

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 159(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/9/02

Referred: Judiciary, Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to retention elections for judges of the court of appeals."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 15.15.030(10) is amended to read:

4 (10) A nonpartisan ballot shall be designed for each judicial district in
5 which a justice or judge is seeking retention in office. The ballot shall be divided into
6 four parts, and each part must bear a heading indicating the court to which the
7 candidate is seeking approval. Within each part, the question of whether the justice or
8 judge shall be approved or rejected shall be set out in substantially the following
9 manner: (A) "Shall be retained as justice of the supreme court for 10 years?";
10 (B) "Shall be retained as judge of the court of appeals for six [EIGHT]
11 years?"; (C) "Shall be retained as judge of the superior court for six years?";
12 or (D) "Shall be retained as judge of the district court for four years?"
13 Provision shall be made for marking each question "Yes" or "No."

14 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.35.053 is amended to read:

15 **Sec. 15.35.053. Approval or rejection of a judge of the court of appeals.**

1 Each judge of the court of appeals shall be subject to approval or rejection at the first
2 general election held more than three years after the judge's appointment. If approved,
3 the judge is thereafter subject to approval or rejection in a like manner every **sixth**
4 [EIGHTH] year.