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Referred: State Affairs and
Judiciary

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 573

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to ballot access and the definition
7 of 'political party'; and providing for an effective
8 date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 15.25.160 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 15.25.160. REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES FOR STATEWIDE
12 OFFICE. Petitions for the nomination of candidates for the office of
13 governor, lieutenant governor, United States senator and United States
14 representative shall be signed by qualified voters of the state equal
15 in number to at least one [THREE] percent of the number of ballots
16 [VOTES] cast in the preceding general election. Candidates for the
17 office of governor and lieutenant governor shall file jointly.

18 * Sec. 2. AS 15.25.170 is amended to read:

19 Sec. 15.25.170. REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES FOR DISTRICT-WIDE
20 OFFICE. Petitions for the nomination of candidates for the office of
21 state senator or state representative shall be signed by qualified
22 voters of the election or senate district in which the proposed nomi-
23 nee desires to be a candidate equal in number to at least one [THREE]
24 percent of the number of ballots [VOTES] cast in his respective elec-
25 tion or senate district in the preceding general election. However,
26 [PROVIDED THAT] no nominating petition [NEED CONTAIN MORE THAN 200
27 SIGNATURES NOR] may [IT] contain less than 50 signatures for any
28 district.

29 * Sec. 3. AS 15.25.240(a) is amended to read:

1 (a) Supporters of a candidate for nomination for President of
2 the United States may file a petition to have the name of the candi-
3 date of their choice on the ballot. A petition under this section
4 must be filed by the last Tuesday in February of a presidential elec-
5 tion year and must contain the signatures of qualified voters residing
6 in no less than two-thirds of the election districts of the state
7 equal in number to three [FIVE] percent of the number of ballots
8 [VOTES] cast [FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR] in the preceding elec-
9 tion for governor. A petition under this section shall include (1)
10 the full name of the candidate; (2) the name of the political group
11 supporting the candidate; (3) the name of the political party in which
12 the candidate is registered; (4) a statement that the subscribers are
13 qualified voters of the state; and (5) a statement that the subscrib-
14 ers request that the candidate's name be placed on the ballot. The
15 signature sheets shall also contain the printed name and residence
16 address of each qualified voter whose signature appears on the peti-
17 tion.

18 * Sec. 4. AS 15.30.025(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) A limited political party may be organized for the purpose
20 of selecting candidates for electors of President and Vice President
21 of the United States by filing [A PETITION] with the director at least
22 90 days before a presidential general election a petition signed by
23 qualified voters of this state equaling in number at least one [THREE]
24 percent of Alaska's total vote for President at the last presidential
25 election. The petition shall state that the signers intend to orga-
26 nize a limited political party, that they intend to select candidates
27 for electors of President and Vice President of the United States at
28 the next succeeding presidential election, and the name of the limited
29 political party.

1 * Sec. 5. AS 15.30.025(c) is amended to read:

2 (c) A limited political party organized under this section shall
3 cease to be a limited political party whenever its presidential candi-
4 date fails to receive at least three [10] percent of the total Alaskan
5 vote cast for the office of President at a presidential election.

6 * Sec. 6. AS 15.40.100 is amended to read:

7 Sec. 15.40.100. REQUIREMENTS OF PETITION FOR NO-PARTY CANDI-
8 DATES. Petitions for the nomination of candidates not representing a
9 political party shall be signed by qualified voters of the state equal
10 in number to at least one [THREE] percent of the number of ballots
11 [VOTES] cast in the preceding general election, and shall state in
12 substance that which is required in petitions for nomination for
13 general elections provided in AS 15.25.180.

14 * Sec. 7. AS 15.40.190 is amended to read:

15 Sec. 15.40.190. REQUIREMENTS OF PETITION FOR [OF] NO-PARTY
16 CANDIDATES. Petitions for the nomination of candidates not represent-
17 ing a political party shall be signed by qualified voters of the state
18 equal in number to at least one [THREE] percent of the number of
19 ballots [VOTES] cast in the preceding general election and shall state
20 in substance that which is required for nomination petitions by AS
21 15.25.180.

22 * Sec. 8. AS 15.40.280 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 15.40.280. REQUIREMENTS OF PETITION FOR [OF] NO-PARTY
24 CANDIDATES. Petitions for the nomination of candidates not represent-
25 ing a political party shall be signed by qualified voters of the state
26 equal in number to at least one [THREE] percent of the number of
27 ballots [VOTES] cast in the preceding general election, shall include
28 nominees for the office of governor and lieutenant governor, and shall
29 state in substance that which is required for nomination petitions by

1 AS 15.25.180.

2 * Sec. 9. AS 15.40.440 is amended to read:

3 Sec. 15.40.440. REQUIREMENTS OF PETITION FOR NO-PARTY CANDI-
4 DATES. Petitions for the nomination of candidates not representing a
5 political party shall be signed by qualified voters equal in number to
6 at least one [THREE] percent of the number of ballots [VOTES] cast in
7 his respective election or senate district in the preceding general
8 election. However, [PROVIDED THAT] no nominating petition [NEED
9 CONTAIN MORE THAN 200 SIGNATURES NOR] may [IT] contain less than 50
10 signatures for any district, and shall state in substance that which
11 is required in petitions for nomination for general elections provided
12 in AS 15.25.180.

13 * Sec. 10. AS 15.60.010(20) is amended to read:

14 (20) "political party" means an organized [A] group of
15 [ORGANIZED] voters that [WHICH] represents a political program and
16 that [WHICH] nominated a candidate for governor who received at least
17 three [10] percent of the total ballots [VOTES] cast at the preceding
18 general election for governor.

19 * Sec. 11. AS 15.25.180(10) is repealed.

20 * Sec. 12. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
21 10.070(c).