

2d SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 288

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG

Introduced: 2/23/10

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to bilingual voting."**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 15.15 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 15.15.245. Voting assistance for persons with limited English**
5 **proficiency.** (a) The director shall

6 (1) provide bilingual voting materials or oral translation help at polling
7 places and absentee voting stations designated under AS 15.20.045(b) in an election
8 district in which at least five percent of the voting-age citizens speak a single common
9 language other than English and are persons with limited English proficiency, as
10 determined by the director of the United States Bureau of the Census, based on the
11 latest available American Community Survey census data or comparable census data;
12 and

13 (2) ensure, to the greatest degree possible, the accurate translation of
14 voting materials and the accuracy and availability of oral translation help provided to
15 persons with limited English proficiency.

1 (b) In this section,

2 (1) "voting materials" means registration or voting notices, forms,
3 instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral
4 process, including ballots;

5 (2) "with limited English proficiency" means unable to speak or
6 understand English well enough to participate in the electoral process.