



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI, CHAIR

Senate Bill 64

Election Reform

Summary of Changes Introduced Version I to Draft CS Version H

The following provisions were **removed** from the bill:

- Section 3 relating to preregistration of minors.
- Section 20 relating to questioning of a voter who requested an absentee ballot.
- Section 30 related to the timing of scanning ballots.
- Section 38 related to synthetic media.

The following provisions from Senate Bill 70, introduced by the Senate Rules Committee by request of the governor, were **added** to this bill:

- Repealing the requirement that poll worker compensation be set by regulation.
- Allowing cover sheets for absentee ballot packets to be submitted electronically.
- Repealing the requirement for specific dimensions for voting booths.
- Beginning absentee ballot review 10 days before Election Day.
- Repealing the requirement that absentee ballots that arrive after the statutory deadline be counted during a recount.
- Adding becoming ineligible for a Permanent Fund Dividend to the list of criteria that triggers a voter roll clean-up notice. This provision was added to the criteria already in SB 64.

The following provisions were **added** to the bill:

- In the various statutes related to identification required for voting and registering to vote, tribal identification cards are added to the list of acceptable identification and hunting and fishing licenses are removed from the list. Where current utility bills, banks statements, paychecks, government checks, or other documents are allowed as identification it is clarified that these documents must be issued in the last 90 days. These provisions are in Sections 4-5, 24, 34, and 38.
- A new Section 16 was added to clarify that registering to vote through a Permanent Fund Dividend is not considered contacting the Division of Elections (Division) for purposes of the voter roll clean-up process.
- A new Section 45 was added clarifying that opening or tampering with a sealed ballot envelope without permission or breaching or hacking a voting machine is considered

unlawful interference with an election. This provision was originally included in Senate Bill 7 by Senator Shower in the 33rd Legislature.

- A new Section 46 adding disclosing the results of an election before the polls close to the crime of election official misconduct in the first degree. This provision was originally included in Senate Bill 7 by Senator Shower in the 33rd Legislature.

The following **changes** were made to existing provisions in the bill:

- In Section 26 related to unofficial election results, details of rejected ballots were removed from the list data that must be reported when unofficial results are released.
- In Section 28 related to the state review board process, existing statutory language suggesting that observers assist with the review is removed and ballot question campaigns are added to the list of campaigns who may have observers.
- In Section 35 related election materials in other languages the phrase “sample ballot” was added.
- In Section 43 related to ballot drop boxes, the new statute is renumbered to clarify these drop boxes will be available for all elections, the requirement for drop boxes outside of Division offices is removed, and municipalities are authorized to provide drop boxes under regulations adopted by the Division.
- In Section 47 related to cybersecurity, the lieutenant governor is given the responsibility for developing a cybersecurity program instead of the director.