



To the Senate State Affairs Committee,

The Alaska Center is committed to building a future that all Alaskans will thrive in. Renewable energy, a healthy climate, and clean air, water, and salmon are all a part of this vision. Critically, so is a government that is responsive to the needs of all Alaskans. As such, we write to voice our strong support for SB 64, which if passed, would reduce the barriers that still prevent many Alaskans from making their voices heard in our elections.

The many improvements to our election system that SB 64 would bring include:

- Enhancing voter access by allowing registration up until Election Day, helping more young and low-income Alaskans cast their ballots.
- Reducing the ballot rejection rate by establishing a process for ballot curing, ensuring that ballots are not discarded due to honest mistakes.
- Verifying ballots with signature matching, replacing the ineffective witness signature requirement that led to hundreds of ballots being discarded in the last election.
- Engaging young voters and fostering a more informed electorate by allowing Alaskans aged 16 and older to preregister to vote.
- Reducing administrative burdens by creating a recurring absentee voter list, eliminating the need to process mail ballot applications every election cycle.
- Expanding access in rural areas by appointing a rural community liaison and increasing early voting options.
- Making voting more equitable by sending prepaid envelopes with mail ballots, ensuring no Alaskan has to pay to vote.
- Protecting voters' rights by prohibiting special needs ballots from being discarded due to mistakes made by election officials.

Together, these provisions will enhance the security of our elections and make voting more accessible to Alaskans who have been pushed to the margins of our political process. We urge you to continue working toward these important reforms to ensure a more inclusive, fair, and effective electoral system in Alaska.

Thank you for your commitment to the future of our state.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Marie Stryker".

Jenny-Marie Stryker  
Political Director