

SB-207

"An Act relating to the requirements for run-off elections in municipal elections."

COMMITTEE REPORT

3/21/75

HOUSE

JUDICIARY

Mr. Speaker:

Date 3 28 75

The Committee on C&PA has had SB 207 am

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

() recommends it DO PASS

() recommends it DO NOT PASS

() recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)

() recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR SB 207 AND THAT

H CS FOR SB 207 DO PASS

() "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE _____

COMMITTEE

() reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

() "other"

Members signing the Majority report:

<u>Sam Little</u>	<u>Do pass</u>	<u>Alise</u>
<u>William Mitchell</u>	<u>do pass</u>	<u>Lewis & Co.</u>
<u>Froonman</u>		
<u>Gene Hackman</u>		

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

_____ recommends:

Sam R Little Chairman

HOUSE COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
March 28, 1975

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 for discussion of HB 265, 266
HB 223 and SB 207 am. Present:

Representative Sam Cotten, Chairman
" Al Ose
" Larry Davis
" Kathryn Ostrosky'
" Glenn Hackney
" Oral Freeman
Barbara Englert Thomas, Staff
Andrea Guernsey, Staff'
Jean C. Muhou, City Clerk, Anchorage
Mary Coffery, Borough Clerk, GAAB
Judi Slajer, Borough Clerk, Ketchikan Borough
Donald E. Clocksin, Legal Services

HB 265, 266 (community assistance)

(495) First order of business of HB 265. Chairman Cotten read a letter from Commissioner McAnerney saying that only 1st and 2nd class cities were eligible for grants—Home Rule cities are not. This clears up Ose's problem of Anchorage maybe trying to use this program. Rep. Ostrosky moves to report bills out. Reps. Hackney and Freeman object. The Chairman calls for a show of votes to report out. Four voted to move out: Cotten, Davis, Ose and Ostrosky. Bills reported out with individual recommendations.

HB 223, SB 207am

(580) Next on the agenda were election bills. Ms. Slajer said they wanted the language of SB 255 in SB 207am. Hackney objects to taking up bills not in this committee (SB 255). Testimony was restricted to 207 and 223.

(712) Rep. Ostrosky notes technical error in spelling of the word "runoff". Word is hyphenated in SB 207 and not in HB 223.

(725) Ms. Slajer in favor of concept in SB 207 but want to change the wording a little. SB 255 is same but better wording. REp. Davis asked if it wasn't already in ordinance requiring run off for Mayor. Want to exempt all from run off except Mayor.

(767) Ostrosky asked if they needed a plurality vote? Yes, they do.

(775) Hackney—HB 223 requires exemption be ratified by voters—essentail. Different from SB 207. (800) Coffery explains problem with GAAB. Two different sets of standards for same body. Hackney wants people to be able to vote. Coffery wants option by ordinance. Rather than voting on the question the people would vote on the people and if they weren't satisfied the council would hear about it. (885) Ose definitely opposed to ordinance. (898) Freeman wants to know what is wrong with council making ordinances? (925) Ms. Coffery said this position was endorsed by the Alaska Association of Municipal clerks which includes 37 municipalities. (947) Hackney asked what objections they had to the people voting on the question. Jean's response was that the people would voice their displeasure. Coffery explained the GAAB situation. She thinks run off is farce.

(1069) Cotten agrees with Hackney. Question would not cost extra money. Would be voted on at general election or regular or special election. (1103) Jean said the voters didn't vote in the first place to require run off elections. Ostrosky asked what the sentiment was to drop run offs. Ms. Coffery said the association has held the same position for the last couple years. She has enough faith in governing body.

(1159) Ms. Slajr said that HB 223 does give some option.

(1175) Cotten-Home Rule cities exempt from whole thing. Home rule already has option with Charter.

(1230) Cotten asks Hackney if adding " of any of its officials" on line 11 would clear things up. Hackney has no objection.

Ms. Slajer said that SB 255 that there must be a run off for mayor and HB 223 would allow the people to vote on exempting any position so there will have to be a correlation sometime of that discrepancy.

(1265) Freeman suggests taking the language from HB 223 and placing it in SB 207 and let it be settled in free conference. Hackney has no objection. (1306) Freeman moves to report out a committee substitute for 207 which would delete paragraph B in 207 and replace it with para B in 223 with the addition of any of its officials on line 11.

Bill was reported out with committee substitute.

END 1363. Meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Sam - Notes on the election bills before the committee Fri: 3/28/75 BET

HB 218

Eligibility requirements for elective municipal offices [SB 209]

The assembly ~~and~~ Council of a municipality may by ordinance establish residence requirements for candidates borough mayor, city councilman, city mayor. The requirement cannot exceed 3 years.

This language already appears in AS 29.23.050, Qualifications for borough assemblymen.

Runoff Elections in Municipal Elections SB 207 am, HB 223

A municipality may exempt itself from the requirements of this section and provide for a plurality vote for election of officials.

[HB 223] - The ordinance shall be ratified by a majority of the voters voting on the question at a general election or at a regular or special municipal election.

[SB 207 am] - Exempts elections for the office of Mayor

[There would have to be a run-off election if no candidate for mayor got ^{at least 40%} ~~majority~~ of the votes cast.] The municipality ^(ordinarily council) may by ordinance require that he receive a majority