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HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

NEXT COMMITTEE: JUDICIARY

BILL: SB 288

CURRENT VERSION: CS SB 288 (SA)

SCHEDULED: MARCH 23, 1988

SPONSOR: HALFORD

PHONE NO: 4958

CONTACT FILE: _____

BILL SUBJECT: USE IN THE PETITION OF THE NAME OF A POLITICAL PARTY BY A CANDIDATE

SPONSOR BACKUP: Notified

AFFECTED AGENCIES:

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>CONTACT/PHONE</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
ELECTIONS	LINDA EDGEWORTH/4611	

FISCAL NOTES

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>	<u>DATED</u>	<u>FY 88 AMT</u>	<u>FY 89 AMT</u>
ELECTIONS		1/28/88	-0-	-0-

ACTION

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
3/23/88	- Not hearing - held

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

POUCH Y - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

May, 1988

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS database CMPR. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Van Nimwegen

HSA

3-23-88

3:00p.m.

53

RECEIVED
JAN 26 1988

STATE OF ALASKA DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

BILL VERSION: SB288
PUBLISH DATE: ~~5/4/87~~
1/28/88

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Act relating to use of the name of a political party by a candidate.
Sponsor: Halford
Requestor: Senate State Affairs

Agency Affected: Office of the Governor
BRU: Elections
Components: II - Primary & General Elections

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

PERSONNEL:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

[Empty box for analysis]

Prepared by: Linda Edgeworth, Information Officer
Division: Elections

Phone: 465-4611
Date: 1/21/88

Man

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Office of the Governor

Date: 1/26/88

Distribution (by preparer): 1/26/88

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor [Signature]
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)



Democratic Party of Alaska

Jack Roderick
State Chair

Virgie King
1st Vice Chair

Hilda Woods
Treasurer

Carolyn Covington
Secretary

Dan Coffey
Finance Chair

Bob Goldberg
Legal Counsel

Doris Volske
National Committeewoman

Vander Pearson
National Committeeman

Chancy Croft
Policy Commission

Peg Tileston
Alaska Democrat

January 15, 1988

Senator Halford
Pouch V
Juneau, Ak 99811

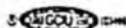
Dear Senator Halford;

I endorse the concept embodied in SB 288, whereby state candidates would be prohibited from using the name of an existing political party in their campaign in any way other than that intended by the political party.

Sincerely,

Jack Roderick
Party Chair

William D. Bobrick
Executive Director



The Republican Party of Alaska



Jim Crawford
Chairman

Marilyn Paine
National Committeewoman

Eldon Ulmer
National Committeeman

Jack Wilbur
Vice Chairman

Gail Phillips
Secretary

Tim McKeever
Treasurer

Charlot Thickett
Asst. Secretary

Lloyd Hames
Asst. Treasurer

Randy Ruedrich
Finance Chairman

Cliff Greh
Legal Counsel

750 E. Fireweed Lane, Suite 102
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 276-4467

January 15, 1988

The Honorable Mitch Abood
Chairman
State Affairs Committee
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding Senate Bill 238, "An act relating to the use of a political party name by a candidate". SB 288 addresses a serious difficulty endemic only to legislative and gubernatorial elections in our state. The presidential portion of the statute is clear as to a process by which a candidate and a party are identified. As we found, to our chagrin, in 1986, no such clarity exists in statute regarding the identification of a candidate with our party or another party should the candidate choose to avoid a primary and yet utilize our party label by attaching some qualifier to it.

Thousands of Alaskans have worked to build political parties with stated philosophies in our platforms and resolutions, with incumbents of whom we are proud as they espouse our political philosophies and with candidates who are the embodiment of our public leadership. A basic foundation of party activists is the identity of the Party through our names and symbols. The elephant is clearly a Republican and the donkey is clearly a Democrat. That clarity in the public's mind, however, is subject to confusion when qualifiers are added to the name and primaries are avoided.

Whether an "independent Republican" runs, a "moderate Democrat" runs or any other of the tremendous number of qualifiers that could be used to condition Republicans or Democrats as they run, the qualifiers merely add confusion to the system and, frankly, allow gamesmanship at the public's expense. Simply put, if a candidate chooses to run as a Republican, Democrat, Libertarian or any other party and there is competition, we have a tried and true system of competition called the primary to determine the standard bearer for that party. If a candidate chooses to identify with a party by use of the name that candidate should do so honorably by competing in the established process.

Page Two
Chairman Abood
January 15, 1988

Even though there are points which may need clarification between the parties, the public has come to expect and indeed demands to examine the records, platforms and differences between incumbents of the parties, and indeed the parties themselves. Although 1986 provided only one candidate who used what he described as a "neat trick" to avoid the primary, I could anticipate more such gamesmanship in 1988 if the statute is not clarified. Therefore, I advocate on behalf of the Republican Party passage of Senate Bill 288.

With Best Regards,



Jim Crawford

RECEIVED
JAN 26 1988

STATE OF ALASKA
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS
FISCAL NOTE

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PUBLISH DATE: ~~5/4/87~~ 1/28/88

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EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Linda Edgeworth, Information Officer
Division: Elections

Phone: 465-4611
Date: 1/21/88

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]
Agency: Office of the Governor

Date: 1/26/88

Distribution (by preparer): 1/26/88

- ✓ Legislative Finance
- ✓ Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor Linda Edgeworth
- ✓ Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)