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SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Bill Number _____ Title residential primary Date received _____

Fiscal Note	Position Paper	Date requested	From	Amount	Date Rec'd Note	Rec'd Paper
X	152	1-13	UNION			
X	✓	1-13	UNION			

CONTACTS

Backup list

✓ Mark Johnson 586-1434
 Bill Hudson (Amig)
 Bill Cullen (586-1174)
 ✓ Dave Allison 586-7328
 Norma Lang 364-2553
 Marlene Neve

①
 ②

HEARING INFORMATION

Heard - 1-17-1982

NOTES:

sb 353 let

FINAL ACTION _____ DATE _____

PRESIDENTIAL PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION
March 13, 1984

Background

In the 1980 legislative session, members of the state House and Senate were successful in getting statutory authority for Alaska's first Presidential party primary. AS 15.25.220-280 authorizes this primary for 1984. The primary was approved chiefly because of the argument that candidates would come to Alaska, campaign, and learn more about the state. This primary election was to be binding on the delegate selection process by the terms of the statute.

In May 1983, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in LaFollette vs. U.S., concluding that in order for a presidential primary election to be binding on political parties in the delegate selection process, the conduct of the election must comply with party rules. Both Democratic and Republican party rules require a CLOSED primary election before the results can bind the delegate selection process. In order to comply, the Division of Elections had hoped that a voter's party preference could be declared without physically changing his or her registration. This plan was rejected by both of the parties because it failed to comply with national party rules.

The Division of Elections then adopted what is known as the Massachusetts plan for presidential primaries. This requires registered party members to vote their party's ballot while non-partisans may choose which party to join on election day. As a result, only those voters who declare a party preference and are willing to have their voter registration changed will be allowed to vote on March 13 in Alaska.

Since 58% (151,500) of Alaska's voters are non-partisan or registered "other", a procedure was adopted to accommodate all voters; by allowing this 58% and the 1,017 registered Libertarians (who chose not to appear on the ballot) to declare a party affiliation up to and including election day, while requiring any Democrats or Republicans that wish to change their party affiliation to do so no less than 30 days prior to March 13.

Reasons for Repeal

- 1) Approximately \$.8 million would be saved by repeal of AS 15.25.220-280.
- 2) The method of voting is both objectionable and confusing to voters. Every letter and communication received on this issue has been vehemently opposed to the method of conducting the primary. Alaskans seem satisfied with the present, "blanket," open primary system of voting; they pride themselves on their status as informed independents.
- 3) The primary is an undue administrative burden on the many citizens that serve Alaska's polling places. In addition to the many hours of new training necessary to explain the primary to these workers, the sharp change in the regular rules of voting will focus undeserved criticism on the poll workers for a one-time method of primary election. Confusion over voter eligibility will also tend to discourage voters from casting a primary ballot. This problem is exacerbated in the absentee-by-mail voting process.
- 4) Only one of the nine major Presidential candidates have traveled to Alaska to campaign. It appears that the chief argument for the primary has not occurred. (Nine other states are also having primaries on this date.)
- 5) Alaska's delegate strength to the two major party conventions is so small, .4 of 1% of delegate votes, that spending up to \$1 million on such an election could easily be viewed as a waste of money by the majority of the electorate.
- 6) Since only one candidate will appear on each the Republican and Alaska Independence Party ballots, the secrecy of the vote is compromised.
- 7) If the primary is repealed, the political parties will return to the traditional methods of apportioning delegates by caucus and convention.

(FROM DIVISION OF ELECTIONS)

Alaska's first Presidential party primary. AS 15.25.220-280 authorizes this primary for 1984. The primary was approved chiefly because of the argument that candidates would come to Alaska, campaign, and learn more about the state. This primary election was to be binding on the delegate selection process by the terms of the statute.

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MSG 84-00004402 PRTY Y 01/18/84 11:13:13 ORIG: LA02 IN= 0000 OUT= 0050
FROM: MARCIE, ANC INFO TO: POM, JUNEAU INFO
TARGET: LJHK SUBJ: P O M

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

FROM: WILLIE RATCLIFF, 835 MELCHINA, ANC 99501
H 277-3733

SL
UF

ALL ALASKANS INCLUDING INDEPENDENTS KNOW THAT A MAJOR PARTY NOMINEE
WILL BE ELECTED PRESIDENT IN NOVEMBER. CANCELLING THE PRESIDENTIAL
PARTY PRIMARY DISENFRANCHISES US ALL AND DRAWS NATIONAL ATTENTION TO
ALASKA AS A STATE WHERE BACK ROOM POWER PLAYS COUNT MORE THAN PEOPLE.
FRUSTRATING VOTERS NOW MAY BACKFIRE IN NOVEMBER.

EOM

ST

MSG 84-00003259 PRTY 1 01/13/84 14:47:36 ORIG: LM00 IN: 0008 OUT= 0068
FROM: MARTIE/MATSUJ TO: JUNEAU INFO
TARGET: LJHK SUBJ: POM'S

TO: REPS. AROOD AND MARTIN
COPIES TO ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: BEVERLY FROST
BRADFORD E. PARKER, JR.
PO BOX 80
SUTTON 99674
745-4171

RE: PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

WE ARE AGAINST THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BECAUSE OF THE COST AND BECAUSE WE FEEL
THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senate State Affairs Committee staff

RE: SB 353 Repealing the presidential party primary election

DATE: January 16, 1983

This bill would repeal the March 13, 1984 presidential primary election.

The impact of this legislation would save the state up to .8 million dollars (depending on effective date of legislation).

Enclosed as back-up you will find:

1) An information sheet from the Division of Elections outlining the history of Alaska's presidential primary election, and giving reasons for the election's repeal.

2) An information sheet from the Division of Elections outlining the expenses of holding the '84 presidential primary election.

Persons Contacted:

Mark Johnson

Dave Allison

Diane O'Connell

HR 430

passed in 1980.

① be held
② bound delegate election process
may 1980 La Follett decision

1) must follow rules in order to be binding.

2) would be necessary to be member of party.

58% are registered non-partisan.

both parties wanted person be registered in party.

La Follett

a state can hold election any way. But if it's going to be binding, then the election has to be conducted follow national party rules.

our statutes require binding election

looked at Massachusetts plan
— they have a number of non-partisan.
— some say change.

By Jan. 24, 25 million spent

District 11 Republicans support
repeal of primary.

MR. Tweedy,

non-partisan just it is
violation of his rights ~~to~~
that he has to register in Party
& in order to vote.

Gary Hume (Newman)

supports primary because
a many as ~~to~~ can be involved
should be involved.

Judging success or failure too
quickly.

Dr. Joe Boneman

for

Mark Ripley —

Support H.R. 430. Does not want
to declare party, why not let
Demos & R pay for their own
primaries.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4954

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senate State Affairs Committee staff

RE: SB 353 Repealing the presidential party primary election

DATE: January 16, 1983

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- 3) A list of other states having presidential primaries.

House Bills 430, 459, 460 - Repeal of March 13 Presidential Primary Election.

A timely repeal of this primary could save considerable monies. The dates and activities noted in each block are deadlines for the fraction of monies committed. By February 12, approximately 1/2 of the funds to be expended will be committed. Any bill to repeal must have an immediate effective date incorporated. February 20th, when ballots have been shipped by certified mail and final notices are committed to advertising seems to be a date, admittedly arbitrary, when the election should proceed.

<p>JANUARY 9 1/8 funds</p> <hr/> <p>Travel/Training election board wkrs (ongoing)</p> <p>initial ordering of: -special forms -posters, other materials -voter ID cards -voter register- ation forms</p> <p>program costs for party affiliation & precinct regist- ration changes</p> <p>temporary staff hired</p>

<p>JANUARY 24 1/4 funds</p> <hr/> <p>Travel/Training election board wkrs</p> <p>order all ballots</p> <p>sign program contract</p> <p>initial advertising (print & video contracted)</p> <p>purchase supplies & postage to all precincts</p> <p>40 day notices sent out mass mailings</p>

<p>FEBRUARY 12 1/2 funds</p> <hr/> <p>Travel/Training election board wkrs</p> <p>airmail all remaining material</p> <p>contract for com- munications (election returns cable hoodups, sites)</p> <p>ballots separated & shipped from printer</p>
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<p>FEBRUARY 20 3/4 funds</p> <hr/> <p>Travel/Training election board wkrs</p> <p>10 day notices sent out</p> <p>secondary advertis- ing contracted (print, radio, video)</p> <p>certify-mail all ballots to precincts</p>

<p>MARCH 13 Total funds</p> <hr/> <p>payment of all election workers, including: tally teams counting teams canvass boards</p> <p>rents for halls</p> <p>transportation of ballots, troopers</p> <p>polling place set- ups by contractors</p>

(FROM: DIVISION OF ELECTIONS)

MEMORANDUM
January 16, 1984

TO: Rep. Miller
FROM: Denise Zachary *dz*
SUBJECT: Dates/ Presidential Primaries - Republican and Democrat

	Presidential Primary	Candidate Filing Deadline
Alabama	March 13	January 14, 1984
Arkansas	March 13	December 28, 1983
Alaska	March 13	December 28, 1983 <i>Jan. 24, 1984</i>
California	June 5	March 23, 1984
Connecticut	March 27	February 20, 1984
Florida	March 13	January 16, 1984
Georgia	March 13	February 20, 1984
Idaho	May 22	April 23, 1984
Illinois	March 20	December 30, 1983
Indiana	May 8	March 9, 1984
Louisiana	April 7	March 2, 1984
Maryland	May 8	February 27, 1984
Massachusetts	March 13	January 6, 1984
Montana	June 5	March 17, 1984
Nebraska	May 15	March 16, 1984
New Hampshire	February 28	January 3, 1984
New Jersey	June 5	April 26, 1984
New Mexico	June 5	March 16, 1984
New York	April 3	February 16, 1984
North Carolina	May 8	February 7, 1984
North Dakota	June 12	April 18, 1984
Ohio	May 8	February 23
Oregon	May 15	March 6, 1984
Pennsylvania	April 10	January 31, 1984
Rhode Island	March 13	January 6, 1984
South Dakota	June 5	April 3, 1984
Tennessee	May 1	March 6, 1984
Texas	May 5	February 6, 1984
Vermont	March 6	January 16, 1984
West Virginia	June 5	March 31, 1984
Wisconsin	April 3	March 1, 1984
Washington D.C.	May 1	March 2, 1984
Puerto Rico	March 18	February 9, 1984

This information from NCSL this date.

1/13/84

R E V I S E D
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING SCHEDULE

Butrovich Room, Capitol Building

January 17, Tuesday 3:00pm

SB 310	Establishing April 20 as Bob Bartlett day
SB 311	Establishing February 6 as Ernest H. Gruening Day
SB 341	Amending statutory references to the Pacific time zone
SB 353	Repealing the Presidential primary
SCR 32	Requesting the Governor to designate October 16 as World Food Day

January 19, Thursday 3:00pm

SB 323	Changing income limits of residents of Pioneer Homes---TELECONFERENCE
SB 325	Changing income limits of residents of Pioneer Homes---TELECONFERENCE

January 24, Tuesday 3:00pm

Overview of Department of Administration: Personnel, Equal Employment Opportunity, Retirement, Labor Relations



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-4954

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senate State Affairs Committee staff

RE: SB 353 Repealing the presidential party primary election

DATE: January 16, 1983

This bill would repeal the March 13, 1984 presidential primary election.

The impact of this legislation would save the state up to .8 million dollars (depending on effective date of legislation).

Enclosed as back-up you will find:

- 1) An information sheet from the Division of Elections outlining the history of Alaska's presidential primary election, and giving reasons for the election's repeal.
- 2) An information sheet from the Division of Elections outlining the expenses of holding the '84 presidential primary election.
- 3) A list of other states having presidential primaries.

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 430, 459-60
 Title: repeal of presidential party primary statutes
 Sponsor: Governor, Ward, Lacher
 Requestor: (H) State Affairs
 Date of Request: 1/16/84

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: _____
 Program Category Affected: _____
 BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES	(222.0)					
200 TRAVEL	(15.3)					
300 CONTRACTUAL	(562.7)					
400 SUPPLIES	-					
500 EQUIPMENT	-					
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	(800.0)					
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	1,000.0					
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL: By January 24, 1984, \$200.0 of the \$1,000.0 special fund established by Ch.20 SLA 83 will be expended, reflecting a savings of \$800.0 by the repeal of AS 15.25.220-280.

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared By: T.P. Thoma Phone: 4611
 Division: of Elections Date: 1/16/84
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1/16/84
 Agency: Lieutenant Governor

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

12/1/83

Monies expended thus far for Presidential Primary(1/16/84)

Personal Services	43.2
Travel	5.0
Contractural	8.0
Supplies	27.5
Equipment	2.2
	<hr/>
	85.9 thousand

January 27, 1984

ST

Dear Legislator:

The Legislature, in repealing the Presidential party primary, disfranchised all Alaskan voters. We had the right to vote for Presidential candidates, and the Legislature took it away from us and turned the process back over to the political parties. It is a long-standing tradition in our country that parties nominate the candidates, but when a majority of the citizens choose not to belong to parties, obviously the parties no longer have exclusive rights to the electoral process.

Contrary to the popular misunderstanding promulgated by advocates of repeal, the U.S. Supreme Court did not directly rule that voters in a primary must register by party. They ruled that the national parties are not required to seat delegates not selected in accordance with party policy. The Court recognized the parties' right to limit participation in internal matters to members of the party.

A good example of an internal party matter is choosing the party chairperson. Selection of Presidential candidates is not strictly an internal party affair, because the President is the elected leader of all Americans.

I know it's difficult for you because you are caught in the middle. On the one hand, you have a certain loyalty to the party to which you belong and which finances you; on the other hand, you have an obligation to the people who elected you. Regardless of your party loyalties, you surely must recognize that all Alaskan voters have a right to participate in the process of electing the President of the United States, and that the primary is an integral part of that process.

The Legislature has proven that it can indeed move fast when it wants to, and now it needs to work just as hard and just as fast to devise a system whereby all Alaskans can cast their votes for which ever candidate they favor.

I would recommend legislation establishing an open Presidential primary, including pledging of delegates. If the parties refuse to seat those delegates, then the State is obligated to challenge the U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing the parties to dictate election procedures which exclude Alaskans from the democratic process.

You are the ones we Alaskans have elected to go to bat for us, and, to paraphrase a popular typing exercise, "Now is the time for all good Legislators to come to the aid of the People!" Your prompt attention to and action on this matter will be appreciated, not only by me but also by the voters who elected you and who have the power to re-elect you or not, depending on how well you represent their interests.

Yours for Better Government!

Belle Blue

Betty "Belle Blue" Breck
Box 316
Juneau, Alaska 99801
586-5840

TO: Vic

FROM: ST

DATE: January 19, 1983

RE: Presidential primary

STATE AFFAIRS AMENDMENT

1) Deletes the original section 2 because of the confusion caused by this section on whether or not the 1984 presidential primary would be held if the effective date occurred after the March 13th date.

2) Added a new section 2 ensuring that the money saved (\$800,000) would not be reappropriated, but would lapse into the general fund.

SENATE BILL NO. 353 by Senators Faiks, Mulcahy, Sackett, Ferguson, Petty, John, P. Fischer, Gilman, Ziegler, Halford, Eliason, Sturgulewski and Moss, entitled:

"An Act repealing the provisions of law relating to the presidential party primary election; and providing for an effective date."

was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs Committee.

The State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 353 (repealing the provisions of law relating to the presidential party primary election) and reported it back with the following amendment:

Page 1, line 12: Delete Sec. 2 and add new Sec. 2 to read:

* Sec. 2. Unexpended and unencumbered funds appropriated for the presidential party primary shall lapse into the general fund.

Senator Vic Fischer, Chairman, and Senators Rodey and Ray signed "no recommendation". Senators Sturgulewski and Kelly signed "do pass".

SENATE BILL NO. 353 was referred to the Rules Committee.



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4954

Official Business

COMMITTEE REPORT

January 17, 1983
3:00pm

Butrovich room
Capitol Building

Members Present:

Senator Vic Fischer, Chair
Senator Pat Rodey
Senator Tim Kelly
Senator Arliss Sturgulewski
Senator Bill Ray

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm

SB 353 Presidential primary

Lieutenant Governor Stephen McAlpine reviewed this and other bills repealing the presidential primary election. He outlined a number of reasons why the primary election should be repealed. He gave reasons why section 2 of the bill should be deleted. The Lieutenant Governor suggested that one of those reasons was the possibility of section 2 inviting a law suit.

Senator Vic Fischer asked what would happen to the remaining funds that had been appropriated to hold the election.

Lt. Governor Stephen McAlpine said they would probably lapse into the general fund.

Senator Ray stated that he supports the idea of a presidential primary, but that some voters must change their party affiliation which makes the election undesirable.

Lieutenant Governor McAlpine related some of the problems concerning ballot secrecy and the election. He said that many voters will forfeit their ballot secrecy because their party will have only one candidate.

Senator Vic Fischer expressed his concern that the state is giving the public the right to vote in the primary and then taking away that right.

Senator Ray moved that a new section be added to lapse any unexpended moneys to the general fund.

Senator Vic Fischer said that without any objection the new section would replace section 2 of the original bill.

Senator Tim Kelly related his disappointment that Alaska will not have a primary.

The bill was moved out of committee as amended.

SB 341 Statutory references to the time zone

Mirt Charney, Director of the Legislative Affairs Agency, reviewed the bill. He said SB 341 was a housecleaning bill bringing the statutes up to date by replacing Pacific with Alaska standard time zone.

Senator Bill Ray made a motion to move the bill out of committee with individual recommendations.

The bill was moved out of committee.

SB 310, SB 311 establishing Bob Bartlett and Earnest Gruening Day

Senator Vic Fischer gave a brief statement on these bills.

Senator Sturgulewski moved to delete sentence 2 and 3 from SB 311.

The 3rd sentence was also deleted from SB 310.

Committee substitutes for these two bills were moved out of committee with individual recommendations.

SCR 32 World Food Day

Senator Vic Fischer gave a brief statement on this resolution.

Senator Tim Kelly made a motion to include "be encouraged to" between state and participate on pg. 2, line 1.

A committee substitute was adopted making the changes above.

Senator Pat Rodey made a motion to move the resolution out of committee.

The resolution was moved out of committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V

Juneau, Alaska 99811

(907) 465-4954

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senate State Affairs Committee staff

RE: SB 353 Repealing the presidential party primary election

DATE: January 16, 1983

This bill would repeal the March 13, 1984 presidential primary election.

The impact of this legislation would save the state up to .8 million dollars (depending on effective date of legislation).

Enclosed as back-up you will find:

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- 3) A list of other states having presidential primaries.

Introduced: 1/13/84
Referred: State Affairs

BY FAIKS, MULCAHY, SACKETT,
FERGUSON, PETTYJOHN, P. FISCHER,
GILMAN, ZIEGLER, HALFORD, ELIASON,
STURGULEWSKI AND MOSS

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 353

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act repealing the provisions of law relating to

7

the presidential party primary election; and provid-

8

ing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. AS 15.13.011, AS 15.25.220 - 15.25.280 and sec. 4, ch. 60,

11 SLA 1980 are repealed.

12 * Sec. 2. If the effective date of this Act occurs ^{after} before March 13,

13 1984, it is the intent of the legislature that the presidential party

14 primary election scheduled for March 13, 1984 be cancelled and not be held

15 in 1984.

16 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-

17 10.070(c).

#800K - 7 → ^{revised}

STATE OF ALASKA 1984 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

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 Date of Request: 1/16/84

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SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL: By January 24, 1984, \$200.0 of the \$1,000.0 special fund established by Ch.20 SLA 83 will be expended, reflecting a savings of \$800.0 by the repeal of AS 15.25.220-280.

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for analysis

Prepared by: T.P. Thoma Phone: 4511
 Division: of Elections Date: 1/16/84
 Approved by Commissioner: [Signature] Date: 1/16/84
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House Bills 430, 459, 460 - Repeal of March 13 Presidential Primary Election.

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JANUARY 9
1/8 funds

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election board wkrs
(ongoing)

initial ordering of:
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-posters, other
materials
-voter ID cards
-voter register-
ation forms

program costs for
party affiliation
& precinct regist-
ration changes

temporary staff
hired

JANUARY 24
1/4 funds

Travel/Training
election board wkrs

order all ballots

sign program
contract

initial advertising
(print & video
contracted)

purchase supplies &
postage to all
precincts

40 day notices sent
out
mass mailings

FEBRUARY 12
1/2 funds

Travel/Training
election board wkrs

airmail all
remaining material

contract for com-
munications
(election returns
cable hoodups, sites)

ballots separated
& shipped from
printer

FEBRUARY 20
3/4 funds

Travel/Training
election board wkrs

10 day notices sent
out

secondary advertis-
ing contracted
(print, radio,
video)

certify-mail all
ballots to
precincts

MARCH 13
Total funds

payment of all
election workers,
including:
tally teams
counting teams
canvass boards

rents for halls

transportation of
ballots, troopers

polling place set-
ups by contractors

(FROM: DIVISION OF ELECTIONS)

January 17, 1984

~~VF~~
ST

Dear Legislator:

The proposed Presidential Primary is unconstitutional on two counts.

First, the Constitution of Alaska does not require party membership for voting. The only requirements relate to citizenship, age, residency and criminal record.

Second, the Constitution of Alaska states that "Secrecy of voting shall be preserved". After the proposed primary, anyone can purchase a computer tape of registered Alaskan voters for \$165, and can run off a list of everyone who voted for Reagan and everyone who did not vote for Reagan in a matter of minutes. Individual voting records are available free of charge. This clearly violates secrecy of voting.

Repeal of the legislation establishing the primary is obviously required. However, repeal means that two-thirds of Alaska's voters will be disenfranchised. This is equally unacceptable.

Who is to blame for this dilemma? The Legislature was well intended in trying to ensure that Alaska's delegates be bound to vote as Alaskans desired. The Lt. Governor is merely carrying out his statutory responsibilities for establishing election procedures in accordance with laws passed by the Legislature.

The real villains in the case are 1) the national parties, which limit participation in the delegate selection process to publicly recorded party members, and 2) the U.S. Supreme Court, which upheld the right of the parties to refuse to seat delegates not chosen in accordance with party rules. In effect, the U.S. Supreme Court requires voters in a primary to register by political party, which is also a violation of the U.S. Constitution, as there is nothing in the U.S. Constitution about political parties.

What we need to do is to repeal the closed primary with HB 459 or HB 460, replace it with an open primary, and send our delegates to the party conventions bound to vote as indicated by the primary; then if the parties refuse to seat them, we as a state must challenge the constitutionality of the U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing the parties to dictate election procedures to the states.

In this 25th Anniversary of Statehood, it would be appropriate for us to remind the rest of the nation that we expect it to abide by the supreme law of the land, the U.S. Constitution.

Belle Blue

Belle Blue
Box 316
Juneau, Ak 99801
586-5840

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: AUDREY GUILLE
600 W. 19TH, APT. A
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503 (W) 376-0533

(CJ)

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 514 AND SENATE BILL 354 AS WRITTEN. PLEASE PASS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

1/17/84, SHIRLEE ANC LIO, 3971

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: DENISE WOODS
3605 ARCTIC BLVD., NO. 717
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503 (H) 338-5811

ST
(N/A)

I REQUEST THAT YOU HOLD THE PRIMARY AS PLANNED.

1/17/84, SHIRLEE ANC LIO, 3971

TO: REPRESENTATIVES LACHER, MARTIN AND WARD

FROM: RICHARD GEIGER
SRA BOX 1623 (RES: TRAPPERS' TRAIL ROAD)
ANCHORAGE, AK 99514 (H) 345-3077

ST
(N/A)

WHAT BENEFIT WOULD IT BE TO ALASKANS TO REPEAL THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY?

1/17/84, SHIRLEE ANC LIO, 3971

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: PLYLLIS SAFFORT
13100 ELMHURST
ANCHORAGE, AK 99515 (H) 345-4716

I SUPPORT HB 514 AND SB 354 AS WRITTEN. PLEASE PASS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

1/17/84, SHIRLEE ANC LIO, 3971

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: DOREEN PALMER
2531 BRITTANY
ANCHORAGE, AK 99504 (H) 337-7166 (W) 272-7936

PLEASE PASS SB 354 AND HB 514 AS WRITTEN.

1/17/84, SHIRLEE ANC LIO, 3971

TO: ALL LEGISLATORS

FROM: JUDY FLITTER
4422 EDINBURG
ANCHORAGE, AK 99502 (H) 243-5621 (W) 264-4314

PLEASE PASS SB 354 AND HB 514 AS WRITTEN.

McAlpine advises halt to presidential primary

by Dean Fosdick
Associated Press

Juneau — Lt. Gov. Stephen McAlpine said Monday the presidential primary should be junked — and quickly — before more money is spent preparing for the March 13 election.

A month ago, McAlpine said he felt it was too late to repeal the law authorizing Alaska's first presidential primary despite his long opposition to the idea.

His statement Monday followed the pre-filing of two House bills calling for scrapping the election.

McAlpine expressed some irritation that lawmakers were moving to repeal the primary law after having adjourned the 1983 session without acting on a

Sheffield administration measure to kill the primary.

He called the law "well-intentioned" but "defective."

Because of a U.S. Supreme Court decision, the Alaska presidential primary will require non-partisans to declare a party affiliation before casting ballots.

"There's been some political fall-out for the legislature," McAlpine said, indicating that 58 percent of Alaska's 263,000 registered voters are non-partisan.

When lawmakers passed the measure last year, they didn't realize the Supreme Court would change the rules of the game, disallowing "open" primaries that allow cross-over voting, he said.

"Lawmakers are now recog-

nizing that if the 58 percent are not upset, they're at least dismayed," said McAlpine, who as lieutenant governor oversees elections. "The law is defective. It's well-intentioned but not well-produced.

"I'm not going to go down and knock on (legislators) doors to make a concerted effort to see it repealed," he said. "But we are recommending that the legislation be repealed. We will be happy to talk to lawmakers about it."

McAlpine said even though he would like to see the law killed, state officials must continue preparations for the election.

State election officials have said that 25 percent of the \$1 million appropriated for the election will have been spent by Jan. 24, 50 percent by Feb. 12 and 75 percent by Feb. 20.