

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 258(STA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/11/02

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS LEMAN, Ellis, Wilken, Taylor, Lincoln, Davis, Elton, Stevens

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the use of electronic ballots, and to voting equipment allowing**  
2 **disabled voters to cast secret, independent, and verifiable ballots."**

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

4 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
5 to read:

6 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Frank Haas Act.

7 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.15.030(5) is amended to read:

8 (5) The [STATE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT SHALL BE  
9 PRINTED ON WHITE PAPER WITH THE] names of the candidates and their party  
10 designations **shall be** placed in separate sections **on the state general election ballot**  
11 under the office designation to which they were nominated. The party affiliation, if  
12 any, shall be designated after the name of the candidate. The lieutenant governor and  
13 the governor shall be included under the same section. Provision shall be made for  
14 voting for write-in and no-party candidates within each section. **Paper ballots for the**

1 **state general election shall be printed on white paper.**

2 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 15.15.030(13) is amended to read:

3 (13) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the director may  
 4 provide for voting by use of **electronic ballots or** optically scanned ballots where **the**  
 5 **requisite** [OPTICAL SCANNING] equipment is available. **If the director provides**  
 6 **for voting by use of electronic ballots, the director shall lease or purchase voting**  
 7 **machines that would allow voters with disabilities, including those who are blind**  
 8 **or visually impaired, to cast secret, independent, and verifiable ballots.**

9 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 15.20.900 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 15.20.900. Optically scanned or electronic ballots** [BALLOT  
 11 **TABULATION**]. (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this title, the director  
 12 may adopt regulations that provide procedures for the tabulation of **electronic ballots**  
 13 **or** optically scanned ballots, including procedures for

14 (1) tests of the counting programs developed for each precinct  
 15 tabulator to ensure that the system is functioning properly;

16 (2) security for the voting and tabulation of ballots;

17 (3) the transmission and accumulation of vote totals to assure the  
 18 integrity of the vote counting process;

19 (4) observation by the public of the counting process in the regional  
 20 offices; and

21 (5) the disposition of ballots.

22 (b) The state ballot counting review board established under AS 15.10.180  
 23 shall test the counting programs for the tabulation of **electronic ballots or** optically  
 24 scanned ballots and certify their accuracy in accordance with the regulations adopted  
 25 under (a) of this section.