SJR

36

VOTES RECEIVED BY CANDIDATES
FOR GOVERNOR, GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1958 – 1990

Year	Candidate	Number of Votes	Percentage
1958	Egan	29,189	59.6
	Butrovich	19,299	39.4
	Dollinter	480	0.9
1962	Egan	29,627	52.3
	Steponvich	27,054	47.7
1966	Hickel	33,145	49.996
	Egan	32,065	48.4
	Grasse	1,084	1.6
1970	Egan	42,309	52.4
	Miller	37,264	46.1
	Anderson	1,206	1.5
1974	Hammond	45,840	47.7
	Egan	45,553	47.4
	Vogler	4,770	5.0
1978	Hammond	49,580	39.1
	Hickel (Write In)	33,555	26.4
	Croft	25,656	20.2
	Kelly	15,656	12.3
	Vogler (Write In)	2,463	1.9
1982	Sheffield	89,918	46.2
	Fink	72,291	37.2
	Randolph	29,067	14.9
	Vogler	3,235	1.7
1986	Cowper	84,943	47.3
	Sturgulewski	76,515	42.3
	Vogler	10,013	5.5
	Hickel (Write–In)	4,958	2.7
	Other (Write–In)	2,076	1.0
	Brannon	1,050	0.5
1990	Hickel	75,721	38.8
	Knowles	60,201	30.9
	Sturgulewski	50,991	26.1
	Sykes	6,563	3.3
	O'Callaghan	942	0.4
	Write In	332	0.1

NOTES:

Percentage column is the percentage of votes cost for office of governor.

Prior to 1986, the official election results do not show the number of write–in votes cast for governor, if any. Thus, there is no way to determine precisely the total numer of votes cast for governor in these years. To the extent there were write–in votes in these years, the percentage of votes shown for each candidate would be slightly lower.

Prepared by the Legislative Research Agency, February 1994 (94.155).

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR 36

Revision Date:

Department Affected: Office of the Governor

Title: Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska requiring that candidates for governor and candidates for lieutenant governor receive more than 50 percent of the votes cast to be elected and changing the term of office of the governor and the lieutenant governor

BRU: Division of Elections

Component: General and Primary

Sponsor: Senators Kelly, Salo, Pearce, Zharoff, Sharp, Jacko, Little

Requestor:

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 22

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

OPERATING	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00
PERSONAL	18.5	0	0	0	20.4	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	744.4	0	0	0	818.8	0
SUPPLIES	2.0	0	0	0	2.0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND &	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS,	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	764.9	0	0	0	841.4	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

REVENUE						

FUNDING:

1002 Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0
1003 GF Match	0	0	0	0	0	0
1004 GF	764.9	0	0	0	841.4	0
1005 GF/Program	0	0	0	0	0	0
1006 GF/MHTIA	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	764.9	0	0	0	841.4	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year (FY94) impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Changes in CS SJR 36 (STA) reflect NO FISCAL CHANGE from the original fiscal note. This fiscal note is appropriate.

3/2/94 date

Comte Aide (initial)

Prepared by: Joseph L. Swanson, Director

Phone: 465-4611

Division: Division of Elections

Date: 1/31/94

Approved by Commissioner: John B. Coghill, Lieutenant Governor

gency: Office of the Governor

Date: 1/31/94

PREPARER TO PROVIDE AL

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Rev 12/93

FISCAL NOTE

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STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR36

ANALYSIS:

Assumption: 10% increase for all categories in FY99

PERSONAL SERVICES (18.5)

Personal services costs would remain the same, except for overtime required, due to the short time frame for putting on the runoff election. 10% of 104.7 = (18.5).

73000 - CONTRACTUAL (744.4)

Contractual payments (456.4) line itemed as follows:

Election & polling place worker payment	244.7
Computer board payment	13.3
Question & absentee board payment	29.5
Absentee voting officials	7.0
Registrar payment	4.8
Statewide canvas board & recount teams	10.6
PEPS machine & mainframe programming contract	124.0
Split primary pollworker increment	22.5

Communications (59.0)

Telephone services and toll charges for an additional month for election activity. 3.0

Postage for absentee ballot mailings and returns; election supplies, ballot mailing and returns. Official Election Pamphlet mailing. Increment for split ballot mailing. 38.0

Freight for ballots from printer to four regional offices; misc. freight and courier service between director and four regional offices; transportation and set up costs for polling equipment. 16.5

Freight charges for statutory absentee ballots. 1.0

State fleet transportation costs. 0.5

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1994 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR36

ANALYSIS CONT.:

Advertising, Printing and Binding (221.0)

Statewide election advertising.	30.2
Run-off ballot printing.	153.0
OEP printing and typesetting.	30.5
Election notice posters.	1.0
Tally books, press kits and official election return booklets.	6.3

Rental/Leases (8.0)

Statewide polling place and absentee voting station rentals.	8.0

<u>74000 - OFFICE SUPPLIES (2.0)</u>

Miscellaneous office supplies for run-off election.	2.0

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/3/94
Referred: JUD, FIN

Sponsor(s): SENATORS KELLY, SALO, PEARCE, ZHAROFF, SHARP, JACKO, Little

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska requiring a
2 runoff election when the candidates for governor and lieutenant governor obtaining
3 the greatest number of votes at the general election do not receive more than
4 40 percent of the votes cast, and changing the term of office of the governor
5 and the lieutenant governor.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

7 * Section 1. Article III, sec. 3, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:
8 SECTION 3. ELECTION. The governor shall be chosen by the qualified
9 voters of the State at a general election. The candidate receiving the greatest number
10 of votes shall be governor <u>but only if the candidate receives more than forty</u>
11 <u>percent of the total number of votes cast for governor at the general election. If</u>
12 <u>a candidate does not receive more than forty percent of the votes cast for</u>
13 <u>governor, a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the greatest</u>
14 <u>number of votes cast shall be held twenty-eight days after the general election.</u>
15 <u>At the runoff election, write-in ballots shall not be counted. In calculating the</u>

35

percentage of the votes cast at the general election and at a runoff election, only votes that have been properly marked for a candidate for governor shall be counted.

* Sec. 2. Article III, sec. 4, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

SECTION 4. TERM OF OFFICE. If a runoff election is required to elect a governor, then the [THE] term of office of the governor begins [IS FOUR YEARS, BEGINNING] at noon on the first day of January immediately after the election. Otherwise, the term of office of the governor begins at noon on the first Monday in December following the governor's [HIS] election. The term of the governor ends when the governor's elected successor commences in office on a date determined under this section. Election for governor occurs every four years [AND ENDING AT NOON ON THE FIRST MONDAY IN DECEMBER FOUR YEARS LATER].

* Sec. 3. Article III, sec. 8, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

SECTION 8. SAME ELECTION. The lieutenant governor shall be nominated in the manner provided by law for nominating candidates for other elective offices. In the general election and in any runoff election the votes cast for a candidate for governor shall be considered as cast also for the candidate for lieutenant governor running jointly with him. The candidate whose name appears on the ballot jointly with that of the successful candidate for governor shall be elected lieutenant governor.

* Sec. 4. Article XV, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding a new section to read:

SECTION 29. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION APPLICABLE TO AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE III, SECTION 4. The term of office of the governor elected at the general election in 1994 ends at noon on the first Monday in December four years later unless, under Section 3 of Article III, a runoff election is required, in which case the term of office of the governor ends at noon on the first day of January 1999.

* Sec. 5. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed before the voters of the state at the next general election in conformity with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the election laws of the state.

MEMBER

TENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
ELEVENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
TWELFTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
THIRTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
FOURTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
FIFTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
SIXTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
EIGHTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE

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CS SJR 36 (STA): CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS REQUIRING A RUN-OFF FOR GOVERNOR IF NO CANDIDATE RECEIVES MORE THAN 40% OF THE VOTE

The very foundation of democratic government is rooted in the principle of majority rule, yet a majority of Alaskans have not elected a governor since 1970. Senate Joint Resolution 36 (SJR 36), as amended by the Senate State Affairs Committee, would place Constitutional amendments before the voters for approval at the next general election that would require a run-off between the top two vote-getters for Governor and Lieutenant Governor when no candidate received more than 40% of the vote.

The measure requires candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor receive more than 40% to be elected at the general election held in November. If no candidate receives more than 40%, the top two candidates would face each other in a run-off held four weeks later. The winner of that race would be sworn in January 1st, rather than December 1st, as the state constitution now requires.

The governor and lieutenant governor need the support of a majority of Alaskans to govern the State effectively. While it may take a combination of several political groups to make a majority consensus, its important that we sustain the concept of majority decision making or we'll end up chipping away at the foundation of our electoral process. The current situation in which a governor could be elected with less than 25% of the popular vote opens us up to the prospect of different small interest groups running government every few years. That's neither representative nor effective government. For a governor to effectively lead our State, he must have the electoral support of a majority of Alaskans.

The proposed amendments in SJR 36, if approved by the legislature, would appear before the voters as constitutional amendments on the ballot in November of 1994. If approved it would not impact an election for Governor until 1998.

SPONSOR STATEMENT