

**HOUSE BILL NO. 495**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN**

**Introduced: 2/9/96**

**Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act amending the Election Code to provide that voters be permitted to  
2 register opposition to all candidates in certain election contests."

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

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 15.15.030(5) is amended to read:

5 (5) The state general election ballot shall be printed on white paper  
6 with the names of the candidates and their party designations placed in separate  
7 sections under the office designation to which they were nominated. The party  
8 affiliation, if any, shall be designated after the name of the candidate. The lieutenant  
9 governor and the governor shall be included under the same section. Provision shall  
10 be made for voting for write-in and no-party candidates within each section.

11 **Provision shall be made for the voter to register opposition to all candidates**  
12 **within each section in accordance with AS 15.15.033.** The squares appearing on the  
13 ballots shall measure 1/4 inch on each side.

14 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

1           Sec. 15.15.033. BALLOTS FOR CERTAIN OFFICES MUST PERMIT  
2 VOTER TO REGISTER OPPOSITION TO ALL CANDIDATES. (a) In each  
3 primary, general, or special election held after December 31, 1996, each ballot upon  
4 which appears the name of a candidate for public office must contain for each office  
5 an additional line equivalent to the lines on which the candidates' names appear and  
6 placed at the end of the group of lines containing the names of the candidates for that  
7 office. Each additional line shall contain a square in which the voter may express the  
8 voter's choice of that line in the same manner as the voter would express the choice  
9 of a candidate. The line must read "None of these candidates."

10           (b) Each sample ballot or other instruction to voters prescribed or approved by  
11 the director shall clearly explain that the voter may mark the choice of the line "None  
12 of these candidates" only if the voter has not voted for any candidate for the office.

13           (c) This section does not apply to ballots prepared

14                   (1) for the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States;

15                   (2) to elect delegates to a constitutional convention; or

16                   (3) for elections conducted under AS 14.08.

17 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.15.360(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

18                   (12) If, in a ballot section in which, under AS 15.15.033, a voter may  
19 register opposition to all candidates a voter marks a name of a candidate and also  
20 marks the line "None of these candidates," the vote in that ballot section may not be  
21 counted.

22 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.15.450 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

23                   (b) In each office for which the provisions of AS 15.15.033 apply, only votes  
24 cast for candidates shall be counted in determining nomination or election to any  
25 office.

26 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 15.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

27           Sec. 15.15.455. PUBLICATION OR REPORTING OF CERTAIN RESULTS.

28 For each office for which the provisions of AS 15.15.033 apply, the number of ballots  
29 on which the line "None of these candidates" was chosen shall be listed following the  
30 names of the candidates and the number of their votes in every posting, abstract, and  
31 publication or reporting of the results of the election.

1 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 15.25.060 is amended to read:

2           Sec. 15.25.060. PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF BALLOTS. The  
3 primary election ballot shall be prepared and distributed by the director in the manner  
4 prescribed for general election ballots except as specifically provided otherwise for the  
5 primary election. The director shall print the ballot on white paper and place the  
6 names of all candidates who have properly filed in groups according to offices filed  
7 for, without regard to party affiliation. The order of the placement of the names for  
8 each office shall be as provided for the general election ballot. **Provision shall be**  
9 **made for the voter to register opposition to all candidates within each section in**  
10 **accordance with AS 15.15.033.** Blank spaces may not be provided on the ballot for  
11 the writing or pasting in of names.