

HOUSE BILL NO. 339

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE KURKA

Introduced: 2/17/22

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the selection and retention of court of appeals and district court**
2 **judges and magistrates; relating to the qualifications of supreme court justices, superior**
3 **court judges, district court judges, and magistrates; relating to the duties of the judicial**
4 **council; relating to the duties of the Commission on Judicial Conduct; and repealing**
5 **Rule 19.1, Alaska Rules of Administration."**

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

7 *** Section 1.** AS 15.15.030(10) is amended to read:

8 (10) A nonpartisan ballot shall be designed for each judicial district in
9 which a justice or judge is seeking retention in office. The ballot shall be divided into
10 two [FOUR] parts. Each part must bear a heading indicating the court to which the
11 candidate is seeking approval, and provision shall be made for marking each question
12 "Yes" or "No." Within each part, the question of whether the justice or judge shall be
13 approved or rejected shall be set out in substantially the following manner:

1 (A) "Shall be retained as justice of the supreme court
2 for 10 years?"; **or**

3 (B) ["SHALL BE RETAINED AS JUDGE OF THE
4 COURT OF APPEALS FOR EIGHT YEARS?";

5 (C)] "Shall be retained as judge of the superior court
6 for six years?"; OR

7 (D) "SHALL BE RETAINED AS JUDGE OF THE
8 DISTRICT COURT FOR FOUR YEARS?"]

9 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.35.135 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 15.35.135. Withdrawal of candidacy; removal of name from general**
11 **election ballot.** (a) Notice of withdrawal of candidacy for retention **at a general**
12 **election** for a supreme court justice **or** [, JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS,]
13 superior court judge [, OR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE] must be in writing over the
14 signature of the candidate.

15 (b) **When a supreme court justice or superior court judge is a candidate**
16 **for retention at a general election, the** [THE] name of **the** [A] candidate [FOR
17 RETENTION FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, JUDGE OF THE COURT OF
18 APPEALS, SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, OR DISTRICT COURT JUDGE] must
19 appear on the general election ballot unless notice under (a) of this section of
20 withdrawal of candidacy is received by the director at least 64 days before the date of
21 the general election.

22 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.58.050 is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 15.58.050. Information and recommendations on judicial officers. Not**
24 [NO] later than August 7 of the year in which the state general election will be held,
25 the judicial council shall file with the lieutenant governor a statement including
26 information about each supreme court justice **and** [, COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE,]
27 superior court judge [, AND DISTRICT COURT JUDGE] who will be subject to a
28 retention election. The statement shall reflect the evaluation of each justice or judge
29 conducted by the judicial council according to law and shall contain a brief statement
30 describing each public reprimand, public censure, or suspension received by the judge
31 under AS 22.30.011(d) during the period covered in the evaluation. A statement may

1 not exceed 600 words.

2 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.58.060(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) Each general election candidate shall pay to the lieutenant governor at the
4 time of filing material under this chapter the following:

5 (1) President or Vice-President of the United States, United States
6 senator, United States representative, governor, lieutenant governor, **and** supreme
7 court justice, [AND COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE,] \$300 each;

8 (2) superior court judge [AND DISTRICT COURT JUDGE,] \$150
9 each;

10 (3) state senator and state representative, \$100 each.

11 * **Sec. 5.** AS 22.05.070 is amended to read:

12 **Sec. 22.05.070. Qualifications of justices.** A justice of the supreme court shall
13 be a citizen of the United States and of the state, a resident of the state for five years
14 immediately preceding appointment, have been engaged for not less than eight years
15 immediately preceding appointment in the active practice of law, **have been**
16 **previously confirmed by the legislature to serve as a court of appeals judge or a**
17 **district court judge, have served as a court of appeals judge or district court**
18 **judge in the state,** and, at the time of appointment, be licensed to practice law in the
19 state. The active practice of law includes

20 (1) sitting as a judge in a state or territorial court;

21 (2) being actually engaged in advising and representing clients in
22 matters of law;

23 (3) rendering legal services to an agency, branch, or department of a
24 civil government within the United States or a state or territory of the United States, in
25 an elective, appointive, or employed capacity;

26 (4) serving as a professor, associate professor, or assistant professor in
27 a law school accredited by the American Bar Association.

28 * **Sec. 6.** AS 22.05.100 is amended to read:

29 **Sec. 22.05.100. Approval or rejection.** Each supreme court justice is subject
30 to approval or rejection as provided in AS 15 (Alaska Election Code). The judicial
31 council shall conduct an evaluation of each justice before the retention election and

1 shall provide to the public information about that justice and may provide a
 2 recommendation regarding retention or rejection. The information and any
 3 recommendation shall be made public at least 60 days before the retention election.
 4 The judicial council shall also provide the information and any recommendation to the
 5 office of the lieutenant governor in time for publication in the election pamphlet under
 6 AS 15.58.050. If a majority of those voting on the question rejects the candidacy, the
 7 rejected justice may not be appointed to fill any vacancy in the supreme court, court of
 8 appeals, superior court, [OR] district courts, or magistrate position of the state for a
 9 period of four years thereafter.

10 * **Sec. 7.** AS 22.07.060 is amended to read:

11 **Sec. 22.07.060. Approval or rejection. If the legislature rejects a judge who**
 12 **is subject to retention in office by the legislature under (b) of this section** [EACH
 13 JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OR
 14 REJECTION AS PROVIDED IN AS 15 (ALASKA ELECTION CODE). THE
 15 JUDICIAL COUNCIL SHALL CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF EACH JUDGE
 16 BEFORE THE RETENTION ELECTION AND SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION
 17 TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE JUDGE AND MAY PROVIDE A
 18 RECOMMENDATION REGARDING RETENTION OR REJECTION. THE
 19 INFORMATION AND ANY RECOMMENDATION SHALL BE MADE PUBLIC
 20 AT LEAST 60 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION. THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL
 21 SHALL ALSO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION AND ANY
 22 RECOMMENDATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN
 23 TIME FOR PUBLICATION IN THE ELECTION PAMPHLET AS REQUIRED BY
 24 AS 15.58.050. IF A MAJORITY OF THOSE VOTING ON THE QUESTION
 25 REJECTS THE CANDIDACY OF A JUDGE], the rejected judge may not for a
 26 period of four years thereafter be appointed to fill a vacancy in the supreme court, the
 27 court of appeals, the superior court, [OR] the district court, or a magistrate position
 28 of the state.

29 * **Sec. 8.** AS 22.07.060 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

30 (b) Each judge of the court of appeals shall be subject to approval or rejection
 31 by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session at the first legislative

1 session held more than two years after the judge's appointment. If approved, the judge
 2 shall thereafter be subject to approval or rejection in a like manner every second year.
 3 Failure of the legislature to act to approve or reject a judge during the regular session
 4 in which the judge is subject to retention by the legislature is tantamount to rejection
 5 on the day the regular session adjourns. Each judge of the court of appeals seeking
 6 retention in office by the legislature shall file with the senate secretary and the chief
 7 clerk of the house of representatives a declaration of candidacy for retention not later
 8 than August 1 before the legislative session at which approval or rejection is requisite.

9 * **Sec. 9.** AS 22.07.070 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 22.07.070. Vacancies.** (a) The governor shall fill a vacancy or appoint a
 11 successor to fill an impending vacancy in the office of judge of the court of appeals
 12 within 45 days after **the office becomes vacant** [RECEIVING NOMINATIONS
 13 FROM THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL,] by appointing **for each actual or impending**
 14 **vacancy, one person who is qualified under AS 22.07.040. An appointment made**
 15 **under this subsection is subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of**
 16 **the legislature in joint session** [OF TWO OR MORE PERSONS NOMINATED BY
 17 THE COUNCIL FOR EACH ACTUAL OR IMPENDING VACANCY]. An
 18 appointment to fill an impending vacancy becomes effective upon **the later of**
 19 **confirmation by the legislature or** the actual occurrence of the vacancy.

20 (b) The office of a judge of the court of appeals becomes vacant 90 days after
 21 the **judge is rejected by the legislature** [ELECTION AT WHICH THE JUDGE IS
 22 REJECTED BY A MAJORITY OF THOSE VOTING ON THE QUESTION OR
 23 FOR WHICH THE JUDGE FAILS TO FILE A DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY.
 24 UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF (1) AN ACTUAL VACANCY; (2) THE
 25 CERTIFICATION OF REJECTION FOLLOWING AN ELECTION; OR (3) THE
 26 ELECTION FOLLOWING FAILURE OF A JUDGE TO FILE A DECLARATION
 27 OF CANDIDACY, THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL SHALL MEET WITHIN 90 DAYS
 28 AND SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES OF TWO OR MORE
 29 PERSONS QUALIFIED FOR THE JUDICIAL OFFICE; HOWEVER, THE 90-DAY
 30 PERIOD MAY BE EXTENDED BY THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL WITH THE
 31 CONCURRENCE OF THE SUPREME COURT. IN THE EVENT OF AN

1 IMPENDING VACANCY OTHER THAN BY REASON OF REJECTION OR
 2 FAILURE TO FILE A DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY, THE JUDICIAL
 3 COUNCIL MAY MEET AT ANY TIME WITHIN THE 90-DAY PERIOD
 4 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE VACANCY
 5 AND SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES OF TWO OR MORE
 6 PERSONS QUALIFIED FOR THE JUDICIAL OFFICE].

7 * **Sec. 10.** AS 22.10.090 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 22.10.090. Qualifications of judges.** A judge of the superior court shall
 9 be a citizen of the United States and of the state, a resident of the state for five years
 10 immediately preceding appointment, have been engaged for not less than five years
 11 immediately preceding appointment in the active practice of law, **have been**
 12 **previously confirmed by the legislature to serve as a court of appeals judge or a**
 13 **district court judge, have served as a court of appeals judge or district court**
 14 **judge in the state,** and, at the time of appointment, be licensed to practice law in the
 15 state. The active practice of law shall be as defined for justices of the supreme court in
 16 AS 22.05.070.

17 * **Sec. 11.** AS 22.10.150 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 22.10.150. Approval or rejection.** Each superior court judge is subject to
 19 approval or rejection as provided in AS 15 (Alaska Election Code). The judicial
 20 council shall conduct an evaluation of each judge before the retention election and
 21 shall provide to the public information about the judge and may provide a
 22 recommendation regarding retention or rejection. The information and any
 23 recommendation shall be made public at least 60 days before the retention election.
 24 The information shall include the judge's consideration of victims when imposing
 25 sentence on persons convicted of felony offenses where the offenses involve victims.
 26 The judicial council shall also provide the information and any recommendation to the
 27 office of the lieutenant governor in time for publication in the election pamphlet under
 28 AS 15.58.050. If a majority of those voting on the question rejects the candidacy of a
 29 judge, the rejected judge may not for a period of four years thereafter be appointed to
 30 fill any vacancy in the supreme court, court of appeals, superior court, [OR] district
 31 courts, **or magistrate position** of the state.

1 * **Sec. 12.** AS 22.15.160 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 22.15.160. Qualifications of district judges and magistrates.** (a) A
3 district judge shall be a citizen of the United States [AND OF THE STATE], at least
4 21 years of age, [A RESIDENT OF THE STATE FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS
5 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPOINTMENT,] and

6 (1) have been engaged in the active practice of law for not less than
7 three years immediately preceding appointment and, at the time of appointment, be
8 licensed to practice law in any state [THE STATE OF ALASKA]; or

9 (2) have served for at least four [SEVEN] years as a magistrate in the
10 state. [THE SUPREME COURT MAY PRESCRIBE ADDITIONAL
11 QUALIFICATIONS.]

12 (b) A magistrate shall be a citizen of the United States and [OF THE STATE,]
13 at least 21 years of age [, AND A RESIDENT OF THE STATE FOR AT LEAST SIX
14 MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING APPOINTMENT. THE SUPREME
15 COURT MAY PRESCRIBE ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS].

16 * **Sec. 13.** AS 22.15.170(a) is amended to read:

17 (a) The governor shall fill a vacancy or appoint a successor to fill an
18 impending vacancy in an office of district judge or in a magistrate position within 45
19 days after the office or position becomes vacant [RECEIVING NOMINATIONS
20 FROM THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL] by appointing, for each actual or impending
21 vacancy, one person who is qualified under AS 22.15.160. An appointment made
22 under this section is subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the
23 legislature in joint session. An [OF TWO OR MORE PERSONS NOMINATED BY
24 THE COUNCIL FOR EACH ACTUAL OR IMPENDING VACANCY. THE]
25 appointment to fill an impending vacancy becomes effective upon the later of
26 confirmation by the legislature or the actual occurrence of the vacancy.

27 * **Sec. 14.** AS 22.15.170(e) is amended to read:

28 (e) The office of a district court judge or magistrate becomes vacant 90 days
29 after [THE ELECTION AT WHICH] the judge or magistrate is rejected by the
30 legislature [A MAJORITY OF THOSE VOTING ON THE QUESTION OR FOR
31 WHICH THE JUDGE FAILS TO FILE A DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY.

1 UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF (1) AN ACTUAL VACANCY; (2) THE
 2 CERTIFICATION OF REJECTION FOLLOWING AN ELECTION; OR (3) THE
 3 ELECTION FOLLOWING FAILURE OF A JUDGE TO FILE A DECLARATION
 4 OF CANDIDACY, THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL SHALL MEET WITHIN 90 DAYS
 5 AND SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES OF TWO OR MORE
 6 PERSONS QUALIFIED FOR THE JUDICIAL OFFICE; EXCEPT THAT THIS 90-
 7 DAY PERIOD MAY BE EXTENDED BY THE COUNCIL WITH THE
 8 CONCURRENCE OF THE SUPREME COURT. IN THE EVENT OF AN
 9 IMPENDING VACANCY OTHER THAN BY REASON OF REJECTION OR
 10 FAILURE TO FILE A DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY, THE COUNCIL MAY
 11 MEET AT ANY TIME WITHIN THE 90-DAY PERIOD IMMEDIATELY
 12 PRECEDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE VACANCY AND SUBMIT TO
 13 THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES OF TWO OR MORE PERSONS QUALIFIED
 14 FOR THE JUDICIAL OFFICE].

15 * **Sec. 15.** AS 22.15.195 is amended to read:

16 **Sec. 22.15.195. Approval or rejection. If the legislature rejects a judge or**
 17 **magistrate who is subject to retention by the legislature under (b) of this section**
 18 [EACH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OR
 19 REJECTION AS PROVIDED IN AS 15 (ALASKA ELECTION CODE). THE
 20 JUDICIAL COUNCIL SHALL CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF EACH JUDGE
 21 BEFORE THE RETENTION ELECTION AND SHALL PROVIDE TO THE
 22 PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE JUDGE AND MAY PROVIDE A
 23 RECOMMENDATION REGARDING RETENTION OR REJECTION. THE
 24 INFORMATION AND THE RECOMMENDATION SHALL BE MADE PUBLIC
 25 AT LEAST 60 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION. THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL
 26 SHALL ALSO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION AND ANY
 27 RECOMMENDATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN
 28 TIME FOR PUBLICATION IN THE ELECTION PAMPHLET UNDER
 29 AS 15.58.050. IF A MAJORITY OF THOSE VOTING ON THE QUESTION
 30 REJECTS THE CANDIDACY OF A JUDGE], the rejected judge **or magistrate** may
 31 not for a period of four years thereafter be appointed to fill any vacancy in the

1 supreme court, **the** court of appeals, **the** superior court, **the** [OR] district **court, or a**
 2 **magistrate position** [COURTS] of the state.

3 * **Sec. 16.** AS 22.15.195 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

4 (b) Each district court judge and magistrate shall be subject to approval or
 5 rejection by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session at the first
 6 legislative session held more than two years after the judge's or magistrate's
 7 appointment. If approved, the judge or magistrate shall thereafter be subject to
 8 approval or rejection in a like manner every second year. Failure of the legislature to
 9 act to approve or reject a judge or magistrate during the regular session in which the
 10 judge or magistrate is subject to retention by the legislature is tantamount to rejection
 11 on the day the regular session adjourns. Each district court judge or magistrate seeking
 12 retention in office by the legislature shall file with the senate secretary and the chief
 13 clerk of the house of representatives a declaration of candidacy for retention not later
 14 than August 1 before the legislative session at which approval or rejection is requisite.

15 * **Sec. 17.** AS 22.15.205 is amended to read:

16 **Sec. 22.15.205. Impeachment.** A district judge **or magistrate** is subject to
 17 impeachment by the legislature for malfeasance or misfeasance in the performance of
 18 official duties. Impeachment must originate in the senate and must be approved by
 19 two-thirds vote of its members. The motion for impeachment must list fully the basis
 20 for the proceeding. Trial on impeachment shall be conducted by the house of
 21 representatives. A supreme court justice designated by the court shall preside at the
 22 trial. Concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the house is required for a
 23 judgment of impeachment. The judgment may not extend beyond removal from office,
 24 but does not prevent proceedings in the courts on the same or related charges.

25 * **Sec. 18.** AS 22.30.011(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) The commission shall on its own motion or on receipt of a written
 27 complaint inquire into an allegation that a judge **or magistrate**

28 (1) has been convicted of a crime punishable as a felony under state or
 29 federal law or convicted of a crime that involves moral turpitude under state or federal
 30 law;

31 (2) suffers from a disability that seriously interferes with the

1 performance of [JUDICIAL] duties and that is or may become permanent;

2 (3) within a period of not more than six years before the filing of the
3 complaint or before the beginning of the commission's inquiry based on its own
4 motion, committed an act or acts that constitute

5 (A) wilful misconduct in office;

6 (B) wilful and persistent failure to perform the [JUDICIAL]
7 duties of the judge or magistrate;

8 (C) conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice;

9 (D) conduct that brings the judicial office or magistrate's
10 office into disrepute; or

11 (E) conduct in violation of the code of judicial conduct; or

12 (4) is habitually intemperate.

13 * **Sec. 19.** AS 22.30.011(b) is amended to read:

14 (b) After preliminary informal consideration of an allegation, the commission
15 may exonerate the judge or magistrate, informally and privately admonish the judge
16 or magistrate, or recommend counseling. Upon a finding of probable cause, the
17 commission shall hold a formal hearing on the allegation. A hearing under this
18 subsection is public. Proceedings and records pertaining to proceedings that occur
19 before the commission holds a public hearing on an allegation are confidential, subject
20 to the provisions of AS 22.30.060(b).

21 * **Sec. 20.** AS 22.30.011(c) is amended to read:

22 (c) A judge or magistrate appearing before the commission at the hearing is
23 entitled to counsel, may present evidence, and may cross-examine witnesses.

24 * **Sec. 21.** AS 22.30.011(d) is amended to read:

25 (d) The commission shall, after a hearing held under (b) of this section,

26 (1) exonerate the judge or magistrate of the charges; or

27 (2) refer the matter to the supreme court with a recommendation that
28 the judge or magistrate be reprimanded, suspended, removed [,] or retired from
29 office, or publicly or privately censured by the supreme court.

30 * **Sec. 22.** AS 22.30.011(g) is amended to read:

31 (g) If the commission exonerates a judge or magistrate, a copy of the

1 proceedings and report of the commission may be made public on the request of the
2 judge or magistrate.

3 * **Sec. 23.** AS 22.30.011(h) is amended to read:

4 (h) If a supreme court justice or superior court judge has been publicly
5 reprimanded, suspended, or publicly censured under this section and the justice or
6 judge has filed a declaration of candidacy for retention in office, the commission shall
7 report to the judicial council for inclusion in the statement filed by the judicial council
8 under AS 15.58.050 each public reprimand, suspension, or public censure received by
9 the justice or judge

10 (1) since appointment; or

11 (2) if the justice or judge has been retained by election, since the last
12 retention election of the justice or judge.

13 * **Sec. 24.** AS 22.30.070 is amended to read:

14 **Sec. 22.30.070. Disqualification, suspension, removal, retirement, and**
15 **censure of judges and magistrates.** (a) A judge or magistrate is disqualified from
16 acting as a judge or magistrate, without loss of salary, while there is pending

17 (1) an indictment or an information charging the judge or magistrate
18 in the United States with a crime punishable as a felony under state [ALASKA] or
19 federal law; [,] or

20 (2) a recommendation to the supreme court by the commission for the
21 removal or retirement of the judge or magistrate.

22 (b) On recommendation of the commission, the supreme court may reprimand,
23 publicly or privately censure, or suspend a judge or magistrate from office without
24 salary when in the United States the judge or magistrate pleads guilty or no contest or
25 is found guilty of a crime punishable as a felony under state or federal law or of a
26 crime that involves moral turpitude under state or federal law. If the conviction is
27 reversed, suspension terminates, and the judge or magistrate shall be paid the judge's
28 or magistrate's salary for the period of suspension. If the judge or magistrate is
29 suspended and the conviction becomes final, the supreme court shall remove the judge
30 or magistrate from office.

31 (c) On recommendation of the commission, the supreme court may (1) retire a

1 judge or magistrate for disability that seriously interferes with the performance of
 2 duties and that is or may become permanent, and (2) reprimand, publicly or privately
 3 censure, or remove a judge or magistrate for action, occurring not more than six
 4 years before the [COMMENCEMENT OF THE JUDGE'S] current term of the judge
 5 or magistrate begins, that [WHICH] constitutes wilful misconduct in the office,
 6 wilful and persistent failure to perform duties, habitual intemperance, conduct
 7 prejudicial to the administration of justice, or conduct that brings the judicial office or
 8 magistrate's office into disrepute. The effective date of retirement under (1) of this
 9 subsection is the first day of the month coinciding with or after the date that the
 10 supreme court files written notice with the commissioner of administration that the
 11 judge or magistrate was retired for disability. A duplicate copy of the notice shall be
 12 filed with the judicial council.

13 (d) A judge or magistrate retired by the supreme court shall be considered to
 14 have retired voluntarily. A judge or magistrate removed by the supreme court is
 15 ineligible for judicial office or for a magistrate position for a period of three years.

16 (e) A supreme court justice who has participated in proceedings involving a
 17 judge or justice of any court or a magistrate may not participate in an appeal
 18 involving that judge, [OR] justice, or magistrate in that particular matter.

19 * **Sec. 25.** AS 15.35.053, 15.35.055, 15.35.057, 15.35.059, 15.35.100, 15.35.110, 15.35.120,
 20 15.35.130; AS 22.15.170(c), and 22.15.170(d) are repealed.

21 * **Sec. 26.** The uncodified law of the state of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 22 read:

23 REPEAL OF COURT RULE. Rule 19.1, Alaska Rules of Administration, is repealed.

24 * **Sec. 27.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
 25 read:

26 APPLICABILITY. The qualifications for supreme court justices under AS 22.05.070,
 27 as amended by sec. 5 of this Act, superior court judges under AS 22.10.090, as amended by
 28 sec. 10 of this Act, and district judges and magistrates under AS 22.15.160, as amended by
 29 sec. 12 of this Act, apply to supreme court justices, superior court judges, district judges, and
 30 magistrates appointed on or after the effective date of this Act.