

*Statehood & Fed  
Relations  
Judiciary*

*Charles Jones*

BY SENATOR BARNES  
BY REQUEST

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 140

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act to direct the Governor to call  
7 a special election to determine whether  
8 the voters of Alaska prefer Immediate  
9 Statehood, Immediate Commonwealth, or  
10 Territorial status for Alaska at this  
11 time; describing the ballots therefore;  
12 fixing the time thereof; describing the  
13 method of canvassing; authorizing an  
14 appropriation for such referendum; and  
15 declaring an emergency.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

17 Section 1. There shall be submitted to the voters of the  
18 Territory of Alaska, at a special election which shall be called  
19 by the Governor, the question whether Alaska should remain a  
20 Territory for the time being or immediately become a State or  
21 Commonwealth.

22 Section 2. There shall be given to each voter at said  
23 special election, a separate ballot in the following form:

24 MARK ONLY ONE (1) PREFERENCE

- 25 A) At this time Alaska should remain a Territory..
- 26 B) At this time Alaska should have immediate  
27 Statehood even if divided or made smaller.....
- 28 C) At this time Alaska should have immediate  
29 Statehood but only if kept all together.....

1 D) At this time Alaska should become a  
2 Commonwealth even if on a permanent basis.....

3 E) At this time Alaska should become a  
4 Commonwealth but only as a step to Statehood..

5 Section 3. No person shall mark more than one choice,  
6 and the ballots shall have printed at the top,  
7 "MARK ONLY ONE (1) PREFERENCE."

8 Section 4. The ballots shall be printed in such manner  
9 that each choice moves up to the top in rotation, and an equal  
10 number of each form of ballot shall be distributed in each of  
11 the voting precincts.

12 Section 5. Said special election (referendum) shall be  
13 held on the last Tuesday of April, or the second Tuesday of  
14 October of this year of nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

15 Section 6. The returns of the election shall be made and  
16 canvassed in the same manner as prescribed for Alaska territorial  
17 general elections. The results of the election shall be declared  
18 and certified to the Governor who shall thereupon issue a procla-  
19 mation declaring the results of the referendum; the certified re-  
20 sults shall be transmitted by the Secretary of Alaska to the Con-  
21 gress of the United States and to the Legislature at the next ses-  
22 sion, in order that the Legislature may take such action as may be  
23 necessary in conformance with the results of the referendum.

24 Section 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated  
25 out of the general fund of the Territory of Alaska, the sum of  
26 \$10,000.00 or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the  
27 costs of the referendum.

28 Section 8. An emergency is hereby declared to exist, and  
29 this Act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.