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FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: SB313
 (S) Publish Date: 3/19/98

STATE OF ALASKA
 1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date (Note if correction) _____ Dept. Affected Office of the Governor
 Title Relating to initiative petitions BRU Elective Operations
 Component Elections
 Sponsor Senator Sharp
 Requester Senate Judiciary Committee Component Serial No. #21

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						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY98) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by Gail Fenumia *Gail Fenumia* Phone 465-3935
 Division Division of Elections Date 3/6/98
 Approved by C Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer *FU* Date 3/6/98
 Agency Office of the Lieutenant Governor

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SPONSOR STATEMENT

SB-313

BY: SENATOR BERT SHARP

IT IS OFTEN ASSUMED THAT PERSONS OBTAINING SIGNATURES ON A BALLOT INITIATIVE ARE VOLUNTEERS WHO BELIEVE STRONGLY IN THEIR CAUSE. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT IS MORE OFTEN NOT THE CASE. INSTEAD, IT IS MORE LIKELY THESE SOLICITORS ARE SIGNATURE BOUNTY HUNTERS WHO ARE PAID BY THE SPONSOR OF THE INITIATIVE .

IN AN EFFORT TO BRING THE INITIATIVE PROCESS BACK TO A MORE GRASSROOTS EFFORT, SB-313 REQUIRES VISUAL IDENTIFICATION OF NAME AND A VOTER REGISTRATION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE PETITION CIRCULATORS AND ALSO PROHIBITS PAYMENT PER SIGNATURE BY THE SPONSOR.

THIS BILL ALSO PROHIBITS PAYING A PERSON TO SIGN A PETITION.

IN ADDITION, EXISTING LAW GRANTS A 30 DAY EXTENSION TO A SPONSOR IF THEY ARE UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF VERIFIED SIGNATURES WITHIN THE ALLOWED TIME FRAME. SB-313 WILL ELIMINATE THIS 30 DAY EXTENSION. THIS WAY, IF THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES ARE NOT SUCCESSFULLY OBTAINED, THE INITIATIVE SIMPLY DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.

SIMPLY PUT, YOU EITHER GOT'EM OR YOU DON'T!!!

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MEMORANDUM

February 23, 1998

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary of SB 313

TO: Senator Bert Sharp
Attn: Marilyn Wilson

FROM: Richard A. Glover - *RAG*
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1 of the bill enacts a requirement for petition circulators to display identification. The section enacts a provision that prohibits payments to petition circulators if the payments are based on the number of signatures gathered. Payments to signatories of initiative petitions are also prohibited. A violation is made a class B misdemeanor.

Section 2 of the bill enacts additional requirements of petition sponsors filing initiative petitions. The sponsors must state in the filing affidavit (in addition to the current requirements) that the signatories are qualified voters, that no payments to the sponsor on a per signature basis were received or agreed to, and the sponsor did not pay or offer payment to signatories.

Section 3 of the bill makes technical corrections required by section 6 of the bill.

Section 4 of the bill makes a technical correction required by sec. 6 of the bill.

Section 5 of the bill makes acts of accepting, soliciting, or agreeing to accept payment for signing a petition, crimes of improper subscription to a petition.

Section 6 of the bill eliminates the provisions for supplemental initiative petitions, and repeals the statute that prohibits invalidation of an initiative based on an insufficiency of the initiative's application or petitions.

Senator Bert Sharp
February 23, 1998
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Section 7 of the bill specifies the applicability of the bill sections to conform to various constitutional requirements.

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