

**HOUSE BILL NO. 126**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES MULDER, Toohey**

**Introduced: 1/27/95**

**Referred: State Affairs**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the handling of legislative ethics complaints during the  
2 period immediately preceding elections."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 24.60.170(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) **Except as provided in (o) of this section, the** [THE] committee shall  
6 consider a complaint alleging a violation of this chapter if the alleged violation  
7 occurred within five years of the date that the complaint is filed with the committee  
8 and, when the subject of the complaint is a former member of the legislature, the  
9 complaint is filed within one year of the subject's departure from the legislature. The  
10 committee may not consider a complaint filed against a person employed by the  
11 legislative branch of government after the person has terminated legislative service.  
12 The committee may also initiate complaints on its own motion, subject to the same  
13 time limitations. The time limitations of this subsection do not bar proceedings against  
14 a person who intentionally prevents discovery of a violation of this chapter.

1     \* **Sec. 2.** AS 24.60.170 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

2             (o) The committee may not accept a complaint during the 60 days before a  
3             state primary, general, or special election in which the subject of the complaint is  
4             running for election unless the complaint was initiated by two-thirds of the members  
5             of the committee. For complaints received before the 60-day limit concerning a person  
6             who is a candidate for election, the committee shall stay investigation, consideration,  
7             or other proceedings on the complaint on the 60th day preceding a state primary or  
8             general election until the certification of the election unless the proceeding is based on  
9             a complaint initiated by two-thirds of the members of the committee or unless two-  
10            thirds of the members of the committee vote to continue proceedings in the matter.  
11            In the case of a special election called fewer than 60 days before the election, the date  
12            of the call for the special election shall serve as the beginning of the time period under  
13            this subsection. The committee shall notify in writing the subject of a complaint that  
14            is stayed under this subsection and shall also notify the subject of a complaint when  
15            the members decide to continue the proceedings under this subsection. If the subject  
16            of a complaint objects in writing to a stay of proceedings, the committee shall continue  
17            its work on the complaint.

18     \* **Sec. 3.** This Act applies to matters pending with the Select Committee on Legislative  
19     Ethics on the effective date of this Act.