

1 IN THE SENATE

BY HARRIS

2 SENATE BILL NO. 404

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to legislative campaign expenditures."
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 15.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9 Sec. 15.35.022. LIMITS ON CERTAIN ADVERTISING EXPENDITURES BY
10 LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES. (a) The maximum total amount which may be
11 spent by, or on behalf of, a candidate for the state legislature, in-
12 cluding expenditures by other persons in support of a candidate, for
13 advertising on television, radio and in newspapers during an election
14 campaign is as follows:

15 (1) a state house of representatives candidate - \$2,500

16 (2) a state senate candidate - \$5,000.

17 (b) Each representative- and senator-elect shall file with the
18 lieutenant governor an affidavit stating that his election campaign
19 expenditures, including expenditures on his behalf and in support of
20 his candidacy, for advertising on television, radio and in newspapers
21 have not exceeded the maximum amount specified in (a) of this section.
22 The affidavit shall be filed before the day he takes office.

23 (c) No candidate may accept or receive from any one person or
24 permit to be spent by a person on the candidate's behalf, and no person
25 may contribute or spend on the candidate's behalf, an amount greater
26 than \$500.

27 (d) No expenditure specified in (a) of this section may be made or
28 accepted by the media without the written consent of the candidate or a
29 person he may designate for that purpose. If an advertisement is

1 published or broadcast in violation of this subsection, the person
2 so publishing or broadcasting is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon
3 conviction, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.

4 (e) Each representative- and senator-elect shall file with the
5 lieutenant governor an affidavit stating that his election campaign
6 material has not been, in any part, prepared by state employees in the
7 classified service while working on state time or on state-owned equip-
8 ment. This does not include materials produced for public consumption
9 by an agency of the state.

10 (f) If a member's advertising expenditures exceed, by more than
11 a reasonable amount, the maximum amount set out in (a) of this section,
12 the appropriate house may expel the offending member under the provi-
13 sions of art. II, sec. 12, of the state constitution.

14 (g) For purposes of this section, a commercial advertisement
15 which, even in part, contains political content advocating or supporting
16 the election of, or is on behalf of, a candidate during an election
17 campaign, is considered a political advertisement. The total cost
18 of the advertisement shall be used in determining the maximum expendi-
19 ture which may not be exceeded under (a) of this section. Any
20 advertisement in which a candidate's name appears is considered a
21 political advertisement if the advertisement is presented within 60
22 days before an election.

23 (h) In (a) of this section, "election campaign" means primary,
24 general, or special election campaign.