

HOUSE BILL NO. 496

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES DAHLSTROM, McGuire

Introduced: 2/16/04

Referred: State Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act creating the Youth Vote Ambassador Program and relating to that program;**
2 **authorizing the members of the program to be appointed to serve on election boards;**
3 **relating to qualifications for appointment to election boards; and providing for an**
4 **effective date."**

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

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

8 FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

9 (1) involvement of young people in the election process will raise awareness
10 of and interest in voting and encourage responsible citizenship;

11 (2) creation of a youth vote ambassador program provides a meaningful way
12 for young people to be involved in the election process; and

13 (3) service by young people on election boards will help relieve the shortage
14 of election workers in this state and develop election workers for the future.

1 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

2 **Sec. 15.10.108. Youth vote ambassador program.** (a) The youth vote
3 ambassador program is established in the division of elections.

4 (b) In order to serve as a member of the youth vote ambassador program, an
5 individual must

6 (1) be a student age 16 or older

7 (A) enrolled in a public or private high school program in this
8 state; or

9 (B) being educated in the student's home by a parent or legal
10 guardian in this state under AS 14.30.010(b)(12);

11 (2) volunteer to serve in the youth vote ambassador program and be
12 appointed to the youth vote ambassador program by the director of elections; and

13 (3) if appointed, agree to complete a program of training as determined
14 by the director of elections.

15 (c) An election supervisor may appoint a member of the youth vote
16 ambassador program to serve on a precinct election board appointed under
17 AS 15.10.120. A program member who is appointed to serve on an election board
18 under this subsection serves under the supervision of the chairperson for that board.

19 (d) A member of the program who is appointed under (c) of this section is
20 compensated as provided in AS 15.15.380 only for service on the election board of the
21 precinct.

22 (e) A member of the program may provide unpaid volunteer services related to
23 education and outreach on state elections as directed by, and under the supervision of,
24 the director of elections.

25 (f) In this section, "program" means the youth vote ambassador program.

26 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.10.120(a) is amended to read:

27 (a) An election supervisor shall appoint in each precinct within the election
28 supervisor's district an election board composed of at least three qualified voters
29 registered to vote in this state [THAT PRECINCT]. **An election supervisor may**
30 **also appoint not more than two members of the youth vote ambassador program**
31 **established in AS 15.10.108 to serve on a precinct election board.**

1 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.10.120(c) is amended to read:

2 (c) An election supervisor shall appoint one nominee of the political party of
3 which the governor is a member and one nominee of the political party that received
4 the second largest number of votes statewide in the preceding gubernatorial election.
5 The election supervisor shall appoint at least one additional qualified individual
6 registered to vote in **this state** [THAT PRECINCT]. If a party district committee or
7 state party central committee of the party of which the governor is a member or the
8 party that received the second largest number of votes statewide in the preceding
9 gubernatorial election fails to present the names prescribed by (b) of this section by
10 April 15 of a regular election year or at least 60 days before a special election, the
11 election supervisor may appoint any qualified individual registered to vote in **this**
12 **state** [THAT PRECINCT].

13 * **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).