

HB

42

HB 42: May be available to testify

Leg. Study Group: Online Campaign Reporting

Available for comments and questions:

√ Holly Hill, Executive Director
Alaska Public Office Commission
276-4176

√ Chris Ellingson, Assistant Director
Alaska Public Office Commission
276-4176

√ Patty Ware, Administrator of Juneau Branch Office
Alaska Public Office Commission
2465-4864

- Rm 104

Potential witnesses:

√ Andy Rogers, Chief Executive Officer
PangoMedia Software Engineers
868-8092

offnet at
888-295-4546

√ Craig Fisher, Software Developer
PangoMedia Software Engineers
868-8092

- Off. LID

Contact: Mike Sica, 465-4965

Revised: Jan. 28, 2009

House Bill 42

APOC Campaign Forms

Leg Study Group:
Online Campaign Reporting

Calendar
Summary
Income
Expenses
Debts

2008 REPORT DUE DATES CANDIDATES AND GROUPS

Anchorage Tuesday, April 1, 2008 Municipal Election

	Report:	Covers:	Due:
Anchorage	February 15 Report	Begin – February 01	Feb. 15, 2008
Anchorage	30 Day Report	February 02 – February 29	March 3
Anchorage	7 Day Report	March 1 – March 22	March 25
Anchorage	24 Hour Reports*	March 23 - March 31	Daily*
Anchorage	Yearend Report	March 23 – Feb. 01	February 15, 2009

State Election Reports

	Report:	Covers:	Due:
8/ 26 Primary	February 15 Report	Begin – February 01	February 15, 2008
	30 Day Report	February 2 – July 25	July 28, 2008
	7 Day Report	July 26 – August 16	August 19, 2008
	24 Hour Reports*	August 17 – August 25	Daily*
	Yearend Report	August 17 – Feb 1	February 15, 2009
11/4 General (+Denali Bor.)	February 15 Report	Begin – February 01	February 15, 2008
	30 Day Report	August 17 – October 3	Oct. 6, 2008
	7 Day Report	October 4 – October 25	Oct. 28, 2008
	24 Hour Reports*	October 26 – November 3	Daily*
	Yearend Report	October 26 – February 01	February 15, 2009

Statewide Tuesday, October 7, 2008 Municipal Elections

	Report:	Covers:	Due:
Municipal	February 15 Report	Begin – February 01	February 15, 2008
Municipal	30 Day Report	February 02 – September 05	Sept. 8
Municipal	7 Day Report	September 06– September 27	Sept. 30
Municipal	24 Hour Reports*	September 28 – October 6	Daily*
Municipal	Yearend Report	September 28 – February 1	February 15, 2009

February 12, 2007 3:30 pm

File this report with:
Alaska Public Offices Commission
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Rm 128
Anchorage, AK 99508-4149
Fax: 907-276-7018
Phone: 907-276-4176 or
1-800-478-4176

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE STATEMENT



COVER PAGE

FOR CANDIDATES AND GROUPS

CANDIDATE/GROUP NAME: _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: _____

OFFICE/RACE: _____ DISTRICT/SEAT: _____

REPORTING PERIOD (From _____ Through _____)

(Please enter beginning and ending dates and check appropriate boxes)

TYPE

ELECTION

REPORT

MUNICIPAL:	<input type="checkbox"/>	MUNICIPAL
	<input type="checkbox"/>	RUNOFF
	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPECIAL

<input type="checkbox"/>	30 DAY REPORT
<input type="checkbox"/>	7 DAY REPORT
<input type="checkbox"/>	YEAR-END REPORT

STATE:	<input type="checkbox"/>	PRIMARY
	<input type="checkbox"/>	GENERAL
	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPECIAL

<input type="checkbox"/>	NO ELECTION
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER

Check below if applicable:

NO ACTIVITY. During the time period above, we received **NO** contributions, made **NO** expenditures, and incurred **NO** debts. Our closing cash on hand is identical to the closing cash on hand disclosed in our last report. If this is the case, file this page only.

FINAL REPORT. We have closed out our campaign account. Our closing cash on hand is zero and we have no outstanding debts.

CERTIFICATION: I, in my capacity as candidate or campaign treasurer, certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this report is true, correct, and complete.

Sign _____ Date _____
(Original signature of candidate or treasurer required)

Print Name _____ Title _____

**CAMPAIGN
INCOME**

- 30 Day Report 7 Day Report Year-End Report
 Municipal Primary General Final

NAME OF CANDIDATE OR GROUP: _____

IMPORTANT –

CHANGE

PLEASE NOTE

CANDIDATES: Report all contributions up to \$50 by Date Received, Check Number, Contributor Name and Address. Report all Contributions in excess of \$50 by Date, Check Number, Contributor Name, Address, Principal Occupation and Employer.

GROUPS: Report all contributions in excess of \$100 by Date Received, Check Number, Contributor Name, Address, Principal Occupation and Employer.

Date Rec'd	Check # Non-Mon Description Loan	Contributor, Address, Zip	Occupation, Employer	Amount this Period
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:
				Annual Total:

TOTAL: \$
Include subtotals from any
Additional Income sheets

ONLY GROUPS REPORT AGGREGATE TOTALS: Number of UNDER \$100:
(INCLUDE THIS TOTAL IN YOUR TOTAL REPORTED INCOME.)

contributors gave

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman

State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman

Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member

Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees

Corrections
Labor and Workforce Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

E-Mail: Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us
"Bob Lynn's Alaska Blog" RepBobLynnBlog.com

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931
Fax: (907) 465-4316
Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

Interim:
716 W. 4th Ave., #650
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone: (907) 269-0205
Fax: (907) 269-0207

Changes from HB 42, Version R, to CS for HB 42(STA), Version E **Legislative Study Group: Online Campaign Reporting**

There was a small change in the bill by adding three words to ensure that the chair of the Legislative Study Group is a legislative member.

The CS for HB 42(STA), Version E, on page 2, line 13:

Following the words, "(b) The chair of the study group shall be," adds the words "a legislative member."

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 42(STA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE LYNN

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing the Legislative Study Group on the Establishment of an Immediate**
2 **Online Political Campaign Reporting System; and directing the study group to prepare**
3 **a report on the possibility of creating an immediate online state political campaign**
4 **reporting system."**

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 *** Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
7 to read:

8 LEGISLATIVE STUDY GROUP ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
9 IMMEDIATE ONLINE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN REPORTING SYSTEM. (a) The
10 Legislative Study Group on the Establishment of an Immediate Online Political Campaign
11 Reporting System is established in the legislative branch of state government. The study
12 group consists of nine voting members as follows:

13 (1) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of
14 the house of representatives;

1 (2) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the minority
2 leader of the house of representatives;

3 (3) one member from the senate appointed by the president of the senate;

4 (4) one member from the senate appointed by the minority leader of the
5 senate;

6 (5) the executive director of the Alaska Public Offices Commission or the
7 executive director's designee;

8 (6) one member who has expertise and training directly related to online
9 banking technologies, appointed by the governor;

10 (7) one member from a banking entity who has expertise related to Alaska
11 financial organizations, appointed by the governor; and

12 (8) two public members appointed by the governor.

13 (b) The chair of the study group shall be a legislative member selected by a majority
14 vote of the members of the study group. The staff of the members who are legislators shall
15 serve as staff to the study group.

16 (c) A majority of the study group constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business
17 and is necessary for any action taken by the study group.

18 (d) The study group established under (a) of this section

19 (1) may begin work immediately on the appointment of its full membership;

20 (2) shall hold public hearings and may perform research related to its work;

21 (3) shall give public notice of all meetings of the study group and ensure that
22 all meetings are open to the public;

23 (4) may meet in the interim and may meet telephonically;

24 (5) shall submit a written interim report of the study group's progress to the
25 State Affairs committees of the house of representatives and the senate by January 19, 2010;
26 and

27 (6) shall submit the full written report of its findings and recommendations to
28 the State Affairs committees of the house of representatives and senate on or before
29 February 1, 2011; the committees shall hold one or more public hearings to receive testimony;
30 the hearings may be joint hearings.

31 (e) The study group shall prepare a report that

1 (1) reviews how the technologies employed in existing online banking systems
2 that are used by individuals and businesses to monitor financial transactions, check account
3 balances, and transfer funds might be used for state political campaign reporting; and

4 (2) contains policy recommendations regarding how technologies employed in
5 online banking might be used by the Alaska Public Offices Commission or a financial
6 institution retained by the Alaska Public Offices Commission to make reports of contributions
7 to, expenditures of, and services supplied to state political campaigns immediately accessible
8 to the public online.

9 (f) Members of the study group are entitled to transportation expenses and per diem
10 allowances provided by law.

11 (g) The Legislative Study Group on the Establishment of an Immediate Online
12 Political Campaign Reporting System is terminated on February 8, 2011.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 42
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): HB42-LEG-COU-2-2-09 Dept. Affected: Legislature
 Title: "An act establishing a Legislative Study Group on the RDU: Legislative Council
Establishment of an Immediate Online Political Campaign..." Component: Council and Subcommittees
 Sponsor: Representative Bob Lynn
 Requester: House State Affairs Component Number: 783

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services							
Travel	4.0		4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual							
Supplies							
Equipment							
Land & Structures							
Grants & Claims							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

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

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB42 establishes a nine member study group re: The establishment of an Immediate Online Political Campaign Reporting System. The Presiding Officers and Minority Leaders of each house will appoint four Legislators, and the Governor will appoint four public members, two of these members shall have expertise in banking. The Executive Director of APOC or their designee will also serve on the study group. It is anticipated that the study group will meet two times in person, once when they are established and once prior to submitting a final report to the State Affairs Committees, which is due by February 1, 2011. All other meetings of the study group will be by teleconference. The final report will contain policy recommendations re: how technologies employed in online banking might be used to make contributions and expenditures of state political campaigns immediately accessible to the public online.

Prepared by: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director Phone 465-6626
 Division: Legislative Affairs Agency Date/Time: 2/2/09 4:08 PM
 Approved by: Pamela Varni, Executive Director Date: 2/2/2009
Legislative Affairs Agency

(Revised 9/10/2008 OMB)

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB42

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

The staff of the members who are Legislators shall serve as staff to the study group.

Travel costs for the Legislative Members of the study group are estimated to be \$ 3.0 per meeting which will be absorbed within existing Legislative budgets. Travel costs for the APOC Director will be absorbed within Executive Branch budgets. Travel costs for the public members are estimated to be \$ 4.0 per meeting and these costs are included in this fiscal note.

The costs for teleconferencing meetings and for printing the report will be absorbed by the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Page _ of _

House Bill 42

Legislative Study Group:
Online Campaign Reporting

Sponsored by Rep. Bob Lynn

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member
Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Corrections
Labor and Workforce Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

E-Mail: Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us
"Bob Lynn's Alaska Blog" RepBobLynnBlog.com

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931
Fax: (907) 465-4316
Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

Interim:
716 W. 4th Ave., #650
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone: (907) 269-0205
Fax: (907) 269-0207

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 42: Leg Group Study: Online Campaign Reporting

This bill attempts to bring campaign finance reporting into the 21st Century by investigating whether the latest on-line banking technologies can be applied to campaign disclosures. A system that allows on-line public reports and transactions to be available to the public – immediately – would help maintain and build the public trust.

HB 42 establishes a legislative study group to prepare a report on the feasibility of an immediate online state political campaign reporting system, and consider recommendations for further legislation.

Under HB 42, the study group consists of nine voting members:

- one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Speaker.
- one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Minority Leader.
- one member of the Senate appointed by the Senate President.
- one member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader.
- the Executive Director of the Alaska Public Offices Commission or the executive director's designee.
- an expert in online banking technologies, appointed by the Governor.
- a representative of the banking industry, appointed by the Governor.
- two public members appointed by the Governor.

The legislative study group will investigate adapting and adopting technologies employed in online banking to the reporting of political contributions, expenditures and services supplied to state political campaigns.

The group shall submit written reports on its progress, findings and recommendations to the State Affairs committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate within two years

Contact: Mike Sica, 465-4965

Revised: Jan. 28, 2009

House Bill 42

Research and Background

Leg Study Group:
Online Campaign Reporting

Legislative Research Report Summary

Rep. Bob Lynn APOC Filings

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH REPORT

NOVEMBER 24, 2008



REPORT NUMBER 09.048

ONLINE CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

PREPARED FOR REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN

BY CHUCK BURNHAM, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

You asked about electronic campaign finance disclosure systems. Specifically, you wanted to know whether any states have an "online banking and reporting system." That is, a system that allows the public to view contributions received and expenditures made as those transactions are executed through the financial institutions in which campaign accounts are held.

Our research located no state that allows "real-time" public access to the financial transactions of campaigns.¹ Most states, including Alaska, operate on a scheduled financial disclosure regime whereby reports are due on specific dates. At least one state—Oregon—operates on a "transaction-based" system and a number of other states have reporting requirements that are triggered by contributions and/or expenditures above a specified dollar amount. Often such transaction-based triggers become effective in the days or weeks just prior to an election.

OREGON'S TRANSACTION-BASED DISCLOSURE SYSTEM

Oregon represents an exception to the near universal schedule-based campaign finance disclosure employed in other states. In 2005, Oregon enacted a transaction-based system that requires most contributions and expenditures to be reported within thirty days of the date of an applicable transaction.² In addition, contributions or expenditures within six weeks of an election must be reported within seven days. Reports are filed online through the website of the Secretary

¹ Particularly helpful in our research were the staff and research of the Campaign Disclosure Project—a joint effort of the University of California Los Angeles School of Law, the Center for Governmental Studies, and the California Voter Foundation (<http://www.campaigndisclosure.org>). The project has published a model campaign finance law, which we include as Attachment A. Although the model law does not contain the real-time reporting elements that you envision, it may be useful to you as an example of the disclosure regime certain campaign finance experts would like to see states enact.

² Oregon's unique system was brought to our attention by Kim Alexander, president and founder of the California Voter Foundation, which describes itself as a "nonprofit, nonpartisan organization promoting and applying the responsible use of technology to improve the democratic process." Ms. Alexander can be reached at (916) 441-2494.

of State on standardized electronic forms and are made public immediately following their submittal.³

According to Oregon Director of Elections, John Lindback, his agency faced a number of challenges as it advocated for what represented a major change in the state's financial disclosure system, which, prior to 2005, did not even include electronic reporting capabilities. Mr. Lindback identifies the following challenges—and positive outcomes to those challenges—that campaign finance disclosure reform has produced in Oregon as follows:

- ◆ **Resistance from the legislature**—In 2005, the Oregon Legislature was in the wake of what Mr. Lindback identifies as an “embarrassing” corruption scandal involving a legislator’s improper use of campaign funds for personal use. The following legislative session saw wide support for reform through a major ethics bill and an overhaul of the financial disclosure. Nonetheless, substantial opposition to elements of HB 3458 resulted in a number of changes to the original bill, including an increase in reporting timeframes from seven to thirty days.

Outcome—The switch from a seven-day reporting requirement to one of thirty-days was a political compromise that was necessary to garner enough support to pass the legislation. Mr. Lindback stated that the thirty-day period has actually worked quite well and seems to enjoy support among most of the system’s users.

- ◆ **Steep learning curve for division staff and end-users**—The change from a schedule-based to a transaction-based system required a complete overhaul of technical capabilities at significant cost to the state. In addition, staff had to learn new technical skills and have become multi-tasking regulators/help desk attendants as end-users seek assistance with the new system.

Outcome—The division regularly holds training sessions for staff, campaign committees, the news media, and the public. Director Lindback believes strongly that such training is a vital component of switching to a transaction-based reporting system. Although the duties of the elections division staff have changed, Mr. Lindback feels that the new system provides a more even workload than schedule-based reporting, which tend to have a “feast or famine” character, with workloads increasing dramatically around reporting dates then tapering off to very low levels in other parts of the year.

- ◆ **Technical issues can cause candidates to run afoul of the law**—Inevitable technical glitches and computer system outages can cause financial disclosure reports to be late, thereby forcing campaign committees into technical violation of campaign finance laws.

Outcome—Oregon law provides the elections division with a certain degree of latitude to consider mitigating circumstances when reports are late. Also, when the system initially came online the director instituted an informal (and

³ We include relevant excerpts of the Oregon *Campaign Finance Manual* and of Oregon HB 3458 (2005), the legislation that authorized the system, as Attachment B. Provisions regarding timing and manner of electronic disclosure filings are contained in Section 14 of the Oregon bill (pp. 6-7).

unannounced) six month "amnesty period," which allowed flexibility for the division and end users as technical issues were worked out and campaign committees became familiar with the system.⁴

COMPONENTS OF TRANSACTION-BASED DISCLOSURE IN OTHER STATES

There are a number of states that have transaction-based elements within their scheduled disclosure regimes. Most commonly, such requirements are triggered when a certain contribution or expenditure threshold is reached within a specified time-frame immediately prior to an election. In Alaska, for example, pursuant to AS § 15.13.110, campaign committees are required to report within twenty-four hours any contributions exceeding \$250 that occur within nine days of an election.

A number of other states have multiple triggers for transaction-based report requirements. California, for example, has the following requirements:

- ◆ Campaign committees are to report within twenty-four hours any contributions of \$1,000 or more received from a single source if the election is scheduled to occur in fewer than ninety days.
- ◆ "In kind" contributions, and "independent expenditures" made on behalf of a candidate or ballot question, of \$1,000 or more must be reported within twenty-four hours if those transactions occur within fourteen days of the election.⁵
- ◆ An "issue advocacy report" must be filed within forty-eight hours if a payment or promise of a payment of \$50,000 or more is made during the forty-five days prior to an election for a communication that clearly identifies a state candidate being voted on in the election but does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of the candidate.⁶

Michigan also has certain transaction-based reporting requirements within its larger schedule-based system as follows:

- ◆ Campaign committees must file "late contribution reports" within forty-eight hours for any single contribution of \$200 or more that is received between fifteen and three days prior to an election.
- ◆ In the two weeks prior to an election, caucus committees are required to report within twenty-four hours any contribution received or expenditure made of over \$1,000.⁷

⁴ Personal communication with John Lindback, (503) 986-2339.

⁵ As you may know, "in-kind" contributions are donations of time or goods rather than cash. In Oregon, "independent expenditures" are those made for a communication in support of or opposition to a clearly identified candidate or measure without the cooperation, prior consent of, in consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of a campaign committee.

⁶ We include a table showing California's financial disclosure schedule for the November 4, 2008, election as Attachment C. Additional information is available through the website of the California Secretary of State at <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.html?id=491>.

⁷ We include an excerpt related to Immediate Disclosure Reports from the Michigan Candidate Committee Manual as Attachment D. Additional information is available on the website of the Michigan Secretary of State at <http://www.michigan.gov/sos>.

OPINIONS OF SELECTED EXPERTS ON "INSTANT DISCLOSURE"

We discussed the instant disclosure model you proposed with three experts in the field of campaign finance disclosure reporting systems. Kim Alexander and Will Barrett are the respective president/founder and program manager for the California Voter Foundation. Robert Stern is the president of the Center for Governmental Studies.⁸ We asked all three to identify potential drawbacks or challenges that an instant disclosure system might face. Kim Alexander and Will Barrett composed the following joint response:

One potential drawback of establishing ongoing disclosure with no regular reporting periods could be the lack of summary information benchmarks. With regular reporting periods, it is easier for the public and the media to compare and contrast the totals raised and spent by each candidate. Oregon's system addresses this with an option that summarizes the financial activities for the committee during a calendar year, including the totals received and given, the committee cash balance, and overall financial status.

The lack of periodic reporting deadlines could also be a drawback in that the press may not be as active in reporting campaign finances if there is no set reporting date to look forward to and prepare to cover. The release of regular disclosure reports can act as a hook for the media to report what candidates are receiving. One way to address the lack of a news hook is that the disclosure agency could be required by law to produce periodic summary reports showing basic information on the totals raised and spent by political committees. Alaska already produces summaries of candidate financial activity and disclosure reform legislation could include a provision that mandates this practice to ensure it continues with a shift to ongoing reporting. These summary reports provide important contextual information to the public.

On the issue of gaming the system [here the respondents are referring to the practice of candidates strategically withholding information or making false deposits/expenditures for political purposes], campaign field audits could also be included to ensure that candidates and committees aren't gaming the system. Currently, Alaska requires desk reviews of campaign reports but doesn't require field audits of campaign records. A stricter review process could help alleviate concerns of questionable filings.

Ms. Alexander further emphasized that any disclosure system should include provisions stating that the "clock" on reporting deadlines starts on the day contributions are received. Her view is informed by an episode in California in which a candidate tried to outflank the reporting system by receiving undated checks and other such chicanery.

Mr. Stern provided the following comments:

⁸ Mr. Stern can be reached at (310) 470-6590, ext. 117. According to the Center for Governmental Studies website, the non-profit organization "uses research, advocacy, technology and education to improve the fairness of governmental policies and processes, empower the underserved, improve communication between voters and candidates for office and help implement public policy reforms." More information on the organization is available at <http://www.cgs.org/>.

I was part of a task force set up by the California Secretary of State to examine disclosure issues. The one part that was vehemently opposed by campaign treasurers and campaign attorneys centered on instant disclosure. They said it would drive them out of business since they couldn't guarantee that their staffs could report every transaction each day. I am not sure I agree with them, but I wanted to let you know how strongly they felt about this.

I think a compromise is disclosure of large contributions (\$1,000 or more) within 24 hours. This gives the public necessary information but doesn't burden the filers as much as full disclosure.

California requires electronic filing of \$5,000 contributions within 10 business days except for the 90 days before the election when the threshold drops to \$1,000 and within 24 hours. It has worked well.

RESPONSE OF JOHN LINDBACK

We discussed with Director Lindback a number of the issues raised by the three experts with whom we spoke. Those *issues* and Mr. Lindback's responses are as follows:

Transaction-based disclosures may not be as heavily scrutinized by the public or news media as are scheduled reports.

Oregon's experience has been the opposite—its reporting system has brought about an increase in scrutiny of financial disclosures by the media and general public, according to Mr. Lindback. He notes, however, that these increases are almost certainly due to increased functionality in the system's electronic public interface tools rather than the changes in the reporting regime *per se*. The new system provides numerous online search features and extensive database tools for sorting information.

Field audits may be necessary to ensure the accuracy of disclosures.

Mr. Lindback does not have sufficient manpower to conduct field audits. Instead, the Oregon elections division is authorized by law to conduct random spot-checks of up to eight transactions per campaign committee during an election cycle. The director believes that these checks are effective in motivating campaigns to provide accurate disclosure and has not necessitated his hiring additional staff to conduct the checks.

Changes to the campaign finance disclosure system in Alaska will likely be resisted by campaign committees and others.

Director Lindback agrees with the experts we consulted on this point. As we mentioned, his organization met significant resistance in reforming Oregon's system. Mr. Lindback added that such opposition was one of the more difficult and "stressful" aspects of making changes to the state's disclosure regime, and that a number of the system's users continue to resist those changes.

I hope you find this information to be useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or need additional information.

Alaska Public Offices Commission

State of Alaska > Departments > Administration > APOC > APOC-IQ > List Report Activity

All Reports

filed by LYNN, BOB

Published Reports Shown



Reports filed with the APOC are generally published within 5 business days of a report due date, when all report detail has been entered and verified, or in the case of electronic filings, when all reports for candidates for the same office in an election have been entered and verified. Letters of Intent, Registrations, Exemptions and 24-Hour Reports are published as soon as the data is entered and verified. See [About Campaign Disclosure Reports](#) for more information.

[Display Summaries](#)

Select Election to List All Reports Filed, or Report to View Content

Election:	Report:	Due:*	Starting:	Ending:	Filed:	Status:	Published:
2002 State Primary	REGISTRATION	05/28/2002			05/13/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/29/2002	01/01/2002	07/26/2002	07/29/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/29/2002	01/01/2002	07/26/2002	08/19/2002	Amendment	Yes
2002 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/29/2002	01/01/2002	07/26/2002	09/05/2002	Amendment	Yes
2002 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/20/2002	07/27/2002	08/17/2002	08/19/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/20/2002	07/27/2002	08/17/2002	09/05/2002	Amendment	Yes
2002 State Primary	10-DAY REPORT	09/06/2002	08/18/2002	09/03/2002	09/05/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State General	30-DAY REPORT	10/07/2002	09/04/2002	10/04/2002	10/07/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/29/2002	10/05/2002	10/26/2002	10/28/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/29/2002	10/05/2002	10/26/2002	12/31/2002	Amendment	Yes
2002 State General	10-DAY REPORT	11/15/2002	10/27/2002	11/12/2002	11/15/2002	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State General	10-DAY REPORT	11/15/2002	10/27/2002	11/12/2002	12/31/2002	Amendment	Yes
2002 State General	YEAR-END REPORT	02/15/2003	11/13/2002	02/01/2006	02/11/2003	Filed On Time	Yes
2002 State General	CLOSE-OUT REPORT	02/15/2004 +2	01/01/2003	02/01/2004	09/22/2003	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State Primary	REGISTRATION	05/06/2003			12/31/2003	Filed	Yes
2004 State Primary	YEAR-START REPORT	02/15/2004 +2	01/01/2003	02/01/2004	02/17/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/26/2004	02/02/2004	07/23/2004	07/26/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/17/2004	07/24/2004	08/14/2004	08/17/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/17/2004	07/24/2004	08/14/2004	08/18/2004	Amendment	Yes
2004 State General	30-DAY REPORT	10/04/2004	08/15/2004	10/01/2004	10/03/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/26/2004	10/02/2004	10/23/2004	10/26/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/26/2004	10/02/2004	10/23/2004	01/31/2005	Amendment	Yes
2004 State General	24-HOUR REPORT	11/02/2004			11/02/2004	Filed On Time	Yes
2004 State General	YEAR-END REPORT	02/15/2005	10/24/2004	02/01/2005	02/04/2005	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State Primary	REGISTRATION	05/03/2005			04/18/2005	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State Primary	YEAR-START REPORT	02/15/2006	05/07/2005	02/01/2006	02/13/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/24/2006	02/02/2006	07/21/2006	07/24/2006	Filed On Time	Yes

2006 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/15/2006	07/22/2006	08/12/2006	08/13/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State Primary	24-HOUR REPORT	08/19/2006			08/18/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State General	30-DAY REPORT	10/09/2006 +1	08/13/2006	10/06/2006	10/07/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/31/2006	10/07/2006	10/28/2006	10/31/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State General	24-HOUR REPORT	11/01/2006			10/31/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State General	24-HOUR REPORT	11/05/2006			11/05/2006	Filed On Time	Yes
2006 State General	YEAR-END REPORT	02/15/2007	10/29/2006	02/01/2007	02/09/2007	Filed On Time	Yes
2008 State Primary	YEAR-START REPORT	02/15/2008	05/04/2007	02/01/2008	02/15/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
2008 State Primary	30-DAY REPORT	07/28/2008	02/02/2008	07/25/2008	07/28/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
2008 State Primary	7-DAY REPORT	08/19/2008	07/26/2008	08/16/2008	08/19/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
2008 State General	30-DAY REPORT	10/06/2008	08/17/2008	10/03/2008	10/06/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
2008 State General	7-DAY REPORT	10/28/2008	10/04/2008	10/25/2008	10/28/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
Individual Contributions	(Contributions reported by individuals at any time)						

*Reports that are due on a State holiday are not considered late if filed by the next business day.

Microsoft SQL Server Production Node READY - Last Update: 01/26/2009 - Public Access
 Preferences: CSS=apoc, LINKS=image, PAGESIZE=20

State of Alaska Home About APOC-IQ Legislative Ethics Committee State of Alaska Division of Elections Webmaster
 Version 2.3.55 Build 05/29/2007 10:18:52

Alaska Public Offices Commission

State of Alaska > Departments > Administration > APOC > APOC-IQ > List Reports

2008 State Primary Reports

filed by LYNN, BOB



Reports filed with the APOC are generally published within 5 business days of a report due date, when all report detail has been entered and verified, or in the case of electronic filings, when all reports for candidates for the same office in an election have been entered and verified. Letters of Intent, Registrations, Exemptions and 24-Hour Reports are published as soon as the data is entered and verified. See [About Campaign Disclosure Reports](#) for more information.

[Display 2008 State Primary Summaries](#)

Select Report to View Content

Report:	Due:*	Starting:	Ending:	Filed:	Status:	Published:
YEAR-START REPORT	02/15/2008	05/04/2007	02/01/2008	02/15/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
30-DAY REPORT	07/28/2008	02/02/2008	07/25/2008	07/28/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
7-DAY REPORT	08/19/2008	07/26/2008	08/16/2008	08/19/2008	Filed On Time	Yes
Individual Contributions	(Contributions reported by individuals at any time)					

*Reports that are due on a State holiday are not considered late if filed by the next business day.

Microsoft SQL Server Production Node READY - Last Update: 01/26/2009 - Public Access

Preferences: CSS=apoc, LINKS=image, PAGESIZE=20

[State of Alaska Home](#) [About APOC-IQ](#) [Legislative Ethics Committee](#) [State of Alaska Division of Elections](#) [Webmaster](#)
 Version 2.3.55 Build 05/29/2007 10:18:52

Alaska Public Offices Commission

State of Alaska > Departments > Administration > APOC > APOC:IQ > Get Report Content

2008 State Primary 30-DAY REPORT
filed July 28, 2008
by LYNN, BOB
(Candidate)

Covering Period From 02/02/2008 through 07/25/2008



Reports filed with the APOC are generally published within 5 business days of a report due date, when all report detail has been entered and verified, or in the case of electronic filings, when all reports for candidates for the same office in an election have been entered and verified. Letters of Intent, Registrations, Exemptions and 24-Hour Reports are published as soon as the data is entered and verified. See [About Campaign Disclosure Reports](#) for more information.

Select Type of Content:

[Campaign Disclosure](#) (1 transaction)

[Summary](#) (1 transaction)

[Income](#) (4 transactions)

[Expenses](#) (8 transactions)

[No Debts Transactions](#)

Microsoft SQL Server Production Node READY - Last Update: 01/26/2009 - Public Access

Preferences: CSS=apoc, LINKS=image, PAGESIZE=20

[State of Alaska Home](#) [About APOC-IQ](#) [Legislative Ethics Committee](#) [State of Alaska Division of Elections](#) [Webmaster](#)
Version 2.3.55 Build 05/29/2007 10:18:52

House Bill 42
News Reports, Articles, Etc.

Leg Study Group:
Online Campaign Reporting

ADN Compass by Rep. Bob Lynn, 01/11/09

Online campaign reporting offers instant exposure

COMPASS: Other points of view

By REP. BOB LYNN

(01/11/09 21:35:58)

It's past time to bring political campaign disclosure into the 21st century. Instant transparency is needed. That's why I'll be filing legislation in January to establish an On-Line Campaign Banking and Reporting System that will make campaign contributions and expenditures visible to the world in real time.

The current system presents campaign finance snapshots, accurate only for the dates of the reports. This invites "game playing" by allowing candidates to "hide" information from opponents and the public for as long as possible.

Large contributions from controversial people or Political Action Committees can be deposited after a report due date to delay political repercussions. Likewise, candidates can delay large media buys until after a report due date, thereby keeping opponents in the dark about an oncoming television onslaught. Another tactic employed by some candidates is to scribble campaign reports, and mail them to the state before midnight on the due date. The report to the state would be "on time," but late for transcription to the Internet for the general public.

Campaign reporting games can affect the outcome of elections. Such games can significantly hinder Alaskans from getting the campaign transparency they deserve in a timely manner -- which is the purpose of campaign disclosures. The advent of "early voting" makes this especially important.

The current problem is fixable. I'm filing legislation for an Internet online campaign reporting system similar to the personal online banking systems we use in our private lives.

With campaign online banking, anyone in the world could see campaign disclosure on the Internet, without a password. Campaign contributions would show up on the Internet immediately when deposited. Campaign expenditures (say for signs) would be displayed on the Internet as soon as campaign checks are cashed. Campaign account balances would be up-to-date instantly for the world to see.

This system would benefit everybody involved in the campaign process, from voters to candidates to state agencies.

There are several ways to implement online campaign banking. There could be a bid from Alaska banks to perform the service for a fee to be paid by the state, or by the candidate, or shared between a candidate and the state.

Or an arrangement could be made for needed software to be made available to an Alaska bank of the candidate's choosing. Banks already do online banking, so this shouldn't be a major problem.

Likewise online reporting will need to display names, addresses, and occupations of campaign contributors, and recipients of campaign expenditures. If computer gurus can develop software that guides objects to distant planets, they can figure out how to do this. If there's a will, there's a way.

Our Legislative Research people tell me Alaska would be first in the nation to adopt instant reporting. Transparency through campaign disclosure is good. Instant transparency through online reporting is better. Let's lead the way!

Bob Lynn is a Republican state representative from Anchorage.

Copyright © Thu Jan 29 08:52:43 UTC-0900 20091900 The Anchorage Daily News (www.adn.com)

HB 42: May be available to testify

Leg. Study Group: Online Campaign Reporting

Available for comments and questions:

Holly Hill, Executive Director
Alaska Public Office Commission
276-4176

Chris Ellingson, Assistant Director
Alaska Public Office Commission
276-4176

Patty Ware, Administrator of Juneau Branch Office
Alaska Public Office Commission
2465-4864

Potential witnesses:

Joe Beedle, Vice President
Northrim Bank
261-3302

Andy Rogers, Chief Executive Officer
PangoMedia Software Engineers
868-8092

Contact: Mike Sica, 465-4965

Revised: Jan. 28, 2009