

HB

466

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: _____

Title: Am. (H) relating to VIGILANTE ACT
State Election Laws.

Sponsor: House State Affairs

Requester: _____

Dept. Affected _____

BRU _____

Component _____

Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: _____

POSITIONS

POSITIONS	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

[Empty box for analysis]

Prepared by _____

Division _____

Approved by _____

Agency _____

House, State Affairs
Rep. Jewnette James
Chair

Phone _____

Date _____

Date _____

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session:

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3779 - Phone
(907) 465-2833 - Fax

Interim:

145 Main St. Loop Suite 221
Kenai, Alaska 99611
(907) 283-7223 - Phone
(907) 283-3075 - Fax

REPRESENTATIVE MARK D. HODGINS
House District 9

Sponsor Statement House Bill 466

"An Act relating to violations of state election laws."

The intent of House Bill 466 is to clean up certain campaign tactics that are illegal and unethical. The practice of casting unproven dispersions in a desperate attempt to sway public opinion during the last few weeks of an election has become pervasive in recent elections and needs to be stopped.

Candidates have had their reputations and integrity impugned as well as causing long lasting emotional damage to their families and friends. This type of slanderous campaign activity should not be tolerated as it erodes the foundation of the entire election process. The public is clearly fed up with this type campaign tactic.

Current law prohibits the practice of knowingly circulating false or misleading information, but as it is only a class A misdemeanor, State prosecutors have all but ignored any attempt to curb this practice. By increasing the penalty to a class C felony, we will send a strong message that this type of campaign misconduct will no longer be tolerated.