

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2023 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	HB 4
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	5/10/2023

Identifier: HB004-OOG-DOE-4-28-23
 Title: ELECTIONS:REPEAL RANK CHOICE/OPEN
 PRIMARY
 Sponsor: VANCE
 Requester: (H) STATE AFFAIRS

Department: Office of the Governor
 Appropriation: Elections
 Allocation: Elections
 OMB Component Number: 21

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2024 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2024 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services	2,500.0							
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	2,500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	2,500.0							
Total	2,500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2023) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2024) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/24

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable, initial version

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Division:	Division of Elections	Date:	04/28/2023 12:00 PM
Approved By:	Cheri Lowenstein, Administrative Director	Date:	04/28/23
Agency:	Office of the Governor		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This legislation proposes changes to Alaska's election laws that would eliminate the open primary system and ranked choice voting system.

Should this bill pass, a public education campaign would need to take place in FY24 and FY25 to inform candidates, voters, and election workers of the changes to the primary and general election processes.

The Division of Election estimates the costs associated with conducting a multimedia public education campaign (including media such as television, radio, newspapers, magazines, internet websites and mobile digital devices, and outdoor advertising such as signs or billboards) to be \$2,500,000. These costs include advertising in English and other languages as required by the language assistance provisions of the Federal Voting Rights Act.

Based on past practice, the Division requests a two-year appropriation covering FY24 and FY25 costs if this legislation passes.

Additionally, the following regulations would need to be repealed or amended:

- 6 AAC 25.010 – amend to changes to poll watchers
- 6 AAC 25.030 – remove reference to first choice rankings
- 6 AAC 25.033 – remove reference to special primary
- 6 AAC 25.070 – remove reference to ranking
- 6 AAC 25.071 – remove reg - counting of write-in votes in ranked choice tabulation
- 6 AAC 25.072 – remove reg - duplicate rankings
- 6 AAC 25.195 – remove reg – ranked choice voting tabulation results
- 6 AAC 25.200 – remove subsection – recounts for ranked choice
- 6 AAC 25.203 – remove reference to special primary
- 6 AAC 25.210 – add nominating petition candidates
- 6 AAC 25.212 – remove reference to special primary
- 6 AAC 25.225 – amend to include nominating petition candidates
- 6 AAC 25.260 – add nominating petition
- 6 AAC 25.300 – remove special primary
- 6 AAC 25.400 – remove special primary
- 6 AAC 25.500 – remove special primary
- 6 AAC 25.650 – remove special primary
- 6 AAC 25.670 – remove special primary and references to ranked choice voting
- 6 AAC 25.685 – remove special primary
- 6 AAC 25.686 – remove special primary

Further, the Division of Elections would need to adopt regulations that were repealed with the implementation of the ranked choice voting laws:

- 6 AAC 25.205 – Lt. Governor candidate nomination if no candidate nominated in party primary
- 6 AAC 25.20 – required number of signatures for no party candidacy in the first general after redistricting