

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 311(STA) am

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Amended: 2/10/12

Offered: 2/10/12

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the filing of information with the Alaska Public Offices Commission;**
2 **and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 15.13.040(m) is amended to read:

5 (m) Information required under this chapter shall be submitted to the
6 commission electronically, except that the following information may be submitted in
7 clear and legible black typeface or hand-printed in dark ink on paper in a format
8 approved by the commission or on forms provided by the commission:

9 (1) information submitted by

10 (A) a candidate for election to a borough or city office of
11 mayor, membership on a borough assembly, city council, or school board, or
12 any state office, who

13 (i) meets the requirements of (g)(1) - (3) of this section;

14 or

1 **(ii) does not have reasonable access to the technology**
 2 **necessary to file electronically; in this sub-subparagraph, a**
 3 **candidate is considered not to have reasonable access to the**
 4 **technology necessary to file electronically if the candidate does not**
 5 **own a personal computer or does not have broadband Internet**
 6 **access at the candidate's residence; in this sub-subparagraph,**
 7 **"broadband Internet access" means high-speed Internet access**
 8 **that is always on and that is faster than traditional dial-up access;**
 9 **or**

10 (B) a candidate for municipal office for a municipality with a
 11 population of less than 15,000; in this subparagraph, "municipal office" means
 12 the office of an elected borough or city

13 (i) mayor; or

14 (ii) assembly, council, or school board member;

15 (2) any information if the commission determines that circumstances
 16 warrant an exception to the electronic submission requirement.

17 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.13.040 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

18 (r) Notwithstanding the requirement in (a) of this section that a candidate shall
 19 make a full report upon a form prescribed by the commission, the commission shall
 20 accept information submitted electronically by a candidate if the information is

21 (1) entered onto a version of a form accessed on the Internet website of
 22 the commission; or

23 (2) in the form of an electronic spreadsheet or data file that contains
 24 field names and data types that conform to a standard defined by the commission.

25 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.13.110(c) is amended to read:

26 (c) All reports required by this chapter shall be filed with the commission's
 27 central office and shall be kept open to public inspection. **The commission shall keep**
 28 **a report filed on paper under AS 15.13.040(m) open to public inspection by**
 29 **scanning the report and posting a copy of the scanned image on the commission's**
 30 **Internet website within two working days after the report is filed. The** [WITHIN
 31 30 DAYS AFTER EACH ELECTION, THE] commission shall prepare a summary of

1 each report, which shall be made available to the public at cost upon request. Each
 2 summary **must** [SHALL] use uniform categories of reporting. **Summaries for**
 3 **reports filed**

4 **(1) electronically shall be made available within 30 days after the**
 5 **report is filed; and**

6 **(2) on paper shall be made available within 30 days after each**
 7 **election.**

8 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.13.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (i) During a campaign period, the commission may not change the manner or
 10 format in which reports required of a candidate under this chapter must be filed. In this
 11 subsection, "campaign period" means the period beginning on the date that a candidate
 12 becomes eligible to receive campaign contributions under this chapter and ending on
 13 the date that a final report for that same campaign must be filed.

14 * **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 15 read:

16 TEMPORARY EXCEPTION TO ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIREMENT.
 17 Notwithstanding AS 15.13.040(m), as amended by sec. 1 of this Act, until February 16, 2013,
 18 the commission may request that a candidate submit information required under AS 15.13
 19 electronically but shall accept any information required of a candidate under AS 15.13 that is
 20 typed in clear and legible black typeface or hand-printed in dark ink on paper in a format
 21 approved by the commission or on forms provided by the commission.

22 * **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 23 read:

24 TRANSITION. Notwithstanding AS 15.13 and the rules of the Alaska Public Offices
 25 Commission, a candidate who has submitted information electronically in a format allowed
 26 under AS 15.13.040(r), enacted by sec. 2 of this Act, or on paper in a format approved by the
 27 commission, is not subject to a civil penalty under AS 15.13.390 for failure properly to file a
 28 report under AS 15.13.040 if the information was filed after December 1, 2011, and before the
 29 effective date of sec. 2 of this Act.

30 * **Sec. 7.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 31 read:

1 RETROACTIVITY. Sections 1, 2, and 5 of this Act are retroactive to December 1,
2 2011.

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