

CONFERENCE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 172
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/2/06

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; relating to review of applications for certification of initiatives;**
3 **relating to the circulation and subscription of recall petitions; and providing for an**
4 **effective date."**

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

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

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

1 available with each sample ballot.

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.45.070 is amended to read:

3 **Sec. 15.45.070. Review of application for certification. Within 60 calendar**
 4 **days after the date the application is received, the** [THE] lieutenant governor shall
 5 review the application and shall either certify it or notify the initiative committee of
 6 the grounds for denial.

7 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.45.180(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) If the petition is properly filed, the lieutenant governor, with the assistance
 9 of the attorney general, shall prepare a ballot title and proposition. The ballot title
 10 shall, in not more than **25** [SIX] words, indicate the general subject of the proposition.
 11 The proposition shall [, IN NOT MORE THAN 100 WORDS,] give a true and
 12 impartial summary of the proposed law. **The total number of words used in the**
 13 **summary may not exceed the product of the number of sections in the proposed**
 14 **law multiplied by 50. In this subsection, "section" means a provision of the**
 15 **proposed law that is distinct from other provisions in purpose or subject matter.**

16 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.45.410(a) is amended to read:

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

25 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.45.580(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) The petitions may be circulated only in person throughout the state [OR
 27 SENATE OR HOUSE DISTRICT REPRESENTED BY THE OFFICIAL SOUGHT
 28 TO BE RECALLED].

29 * **Sec. 6.** AS 15.45.590 is amended to read:

30 **Sec. 15.45.590. Manner of signing and withdrawing name from petition.**
 31 Any qualified voter **registered to vote in the district represented by the official**

1 **sought to be recalled** may subscribe to the petition by printing the voter's name, a
 2 numerical identifier, and an address, by signing the voter's name, and by dating the
 3 signature. A person who has signed the petition may withdraw the person's name only
 4 by giving written notice to the director before the date the petition is filed.

5 * **Sec. 7.** AS 15.58.010 is amended to read:

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

12 * **Sec. 8.** AS 15.58.020 is amended to read:

13 **Sec. 15.58.020. Contents of pamphlet.** Each **general** election pamphlet must
 14 contain

15 (1) photographs and campaign statements submitted by eligible
 16 candidates for elective office in the region;

17 (2) information and recommendations filed under AS 15.58.050 on
 18 judicial officers subject to a retention election in the region;

19 (3) a map of the house district or districts of the region;

20 (4) sample ballots for house districts of the region;

21 (5) an absentee ballot application;

22 (6) for each ballot proposition submitted to the voters by initiative or
 23 referendum petition or by the legislature,

24 (A) the full text of the proposition specifying constitutional or
 25 statutory provisions proposed to be affected;

26 (B) the ballot title and the summary of the proposition prepared
 27 by the director or by the lieutenant governor;

28 (C) a statement of the costs to the state of implementing the law
 29 proposed in an initiative, or of voter approval or rejection of the act that is the
 30 subject of a referendum;

31 (D) a neutral summary of the proposition prepared by the

1 Legislative Affairs Agency;

2 (E) statements submitted that advocate voter approval or
3 rejection of the proposition not to exceed 500 words;

4 (7) for each bond question, a statement of the scope of each project as
5 it appears in the bond authorization;

6 (8) a maximum of two pages of material submitted by each political
7 party;

8 (9) additional information on voting procedures that the lieutenant
9 governor considers necessary;

10 (10) for the question whether a constitutional convention shall be
11 called,

12 (A) a full statement of the question placed on the ballot;

13 (B) statements not to exceed 500 words that advocate voter
14 approval or rejection of the question;

15 (11) under AS 37.13.170, the Alaska permanent fund annual income
16 statement and balance sheet for the two fiscal years preceding the publication of the
17 election pamphlet;

18 (12) under AS 15.10.090, notice of

19 (A) the establishment or abolition of a precinct;

20 (B) the designation, abolition, or modification of precinct
21 boundaries; and

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

23 * **Sec. 9.** AS 15.58.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

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

27 * **Sec. 10.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).