

**HOUSE BILL NO. 20**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES LYNN, Olson**

**Introduced: 1/16/13**

**Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act requiring that poll watchers and members of the state ballot counting review**  
2 **board be registered to vote in the state."**

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

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 15.10.170 is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 15.10.170. Appointment and privileges of watchers.** The precinct party  
6 committee, where an organized precinct committee exists, or the party district  
7 committee where no organized precinct committee exists, or the state party  
8 chairperson where neither a precinct nor a party district committee exists, may appoint  
9 one or more persons as watchers in each precinct and counting center for any election.  
10 Each candidate not representing a political party may appoint one or more watchers  
11 for each precinct or counting center in the candidate's respective district or the state for  
12 any election. Any organization or organized group that sponsors or opposes an  
13 initiative, referendum, or recall may have one or more persons as watchers at the polls  
14 and counting centers after first obtaining authorization from the director. A state party

1 chairperson, a precinct party committee, a party district committee, or a candidate not  
2 representing a political party or organization or organized group may not have more  
3 than one watcher on duty at a time in any precinct or counting center. **A watcher must**  
4 **be registered to vote in the state.** The watcher may be present at a position inside the  
5 place of voting or counting that affords a full view of all action of the election officials  
6 taken from the time the polls are opened until the ballots are finally counted and the  
7 results certified by the election board or the data processing review board. The  
8 election board or the data processing review board may require each watcher to  
9 present written proof showing appointment by the precinct party committee, the party  
10 district committee, the organization or organized group, or the candidate the watcher  
11 represents that is signed by the chairperson of the precinct party committee, the party  
12 district committee, the state party chairperson, the organization or organized group, or  
13 the candidate representing no party.

14 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 15.10.180 is amended to read:

15 **Sec. 15.10.180. Appointment of state ballot counting review board.** The  
16 director shall appoint two persons from the political party of which the governor is a  
17 member and two persons from the political party that received the second largest  
18 number of votes statewide in the preceding gubernatorial election to participate in the  
19 state ballot counting review. The director may appoint additional individuals to  
20 participate in the state ballot counting review. **Appointees must be registered to vote**  
21 **in the state.** Each political party may present to the director a list of three or more  
22 names from which the director shall select the persons to represent the party. The list  
23 of names may be submitted in writing at least 30 days before the date of the election.  
24 The list of names shall be certified by the state chairperson of the political party or by  
25 the person authorized by the party bylaws to act in the absence of the chairperson.