on private property if the owner or resident of the property**  
 24 **is not being compensated for the display, the sign is not a risk to the public, and**  
 25 **the sign is outside of an interstate, primary, or secondary highway right-of-way.**

26 \* **Sec. 49.** AS 24.45.091 is amended to read:

27 **Sec. 24.45.091. Publication of reports.** Copies of the statements and reports  
 28 filed under this chapter shall be made available to the public at the commission's  
 29 **offices and on the commission's Internet website** [CENTRAL OFFICE, THE  
 30 OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE  
 31 LIBRARY OF THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY, AND AT THE

1 COMMISSION'S DISTRICT OFFICES PRESCRIBED IN AS 15.13.020(j)] as soon  
2 as practicable after each reporting period.

3 \* **Sec. 50.** AS 24.45.111(b) is amended to read:

4 (b) The commission shall preserve the statements and reports required to be  
5 filed under this chapter for a period of six years from the date of filing. **Copies** [IF  
6 THE COMMISSION'S CENTRAL OFFICE IS NOT IN THE STATE CAPITAL,  
7 COPIES] of all statements and reports filed under this chapter shall be maintained in  
8 **the commission's offices and be made available on the commission's Internet**  
9 **website** [AN OFFICE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION IN THE STATE  
10 CAPITAL OR IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR].

11 \* **Sec. 51.** AS 29.26.050 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

12 (d) Except as a municipality may require for elections held only in specific  
13 local election districts or service areas under (b) of this section, a person who has lived  
14 within the municipality for at least 30 days, but who has not registered to vote in state  
15 elections at a residence address within the municipality at least 30 days before a  
16 municipal election, may vote only an absentee, special needs, or questioned ballot in  
17 that election. The municipality may not reject the absentee, special needs, or  
18 questioned ballot of a qualified voter who registers within 30 days before or on the day  
19 of an election on the grounds that the voter is not on the official registration list for the  
20 election.

21 \* **Sec. 52.** AS 39.50.020(b) is amended to read:

22 (b) A public official, [OR] former public official, **or candidate for municipal**  
23 **office** [OTHER THAN AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED MUNICIPAL OFFICER]  
24 shall file the statement with the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Candidates for the  
25 office of governor and lieutenant governor and, if the candidate is not subject to  
26 AS 24.60, the legislature shall file the statement under AS 15.25.030. **The Alaska**  
27 **Public Offices Commission shall provide copies of the statements filed by**  
28 **municipal** [MUNICIPAL] officers, former municipal officers, and candidates for  
29 elective municipal office **to** [SHALL FILE WITH] the **applicable** municipal clerk or  
30 other municipal official designated to receive **the statements** [THEIR FILING FOR  
31 OFFICE]. All statements required to be filed under this chapter are public records.

1 \* **Sec. 53.** AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

2 (65) Redistricting Board.

3 \* **Sec. 54.** AS 44.62.310(h)(3) is amended to read:

4 (3) "public entity" means an entity of the state or of a political  
5 subdivision of the state including an agency, a board or commission, **the**  
6 **Redistricting Board**, the University of Alaska, a public authority or corporation, a  
7 municipality, a school district, and other governmental units of the state or a political  
8 subdivision of the state; it does not include the court system or the legislative branch  
9 of state government.

10 \* **Sec. 55.** AS 15.10.170(b) is repealed.

11 \* **Sec. 56.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
12 read:

13 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE. The division of elections shall provide a report  
14 to the legislature by November 1, 2026, recommending options for expanding early voting in  
15 rural communities and low-income neighborhoods. The division shall deliver the report to the  
16 senate secretary and the chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature  
17 that the report is available. In this section,

18 (1) "low-income neighborhood" means a neighborhood where the median  
19 family income is below 80 percent of the statewide median family income;

20 (2) "rural community" means a community with a population of 7,500 or less  
21 that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks or a community with a  
22 population of 3,500 or less that is connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

23 \* **Sec. 57.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
24 read:

25 APPLICABILITY. AS 15.56.030(d), as amended by sec. 44 of this Act,  
26 AS 15.56.060(a), as amended by sec. 45 of this Act, and AS 15.56.070(a), as amended by sec.  
27 46 of this Act, apply to offenses committed on or after the effective date of this Act.

28 \* **Sec. 58.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2026.