

SENATE BILL NO. 158

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

BY SENATOR KAWASAKI

Introduced: 1/18/22

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to political contributions; relating to the use of state funds; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 15.13.070(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) An individual may contribute not more than

6 (1) **\$700** [\$500] per year to a nongroup entity for the purpose of
7 influencing the nomination or election of a candidate, to a candidate, to an individual
8 who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate, or to a group that is not a political
9 party;

10 (2) \$5,000 per year to a political party.

11 *** Sec. 2.** AS 15.13.070(c) is amended to read:

12 (c) A group that is not a political party may contribute not more than **\$1,400**
13 [\$1,000] per year

14 (1) to a candidate, or to an individual who conducts a write-in

1 campaign as a candidate;

2 (2) to another group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party.

3 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.13.070(f) is amended to read:

4 (f) A nongroup entity may contribute not more than **\$1,400** [\$1,000] a year to
5 another nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a
6 candidate, to a candidate, to an individual who conducts a write-in campaign as a
7 candidate, to a group, or to a political party.

8 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.13.070(g) is amended to read:

9 (g) Where contributions are made to a joint campaign for governor and
10 lieutenant governor,

11 (1) an individual may contribute not more than **\$1,400** [\$1,000] per
12 year; and

13 (2) a group may contribute not more than **\$2,800** [\$2,000] per year.

14 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.13.070 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 (h) Beginning in the first quarter of calendar year 2023 and every four years
16 thereafter, the commission shall, by regulation, adjust the contribution limitations set
17 out in this section by a percentage equal to the percentage of increase over the
18 preceding four-year period in all items of the Consumer Price Index for all urban
19 consumers for Anchorage, Alaska, rounded to the nearest \$10 increment.

20 * **Sec. 6.** AS 39.52.120(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) A public officer may not use, or attempt to use, an official position for
22 personal gain, **including self-promotion**, and may not intentionally secure or grant
23 unwarranted benefits or treatment for any person.

24 * **Sec. 7.** AS 39.52.120(b) is amended to read:

25 (b) A public officer may not

26 (1) seek other employment or contracts through the use or attempted
27 use of official position;

28 (2) accept, receive, or solicit compensation for the performance of
29 official duties or responsibilities from a person other than the state;

30 (3) use state time, property, equipment, or other facilities to **self-**
31 **promote or otherwise** benefit personal or financial interests;

1 (4) take or withhold official action in order to affect a matter in which
2 the public officer has a personal or financial interest;

3 (5) attempt to benefit a personal or financial interest through coercion
4 of a subordinate or require another public officer to perform services for the private
5 benefit of the public officer at any time; or

6 (6) use or authorize the use of state funds, facilities, equipment,
7 services, or another government asset or resource for partisan political purposes; this
8 paragraph does not prohibit use of the governor's residence for meetings to discuss
9 political strategy and does not prohibit use of state aircraft or the communications
10 equipment in the governor's residence so long as there is no charge to the state for the
11 use; in this paragraph, "for partisan political purposes"

12 (A) means having the intent to differentially benefit or harm a

13 (i) candidate or potential candidate for elective office;

14 or

15 (ii) political party or group;

16 (B) but does not include having the intent to benefit the public
17 interest at large through the normal performance of official duties.

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