

SB

103

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB 103
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title: "An act relating to election campaigns
and legislative ethics BRU: Alaska Public Offices Commission
 Component: _____
 Sponsor: Senate State Affairs
 Requester: Senate State Affairs Component Number: 70

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	18.7	23.2	23.2	23.2	21.0	21.0
Supplies	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Cl: ms						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	31.4	33.8	23.8	23.8	21.6	21.6

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	31.4	33.8	23.8	23.8	21.6	21.6
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	31.4	33.8	23.8	23.8	21.6	21.6

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See Page 2

Prepared by: Brooke Miles Phone 276-4176
 Division: Alaska Public Offices Commission Date/Time 2/21/01 12:00 AM
 Approved by: Jim Duncan, Commissioner Date 2/22/01
 Agency: Department of Administration

For distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office

Fiscal Note Analysis
SB 103

This is staff's estimate of the fiscal impact of SB 103. The Commission will not have an opportunity to review the proposed legislation and staff's recommendations for a fiscal note until their next meeting on March 28 – 30, 2001.

SB 103 increases the amount of surplus campaign goods that may be taken by a candidate for personal use from \$2500 to \$5000 and provides that candidates may also retain campaign photographs, seasonal greeting cards and campaign signs. It also removes legislators from the restrictions on using public resources to support or oppose ballot propositions, amends the definition of "contribution" to exclude the professional services of accountants and attorneys given to political parties, and provides that issue polls are not contributions when given to a candidate unless they are specifically designed to benefit the candidate.

This draft fiscal note reflects the costs to the Commission for conducting statewide seminars to educate candidates, groups, and political parties about the changes; revising manuals, forms, and database structures; and responding to informal inquiries advisory opinion requests, and complaints.

Personal services costs reflect overtime for current employees, or part-time temporary clerical support to amend reporting materials and conduct training for the Anchorage municipal elections and the 2002 state and municipal election cycles.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Senate Bill 103

"An Act relating to election campaigns and legislative ethics; and providing for an effective date."

SPONSOR: Senate State Affairs Committee

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Senate Bill 103 is largely a clean-up bill to address conflicts and concerns that have arisen in the campaign finance and legislative ethics statutes. It also puts into law administrative rulings made by the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) and informal advice given by the Legislative Ethics Committee. This legislation is different from last year's HB 225. It does not contain what were the more controversial elements of that bill.

SB 103 makes the following changes:

- Clarifies that multiple groups controlled by a single candidate be treated as a single group for purposes of the contribution limit in AS 15.13.070(b)(1)
- Adds thank you advertisements to list of permissible uses of unused campaign funds
- Increases the total value of personal property which may be retained by a candidate
- Provides that money held by public entities may be used to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition or question under limited circumstances
- Clarifies and further defines contributions
- Adds new exceptions to and clarifies the prohibition on use of public assets and resources by legislators and legislative employees for nonlegislative purposes and certain previously prohibited public political uses

SPONSOR STATEMENT

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101


State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

March 7, 2001

SUBJECT: Sectional Summary of CSSB 103(STA)

TO: Senator Gene Therriault
Attn: Joe Balash

FROM: Kathryn L. Kurtz 
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. Permits candidates to register multiple groups to support them but specifies that all groups controlled by a single candidate be treated as a single group for purposes of the contribution limit in AS 15.13.070(b)(1).

Section 2. Adds thank you advertisements as a permissible use of unused campaign funds. Eliminates transfers of leftover campaign funds to public office expense term account reserves, but retains provision allowing transfers to public office expense term (POET) accounts. Limits transfers to POET accounts to \$10,000 for candidates for the house of representatives and \$20,000 for candidates for the senate. Requires that funds left in a POET account at the end of a candidate's term of office be disposed of by donating them to a political party, the state's general fund, a municipality, the federal government, or a 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) charitable organization, or by repaying contributions to contributors.

Section 3. Increases the total value of personal property which may be retained by a candidate after a campaign from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Specifies that campaign photographs and seasonal greeting cards may be retained and used. Provides that campaign signs prepared for an election that has already taken place have no monetary value.

Section 4. Amends AS 15.13.145(b), which restricts use of state money for influencing the outcome of elections, to reflect the change in section 6 of this bill permitting

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legislators and legislative employees to use governmental resources to support or oppose a proposed amendment to the state or federal constitution.

Section 5. Excludes from the definition of campaign contribution: (a) services provided by volunteers to political parties other than professional services for which the individual would ordinarily be paid a fee or wage, (b) two or fewer mass mailings by each political party before each election, and (c) certain poll results.

Section 6. Adds new exceptions to and clarifies the prohibition on use of public assets and resources by legislators and legislative employees for nonlegislative purposes, including: use of staff to prepare and send out seasonal greeting cards, transporting computers or other office equipment owned by a legislator but used primarily for a state function, use of photographs of legislators, reasonable use of the Internet except for election campaign purposes, and solicitation and acceptance in state facilities of donations to recognized non-political charitable organizations. Increases the period before and after session during which legislators may use their private office in Juneau for nonlegislative purposes from five days to ten days.

Also adds a number of exceptions to and clarifies the prohibition on use of public assets and resources for certain previously prohibited political uses, including: use of photographs, and support or opposition of constitutional amendments (but not to solicit contributions for a proposed constitutional amendment). Increases the period before and after session during which legislators may use their private office in Juneau for nonlegislative purposes from five days to ten days.

Section 7. Repeals AS 15.13.116(d), the section providing for POET reserve accounts.

Section 8. Transitional provision requiring candidates elected before the effective date of the act to transfer any funds held in a POET reserve account to a POET account before January 1, 2002.

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