

SENATE BILL NO. 297

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Introduced: 5/15/91
Referred: STA, Judiciary, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act requiring primary elections to be held in accordance with certain rules of
2 political parties."

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

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

5 Sec. 15.07.062. DESIGNATION OF POLITICAL AFFILIATION. The director shall
6 provide a person registering to vote under this chapter with the opportunity to declare affiliation
7 with a political party or to declare no affiliation with a party. The director shall explain that a
8 person registering is not required to furnish information relating to party affiliation, and that the
9 information furnished by the person, or the person's failure to furnish information, might affect
10 the person's eligibility to vote in a primary election that has been limited under AS 15.25.060(b).
11 The director may satisfy the requirement of this section by including the explanation on a voter
12 registration form that the director may distribute.

13 * Sec. 2. AS 15.25.060 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 15.25.060. PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF BALLOTS. The primary

1 election ballot shall be prepared and distributed by the director in the manner prescribed for
2 general election ballots except as specifically provided otherwise for the primary election.
3 Except when (b) of this section otherwise requires, the [THE] director shall place the names
4 of all candidates who have properly filed in groups according to offices filed for, without regard
5 to party affiliation. The names for each office shall be rotated as provided for the general
6 election ballot. No blank spaces shall be provided on the ballot for the writing or pasting in of
7 names.

8 * Sec. 3. AS 15.25.060 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

9 (b) If (1) the central committee or other governing body of a political party adopts a rule
10 that, notwithstanding AS 15.25.010 - 15.25.130, nominees of the party may not be chosen by a
11 primary election open to all voters, but rather shall be chosen by a primary election limited to
12 voters whose political affiliation or nonaffiliation is designated by the party rules; and (2) the
13 central committee or other governing body of the party delivers a copy of the rule to the director,
14 the director shall, as of the first primary election occurring 90 days or more after the delivery of
15 the rule, prepare a separate ballot listing only the candidates of that party, and shall authorize the
16 distribution of that ballot only to the registered voters who are eligible to vote in that party's
17 primary under the party rule. Candidates who are listed on a separate ballot under this subsection
18 may not be listed on the ballot described in (a) of this section. The names of the candidates for
19 each office shall be rotated as provided for the general election ballot, and no blank spaces shall
20 be provided on the ballot for the writing or pasting in of names.

21 (c) If at a primary election under AS 15.25.010 there is more than one ballot available,
22 a registered voter may choose which ballot the voter wishes to use. A voter may not be given
23 more than one ballot, and may not be given a ballot of a political party if under the rules of that
24 party, as delivered to the director under (b) of this section, the voter would not be eligible to vote
25 in that party's primary election.

26 (d) If the director is required to prepare separate ballots for all political parties under (b)
27 of this section, the director is not required to prepare a ballot under (a) of this section.