

Introduced: 3/13/68  
Referred: State Affairs  
& Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 686

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to voter registration."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 \* Section 1. AS 15.05.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (6) has registered before the election as required under  
10 ch. 7 of this title.

11 \* Sec. 2. AS 15 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

12 CHAPTER 7. REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

13 Sec. 15.07.010. REGISTRATION OF VOTERS. The precinct election  
14 judges at an election shall allow a person to vote whose name is regis-  
15 tered in the precinct in which he intends to vote.

16 Sec. 15.07.020. REGISTRATION AS A PREREQUISITE. (a) Registration  
17 shall not be a prerequisite for voting until the 1970 primary election.

18 (b) Subject to the provisions of sec. 70 of this chapter, all per-  
19 sons who complete the required preregistration forms and vote in the 1968  
20 primary or general elections, except those who are successfully  
21 challenged, shall be considered registered voters.

22 Sec. 15.07.030. WHO MAY REGISTER. A person who has the qualifica-  
23 tions of a voter as set out in AS 15.05.010(1) - (5), or who will have  
24 the qualifications at the succeeding primary or general election, is  
25 entitled to be registered as a voter in the precinct in which he resides.

26 Sec. 15.07.040. TIME FOR REGISTRATION. A person who is qualified  
27 under AS 15.05.010(1) - (5) is entitled to register at any time throughout  
28 the year commencing 30 days after the certification required by sec. 3 of  
29 this Act, except that no registration will be made for a period of 14 days

1 preceding the election if the application for registration is made in  
2 person or 30 days preceding the election if the application for regis-  
3 tration is made by mail; however, registration may be made in person at  
4 either the 1968 primary or general election as provided in sec. 70(d)  
5 of this chapter.

6 **Sec. 15.07.050. REGISTRATION IN PERSON OR BY MAIL.** Registration  
7 may be made in person before a registration official or by mail.

8 **Sec. 15.07.060. REQUIRED REGISTRATION INFORMATION.** (a) Each  
9 applicant who requests registration or re-registration shall supply the  
10 following information:

- 11 (1) name and sex;
- 12 (2) address and other necessary information establishing  
13 residence if requested;
- 14 (3) election district and precinct as of the date of  
15 registration;
- 16 (4) term of residence in state and in election district;
- 17 (5) a declaration that the registrant will be 19 years of age  
18 or older on or before the date of the next statewide election;
- 19 (6) a declaration that the registrant is a citizen of the  
20 United States;
- 21 (7) date of application;
- 22 (8) signature or mark.

23 **Sec. 15.07.070. PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION.** (a) The secretary of  
24 state shall promulgate rules and regulations consistent with the pro-  
25 visions of this section to enable voters to register.

26 (b) To register by mail the secretary of state or the area election  
27 supervisor shall furnish, upon request, and at no cost to the voter, forms  
28 prepared by the secretary of state on which the registration information  
29 required under sec. 60 of this chapter shall be inserted by the voter,

1 or by a person on behalf of the voter if he is physically incapacitated.  
2 The forms shall be executed before two Alaska residents if the person  
3 registering is in the state. If the person is outside the state, the  
4 forms shall be executed before a person qualified to administer oaths.  
5 Upon receipt and approval of the completed registration forms the  
6 secretary of state or the election supervisor shall forward to the  
7 voter an acknowledgment in the form of a registration card, and his  
8 name shall immediately be placed on the master register located in the  
9 office of the secretary of state and on the district register located  
10 in the office of the election supervisor. If the registration is  
11 denied, the voter shall immediately be informed in writing by certified  
12 or registered letter that registration was denied and the reason for  
13 denial.

14 (c) All applications for registration by mail shall be postmarked  
15 at least 30 days before the next ensuing primary or general election.  
16 An application to register which was not postmarked before the 30-day  
17 requirement shall not be considered to be invalid, but shall be con-  
18 sidered by the secretary of state as an application by the voter to be  
19 registered to vote in the next subsequent primary or general election  
20 and to remain on the master register thereafter.

21 (d) Qualified voters may register in person before a registration  
22 official at any time throughout the year after the effective date of  
23 this chapter except that no registration may be made within 14 days  
24 preceding an election. Upon receipt and approval of the registration  
25 forms the secretary of state or the election supervisor shall forward  
26 to the voter an acknowledgment in the form of a registration card and  
27 his name shall immediately be placed on the master register located  
28 in the office of the secretary of state and on the district register  
29 located in the office of the election supervisor.

1 (e) The secretary of state shall forward to all qualified voters  
2 who request absentee ballots in the 1968 primary or general election  
3 the necessary forms for registration required in subsequent elections.  
4 Completed forms shall be processed in the same manner as those requested  
5 by mail.

6 Sec. 15.07.080. REGISTRATION OFFICIALS TO SERVE DURING THE 1968  
7 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION. The secretary of state shall appoint one  
8 or more registration officials to serve in each precinct polling place  
9 in the 1968 primary and general election during the hours the polls are  
10 open. Each person who is appointed and serves as a registration official  
11 at the polls is entitled to the same rate of compensation paid election  
12 judges. When more than one registration official is appointed to  
13 serve in any precinct polling place, each major political party shall  
14 be represented.

15 Sec. 15.07.090. RE-REGISTRATION. (a) A voter whose name is  
16 changed by marriage or court order 90 days or less before an election  
17 may vote under his or her previous name. A voter whose name is changed  
18 by marriage or a court order more than 90 days before an election shall  
19 re-register.

20 (b) A voter shall re-register if his registration is cancelled  
21 for failure to vote in prior elections as provided in sec. 130 of  
22 this chapter.

23 (c) It shall be incumbent upon the secretary of state and the  
24 election supervisor to transfer the registration of a voter from one  
25 precinct to another when requested by a voter so to do, upon good cause  
26 shown.

27 (d) A person who claims he is a registered voter, but for whom  
28 no evidence of registration in the precinct can be found, shall be  
29 granted the right to vote in the same manner as that of a challenged

1 voter and his ballot shall be treated in the same manner. The ballot  
2 shall be considered to be a "questioned ballot" and shall be so  
3 designated. The secretary of state or his representative shall  
4 determine whether the voter is registered in the election district  
5 before counting the ballot.

6 Sec. 15.07.100. REGISTRATION OFFICIALS. The secretary of state  
7 shall appoint one or more registration officials in each precinct.  
8 When more than one registration official is appointed to serve in a  
9 precinct, each major political party shall be represented. However,  
10 any precinct containing more than 250 voters must have at least two  
11 registration officials, one from each major political party.

12 Sec. 15.07.110. EXPENSE OF REGISTRATION. Each registration  
13 official serving between elections shall be paid by the secretary of  
14 state a sum to be determined by him which shall not exceed \$1 per voter  
15 personally registered by him.

16 Sec. 05.07.120. CUSTODY OF REGISTERS. A master register shall at  
17 all times remain in the custody of the secretary of state. The area  
18 election supervisor shall likewise maintain a register of all voters  
19 within the precincts of the area election district he supervises.

20 Sec.115.07.130. ELIMINATION OF EXCESS NAMES. (a) At the close  
21 of each calendar year the area election supervisor shall examine the  
22 register.

23 (b) When a registered voter has not voted in either a primary or  
24 general election at least once in four consecutive calendar years, the  
25 voter shall be advised by the area election supervisor by certified  
26 mail sent to his last known address that his registration will be  
27 cancelled unless he indicates within 90 days on forms furnished by the  
28 secretary of state of his desire to remain registered.

29 (c) The secretary of state shall obtain from the office of vital

1 statistics death certificates and presumptive death certificates for  
2 all residents over 19 years of age who have died or who have been  
3 presumptively declared dead. The secretary of state shall cancel the  
4 registration of all deceased voters.

5 Sec. 15.07.140. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION BY SECRETARY  
6 OF STATE. The secretary of state shall provide general administrative  
7 supervision over the registration and re-registration of voters and  
8 may issue regulations under the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62  
9 necessary to protect the interest of the voter and assure administrative  
10 efficiency; however, the secretary of state shall not issue or promulgate  
11 administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions  
12 of this chapter. The secretary of state shall, no later than 40 days  
13 before any primary or general election, arrange to have the list of  
14 registered voters of the precinct publicly displayed in the precinct.  
15 The secretary of state shall instruct registration officials to post  
16 the list of registered voters in a number of locations calculated to  
17 obtain maximum recognition.

18 Sec. 15.07.150. APPEAL TO SUPERIOR COURT FOR DENIAL OF REGISTRA-  
19 TION. When a person is refused registration by a registration official,  
20 the registration official shall at the time of the refusal give to the  
21 registration applicant, in writing, the reason or reasons for the  
22 refusal. The person shall have the right to an immediate appeal to the  
23 area election supervisor, which appeal may be taken informally, and  
24 either verbally or in writing. When a voter is refused registration  
25 by an area election supervisor the action shall be reviewed by the  
26 superior court of the judicial district; the area election supervisor  
27 shall file a petition with the superior court for a judicial determina-  
28 tion. If the petition is filed within 45 days before the date of a  
29 statewide election, the petition shall be given precedence over other

1 matters pending before the court.

2 Sec. 15.07.160. UNLAWFUL ACTION. (a) It is unlawful for a  
3 registration official to refuse to register a person who is qualified  
4 to vote under provision of AS 15.05.010(1) - (5).

5 (b) It is unlawful for a person to register who knows he is not  
6 qualified to vote under provisions of AS 15.05.010(1) - (5).

7 (c) A person who violates or who aids or abets another to violate  
8 (a) or (b) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

9 Sec. 15.07.170. FALSE STATEMENTS. An applicant for registration  
10 or re-registration who knowingly makes a material statement which is  
11 false is guilty of a misdemeanor.

12 Sec. 15.07.180. FEES PROHIBITED. No registration official may  
13 accept a fee from an applicant applying for registration.

14 Sec. 15.07.190. VIOLATIONS. A person who violates the provisions  
15 of secs. 170 and 180 of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and  
16 upon conviction is punishable by imprisonment for not more than one  
17 year, or by a fine not to exceed the sum of \$1,000, or by both.

18 Sec. 15.07.200. APPOINTMENT OF AREA ELECTION SUPERVISORS. The  
19 secretary of state may appoint an area election supervisor for each  
20 of the four election areas to serve in the following cities: Juneau,  
21 Anchorage, Fairbanks and Nome. The area election supervisors shall  
22 assist in the administration of elections. An area election supervisor  
23 may not hold office in a political party.

24 \* Sec. 3. (a) Preregistration procedures for the 1970 and subsequent  
25 elections shall commence 30 days after the secretary of state certifies that  
26 the voters in the general election of 1968 affirmatively approved the  
27 following referendum which shall be placed before the voters at that election:

28 Shall the provisions of Chapter of the Session Laws of Alaska  
29 1968, which establishes a system of preregistration for voters in Alaska,

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be approved:

Yes

No

(b) The secretary of state shall fill in the blank in (a) of this section designating the chapter number of this Act and shall make copies of this Act available to voters in the primary and general elections in 1968.