

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 172(FIN)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/27/06

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATOR THERRIAULT

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to election pamphlets and to the presentation of initiatives and**
2 **referenda on the ballot; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 15.15.040(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) The director shall prepare and issue or make available with each sample
6 ballot for a special election the statement provided for in AS 24.08.037 of the scope of
7 each project included in a proposed general obligation bond issue creating a state debt
8 for capital improvements that is submitted to the electorate for ratification under
9 AS 15.15.030(11). The statement of scope for each project shall be the same statement
10 included in the authorization bill. When a ballot proposition is submitted to the voters
11 at a primary or a special election, a statement the same as that provided for in the
12 election pamphlet under AS 15.58.020(a)(6) [AS 15.58.020(6)] shall be made
13 available with each sample ballot.

14 *** Sec. 2.** AS 15.45.180(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) If the petition is properly filed, the lieutenant governor, with the assistance
 2 of the attorney general, shall prepare a ballot title and proposition. The ballot title
 3 shall, in not more than 25 [SIX] words, indicate the general subject of the proposition.
 4 The proposition shall, in not more than 50 [100] words for each section, give a true
 5 and impartial summary of the proposed law. In this subsection, "section" means a
 6 provision of the proposed law that is distinct from other provisions in purpose or
 7 subject matter.

8 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.45.410(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) The lieutenant governor, with the assistance of the attorney general, shall
 10 prepare a ballot title and proposition upon determining that the petition is properly
 11 filed. The ballot title shall, in not more than 25 [SIX] words, indicate the general
 12 subject area of the act. The proposition shall, in not more than 50 [100] words for
 13 each section, give a true and impartial summary of the act being referred. In this
 14 subsection, "section" means each section of the Alaska statutes created,
 15 amended, or repealed in the Act, and each section of the Act that does not create
 16 or amend codified law.

17 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.58.010 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 15.58.010. Election pamphlet.** Before each state general election, and
 19 before each state primary election at which a ballot proposition is scheduled to
 20 appear on the ballot, the lieutenant governor shall prepare, publish, and mail at least
 21 one election pamphlet to each household identified from the official registration list.
 22 The pamphlet shall be prepared on a regional basis as determined by the lieutenant
 23 governor.

24 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.58.020 is amended to read:

25 **Sec. 15.58.020. Contents of pamphlet.** Each general election pamphlet must
 26 contain

- 27 (1) photographs and campaign statements submitted by eligible
 28 candidates for elective office in the region;
 29 (2) information and recommendations filed under AS 15.58.050 on
 30 judicial officers subject to a retention election in the region;
 31 (3) a map of the house district or districts of the region;

- 1 (4) sample ballots for house districts of the region;
- 2 (5) an absentee ballot application;
- 3 (6) for each ballot proposition submitted to the voters by initiative or
4 referendum petition or by the legislature,
- 5 (A) the full text of the proposition specifying constitutional or
6 statutory provisions proposed to be affected;
- 7 (B) the ballot title and the summary of the proposition prepared
8 by the director or by the lieutenant governor;
- 9 (C) a statement of the costs to the state of implementing the law
10 proposed in an initiative, or of voter approval or rejection of the act that is the
11 subject of a referendum;
- 12 (D) a neutral summary of the proposition prepared by the
13 Legislative Affairs Agency;
- 14 (E) statements submitted that advocate voter approval or
15 rejection of the proposition not to exceed 500 words;
- 16 (7) for each bond question, a statement of the scope of each project as
17 it appears in the bond authorization;
- 18 (8) a maximum of two pages of material submitted by each political
19 party;
- 20 (9) additional information on voting procedures that the lieutenant
21 governor considers necessary;
- 22 (10) for the question whether a constitutional convention shall be
23 called,
- 24 (A) a full statement of the question placed on the ballot;
- 25 (B) statements not to exceed 500 words that advocate voter
26 approval or rejection of the question;
- 27 (11) under AS 37.13.170, the Alaska permanent fund annual income
28 statement and balance sheet for the two fiscal years preceding the publication of the
29 election pamphlet;
- 30 (12) under AS 15.10.090, notice of
- 31 (A) the establishment or abolition of a precinct;

1 (B) the designation, abolition, or modification of precinct
2 boundaries; and

3 (C) a change in the location of a polling place.

4 * **Sec. 6.** AS 15.58.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 (b) Each primary election pamphlet shall contain the information specified in
6 (a)(6) and (a)(9) of this section for each ballot measure scheduled to appear on the
7 primary election ballot.

8 * **Sec. 7.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).