

Original sponsor(s): SEN. FAIKS

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 482 (Judiciary)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act amending the jurisdiction of the district
7 court, and increasing the period during which a
8 district court judge serves under an initial appoint-
9 ment before being subject to voter approval."

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

11 * Section 1. AS 15.35.100(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) Each district judge shall be subject to approval or re-
13 jection at the first general election held more than two years [ONE
14 YEAR] after the judge's appointment under the provisions of AS 22.15.-
15 170. If approved, the judge shall thereafter be subject to approval
16 or rejection in a like manner every fourth year.

17 * Sec. 2. AS 22.15.030(a) is amended to read:

18 (a) The district court has jurisdiction of civil cases, includ-
19 ing foreign judgments filed under AS 09.30.200 and arbitration pro-
20 ceedings under AS 09.43.170, as follows:

21 (1) for the recovery of money or damages when the amount
22 claimed exclusive of costs, interest, and attorney fees does not
23 exceed \$50,000 [\$35,000];

24 (2) for the recovery of specific personal property, when
25 the value of the property claimed and the damages for the detention do
26 not exceed \$50,000 [\$35,000];

27 (3) for the recovery of a penalty or forfeiture, whether
28 given by statute or arising out of contract, not exceeding \$50,000
29 [\$35,000];

1 (4) to give judgment without action upon the confession of
2 the defendant for any of the cases specified in this section, except
3 for a penalty or forfeiture imposed by statute;

4 (5) for establishing the fact of death of any person in the
5 manner prescribed in AS 09.55.020 - 09.55.060;

6 (6) for the recovery of the possession of premises in the
7 manner provided under AS 09.45.070 - 09.45.160 when the value of the
8 arrears and damage to the property does not exceed \$50,000 [\$35,000];

9 (7) for the foreclosure of a lien when the amount in con-
10 troversy does not exceed \$50,000 [\$35,000];

11 (8) for the recovery of money or damages in motor vehicle
12 tort cases when the amount claimed exclusive of costs, interest, and
13 attorney fees does not exceed \$50,000 [\$35,000];

14 (9) over civil actions for taking utility service and for
15 damages to or interference with a utility line filed under AS 42.20.-
16 030;

17 (10) over cases involving injunctive relief for domestic
18 violence under AS 25.35.010 and 25.35.020.

19 * Sec. 3. The provisions of AS 15.35.100(a), as amended by sec. 1 of
20 this Act, apply to district court judges who enter into the duties of the
21 office on or after the effective date of this Act.