

HB

28

COMMITTEE REPORT  
SENATE

3/23/79

FURTHER: None

Date: 4/11/79

Mr. President:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had CSHB 28  
providing for presidential party primary elections

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee)  
reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass  do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for \_\_\_\_\_  same title  
 new title
- and recommends following
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent"  New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING  
DO PASS

Tom Bell

Bob Blaney

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS HAVING  
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Chuck

Bob

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bob Blaney  
CHAIRMAN

THE FOLLOWING PAGES WERE TREATED AS  
A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL FILE.

Joint Hearing

Senate & House special committees on election reform  
Teleconference  
2/24/79

Senate Committee  
Sen. Kelly, Chairman  
Sen. Fahrenkamp  
Sen. Mulcahy (Absent)

House Committee  
Rep. Parker, Chairman  
Rep. Mike Miller  
Rep. Terry Martin

MIKE MILLER: Voter now has no say in primary choice. This bill will allow Alaskans to have a strong voice in the selection.

ARLENE KLINE: Testifier-Against HB 28. Not in best interests of state. Will be ineffective due to our small population. Candidates wont waste time coming up here. If we want input we should do it through precincts, adequate for Alaska.

MM: Candidates go to other states with small populations and many delegates, so they would come here.

AK: They would probably only go to Anchorage

TIM KELLY: Feels candidates or their top lieutenants would come up here, bandwagon effect. Timing is excellent as we will be first western state to hold a primary. Important that Alaska's position become known in lower 48. Media ~~exposure~~ exposure and commitments would be worth the money spent. Look at it as part of D-2 fight.

AK: Disagree. Poor to tie this issue to D-2.

TERESA OBERMEYER: Big problem is educating the Alaska public as to what Pref. Pres. Primaries are. We should have used the \$2 million to bring people to Alaska rather than send lobbyists to DC. The lower 48 is uninformed about Alaska. Timing of primary is important. Controversy would create interest in Alaska primary.

TK: Feels that if candidate came to Alaska he would not only go to Anch. but also Fairbanks and SE and would probably make effort to get out to a village or two..

TOM OBERMEYER: Look at economics of it. Must inform lower 48 because they will be making the decisions.

CHANCY CROFT: Supports HB 28. Old state convention system is obstacle to direct US elections. Get rid of it. If we hadnt approp. 2 million we could afford primaries for the next century. Wants to limit PPP to registered voters. Thinks 15% of votes too low. Would prefer candidate receiving 40% or more to get all votes. If no one does, split it up. For the sunset clause, Independents cant vote now anyway. No one does. This would give registered voters at least a chance to choose..

BETTE FAHRENKAMP. Thinks 15% too low. If no one gets majority, go uncommitted.

Committee Sub

Work Order #5888  
Bradley

#1

Original sponsors: Miller, Duncan  
and Rogers

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 28

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for preferential presidential party  
7 primary elections; and providing for an effective  
8 date."

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

10 \* Section 1. AS 15.25.010 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 15.25.010. PROVISION FOR PRIMARY ELECTION. Candidates for  
12 the elective state executive and state and national legislative offices  
13 shall be nominated in a primary election by direct vote of the people in  
14 the manner prescribed by AS 15.25.010 - 15.25.200 [THIS CHAPTER].

15 \* Sec. 2. AS 15.25 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 3. ~~PREFERENTIAL~~ PRESIDENTIAL PARTY  
17 PRIMARY ELECTIONS.

18 Sec. 15.25.220. ~~PREFERENTIAL~~ PRESIDENTIAL PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION.

19 (a) The lieutenant governor shall call a preferential presidential  
20 party primary election on the ~~second~~ <sup>first</sup> Tuesday in April of a presidential  
21 election year.

22 (b) The ballot shall be prepared and distributed by the lieutenant  
23 governor in the manner prescribed by AS 15.25.060 ~~except that space for~~  
24 ~~the writing in or pasting in of names shall be provided for on the~~  
25 ballot.

26 Sec. 15.25.230. PLACING RECOGNIZED NAMES ON THE BALLOT. (a) The  
27 lieutenant governor shall place the names of ~~a~~ <sup>the</sup> candidate on the ballot  
28 when he determines in his discretion that the candidate is generally  
29 recognized throughout the United States as a candidate for nomination

1 for President of the United States.

2 (b) The lieutenant governor shall announce on the last Tuesday in  
3 January of a presidential election year a list of candidates who will  
4 appear on the ballot. The lieutenant governor shall also notify the  
5 candidate that the candidate's name will appear on the ballot in this  
6 state.

7 (c) The lieutenant governor shall notify the candidate that he may  
8 withdraw the name from the ballot by filing with the lieutenant governor  
9 no later than the last Tuesday in February of that year a statement that  
10 he is not now <sup>not a candidate for</sup> a candidate for the office of President of the United  
11 States and requesting the removal of his name. The name of a candidate  
12 withdrawing under this section may not appear on the ballot.

13 Sec. 15.25.240. PETITION FOR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. (a) Sup-  
14 porters of a candidate for nomination for President of the United States  
15 may file a petition to have the name of the candidate of their choice on  
16 the ballot. Petitions under this section shall be filed no later than  
17 the ~~next to~~ last Tuesday in February of a presidential election year,  
18 shall contain the signatures of qualified voters residing in no less  
19 than two-thirds of the election districts of the state equal in number  
20 to five per cent of the number of votes cast for the candidate for  
21 governor in the preceding gubernatorial election, and shall state (1)  
22 the full name of the candidate; (2) the name of the political group  
23 supporting the candidate; (3) <sup>that</sup> that the subscribers are qualified voters  
24 of this state; and (4) that the subscribers request that the candidate's  
25 name be placed on the ballot. The signature sheets shall also contain  
26 the printed name and residence address of each qualified voter whose  
27 signature appears on the petition.

28 (b) The lieutenant governor shall notify a candidate of the filing  
29 of the petition under this section and advise that he may withdraw his

1 name from the ballot by filing with the lieutenant governor no later  
 2 than the <sup>FIRST TUES IN MARCH</sup> ~~last Tuesday in February~~ of that year a statement that he is  
 3 not now <sup>NO LONGER INTENDING TO BE</sup> a candidate for the office of President of the United States and  
 4 requesting the removal of his name. The name of a candidate withdrawing  
 5 under this section may not appear on the ballot.

6 Sec. 15.25.250. SELECTION OF DELEGATES. (a) In the years when a  
 7 President of the United States is to be nominated and elected, political  
 8 parties in the state shall select delegates to their national conven-  
 9 tions according to the party's plan of organization. ~~The procedures for~~  
 10 the selection of delegates shall be held after the preferential presi-  
 11 dential party primary election.

12 (b) Each candidate receiving more than 15 per cent of the ballot  
 13 votes cast in that party's primary shall be entitled to receive a pro-  
 14 portionate number of delegate votes equal to the proportionate number of  
 15 ballot votes the candidate received after excluding the number of ballot  
 16 votes cast for candidates of his party who each received less than 15  
 17 per cent of the ballot votes in that party's primary. The proportions  
 18 of delegate votes shall be expressed as fractional delegate votes or the  
 19 nearest whole number of delegate votes as the rules of the particular  
 20 national party or convention may provide.

21 Sec. 15.25.260. DELEGATES PLEDGED. A delegate selected under  
 22 AS 15.25.250 must <sup>CAST HIS VOTES</sup> ~~use his best efforts~~ to secure the nomination for the  
 23 candidate to whom he is pledged until that candidate is nominated by the  
 24 convention, receives less than 30 per cent of the delegate votes for  
 25 nomination by the convention, releases the delegates from the pledge, or  
 26 until two convention nominating ballots have been taken.

27 Sec. 15.25.270. PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF ELECTION. The provi-  
 28 sions of AS 15 regarding the conduct of a general election govern the  
 29 conduct of a ~~preferential~~ preferential presidential party primary election. <sup>including</sup> ~~including~~

1 provisions for write-ins, except to the extent that the provisions of  
2 AS 15.25.220 - 15.25.270 are inconsistent with those provisions.

3 \* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-  
4 070(c).

5  
6  
7  
8 (-) UNDER PUBLIC WORKS

9 EXCLUDE WRITE-INS BY <sup>PRIMARY</sup> ~~THE~~ LOCAL LAWS.

10  
11  
12 POLITICAL PARTY DEPENDENT ~~INSTITUTIONS~~  
13 (Created in 1976) "fund"





Ch. <sup>Make it</sup>  
Every day  
diff to get delegates

M.M. - covered 10% ~~last~~ <sup>loop</sup>  
ch - depends on your library, software etc

10% is good for that section  
cc - 10% of total  
2 " " "

MAXIMUM 10%  
PER 500 500 1100

K 1730 - very field like top down approach <sup>per day</sup>  
with notes on - "yes"  
• have 3 years full notes  
diff to take notes on my books  
(notes may not be at all)

ZINC - some field like 1 & 2

whiting - Play program

Journals - understand what has  
to do with program? - <sup>diff program</sup>  
← see 10.20 10.1  
the end of program  
under 10.20 10.1

Delayed program

MARCH

see 10.20 10.1  
see 10.20 10.1  
see 10.20 10.1

Kline - Resign

Page to be to D. 2 name

Fahrkamp - Probs a committee

selection of delegates -

diff to determine my delegates

for a list

L - Council to be ...

April 11, Tuesday (Kline)

1. Report on ...

2. Report on ...

3. Report on ...

4. Report on ...

5. Report on ...

6. Report on ...

7. Report on ...

8. Report on ...

9. Report on ...

Monday - 11th, ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Team ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Report on ...

Report on ...



THE PRECEDING PAGES WERE TREATED AS  
A UNIT IN THE ORIGINAL FILE.

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. House Bill No. 28  
 Title "An Act providing for preferential presidential party primary election; and  
 Requested by providing for an effective date." Date 2/23/79  
Miller

II. FISCAL DETAIL.

Agency Affected Office of the Governor-Division of Elections

Program Category Affected \_\_\_\_\_

BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 79	FY 80	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84
100 PERSONAL SERVICES		17.0				
200 TRAVEL		7.0				
300 CONTRACTUAL		250.0				
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						

TOTAL

274.0

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		274.0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

POSITIONS

FULL TIME		0				
PART TIME		0				
TEMPORARY		1				

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

Personal Services: Some additional help will be required in each of 4 regional election supervisors' offices and the Director's office. By budgeting for one temporary, help can be hired for approximately 2 months in each office. In addition, overtime for election supervisors and their staff is necessary.

(12.2 for a Clerk III and \$4.8 for overtime)

Travel: These funds are for the election supervisors to travel to train election board members.

Contractual: This area includes payments to election boards, counters, absentee canvass boards, state canvass boards, printing (ballots, tally books, registers, absentee affidavit envelopes, etc.), postage, advertising, communications, etc.

IV. DATE 2/23/79

PREPARED BY Ann Polley, Director

AGENCY Division of Elections

PHONE 596-6181

Original: Legislative Finance

cc: Budget and Management

Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

TELETYPE UNIT

LA 11 2887 17.10 03/28/79 JA01 0004 07.53 03/29/79

*file*

TO SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
FROM KEN CALLEN, P. O. BOX 8517, ANCHORAGE 99508 333-7765

RE HB 28, PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY - I'M NOT SURE THE BENEFITS OF THIS  
PROPOSED PRIMARY ARE WORTH THE COSTS. WITH ALASKA'S SMALL POPULATION  
I DON'T REALLY SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY.  
IT WOULD BE BETTER TO SPEND THE MONEY IN OTHER MORE WORTHWHILE AREAS  
OR REDUCE SPENDING BY A LIKE AMOUNT.

.....

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

POUCH - STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
907 465 3800

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

April 9, 1979

SUBJECT: Amendments to presidential primary bill  
[HB 28]

TO: Senator Tim Kelly

FROM: Richard A. Bradley, Legislative Counsel

In my preparation of the bill I used the device of sections added to express the goals you seek. It is easier to do it that way than to intrude new language into the body of a section; that method also allows for easier elimination of the language, should that later be your wish.

In my computation of the dates back from the date of the election, I used the 1980 calendar. Under this approach, the election itself will be held April 15. The lieutenant governor's announcement under §230(b) will occur on the last Tuesday in January, January 28; by my calculation, this date is eleven weeks before the April 15 date. The withdrawal by the candidate under §230(c) occurs no later than the last Tuesday in February, February 26. By my calculation, this date is seven weeks before the April election. Sec. 230(d) establishes this requirement.

The procedure for nomination by petition requires the filing of the petition by the last Tuesday in February, February 26, a date seven weeks before the election. [§240(a)] The withdrawal occurs a week later, the first Tuesday in March, March 4, six weeks before the election. [§240(b)] Sec. 240(c) establishes these requirements.

Regarding the other requirements, the bill will prevent the lieutenant governor from scheduling any other state election on the same date. And §290 establishes clearly the inapplicability of AS 15.13. Sec. 4 of the bill requires the advisory vote and §3 eliminates the tax credit for contributions to a presidential campaign.

I also wish to advise that the bill may violate Article II, §13 of the constitution in that, in our view, the addition of the tax credit issue adds a new subject to the bill.

RAB:nem

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300 CONTRACTUAL		250.0				
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>274.0</b>				

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		274.0				
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

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IV. DATE 2/23/79

PREPARED BY Ann Polley, Director

AGENCY Division of Elections

PHONE 596-6181

Original: Legislative Finance

cc: Budget and Management

Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

SUMMARY:

This Bill provides for a presidential primary election on April 15, 1980. The primary will be open to all registered voters regardless of party registration.

Candidates winning 15% or more of their <sup>own</sup>~~won~~ party's total votes are entitled to delegates. The proportion of National Party Convention delegates from Alaska pledged to support a candidate will be equal to the percentage of primary votes cast for a particular candidate within his own political party's total votes.

Party delegates are bound to support their pledged nominee for two National Convention nominating ballots unless their candidate received less than 30% of the total votes cast on the first ballot.

Nationally recognized candidates are automatically put into the primary election by the Lt. Governor or, if necessary, a candidate can be placed on the ballot by petitions signed by approximately 6,400 Alaskan voters. Candidates may withdraw from the primary election only by stating they are not now, nor do they intend to be, a candidate for President in 1980.

FISCAL NOTE: \$274,000 Projected cost for 1980.

PROJECTED DATES FOR 1980 PRIMARIES

( ALABAMA & GEORGIA-DATES CAN'T BE PROJECTED)

TUESDAYS

FEBRUARY 26

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MARCH 4

MASSACHUSETTS  
VERMOUNT  
CONNECTICUT

MARCH 11

FLORIDA

MARCH 18

ILLINOIS

MARCH 25

\*\*\*\*\*

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 1

NEW YORK  
WISCONSIN

APRIL 8

APRIL 15



*Alaska*

*1st Western State*

APRIL 22

PENNSLYVANIA

APRIL 29

.....

MAY 3(Sat.)

TEXAS

MAY 6

INDIANA  
TENNESSEE  
WASHINGTON D.D.

MAY 13

NEBRASKA  
WEST VIRGINIA

MAY 20

MARYLAND  
MICHIGAN

MAY 27

ARKANSAS  
OREGON  
IDAHO  
NEVADA  
KENTUCKY

.....

JUNE 3

MONTANA                      SOUTH DAKOTA      OHIO  
CALIFORNIA                    NEW JERSEY  
RHODE ISLAND                NEW MEXICO

2-26-79

I spoke with Elaine Karmack at the Democratic National Committee, Washington D.C. (202-797-5900) regarding the exact dates of presidential primaries in 1980.

---AT THIS TIME THOSE DATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE, ALL STATE LEGISLATURES ARE CURRENTLY IN SESSION AND WILL NOT HAVE ANY CHANGES FINALIZED UNTIL APRIL 15.

----THE FOLLOWING STATES ARE CONSIDERING CHANGING THEIR PRIMARY DATES, BUT AS OF THIS TIME HAVE MADE NO FINAL DECISION:

Washington  
New Hampshire  
Maine  
New York  
Puerto Rico

----ALL PRIMARIES MUST BE HELD BETWEEN THE 2nd TUESDAY IN MARCH AND THE 2nd TUESDAY IN JUNE. A STATE THAT HELD IT'S PRIMARY IN 76 OUTSIDE OF THAT TIME FRAME MAY ASK FOR A WAIVER TO CONTINUE TO HOLD IT OUTSIDE OF THAT TIME FRAME. STATES THAT HELD THEIR PRIMARY WITHIN THAT TIME FRAME IN 76 MAY NOT CHANGE OUTSIDE THOSE DATES.

----THE EXACT DATES WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL APRIL 15, 1979, THAT IS THE DATE THEY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

DS

Two Public Hearings have been held on CSHB 28, Presidential Primary. One in Fairbanks on March 6, and another in Eagle River on March 26.

Fairbanks

About 20 people testified at the Public Hearing On Election Legislation in Fairbanks. Of those 20 testifying, 18 supported the Presidential Primary, and 2 were opposed. Those testifying represented both major political parties, private citizens, and borough employees.

The two persons opposed to this bill gave their reasons as being:

1. If the main reason for the presidential primary is to gain publicity for Alaska, this is too expensive.
2. The possibility of an Alaskan running as a favorite son would destroy the purpose of the primary, by discouraging national candidates from campaigning here.
3. Any open primary destroys the two party system concept.

Those testifying in favor of the presidential primary brought out the following points in support of this bill:

1. Currently 32 states have presidential primaries and Alaskans should have as much voice as citizens of those states in determining who will run for one of the most powerful positions in the world.
2. Very few presidential candidates have campaigned in Alaska in previous years, due to distance, small population, and because we have had no presidential primary. This would provide an excellent opportunity to bring national candidates or their representatives to the state.
3. The presidential primary would provide national recognition for Alaska and bring its unique problems and issues to the attention of national politicians and the rest of the state. A good example of this is the D-2 issue, of which the rest of the country had little knowledge of, it was never a national issue or had to be faced by national candidates.
4. The proposed date of the Alaska primary is April 15, 1980, which would make it the first one on the

West Coast for the year. This date gives us a positive position and would almost force presidential hopefuls to participate.

5. Having candidates and or their representatives campaigning in the state would be a definite boost to the economy and tourist trade, the second largest industry in the state.
6. The sunset provision in CSHB 28 provides us with the opportunity to try this once, and if it is not successful or does not bring potential presidential nominees to the state, it can easily be discontinued.
7. The general overall feeling on CSHB 28 is that it is a positive measure in gaining national recognition of Alaska and the important issues facing the state.
8. The provisions provided in the bill for candidates being put on the ballot by the Lt. Governor unless they specifically state otherwise, is very good in that the candidates do not have to contact us if they are running, JUST IF THEY AREN'T.

#### EAGLE RIVER

About 20 people testified on this bill during the Public Hearing in Eagle River on March 26. Of those testifying 4 were opposed to the bill because it was an open primary. Those 4 felt that an open primary was a threat to the two party system. Other than that they supported the concept of a presidential primary.

Those testifying in favor of the bill brought out the same points in support of the presidential primary as mentioned above.

An additional point that was brought up was, "Who would provide the security for candidates and their parties?" It was felt that the job may fall on local police departments and private security firms at a cost to the state. This is a valid point and at this time it has not been determined who would provide the security, however some candidates may bring their own.

## Presidential Sweepstakes

ALASKA'S PLAN TO stage a presidential primary in April 1980 is designed to draw the leading national candidates to the state — and in the process to stimulate the spending of a lot of campaign dollars in Alaska and to focus some national attention on problems of special interest here.

It's a good idea, too.

But the operation also could turn out to be a big bust.

Why? Easy. There's talk that a number of Alaska politicians are thinking about running in the primary as favorite son candidates. If they do, that would effectively wipe out the election as a drawing card for the national contenders.

IF, FOR EXAMPLE, Sen. Ted Stevens were to campaign as a favorite son candidate for the Republican presidential nomination among Alaska voters, you could bet that John Con-

nally, Phillip Crane, Ronald Reagan and Howard Baker would stay away. They might even welcome the excuse to skip the Alaska primary and concentrate on other, more readily accessible states.

During the last presidential campaign months, Jimmy Carter didn't show his smiling face in Alaska. He probably would rejoice at the opportunity to skip us again if Sen. Mike Gravel were running as a Democratic favorite son.

WE MAKE THESE observations to point up a potential problem. Unfortunately we have no ready solution.

Certainly the Legislature wouldn't want to consider making it illegal for an Alaskan to run for president.

But that would do the trick, come to think of it.

---

*Anch Times 3/29/79*

# The Anchorage Times

ROBERT B. ATWOOD  
Editor and Publisher

WILLIAM J. TOBIN  
Associate Editor  
And General Manager

CLINTON T. ANDREWS JR.  
Managing Editor

Page 6

Thursday, February 22, 1979

## Presidential Primary

THE PROSPECT of a presidential primary vote in Alaska is one of the few new ideas before the Legislature that is refreshing.

The proposal itself is not new, for it has been considered in the past. Indeed, such a primary law was passed last year but was vetoed by Gov. Jay Hammond to save the state the expense, estimated at about \$225,000.

If the Legislature will pass the measure again this year, there is reason to expect that the governor will sign it, regardless of his continuing austerity budget.

ALASKA WOULD GAIN more than the cost by having candidates for president come here to seek the support of this state's delegates to their national conventions.

Candidates have been known to show great sensitivity to the wants of those whose support they seek. Some of them have, from time to time, found it possible to take public stands in favor of what those supporters want. There have been instances when candidates have made promises.

Never has a candidate for nomination to the presidency had occasion to give Alaska more than a casual thought during the primary campaigns. They have been busy with the presidential primary elections in the Lower 48 and, because there has been no vote here, they have rarely visited Alaska.

A presidential primary would provide the occasion and the platform for candidates to take public stands on issues important to Alaska. A candidate could, if he chose, promise to protect Alaska from unreasonable encroachment on this state by special interests who would set aside the public land for their own

special purposes.

The reason candidates might be interested in making themselves attractive to Alaskans is that this state has votes in the national party nominating conventions. The delegation has a dozen or more votes, depending on party rules. Sometimes only a handful of votes selects the winner.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS that would result from a presidential primary vote have been cited often, but recent events have enlarged the list and broadened the categories of benefits.

Entertaining the candidate's entourage would involve expenditures that would help the state's economy.

The financial benefit could be of minor importance compared to the national exposure Alaska would get as the candidates are on television, in the magazines and newspapers as they discuss this area's problems.

The state is spending more than \$2 million to foster a better understanding of the land problems, with much of it allocated to media information. The cost of a primary election would be a bargain price to pay for the national exposure that would result.

It would be false economy if the primary were to be dropped because of the cost. State officials are surrounded by opportunities for economy that will not harm the state. One consultant contract dropped could save more than the cost and the only loss would be a mimeographed report destined for the dusty shelves of a backroom closet.

It is to be hoped that the Legislature will enact the new primary proposal and give Gov. Hammond a chance to sign it in 1979.

# DAILY NEWS

Lawrence Fanning  
Editor and Publisher, 1967 to 1971

Katherine Fanning  
Editor and Publisher

Stan Abbott  
Executive Editor

Alaska's Only Morning Newspaper  
Founded in 1946 by Norman C. Brown

## Our views:

### Alaska needs a primary, too

A primary election for President is as good an idea for Alaska as it is for the 30 or so states which currently conduct Presidential primaries every four years.

A Presidential primary would allow all voters, not just party regulars, to participate in the nomination process. And in a state where more than half the state's voters register as neither Republicans nor Democrats, that should be no small consideration.

A Presidential primary would also attract contenders for the nation's highest office to Alaska, a state they have habitually ignored in the past. After all, what candidate in his right mind would waste a trip to Alaska when he can meet the state's nominators at the party convention? Alaska is a long enough way to travel for three electoral votes, without adding to the disincentive by avoiding a primary election.

Several legislators have introduced a bill which would create a Presidential primary to be held in April, 1980. If Alaskans don't like it, there would not need to be another. But let's at least give the thing a try.

# Legislators push for presidential primary in Alaska

Anchorage News

JUNEAU (AP) — Alaska would have its own 1980 presidential primary under a bill approved Monday by a state House committee.

Although the proposal still faces a number of legislative hurdles, its backers are optimistic that the measure will continue to draw bipartisan support and become reality.

Both Democrats and Republicans on the House State Affairs Committee approved a proposal to hold the Alaska primary in April of 1980.

Backers of the idea say it will not only allow Alaskans to participate more directly in the nomination process, but that the election would also draw presidential candidates — or at least their key lieutenants — for a firsthand look at Alaska's problems.

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Section 4 of SSHB 30 may be amended by changing the word "paragraph" on line 6 of page 2 to "paragraphs" and by inserting an additional paragraph at line 14 which reads:

(21) indemnify a director, officer or agent or former director, officer or agent, or a person who may have served at its request as a director or officer of another domestic or foreign cooperative of which it is a member, against expenses necessarily incurred in defense of a proceeding in which he is a party because he served as a director, officer or agent, but this paragraph does not apply to proceedings in which the director, officer or agent is adjudged liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty, and indemnification under this paragraph is not exclusive of other rights to which the director, officer or agent may be entitled.

Sec. 44.54.20. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The bank shall be managed by a board of directors consisting of five members. Initial appointments to the board shall be made by the Governor. Thereafter, four of the board members shall be elected by the shareholders and one shall be appointed by the Governor until the re-purchase of all the non-voting, preferred shares initially issued by the bank and purchased by agencies of the State. The board members shall annually elect a chairman from among themselves. The purpose of the board is to manage the assets of the bank. At the first annual membership meeting the Governor may appoint two additional board members thereby increasing the board to seven members, five of which shall be elected by the membership of the bank.

Sec. 44.54.090. TERM OF OFFICE.

The members of the board shall serve for three years, and they may serve successive terms. Terms shall be staggered. Initial terms shall be two members serving for one year, two members serving for two years, and one member serving for three years, to be determined by lot. The initial terms shall expire at the first, second and third annual membership meeting of the bank, respectively.

SUMMARY:

This Bill provides for a presidential primary election on April 15, 1980. The primary will be open to all registered voters regardless of party registration.

Candidates winning 15% or more of their <sup>OWN</sup>~~WOR~~ party's total votes are entitled to delegates. The proportion of National Party Convention delegates from Alaska pledged to support a candidate will be equal to the percentage of primary votes cast for a particular candidate within his own political party's total votes.

Party delegates are bound to support their pledged nominee for two National Convention nominating ballots unless their candidate received less than 30% of the total votes cast on the first ballot.

Nationally recognized candidates are automatically put into the primary election by the Lt. Governor or, if necessary, a candidate can be placed on the ballot by petitions signed by approximately 6,400 Alaskan voters. Candidates may withdraw from the primary election only by stating they are not now, nor do they intend to be, a candidate for President in 1980.

FISCAL NOTE: \$274,000 Projected cost for 1980.

PROJECTED DATES FOR 1980 PRIMARIES

( ALABAMA & GEORGIA-DATES CAN'T BE PROJECTED)

TUESDAYS

FEBRUARY 26

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MARCH 4

MASSACHUSETTS  
VERMOUNT  
CONNECTICUT

MARCH 11

FLORIDA

MARCH 18

ILLINOIS

MARCH 25

\*\*\*\*\*

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 1

NEW YORK  
WISCONSIN

APRIL 8

APRIL 15



*Alaska*

*1st Western  
State*

APRIL 22

PENNSYLVANIA

APRIL 29

.....

MAY 3(Sat.)

TEXAS

MAY 6

INDIANA  
TENNESSEE  
WASHINGTON D.D.

MAY 13

NEBRASKA  
WEST VIRGINIA

MAY 20

MARYLAND  
MICHIGAN

MAY 27

ARKANSAS  
OREGON  
IDAHO  
NEVADA  
KENTUCKY

.....

JUNE 3

MONTANA                      SOUTH DAKOTA      OHIO  
CALIFORNIA                    NEW JERSEY  
RHODE ISLAND                NEW MEXICO

2-26-79

I spoke with Elaine Karmack at the Democratic National Committee, Washington D.C. (202-797-5900) regarding the exact dates of presidential primaries in 1980.

---AT THIS TIME THOSE DATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE, ALL STATE LEGISLATURES ARE CURRENTLY IN SESSION AND WILL NOT HAVE ANY CHANGES FINALIZED UNTIL APRIL 15.

---THE FOLLOWING STATES ARE CONSIDERING CHANGING THEIR PRIMARY DATES, BUT AS OF THIS TIME HAVE MADE NO FINAL DECISION:

Washington  
New Hampshire  
Maine  
New York  
Puerto Rico

----ALL PRIMARIES MUST BE HELD BETWEEN THE 2nd TUESDAY IN MARCH AND THE 2nd TUESDAY IN JUNE. A STATE THAT HELD IT'S PRIMARY IN 76 OUTSIDE OF THAT TIME FRAME MAY ASK FOR A WAIVER TO CONTINUE TO HOLD IT OUTSIDE OF THAT TIME FRAME. STATES THAT HELD THEIR PRIMARY WITHIN THAT TIME FRAME IN 76 MAY NOT CHANGE OUTSIDE THOSE DATES.

----THE EXACT DATES WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL APRIL 15, 1979, THAT IS THE DATE THEY MUST BE SUBMITTED TO DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

DS

Two Public Hearings have been held on CSHB 28, Presidential Primary. One in Fairbanks on March 6, and another in Eagle River on March 26.

### Fairbanks

About 20 people testified at the Public Hearing On Election Legislation in Fairbanks. Of those 20 testifying, 18 supported the Presidential Primary, and 2 were opposed. Those testifying represented both major political parties, private citizens, and borough employees.

The two persons opposed to this bill gave their reasons as being:

1. If the main reason for the presidential primary is to gain publicity for Alaska, this is too expensive.
2. The possibility of an Alaskan running as a favorite son would destroy the purpose of the primary, by discouraging national candidates from campaigning here.
3. Any open primary destroys the two party system concept.

Those testifying in favor of the presidential primary brought out the following points in support of this bill:

1. Currently 32 states have presidential primaries and Alaskans should have as much voice as citizens of those states in determining who will run for one of the most powerful positions in the world.
2. Very few presidential candidates have campaigned in Alaska in previous years, due to distance, small population, and because we have had no presidential primary. This would provide an excellent opportunity to bring national candidates or their representatives to the state.
3. The presidential primary would provide national recognition for Alaska and bring its unique problems and issues to the attention of national politicians and the rest of the state. A good example of this is the D-2 issue, of which the rest of the country had little knowledge of, it was never a national issue or had to be faced by national candidates.
4. The proposed date of the Alaska primary is April 15, 1980, which would make it the first one on the

West Coast for the year. This date gives us a positive position and would almost force presidential hopefuls to participate.

5. Having candidates and or their representatives campaigning in the state would be a definite boost to the economy and tourist trade, the second largest industry in the state.
6. The sunset provision in CSHB 28 provides us with the opportunity to try this once, and if it is not successful or does not bring potential presidential nominees to the state, it can easily be discontinued.
7. The general overall feeling on CSHB 28 is that it is a positive measure in gaining national recognition of Alaska and the important issues facing the state.
8. The provisions provided in the bill for candidates being put on the ballot by the Lt. Governor unless they specifically state otherwise, is very good in that the candidates do not have to contact us if they are running, JUST IF THEY AREN'T.

#### EAGLE RIVER

About 20 people testified on this bill during the Public Hearing in Eagle River on March 26. Of those testifying 4 were opposed to the bill because it was an open primary. Those 4 felt that an open primary was a threat to the two party system. Other than that they supported the concept of a presidential primary.

Those testifying in favor of the bill brought out the same points in support of the presidential primary as mentioned above.

An additional point that was brought up was, "Who would provide the security for candidates and their parties?" It was felt that the job may fall on local police departments and private security firms at a cost to the state. This is a valid point and at this time it has not been determined who would provide the security, however some candidates may bring their own.

## Presidential Sweepstakes

ALASKA'S PLAN TO stage a presidential primary in April 1980 is designed to draw the leading national candidates to the state — and in the process to stimulate the spending of a lot of campaign dollars in Alaska and to focus some national attention on problems of special interest here.

It's a good idea, too.

But the operation also could turn out to be a big bust.

Why? Easy. There's talk that a number of Alaska politicians are thinking about running in the primary as favorite son candidates. If they do, that would effectively wipe out the election as a drawing card for the national contenders.

IF, FOR EXAMPLE, Sen. Ted Stevens were to campaign as a favorite son candidate for the Republican presidential nomination among Alaska voters, you could bet that John Con-

nally, Phillip Crane, Ronald Reagan and Howard Baker would stay away. They might even welcome the excuse to skip the Alaska primary and concentrate on other, more readily accessible states.

During the last presidential campaign months, Jimmy Carter didn't show his smiling face in Alaska. He probably would rejoice at the opportunity to skip us again if Sen. Mike Gravel were running as a Democratic favorite son.

WE MAKE THESE observations to point up a potential problem. Unfortunately we have no ready solution.

Certainly the Legislature wouldn't want to consider making it illegal for an Alaskan to run for president.

But that would do the trick, come to think of it.

---

Anch Times 3/29/79

# The Anchorage Times

ROBERT B. ATWOOD  
Editor and Publisher

WILLIAM J. TOBIN  
Associate Editor  
And General Manager

CLINTON T. ANDREWS JR.  
Managing Editor

Page 6

Thursday, February 22, 1979

## Presidential Primary

THE PROSPECT of a presidential primary vote in Alaska is one of the few new ideas before the Legislature that is refreshing.

The proposal itself is not new, for it has been considered in the past. Indeed, such a primary law was passed last year but was vetoed by Gov. Jay Hammond to save the state the expense, estimated at about \$225,000.

If the Legislature will pass the measure again this year, there is reason to expect that the governor will sign it, regardless of his continuing austerity budget.

ALASKA WOULD GAIN more than the cost by having candidates for president come here to seek the support of this state's delegates to their national conventions.

Candidates have been known to show great sensitivity to the wants of those whose support they seek. Some of them have, from time to time, found it possible to take public stands in favor of what those supporters want. There have been instances when candidates have made promises.

Never has a candidate for nomination to the presidency had occasion to give Alaska more than a casual thought during the primary campaigns. They have been busy with the presidential primary elections in the Lower 48 and, because there has been no vote here, they have rarely visited Alaska.

A presidential primary would provide the occasion and the platform for candidates to take public stands on issues important to Alaska. A candidate could, if he chose, promise to protect Alaska from unreasonable encroachment on this state by special interests who would set aside the best of land for their own

special purposes.

The reason candidates might be interested in making themselves attractive to Alaskans is that this state has votes in the national party nominating conventions. The delegation has a dozen or more votes, depending on party rules. Sometimes only a handful of votes selects the winner.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS that would result from a presidential primary vote have been cited often, but recent events have enlarged the list and broadened the categories of benefits.

Entertaining the candidate's entourage would involve expenditures that would help the state's economy.

The financial benefit could be of minor importance compared to the national exposure Alaska would get as the candidates are on television, in the magazines and newspapers as they discuss this area's problems.

The state is spending more than \$2 million to foster a better understanding of the land problems, with much of it allocated to media information. The cost of a primary election would be a bargain price to pay for the national exposure that would result.

It would be false economy if the primary were to be dropped because of the cost. State officials are surrounded by opportunities for economy that will not harm the state. One consultant contract dropped could save more than the cost and the only loss would be a mimeographed report destined for the dusty shelves of a backroom closet.

It is to be hoped that the Legislature will enact the new primary proposal and give Gov. Hammond a chance to sign it in 1979.

# ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Lawrence Fanning  
Editor and Publisher, 1967 to 1971

Katherine Fanning  
Editor and Publisher

Stan Abbott  
Executive Editor

Alaska's Only Morning Newspaper  
Founded in 1946 by Harman C. Brown

## Our views:

### Alaska needs a primary, too

A primary election for President is as good an idea for Alaska as it is for the 30 or so states which currently conduct Presidential primaries every four years.

A Presidential primary would allow all voters, not just party regulars, to participate in the nomination process. And in a state where more than half the state's voters register as neither Republicans nor Democrats, that should be no small consideration.

A Presidential primary would also attract contenders for the nation's highest office to Alaska, a state they have habitually ignored in the past. After all, what candidate in his right mind would waste a trip to Alaska when he can meet the state's nominators at the party convention? Alaska is a long enough way to travel for three electoral votes, without adding to the disincentive by avoiding a primary election.

Several legislators have introduced a bill which would create a Presidential primary to be held in April, 1980. If Alaskans don't like it, there would not need to be another. But let's at least give the thing a try.

# Legislators push for presidential primary in Alaska

Anchorage News

JUNEAU (AP) — Alaska would have its own 1980 presidential primary under a bill approved Monday by a state House committee.

Although the proposal still faces a number of legislative hurdles, its backers are optimistic that the measure will continue to draw bipartisan support and become reality.

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