

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 97(JUD)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/18/05  
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the authority to take oaths, affirmations, and acknowledgments in**  
2 **the state, to notarizations, to verifications, to acknowledgments, to fees for issuing**  
3 **certificates with the seal of the state affixed, and to notaries public; and providing for an**  
4 **effective date."**

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

6 \* **Section 1.** AS 09.63.010 is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 09.63.010. Oath, affirmation, and acknowledgment.** The following  
8 persons may take an oath, affirmation, or acknowledgment in the state:

9 (1) a justice, judge, or magistrate of a court of the State of Alaska or of  
10 the United States;

11 (2) a clerk or deputy clerk of a court of the State of Alaska or of the  
12 United States;

13 (3) a notary public;

14 (4) a United States postmaster;

1 (5) a commissioned officer under AS 09.63.050(4); [OR]

2 (6) a municipal clerk carrying out the clerk's duties under  
3 AS 29.20.380;

4 **(7) the lieutenant governor when carrying out the lieutenant**  
5 **governor's duties under AS 24.05.160;**

6 **(8) the presiding officer of each legislative house when carrying**  
7 **out the officer's duties under AS 24.05.170.**

8 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 09.63.030(c) is amended to read:

9 (c) If the document is sworn to or affirmed before a notary public of the state,  
10 the notary public shall

11 (1) **affix** [ENDORSE AFTER THE SIGNATURE OF THE NOTARY  
12 PUBLIC THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF THE NOTARY'S COMMISSION;

13 (2) PRINT OR EMBOSS THE NOTARY'S SEAL] on the document

14 **the**

15 **(A) notary public's official signature and official seal; and**

16 **(B) date of expiration of the notary public's commission;**

17 **and**

18 **(2)** [; (3)] comply with **AS 44.50.060 - 44.50.065 and** [AS 44.50.060 -  
19 44.50.080 OR] other applicable law.

20 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 09.63.040(d) is amended to read:

21 (d) If the verification is sworn to or affirmed before a notary public of the  
22 state, the notary public shall

23 (1) **affix** [ENDORSE AFTER THE SIGNATURE OF THE NOTARY  
24 PUBLIC THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF THE NOTARY'S COMMISSION;

25 (2) PRINT OR EMBOSS THE NOTARY'S SEAL] on the document

26 **the**

27 **(A) notary public's official signature and official seal; and**

28 **(B) date of expiration of the notary public's commission;**

29 **and**

30 **(2)** [; (3)] comply with **AS 44.50.060 - 44.50.065 and** [AS 44.50.060 -  
31 44.50.080 OR] other applicable law.

1 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 09.63.090 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 09.63.090. Certificate of acknowledgment.** The words "acknowledged  
3 before me" mean that

4 (1) the person acknowledging

5 (A) appeared before the person taking the acknowledgment;

6 (B) acknowledged that the person executed the instrument;

7 (C) in the case of

8 (i) a natural person, acknowledged that the person  
9 executed the instrument for the purposes stated in it;

10 (ii) an officer or agent of a corporation, acknowledged  
11 that the person held the position or title set out in the instrument and  
12 certificate, **acknowledged that the person** signed the instrument on  
13 behalf of the corporation by proper authority, and **acknowledged that**  
14 the instrument was the act of the corporation for the purposes stated in  
15 it;

16 (iii) **a member or manager of a limited liability**  
17 **company, acknowledged that the individual signed the instrument**  
18 **on behalf of the limited liability company by proper authority and**  
19 **executed the instrument as the act of the limited liability company**  
20 **for the purposes stated in it;**

21 (iv) a partner or agent of a partnership, **limited**  
22 **partnership, or limited liability partnership,** acknowledged that the  
23 person signed the instrument on behalf of the partnership by proper  
24 authority and executed the instrument as the act of the partnership for  
25 the purposes stated in it;

26 (v) [(iv)] a person acknowledging as a principal by an  
27 attorney in fact, acknowledged that the person executed the instrument  
28 by proper authority as the act of the principal for the purposes stated in  
29 it;

30 (vi) [(v)] a person acknowledging as a public officer,  
31 trustee, administrator, guardian, or other representative, acknowledged

1 that the person signed the instrument in the capacity and for the  
2 purposes stated in it; and

3 (2) the person taking the acknowledgment either knew or had  
4 satisfactory evidence that the person acknowledging is the person named in the  
5 instrument or certificate.

6 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 09.63.100 is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 09.63.100. Forms of acknowledgment.** (a) The forms of  
8 acknowledgment set out in this subsection may be used and are sufficient for their  
9 respective purposes under a law of the state. The authorization of the forms in this  
10 section does not preclude the use of other forms.

11 (1) For an individual acting in the individual's own right:

12 State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial  
13 District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ **or Municipality**  
14 **of** \_\_\_\_\_)

15 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  
16 (date) by (name of person who acknowledged).

17 \_\_\_\_\_

18 Signature of Person Taking

19 Acknowledgment

20 \_\_\_\_\_

21 Title or Rank

22 \_\_\_\_\_

23 Serial Number, if any

24 (2) For a corporation:

25 State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial  
26 District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ **or Municipality**  
27 **of** \_\_\_\_\_)

28 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  
29 (date) by (name of officer or agent, title of officer or agent) of (name of  
30 corporation acknowledging) a (state or place of incorporation)  
31 corporation, on behalf of the corporation.

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Signature of Person Taking  
Acknowledgment  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title or Rank  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Serial Number, if any

**(3) For a limited liability company:**

**State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial**  
**District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ or Municipality of**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ )**

**The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this**  
**(date) by (name of member or manager), member (or manager) of**  
**(name of limited liability company acknowledging) a (state or place**  
**of organization) limited liability company, on behalf of the limited**  
**liability company.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Person Taking**  
**Acknowledgment**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Member (or Manager)**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Serial Number, if any**

**(4) For a partnership:**

State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial  
District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ **or Municipality**  
**of \_\_\_\_\_ )**

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  
(date) by (name of acknowledging partner or agent), partner (or agent)  
on behalf of (name of partnership), a **(partnership, limited**  
**partnership, or limited liability partnership).**

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Signature of Person Taking  
Acknowledgment  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title or Rank  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Serial Number, if any

**(5)** [(4)] For an individual acting as principal by an attorney in fact:  
State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial  
District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ **or Municipality**  
**of** \_\_\_\_\_)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  
(date) by (name of attorney in fact) as attorney in fact on behalf of  
(name of principal).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Taking  
Acknowledgment  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title or Rank  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Serial Number, if any

**(6)** [(5)] By a public officer, trustee, or personal representative:  
State of \_\_\_\_\_ Judicial  
District (or County of \_\_\_\_\_ **or Municipality**  
**of** \_\_\_\_\_)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this  
(date) by (name and title of position).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Taking  
Acknowledgment  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title or Rank

Serial Number, if any

(b) If a document is acknowledged before a notary public of the state, the notary public shall

(1) **affix** [ENDORSE AFTER THE NOTARY'S SIGNATURE THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF THE NOTARY'S COMMISSION;

(2) PRINT OR EMBOSS THE NOTARY'S SEAL] on the document **the**

**(A) notary public's official signature and official seal; and**

**(B) date of expiration of the notary public's commission;**

**and**

(2) [; (3)] comply with **AS 44.50.060 - 44.50.065** and [AS 44.50.060 - 44.50.080 OR] other law.

\* **Sec. 6.** AS 44.19.024 is amended to read:

**Sec. 44.19.024. Fees for issuing certificate.** For issuing each certificate with the seal of the state affixed, the lieutenant governor shall collect a fee of **\$5 for each certificate** [\$2 FOR THE FIRST THREE FOLIOS OR LESS AND 20 CENTS PER FOLIO FOR EACH ADDITIONAL FOLIO. THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FEES RECEIVED UNDER THIS SECTION AND SHALL PAY THEM INTO THE STATE TREASURY].

\* **Sec. 7.** AS 44.50.010 is repealed and reenacted to read:

**Sec. 44.50.010. Notary public commission; term.** (a) The lieutenant governor may commission for the state

(1) notaries public without limitation, who are authorized to use the notary seal for all legal purposes; and

(2) limited governmental notaries public, who are state, municipal, or federal employees authorized to use the notary seal only for official government business.

(b) The term of a notary public commission is four years, except that the term of a limited governmental notary public commission coincides with the term of

1 government employment.

2 (c) A person who is a state, municipal, or federal employee commissioned as a  
3 limited governmental notary public may also be commissioned as a notary public  
4 without limitation.

5 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 44.50.020 is repealed and reenacted to read:

6 **Sec. 44.50.020. Qualifications.** To be commissioned as a notary public a  
7 person

8 (1) shall submit an application under AS 44.50.032;

9 (2) shall be at least 18 years of age;

10 (3) shall have established residency in this state under AS 01.10.055;

11 (4) shall reside legally in the United States;

12 (5) may not have been incarcerated in a correctional facility for a  
13 felony conviction within 10 years before the commission takes effect;

14 (6) may not have had a notary public commission revoked in this state  
15 or another jurisdiction;

16 (7) may not have committed acts for which a notary public  
17 commission may be denied or revoked under this chapter; and

18 (8) shall meet the other requirements in this chapter to be  
19 commissioned as a notary public.

20 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 44.50 is amended by adding new sections to read:

21 **Sec. 44.50.032. Application.** (a) A person applying for a commission as a  
22 notary public shall submit a completed application as required by this section, using  
23 the forms or format required by the lieutenant governor.

24 (b) A completed application for a commission under AS 44.50.010(a)(1) must  
25 include

26 (1) an affirmation that the applicant meets the qualifications set out in  
27 AS 44.50.020(2) - (7);

28 (2) the applicant's mailing and physical addresses; the applicant's  
29 telephone number, if any; the applicant's employer or business; the physical address  
30 and telephone number of the applicant's employer or business at the location where the  
31 applicant works; and an electronic mailing address, if any, where the applicant can be

1 contacted;

2 (3) information concerning any denial, suspension, revocation, or  
3 restriction of the applicant's commission as a notary public in this state or another  
4 jurisdiction; that information must include

5 (A) identification of the jurisdiction;

6 (B) the date the jurisdiction issued the denial, suspension,  
7 revocation, or restriction;

8 (C) the reasons for the denial, suspension, revocation, or  
9 restriction; and

10 (D) information concerning final resolution of the matter;

11 (4) the applicant's notarized signature on the portion of the application  
12 that contains the oath or affirmation required by AS 44.50.035;

13 (5) the fee required by AS 44.50.033; and

14 (6) the bond required by AS 44.50.034.

15 (c) A completed application for a commission under AS 44.50.010(a)(2) must  
16 include

17 (1) a signed statement by the applicant's government employer that the  
18 commission is needed for the purpose of conducting official government business;

19 (2) the applicant's mailing and physical addresses; the applicant's  
20 telephone number, if any; the applicant's employer; the name, address, and telephone  
21 number for the employer where the applicant works; and an electronic mailing  
22 address, if any, where the applicant can be contacted;

23 (3) the affirmation, information, and signature required by (b)(1), (3),  
24 and (4) of this section; and

25 (4) the fee required by AS 44.50.033.

26 **Sec. 44.50.033. Application fee.** A person applying for a commission as a  
27 notary public shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of \$40. However, an applicant  
28 for a limited governmental notary public commission under AS 44.50.010(a)(2) who is  
29 employed by the state may not be required to pay an application fee.

30 **Sec. 44.50.034. Bond.** (a) A person applying for a commission as a notary  
31 public without limitation under AS 44.50.010(a)(1) shall execute an official bond of

1 \$1,000 and submit the bond with the application under AS 44.50.032. The bond must  
2 be for a term of four years from the date of commission.

3 (b) The lieutenant governor shall keep a bond submitted under this section for  
4 two years after the end of the term of the commission for which the bond was issued.  
5 Disposition of the bond after the end of the commission does not affect the time for  
6 commencing an action on the bond.

7 **Sec. 44.50.035. Oath.** The application required by the lieutenant governor  
8 under AS 44.50.032 must contain an oath or affirmation, in the form set out in  
9 AS 39.05.045, to be signed by the applicant. A signed oath or affirmation submitted  
10 in an application under AS 44.50.032 takes effect on the date of the applicant's  
11 commission as a notary public under this chapter.

12 **Sec. 44.50.036. Denial of applications.** The lieutenant governor shall deny  
13 an application for a notary public commission if the

14 (1) applicant does not meet the requirements of this chapter;

15 (2) application is not complete or contains a material misstatement or  
16 omission of fact relating to the requirements for a commission under this chapter;

17 (3) applicant has been incarcerated in a correctional facility for a  
18 felony conviction within 10 years before the commission is to take effect; or

19 (4) applicant's commission as a notary public has been revoked in this  
20 state for a reason set out in AS 44.50.068, or in another jurisdiction for a substantially  
21 similar reason.

22 **Sec. 44.50.037. Certificate of commission.** Upon commission of a notary  
23 public under this chapter, the lieutenant governor shall provide to the notary public a  
24 certificate of commission indicating the commission and the dates of the term of the  
25 commission.

26 **Sec. 44.50.038. Subsequent commissions.** A notary public whose term of  
27 commission is ending may apply for a new notary public commission by submitting a  
28 new application under AS 44.50.032 and complying with the requirements of this  
29 chapter. The lieutenant governor's approval of a new application for a commission for  
30 a notary public without limitation under AS 44.50.010(a)(1) terminates an applicant's  
31 existing commission under that paragraph.

1           **Sec. 44.50.039. Limited governmental notaries public.** A state, municipal,  
2 or federal employee commissioned as a notary public under AS 44.50.010(a)(2)

3                   (1) is designated a limited governmental notary public;

4                   (2) may perform notarial acts only in the conduct of official  
5 government business; and

6                   (3) may not charge or receive a fee or other consideration for notarial  
7 services provided under this chapter.

8 \* **Sec. 10.** AS 44.50.060 is amended to read:

9           **Sec. 44.50.060. Duties.** A notary public may [SHALL]

10                   (1) **administer oaths and affirmations** [WHEN REQUESTED,  
11 DEMAND ACCEPTANCE AND PAYMENT OF FOREIGN AND INLAND BILLS  
12 OF EXCHANGE, OR PROMISSORY NOTES, PROTEST THEM FOR  
13 NONACCEPTANCE AND NONPAYMENT, AND EXERCISE THE OTHER  
14 POWERS AND DUTIES THAT BY THE LAW OF NATIONS AND ACCORDING  
15 TO COMMERCIAL USAGES, OR BY THE LAWS OF ANY OTHER STATE,  
16 GOVERNMENT, OR COUNTRY, MAY BE PERFORMED BY NOTARIES];

17                   (2) take the acknowledgment **of** or proof of **execution of** [POWERS  
18 OF ATTORNEY, MORTGAGES, DEEDS, GRANTS, TRANSFERS, AND OTHER]  
19 instruments **in** [OF] writing, and give a **notarial** certificate of the proof or  
20 acknowledgment, **included in** [ENDORSED ON] or attached to the instrument; the  
21 **notarial** certificate shall be signed by the notary **public** in the **notary public's**  
22 [NOTARY'S] own handwriting **or by electronic means as authorized by**  
23 **regulations adopted by the lieutenant governor** [;

24                   (3) TAKE DEPOSITIONS AND AFFIDAVITS, AND ADMINISTER  
25 OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS, IN ALL MATTERS INCIDENT TO THE DUTIES  
26 OF THE OFFICE, OR TO BE USED BEFORE A COURT, JUDGE, OFFICER, OR  
27 BOARD IN THE STATE; A DEPOSITION, AFFIDAVIT, OATH, OR  
28 AFFIRMATION SHALL BE SIGNED BY THE NOTARY IN THE NOTARY'S  
29 OWN HANDWRITING, AND THE NOTARY SHALL ENDORSE AFTER THE  
30 SIGNATURE THE DATE OF EXPIRATION OF THE NOTARY'S COMMISSION].

31 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 44.50 is amended by adding new sections to read:

1           **Sec. 44.50.061. Unauthorized practice.** (a) A notary public who is not an  
 2 attorney may complete but may not select notarial certificates, and may not assist  
 3 another person in drafting, completing, selecting, or understanding a document or  
 4 transaction requiring a notarial act.

5           (b) This section does not prohibit a notary public who is qualified in and, if  
 6 required, licensed to practice, a particular profession from giving advice relating to  
 7 matters in that professional field.

8           (c) A notary public may not make representations to have powers,  
 9 qualifications, rights, or privileges that the office of notary public does not have.

10           **Sec. 44.50.062. Prohibited acts.** A notary public may not

11                   (1) violate state or federal law in the performance of acts authorized by  
 12 this chapter;

13                   (2) influence a person to enter into or avoid a transaction involving a  
 14 notarial act by the notary public;

15                   (3) affix the notary public's signature or seal on a notarial certificate  
 16 that is incomplete;

17                   (4) charge a fee for a notarial act unless a fee schedule has been  
 18 provided to the signer before the performance of the notarial act;

19                   (5) affix the notary public's official seal to a document unless the  
 20 person who is to sign the document

21                           (A) appears and signs the document before the notary public or,  
 22 for an acknowledgment, appears and indicates to the notary public that the  
 23 person voluntarily affixed the person's signature on the document for the  
 24 purposes stated within the document;

25                           (B) gives an oath or affirmation if required under law or if the  
 26 notarial certificate states that the document was signed under oath or  
 27 affirmation; and

28                           (C) is personally known to the notary public, produces  
 29 government-issued identification containing the photograph and signature of  
 30 the person signing, or produces

31                                   (i) government-issued identification containing the

1 signature of the person signing, but without a photograph; and

2 (ii) another valid identification containing the  
3 photograph and signature of the person signing;

4 (6) perform a notarial act if the notary public

5 (A) is a signer of or named in the document that is to be  
6 notarized; or

7 (B) will receive directly from a transaction connected with the  
8 notarial act a commission, fee, advantage, right, title, interest, cash, property,  
9 or other consideration exceeding in value the normal fee charged by the notary  
10 for the notarial act.

11 **Sec. 44.50.063. Official signature.** (a) When performing a notarization, a  
12 notary public shall

13 (1) sign in the notary public's own handwriting, on the notarial  
14 certificate, exactly and only the name indicated on the notary public's commission  
15 certificate, or sign an electronic document by electronic means as authorized by  
16 regulations adopted by the lieutenant governor; and

17 (2) affix the official signature only at the time the notarial act is  
18 performed.

19 (b) A notary public shall comply in a timely manner with a request by the  
20 lieutenant governor to supply a current sample of the notary public's official  
21 handwritten signature and information regarding the notary public's electronic  
22 signature.

23 (c) Within 10 days after the security of a notary public's electronic signature  
24 has been compromised, the notary public shall provide the lieutenant governor with  
25 written notification that the signature has been compromised. After the notary public  
26 has provided the lieutenant governor with the notification, the notary public shall  
27 provide the lieutenant governor with any additional information that the lieutenant  
28 governor requests about the compromise of the signature.

29 **Sec. 44.50.064. Official seal.** (a) A notary public shall keep an official seal,  
30 which is the exclusive property of the notary public, and shall ensure that another  
31 person does not possess or use the official seal.

1 (b) A notary public's official seal

2 (1) must contain

3 (A) the notary public's name exactly as indicated on the notary  
4 public's commission certificate;

5 (B) the words "Notary Public" and "State of Alaska"; and

6 (2) may be a circular form not over two inches in diameter, may be a  
7 rectangular form not more than one inch in width by two and one-half inches in  
8 length, or may be an electronic form as authorized by regulations adopted by the  
9 lieutenant governor.

10 (c) When not in use, a notary public's official seal shall be kept secure and  
11 under the exclusive control of the notary public.

12 (d) Within 10 days after a notary public's official seal is stolen or lost, or the  
13 security of the notary public's official electronic seal is compromised, the notary  
14 public shall provide the lieutenant governor with written notification of the theft, loss,  
15 or compromised security. After the notary public has provided the lieutenant governor  
16 with the notification, the notary public shall provide the lieutenant governor with any  
17 additional information that the lieutenant governor requests about the compromise of  
18 the seal.

19 (e) In order to avoid misuse, a notary public's official seal shall be destroyed  
20 or defaced

21 (1) upon the notary public's resignation or death;

22 (2) upon the revocation or termination by the lieutenant governor of  
23 the notary public's commission; or

24 (3) when the notary public's term of commission ends if the notary  
25 public has not received a new commission under this chapter.

26 **Sec. 44.50.065. Seal impression or depiction.** (a) With regard to each paper  
27 document being notarized, a sharp, legible, photographically reproducible impression  
28 or depiction of a notary public's official seal shall be affixed

29 (1) on the notarial certificate near the notary public's official signature;

30 and

31 (2) only at the time the notarial act is performed.

1 (b) For a notarized paper document, illegible information within a seal  
2 impression or depiction may be typed or printed legibly by the notary public adjacent  
3 to, but not within, the impression or depiction.

4 (c) An embossed seal impression that is not photographically reproducible  
5 may be used in addition to, but not in place of, the seal impression or depiction  
6 required by (a) of this section.

7 (d) A notary public may use a seal in electronic form on electronic documents  
8 notarized by the notary public as authorized by regulations adopted by the lieutenant  
9 governor. The seal shall be affixed only at the time the notarial act is performed.

10 **Sec. 44.50.066. Notary public's status notification.** (a) Within 30 days after  
11 change of a notary public's name, mailing address, or physical address, the notary  
12 public shall, on a form provided by the lieutenant governor, submit written notification  
13 of the change, signed by the notary public.

14 (b) The lieutenant governor may require limited governmental notaries public  
15 commissioned under AS 44.50.010(a)(2) who change departmental or agency  
16 employers to submit written notification of the change on a form provided by the  
17 lieutenant governor.

18 (c) A notary public commissioned under AS 44.50.010(a)(1) reporting a name  
19 change shall submit to the lieutenant governor payment of the fee under AS 44.19.024  
20 for the issuance of a replacement certificate of commission.

21 (d) A notary public reporting a name change under (a) and (c) of this section  
22 shall use the person's former name for the performance of notarial acts until the person  
23 has

24 (1) provided written notification of the name change to the surety for  
25 any bond required under AS 44.50.034;

26 (2) received a replacement certificate of commission reflecting the  
27 name change from the lieutenant governor; and

28 (3) obtained a new seal reflecting the name change.

29 (e) The lieutenant governor may require a notary public to update the  
30 information required under AS 44.50.032, including the notary public's current  
31 notarized signature and information regarding the notary public's electronic signature.

1           **Sec. 44.50.067. Resignation.** (a) To resign a commission, a notary public  
2 shall notify the lieutenant governor in writing of the resignation and the date that it is  
3 effective. The notary public shall sign the notification.

4           (b) A notary public who does not any longer meet the requirements of this  
5 chapter to be a notary public shall immediately resign the commission.

6           **Sec. 44.50.068. Disciplinary action.** The lieutenant governor may suspend or  
7 revoke a notary public's commission or reprimand a notary public for good cause  
8 shown, including

- 9                   (1) a ground on which an application for a commission may be denied;  
10                   (2) failure to comply with this chapter; and  
11                   (3) incompetence or malfeasance in carrying out the notary public's  
12 duties under this chapter.

13           **Sec. 44.50.069. Complaint; hearing; appeal; delegation.** (a) A person  
14 harmed by the actions of a notary public may file a complaint with the lieutenant  
15 governor. The complaint shall be filed on a form prescribed by the lieutenant  
16 governor and shall be signed and verified by the person alleging misconduct by the  
17 notary public.

18           (b) If the lieutenant governor determines that the allegations in the complaint  
19 do not warrant formal disciplinary action, the lieutenant governor may decline to act  
20 on the complaint or may advise the notary public of the appropriate conduct and the  
21 applicable statutes and regulations governing the conduct. The lieutenant governor  
22 shall notify the notary public and the complainant of the determination in writing.

23           (c) If the lieutenant governor determines that the complaint alleges sufficient  
24 facts to constitute good cause for disciplinary action, the lieutenant governor shall  
25 serve the notary public with a copy of the complaint as provided in Rule 4, Alaska  
26 Rules of Civil Procedure. The notary public may file a written response to the  
27 complaint with the lieutenant governor within 20 days after receipt of the complaint.  
28 The lieutenant governor may extend the time for the notary public's response. The  
29 lieutenant governor shall provide a copy of the notary public's response to the  
30 complainant.

31           (d) The lieutenant governor shall review the complaint and the response to

1 determine whether formal disciplinary action may be warranted. The lieutenant  
 2 governor may determine that the allegations in the complaint do not warrant formal  
 3 disciplinary action, in which case the lieutenant governor may determine not to take  
 4 further action on the complaint or may determine to advise the notary public of the  
 5 appropriate conduct and the applicable statutes and regulations governing the conduct.  
 6 If the lieutenant governor determines that formal disciplinary action is not warranted,  
 7 the lieutenant governor shall provide the complainant and the notary public with a  
 8 written statement of the basis for the determination.

9 (e) If the lieutenant governor finds that formal disciplinary action may be  
 10 warranted, the lieutenant governor shall refer the matter to the office of administrative  
 11 hearings created under AS 44.64.010 for a hearing.

12 (f) The lieutenant governor may delegate the powers under AS 44.50.068 and  
 13 this section.

14 (g) An appeal from a decision of the lieutenant governor under this section  
 15 shall be in accordance with the procedures set out in AS 44.62 (Administrative  
 16 Procedure Act).

17 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 44.50 is amended by adding new sections to read:

18 **Sec. 44.50.071. Confidentiality.** (a) An address, telephone number, and  
 19 electronic mail address of a notary public or an applicant that is submitted under  
 20 AS 44.50.032 or 44.50.038 and that is designated by the notary public or applicant as  
 21 confidential shall be kept confidential. However, a notary public shall provide a  
 22 nonconfidential address and telephone number at which the notary public can be  
 23 contacted.

24 (b) Compilations and data bases of those addresses, telephone numbers, and  
 25 electronic mail addresses of notaries public that are confidential under (a) of this  
 26 section shall be kept confidential, except that the lieutenant governor may disclose  
 27 compilations and data bases if the lieutenant governor determines that disclosure is in  
 28 the public interest.

29 (c) A complaint filed under AS 44.50.069 shall be kept confidential unless the  
 30 lieutenant governor determines under AS 44.50.069(c) that the complaint alleges  
 31 sufficient facts to constitute good cause for disciplinary action.

1           **Sec. 44.50.072. Regulations.** The lieutenant governor may adopt regulations  
2 under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) to carry out the purposes of this  
3 chapter.

4           **Sec. 44.50.073. Published summary.** The lieutenant governor may publish  
5 by electronic means for commissioned notaries public a summary of the provisions of  
6 this chapter and the regulations adopted under this chapter. The lieutenant governor  
7 shall, upon request, distribute the summary to each person who is commissioned a  
8 notary public under this chapter.

9       \* **Sec. 13.** AS 44.50 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10           **Sec. 44.50.200. Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
11 requires,

12                   (1) "notarial act" means an act that is identified as a notarial act under  
13 AS 09.63.120 and an act that a notary public is directed to perform under  
14 AS 44.50.060;

15                   (2) "notary public" means a person commissioned to perform notarial  
16 acts under this chapter.

17       \* **Sec. 14.** AS 44.50.030, 44.50.040, 44.50.070, 44.50.080, 44.50.090, 44.50.100,  
18 44.50.110, 44.50.120, 44.50.130, 44.50.140, 44.50.170, 44.50.180(c), and 44.50.190 are  
19 repealed.

20       \* **Sec. 15.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
21 read:

22           **APPLICABILITY.** (a) AS 44.50.010, repealed and reenacted by sec. 7 of this Act,  
23 and AS 44.50.032, 44.50.033, 44.50.035, 44.50.036, 44.50.037, and 44.50.039, enacted by  
24 sec. 9 of this Act, do not apply to a notary public whose commission is in effect on the day  
25 before the effective date of secs. 1 - 14 of this Act until the notary public's term of office  
26 expires under former AS 44.50.030, the notary public resigns under AS 44.50.067, enacted by  
27 sec. 11 of this Act, or the notary public's commission is revoked under AS 44.50.068, enacted  
28 by sec. 11 of this Act.

29           (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, if a notary public whose commission is in  
30 effect on the day before the effective date of secs. 1 - 14 of this Act has been incarcerated in a  
31 correctional facility for a felony conviction within the 10 years before the notary public's term

1 of office expires under former AS 44.50.030, the lieutenant governor may take an action  
2 under AS 44.50.068, enacted by sec. 11 of the Act, against the notary public.

3 \* **Sec. 16.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
4 read:

5       TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The lieutenant governor may proceed to adopt  
6 regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect  
7 under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the  
8 respective statutory change.

9 \* **Sec. 17.** Section 16 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

10 \* **Sec. 18.** Except as provided in sec. 17 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2005.