

Original sponsors: Davis, Koponen  
and Boucher

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 247 (State Affairs)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION  
5 A BILL  
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the readability of certain elec-  
7 tion materials."  
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
9 \* Section 1. AS 15.58 is amended by adding a new section to read:  
10 Sec. 15.58.025. READABILITY OF CERTAIN ELECTION MATERIALS. (a)  
11 The form of each ballot proposition shall be scored under (c) of this  
12 section. The policy of the state is to prepare a ballot proposition  
13 that is scored at 65 or more.  
14 (b) Each neutral summary prepared for the voter's pamphlet shall  
15 be scored under (c) of this section. The policy of the state is to  
16 prepare a neutral summary that is scored at 65 or more.  
17 (c) A ballot proposition or neutral summary shall be scored  
18 using the following procedures:  
19 (1) disregard numbers;  
20 (2) multiply the average sentence length in words by 1.015;  
21 (3) multiply the average number of syllables for each 100  
22 words by .846;  
23 (4) subtract the total of (2) and (3) from 206.835.  
24 (d) Each ballot proposition shall contain language that clearly  
25 states that a "Yes" vote is a vote in favor of the initiative, refer-  
26 endum, or constitutional amendment under consideration.  
27 (e) A court may not enjoin the conduct or results of an election  
28 for a failure to comply with (a) or (b) of this section.