

SENATE BILL NO. 4

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR SHOWER

Introduced: 1/18/23

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to binding votes under the Legislative Ethics Act."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 24.60.030(j) is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

4 (4) "caucus" has the meaning given in AS 24.60.037(g);

5 (5) "legislative body" has the meaning given in AS 24.60.037(g).

6 * **Sec. 2.** AS 24.60.030 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 (k) A legislator may not, through a vote in caucus, commit or bind another
8 legislator to commit to vote for or against a bill, to confirm an appointment, to
9 override the governor's veto of a bill or appropriation, or to vote for or against another
10 question that may come to a vote before a legislative body, except as provided in this
11 subsection. A legislator may

12 (1) vote in a caucus on a matter directly relating to the selection of an
13 officer of the caucus or a leader of a legislative body;

14 (2) conduct an informal poll, outside of a meeting of the majority of
15 the members of a legislative body, to determine how another legislator may vote on a

1 measure.

2 * **Sec. 3.** AS 24.60.170(k) is amended to read:

3 (k) Following the hearing, the committee shall issue a decision stating whether
4 or not the subject of the complaint violated this chapter, and explaining the reasons for
5 the determination. The committee's decision may also indicate whether the subject
6 cooperated with the committee in its proceedings. If the committee finds a violation,
7 or lack of cooperation by the subject, the decision shall recommend what sanctions, if
8 any, the committee believes are appropriate. If there has not been a hearing because
9 the person charged admitted to the allegations of the charge, the committee shall issue
10 a decision outlining the facts of the violation and containing a sanctions
11 recommendation. **If the committee finds that the subject violated AS 24.60.030(k),**
12 **the committee shall recommend expulsion from the legislature and refer the**
13 **matter to the appropriate house of the legislature.**