

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 547

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to address information required for
7 voter registration; and providing for an effective
8 date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 15.07 is amended by adding a new section to read:

11 Sec. 15.07.064. ADDRESS INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR VOTER REGISTRA-

12 TION. (a) A voter requesting registration or reregistration shall
13 provide the director with sufficient information to determine

14 (1) the location of the residence of the voter within the
15 district;

16 (2) the precinct in which the voter is qualified to vote;

17 (3) the other local or regional election jurisdictions in
18 which the voter is eligible to vote.

19 (b) In determining the sufficiency of the registration informa-
20 tion provided by the voter in an application to register, the director
21 may consider

22 (1) whether the voter is applying in person, by mail from a
23 location within the state, or by mail from a location outside the
24 state;

25 (2) the location, size, or density of the population within
26 the municipality, established village, or geographic area in which the
27 voter claims residence;

28 (3) whether the municipality, established village, or
29 geographic area has been divided into precincts or local or regional

1 election subdivisions;

2 (4) whether specific locations within the municipality,
3 established village, or geographic area have been identified by street
4 name, subdivisions, or other commonly known official descriptions; or

5 (5) other circumstances considered significant by the
6 director.

7 (c) A voter requesting registration in a municipality or estab-
8 lished village that has been divided into more than one precinct or
9 that includes more than one section of a local or regional election
10 subdivision shall provide the director with information that describes
11 the location of the residence of the voter. In this subsection, the
12 use of a post office box, a postal service center box, a rural route
13 number, general delivery, or other description identified only as a
14 mailing address does not establish the residence of the voter. In
15 addition to the name of the municipality or established village, the
16 voter shall provide the director with information that describes a
17 physical location that may be

18 (1) a street name, including a number on the street if one
19 exists;

20 (2) a highway name and mile post number;

21 (3) a mobile home court and space number;

22 (4) a boat harbor and slip number;

23 (5) the name of a subdivision;

24 (6) the name of a building, institution, military or other
25 reservation for which the location is fixed; or

26 (7) another descriptive phrase from which the specific
27 physical location of the residence of the voter within the municipal-
28 ity or established village can be determined.

29 (d) The director is not required to request a voter who claims

1 residence within a municipality or established village to provide the
2 information required under (c) of this section if

3 (1) the municipality or established village is entirely
4 within a single precinct; and

5 (2) a local or regional election subdivision is not divided
6 into sections within the boundaries of the municipality or the area of
7 the established village.

8 (e) The director shall review the information contained within
9 an application by a voter for registration. The director may not
10 reject an application of a voter who qualifies under (d) of this
11 section because the voter provided information in excess of that
12 required to establish qualifications, including excess information
13 qualifying as a mailing address. The director may consider an appli-
14 cation for registration within a municipality or established village
15 described in (d) of this section to comply with law based on other
16 information contained in the application, including evidence that

17 (1) the application was made in person before a voting
18 registrar, election judge, or absentee voting official appointed to
19 serve in the municipality or established village;

20 (2) the application of a voter registering by mail was
21 postmarked by the postal official in the municipality or established
22 village; or

23 (3) the application of a voter registering by mail was
24 witnessed by two qualified voters registered to vote in the municipal-
25 ity or established village; and

26 (4) other information contained in the application does not
27 negate the presumption of residency provided under (a) of this sec-
28 tion.

29 (f) A voter who resides in a building, institution, military or

1 other reservation may establish residency for voting purposes by
2 naming that place instead of naming a municipality or established
3 village. In this subsection the use of a post office box, a postal
4 service center box, a rural route number, general delivery, or other
5 description qualifying as a mailing address does not establish the
6 residence of the voter. The director is not required to request a
7 voter who claims residence by naming the building, institution, mili-
8 tary or other reservation to provide the information required under
9 (c) of this section if

10 (1) the physical location of the place named in the appli-
11 cation is fixed; and

12 (2) the place named in the application is contained within
13 the boundaries of a single precinct.

14 (g) In this section, "established village" has the meaning given
15 in AS 04.21.080.

16 * Sec. 2. In determining the residence of voters who registered before
17 the effective date of this Act, the director shall use the provisions of
18 AS 15.07.064, as enacted in sec. 1 of this Act, to determine the residence
19 of the voters.

20 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).