

HB

74

<TARGET><BILL>HB 74</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
74</SUBJECT><COMM>HFIN27</COMM></TARGET>

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
Bill Version CS HB74 (STA)
() Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) HB074CS(STA)-OOG-DOE-3-7-11 Dept. Affected Office of the Governor
Title "An Act relating to election pamphlets..." Appropriation Elections
Allocation Elections
Sponsor Representative Gruenberg
Requester House State Affairs Committee OMB Component Number 21

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	44.9		53.5	44.9	53.5	44.9	53.5	
Travel								
Services			214.2		214.2		214.2	
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	44.9	0.0	267.7	44.9	267.7	44.9	267.7	

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

1002 Federal Receipts	14.2		14.5	14.2	14.5	14.2	14.5
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	30.7		253.2	30.7	253.2	30.7	253.2
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
TOTAL	44.9	0.0	267.7	44.9	267.7	44.9	267.7

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary	3.0		3	3	3	3	3

This fiscal note corrects the appropriation information to indicate that an appropriation and three temporary employees is required in FY12.

Prepared by Gail Fenumiai, Director
Division Division of Elections
Approved by Linda J. Perez, Administrative Director
Administrative Services

Phone 465-2644
Date/Time 3/7/2011, 9:32am
Date 3/7/2011

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CS HB74(STA)

Currently, the primary election pamphlet only contains basic voter information and information related to ballot measures. The division will incur additional costs associated with publishing a primary election pamphlet that will now include candidate photographs, biographies and statements.

The personal services costs are reflective of the amount required to hire one current on-year election temporary employee earlier than in previous election years and an additional three on-year election temporary employees for a seven month period. One employee will be dedicated to assist with Yup'ik translations and will be paid for with federal Help America Vote Act funds.

The services costs are reflective of the amount required for preparing and publishing the candidate pages in the primary pamphlet and increased mailing costs due to the change in pamphlet size.

Member

Standing Committees:

Judiciary
Rules
State Affairs
Transportation

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

House District 20

Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Floor Leader

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House Bill 74: Information on Matters in Election Pamphlet Sponsor Statement

This bill increases the amount of information available to the voter during primary, general and special elections through the Official Election Pamphlet (OEP). In addition, it increases the amount of information available to legislators during deliberations on general obligation bonds.

The current primary election OEP contains only information regarding ballot propositions and other information on voting procedures the lieutenant governor considers necessary. This bill would allow for the inclusion of maps of the house districts, sample ballots, absentee applications, information on bonding authorizations, and changes to a given precinct in addition to the information already in statute. Additionally, the bill would allow for candidate statements in the primary election OEP.

Currently there are no candidate statements provided in the OEP for a primary election. However, according to a Legislative Research Services report, roughly 40 percent of State House and Senate elections are effectively decided through the primary election process. This bill would allow candidates to submit photographs and statements for the primary election. Additionally, the candidates who win the primary would be allowed to submit a new statement for inclusion in the OEP for the general election. The candidates appearing in both the primary and the general OEPs would need to pay separately for each inclusion.

There is currently no requirement that the matters in the OEP be accessible online. This bill mandates that all information found in the OEP be made available on the Division of Elections' website no later than when the OEP is mailed to registered voters.

General obligation bonds have a great impact on the fiscal condition of the state. Section 8 of this bill would provide additional information to legislators about the current and proposed indebtedness of the state whenever a G.O. bond package is brought up before the legislature for referral to the voters. The voters would also receive the same information.

Passage of this bill would greatly increase the amount of information available to voters during elections and enhance the legislature's understanding of proposed G.O. bond packages. >

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
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MEMORANDUM

March 28, 2011

SUBJECT: Sectional summary of CSHB 74(STA)
Work Order No. 27-LS0008(S)

TO: Representative Max Gruenberg
Attn: Ted Madsen

FROM: Alpheus Bullard *AB*
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. Provides that the lieutenant governor must prepare, publish, and mail an election pamphlet to each household, identified from the official registration list, before each state primary, general, or special election (at present the lieutenant governor is required to prepare, publish, and mail at least one election pamphlet to each household identified from the Division of Election's voter registration list before a general election or before a special election at which a ballot proposition is scheduled to appear on the ballot).

Section 2. Requires that the general election pamphlet include a notice, prepared by the state bonding committee, that contains information relating to the bonded indebtedness of the state and each bond issue that will be offered for ratification on the ballot.

Section 3. Requires certain information to be included in each primary or special election pamphlet.

Section 4. Permits a candidate in a primary or special election to file a photograph and statement advocating the person's candidacy for inclusion in the primary election pamphlet. A candidate whose photo and statement appeared in the primary election pamphlet may file a different photo and statement for inclusion in the general election pamphlet.

Section 5. Adds candidates who file a photo and statement to appear in a state primary or special election pamphlet, and candidates who participated in a primary election and who are filing a different photograph and statement for inclusion in the general election pamphlet, to the list of persons who must pay a fee to the lieutenant governor when filing material under AS 15.58.

Section 6. Provides that the lieutenant governor shall mail an election pamphlet to each household identified from the official registration list not less than 22 days before each primary or general election. The pamphlet for a special election must be mailed as soon as practicable before the election.

Section 7. Requires the Division of Elections to publish all information contained in an election pamphlet on the division's Internet website not later than the date the pamphlet is mailed to registered voters.

Section 8. Requires a legislative bill that authorizes the issuance of state general obligation bonds to be accompanied by a statement containing certain information relating to the state's bonded indebtedness and the proposed bonding before the bill can be referred to the rules committee of either body of the state legislature.

Section 9. Requires the Department of Revenue to publish its annual debt affordability analysis report on the department's Internet website.

Section 10. Clarifies that the annual income statement and balance sheet of the Alaska Permanent Fund prepared by the Board of Trustees of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation will appear in the general election pamphlet.

Section 11. Requires the state bond committee to prepare a notice relating to the state's bonded indebtedness and the proposed bonding before any election at which a bond is offered for ratification. In addition to publishing the notice in newspapers of general circulation, the bill requires the notice to be included on the state Internet website as soon as it is prepared by the state bond committee.

Section 12. Repeals AS 15.13.040(b). This section required the director of the Division of Elections to prepare, issue, and make available with each sample ballot (1) for a special election certain information about bond issues and (2) when a ballot proposition is submitted to the voters at a special or primary election, certain information relating to that proposition. Under secs. 2 and 3 of the bill, this information is provided in the election pamphlet for both primary and special elections.

Section 13. Provides an effective date of January 1, 2012.

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Rules
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House Bill 74: Information on Matters in Election Pamphlet Explanation of Changes

There are a few changes between HB 74 (27-LS0008\T) and CS for HB74 (STA) (27-LS0008\S). The "S" version contains the following changes:

- Deletes the phrase "at least" from page 1 line 11. This correction allows AS 15.48.010 to conform to AS 15.58.080(a).
- The date for submission of material for the general election pamphlet is the day following the primary election (page 3 lines 26-29 of \S) rather than July 22 (page 3 lines 23-24 of \T).
- The date for submission of material for the primary election pamphlet is the day following the filing deadline for a declaration of candidacy (page 3 lines 24-26 of \S) rather than June 1 (page 3 lines 29-30 of \T).
- The date for submission of material for a special election has been clarified to be a date set by the lieutenant governor (page 4 lines 2-4\S).
- In **Section 6** changed the requirement of sending one copy of the OEP to each registered voter to sending one copy to each household (page 4 lines 17-19\S).
- New **Section 9** requires that the report on state public debt created under AS 37.07.045 be published on the state website. (page 5 lines 12-15 of \S)
- The word "**primary**" was deleted from **Section 10** (now **Section 11**) on page 5 line 28 of the "T" version (now page 6 line 5 of \S).
- The phrase "**and other**" was deleted from **Section 10** (page 6 line 5 of \T) now **Section 11** (page 6 line 13 of \S).
- A new paragraph (7) was added to **Section 11** of the "S" version to include a reference to, and internet address of, the public debt report which is provided for in AS 37.07.045 (page 6 lines 28-30 to page 7 line 1 of \S).



LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICES

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Memorandum

TO: Representative Max Gruenberg
FROM: Chuck Burnham, Legislative Analyst
DATE: December 23, 2010
RE: Competition in Alaska Legislative Elections
LRS Report 11.082

You asked us to examine vote returns for legislative elections to determine in which districts the race is effectively decided in the primary because one political party consistently dominates the general election. You were also interested to know the level of competition that exists in the primaries for those districts.

For the purposes of this report, we deem a legislative primary or general election to be uncompetitive if the winner garners at least 65 percent of the vote. We consider districts to be currently uncompetitive if the winner is from one political party and has gained at least 65 percent of votes over at least four of the last five elections cycles, or since the 2000 election.¹ Although these measures are, admittedly, somewhat arbitrary, we believe that deeming districts where one party has consistently enjoyed a nearly two-to-one vote advantage in recent elections to be uncompetitive is a conservative standard. That is, only the least competitive districts will meet this definition.²

Overall, our research indicates that legislative elections in Alaska are not typically very competitive affairs. Since 1992, at least 53 of the state's 60 legislative districts have seen elections in which the winner received greater than 65 percent of the vote. Although seven of those districts have had only one such uncompetitive election, 21 have experienced uncompetitive elections in at least 5 of the 10 election cycles since 1992. All told, of the roughly 500 district elections since 1992, at least 220, or 44 percent, were uncompetitive by our standard, including 130 of the 250 (52 percent) such elections since 2000. Of the 220 uncompetitive general elections we identified, the winner of 106 ran unopposed.

Using our strict definition of non-competitive districts, we conclude that recent general elections in 25 districts have been locks for either Democrats (7 House, 1 Senate) or Republicans (14 House, 3 Senate). In the elections that we reviewed, 2010 was the least competitive, with winners in 31 of 50 races receiving at least 65 percent of the vote. Table 1 summarizes results of uncompetitive legislative elections in Alaska since 1992 by party and district.

Given the recent partisan domination of general elections, it seems logical to assume that in legislative elections primaries are where the competition lies. Our research clearly indicates that this is not precisely true in Alaska. We analyzed primary results for the 220 winners of uncompetitive general elections since 1992 and found that in 189 races, or about 86 percent, the winning candidate received at least 65 percent of the vote. However, to say that each of these candidates "won" their respective primaries is a bit of a misnomer—in 153 of the 189 uncompetitive primaries, the winner ran unopposed. In 71 of the 220 uncompetitive races we identified, the ultimate winner faced no opponent in either the primary or the general election. Table 2 shows the districts, winners and their political party affiliation, the percent of votes earned in both the primary and general elections, and indicates where races were unopposed, for each uncompetitive legislative race in Alaska since 1992.³

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.

¹ It is important to note that we did not consider the impact of redistricting following the 2000 Census in this report. Those impacts, for certain districts, were likely substantial. As such, this report is best viewed in terms of the general and recent trend of the level of competition in Alaska legislative elections.

² This standard is a strict one, which we readily admit excludes several districts where the political affiliation of their legislators is unlikely to change in the near future. Nonetheless, we believe considering the likelihood of an outcome rather than actual electoral results introduces too great a level of subjectivity for our purposes.

³ Please keep in mind that any number of factors influences elections that we did not consider in this report. The influence of incumbency, organizational support, campaign finances, and the like cannot be precisely identified for each race we examined, but were likely a factor, to varying degrees, in many.

Table 1: Alaska General Legislative Elections Won with at Least 65 Percent of the Vote, 1992-2010

Year	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	Grand Total
Democrats	8	7	4	10	4	6	6	9	11	13	78
Republicans	5	7	12	18	15	20	15	15	16	19	142
Total	13	14	16	28	19	26	21	24	27	32	220
House Districts											
1				R				R	R	R	5
2	D			D			R				3
3	D	D		D			D	D	D	D	7
4	R			R	R		R			R	5
5		D		D							2
6	D		R			R					3
8			R	R							2
10		R	R	R	R	R	R	R			7
11			R		R	R	R	R	R	R	7
12	R	R	R		R	R	R	R	R		8
13							R	R	R	R	4
14			R	R	R				R		4
15	D			D					R	R	4
16						R	R	R	R	R	5
17		R		R		R	R	R	R	R	6
18						R	R	R	R	R	5
20				R					D	D	3
22	R							D		D	3
23		R		R		D	D	D	D	D	7
24		R		R	R					D	4
25				R			D	D	D	D	5
26				R					D	D	3
27						R					1
28			R	R	R	R	R			R	6
30						R	R	R			3
31			R		R			R	R	R	5
32					R					R	2
33			R	R	R				R	R	5
34		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	9
35					R	R		R	R		5
36						R	R			R	3
37	D	D	D	D	D	D				D	7
38	D	D	D	D		D	D	D	D	D	9
39	D	D		D	D	D		D	D	D	8
40		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	9
Senate Districts											
A									R		1
B		D								D	2
C									D		1
D				R							1
E						R					1
F	R	R		R		R		R		R	6
G						R	R		R		3
H				D		R		R		R	4
I						R	R				2
J				R							1
L	R			R				D			3
M			R		R				D		3
N						R		R		R	3
O					R				R		2
Q			R		R		R				3
R										R	1
S	D		D		D	D		D		D	6
T				D			D		D		3

Notes: The political affiliation of the election winners and uncompetitive districts are shaded blue and/or marked "D" (Democrat) and shaded red and/or marked "R" (Republican). Source: Alaska Division of Elections, http://www.elections.alaska.gov/e1_return.php.

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010					
District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
1992					
F	D. Pearce	R	71.5	100.0	No
L	R. Phillips	R	97.2	79.3	No
S	A. Adams	D	99.0	100.0	No
2	B. Grussendorf	D	68.3	78.0	No
3	F. Ulmer	D	69.8	100.0	No
4	B. Hudson	R	68.7	100.0	No
6	C. Davidson	D	96.2	100.0	No
12	M. Hanley	R	73.6	81.3	No
15	K. Brown	D	74.5	84.3	No
22	R. Barnes	R	67.1	100.0	No
37	E. Maclean	D	99.1	68.2	No
38	R. Foster	D	99.2	46.8	Yes (3-way race)
39	L. Hoffman	D	96.6	56.3	Yes
1994					
B	J. Duncan	D	67.9	100.0	No
F	D. Pearce	R	74.6	100.0	No
3	K. Elton	D	65.4	100.0	No
5	J. Mackie	D	95.0	100.0	No
10	J. Green	R	97.1	100.0	No
12	M. Hanley	R	98.0	100.0	No
17	S. Parnell	R	70.3	100.0	No
23	E. Mulder	R	97.3	73.9	No
24	P. Kott	R	74.8	100.0	No
34	J. James	R	72.2	100.0	No
37	E. Maclean	D	72.9	N/A	Write-In D
38	R. Foster	D	98.6	59.2	No
39	I. Ivan	D	75.9	46.7	Yes (3-way race)
40	C. Moses	D	98.7	100.0	No
1996					
M	R. Halford	R	97.6	61.7	Yes
Q	M. Miller	R	78.4	100.0	No
S	A. Adams	D	99.3	100.0	No
6	A. Austerman	R	69.7	100.0	No
8	G. Davis	R	69.0	100.0	No
10	J. Green	R	75.7	100.0	No
11	N. Rokeberg	R	74.4	64.4	Yes
12	M. Hanley	R	69.6	100.0	No
14	T. Martin	R	68.9	100.0	No
28	B. Masek	R	69.6	75.1	No
31	P. Kelly	R	66.5	100.0	No
33	G. Therriault	R	68.8	100.0	No

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010					
District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
1996 (continued)					
34	J. James	R	78.2	100.0	No
37	R. Joule	D	98.3	65.5	No
38	R. Foster	D	98.2	38.8	Yes
40	C. Moses	D	97.2	100.0	No
1998					
D	J. Torgerson	R	96.5	100.0	No
F	D. Pearce	R	96.2	100.0	No
H	J. Ellis	D	65.2	100.0	No
J	D. Donley	R	80.1	100.0	No
L	R. Phillips	R	96.5	100.0	No
T	L. Hoffman	D	73.5	100.0	No
1	W. Williams	R	95.5	100.0	No
2	B. Grussendorf	D	96.6	100.0	No
3	B. Kerttula	D	82.0	61.2	Yes
4	B. Hudson	R	72.7	100.0	No
5	A. Kookesh	D	96.0	100.0	No
8	G. Davis	R	67.6	100.0	No
10	J. Green	R	96.8	100.0	No
14	L. Murkowski	R	96.5	65.6	No
15	E. Croft	D	69.3	100.0	No
17	J. Cowdery	R	96.3	69.5	No
20	B. Porter	R	96.1	100.0	No
23	E. Mulder	R	60.7	100.0	No
24	P. Kott	R	95.9	100.0	No
25	F. Dyson	R	95.6	100.0	No
26	V. Korhring	R	64.2	100.0	No
28	B. Masek	R	77.7	100.0	No
33	G. Therriault	R	77.0	100.0	No
34	J. James	R	77.3	100.0	No
37	R. Joule	D	98.2	100.0	No
38	R. Foster	D	95.9	52.8	Yes (3-way race)
39	M. Sattler	D	72.2	57.5	Yes
40	C. Moses	D	87.0	58.1	Yes
2000					
M	R. Halford	R	69.8	100.0	No
O	G. Wilken	R	65.1	100.0	No
Q	G. Therriault	R	77.0	100.0	No
S	D. Olson	D	97.3	41.7	Yes (3-way race)
4	B. Hudson	R	93.8	100.0	No
10	J. Green	R	76.8	100.0	No
11	N. Rokeberg	R	72.9	100.0	No

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010					
District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
2000 (continued)					
12	A. Halcro	R	95.8	66.4	No
14	L. Murkowski	R	96.4	100.0	No
24	P. Kott	R	73.0	73.8	No (3-way race)
28	B. Masek	R	79.2	100.0	No
31	J. Whitaker	R	69.9	100.0	No
32	J. Coghill	R	68.0	100.0	No
33	H. Fate	R	68.0	51.7	Yes (3-way race)
34	J. James	R	95.9	100.0	No
35	J. Harris	R	68.2	73.9	No
37	R. Joule	D	98.2	100.0	No
39	M. Kapsner	D	97.5	100.0	No
40	C. Moses	D	94.4	66.4	No
2002					
E	G. Wilken	R	69.8	100.0	No
F	G. Therriault	R	81.8	100.0	No
G	L. Green	R	76.4	100.0	No
H	S. Ogan	R	92.3	67.5	No
I	F. Dyson	R	76.3	100.0	No
N	B. Stevens	R	96.4	100.0	No
S	L. Hoffman	D	66.8	100.0	No
1	W. Williams	R	94.1	100.0	No
6	C. Morgan	R	97.0	100.0	No
10	J. Whitaker	R	94.5	100.0	No
11	J. Coghill	R	96.8	53.6	Yes
12	J. Harris	R	94.2	47.0	Yes (3-way race)
16	B. Stoltze	R	73.7	100.0	No
17	P. Kott	R	80.9	100.0	No
18	L. Murkowski	R	93.3	53.1	Yes
23	L. Gara	D	94.0	65.2	No
27	N. Rokeberg	R	96.1	76.6	No
28	L. McGuire	R	75.6	60.9	Yes (3-way race)
30	K. Meyer	R	96.4	100.0	No
34	C. Chenault	R	71.1	100.0	No
35	P. Seaton	R	94.4	56.9	Yes (3-way race)
36	G. Stevens	R	97.3	100.0	No
37	C. Moses	D	96.2	100.0	No
38	M. Kapsner	D	97.3	64.5	Yes
39	R. Foster	D	97.6	100.0	No
40	R. Joule	D	97.8	100.0	No

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010					
District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
2004					
G	L. Green	R	68.0	100.0	No
I	F. Dyson	R	97.0	100.0	No
Q	T. Wagoner	R	77.0	54.8	Yes (3-way race)
T	D. Olson	D	65.0	100.0	No
2	P. Wilson	R	66.2	100.0	No
3	B. Kerttula	D	71.1	100.0	No
4	B. Weyhrauch	R	65.0	100.0	No
10	J. Ramras	R	70.0	55.4	Yes
11	J. Coghill	R	96.9	100.0	No
12	J. Harris	R	95.7	100.0	No
13	C. Gatto	R	67.3	100.0	No
16	B. Stoltze	R	71.5	100.0	No
18	N. Dahlstrom	R	97.7	100.0	No
23	L. Gara	D	69.5	91.8	No
25	E. Croft	D	95.4	100.0	No
28	L. McGuire	R	68.9	100.0	No
30	K. Meyer	R	71.0	100.0	No
34	C. Chenault	R	72.1	100.0	No
36	G. LeDoux	R	78.8	50.6	Yes (3-way race)
38	M. Kapsner	D	97.8	100.0	No
40	R. Joule	D	97.8	100.0	No
2006					
F	G. Therriault	R	68.8	100.0	No
H	C. Huggins	R	68.8	68.6	No
L	J. Ellis	D	95.0	100.0	No
N	L. McGuire	R	65.9	57.0	Yes
S	L. Hoffman	D	68.0	100.0	No
1	K. Johansen	R	94.3	55.7	Yes
3	B. Kerttula	D	95.6	100.0	No
10	J. Ramras	R	92.1	76.3	No
11	J. Coghill	R	69.8	100.0	No
12	J. Harris	R	71.4	64.8	Yes
13	C. Gatto	R	73.0	100.0	No
16	B. Stoltze	R	71.2	100.0	No
17	A. Fairclough	R	71.0	53.4	Yes
18	N. Dahlstrom	R	96.0	62.3	Yes
22	S. Cissna	R	94.3	100.0	No
23	L. Gara	D	96.0	100.0	No
25	M. Doogan	D	70.3	83.1	No
30	K. Meyer	R	94.6	100.0	No
31	B. Lynn	R	95.7	100.0	No

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010					
District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
2006 (continued)					
34	C. Chenault	R	94.2	100.0	No
35	P. Seaton	R	68.4	100.0	No
38	M. Kapsner	D	97.4	100.0	No
39	R. Foster	D	97.0	100.0	No
40	R. Joule	D	97.8	100.0	No
2008					
A	B. Stedman	R	96.1	100.0	No
C	A. Kookesh	D	68.8	100.0	No
G	L. Menard	R	80.0	100.0	No
M	H. French	D	90.7	100.0	No
O	K. Meyer	R	68.9	100.0	No
T	D. Olson	D	97.8	100.0	No
1	K. Johansen	R	96.5	100.0	No
3	B. Kerttula	D	95.5	88.0	No
11	J. Coghill	R	81.2	100.0	No
12	J. Harris	R	72.2	100.0	No
13	C. Gatto	R	69.9	63.1	Yes
14	W. Keller	R	77.8	100.0	No
15	M. Neuman	R	76.3	64.7	Yes
16	B. Stoltze	R	75.2	71.6	No
17	A. Fairclough	R	80.0	100.0	No
18	N. Dahlstrom	R	97.3	100.0	No
20	M. Gruenberg	D	79.5	87.5	No
23	L. Gara	D	94.1	89.8	No
25	M. Doogan	D	70.0	100.0	No
26	L. Holmes	D	93.5	100.0	No
31	B. Lynn	R	71.0	100.0	No
33	K. Olson	R	67.2	100.0	No
34	C. Chenault	R	72.5	74.3	No
35	P. Seaton	R	66.7	100.0	No
38	B. Herron	D	96.1	54.6	Yes (3-way race)
39	R. Foster	D	97.4	68.6	No
40	R. Joule	D	98.2	100.0	No
2010					
B	D. Egan	D	97.0	100.0	No
F	J. Coghill	R	97.2	100.0	No
H	C. Huggins	R	96.5	100.0	No
N	L. McGuire	R	69.1	100.0	No
R	G. Stevens	R	96.9	100.0	No
S	L. Hoffman	D	97.3	100.0	No
1	K. Johansen	R	67.5	100.0	No

Table 2: Uncompetitive Alaska Legislative Election Victories, 1992-2010

District ¹	General Election Winner	Political Party	Percent of Votes ²	Winner Percent of Votes in Primary	Competitive Primary?
2010 (continued)					
3	B. Kerttula	D	96.5	100.0	No
4	C. Munoz	R	97.0	100.0	No
11	T. Wilson	R	76.9	100.0	No
13	C. Gatto	R	96.4	56.2	Yes
15	M. Neuman	R	95.8	65.3	No
16	B. Stoltze	R	78.0	100.0	No
17	A. Fairclough	R	96.9	100.0	No
18	D. Saddler	R	68.9	35.5	Yes (3-way race)
20	M. Gruenberg	D	68.6	87.6	No
22	S. Cissna	D	92.6	100.0	No
23	L. Gara	D	94.4	100.0	No
24	B. Gardner	D	92.5	100.0	No
25	M. Doogan	D	65.0	91.6	
26	L. Holmes	D	71.1	100.0	No
28	C. Johnson	R	65.0	100.0	No
31	B. Lynn	R	67.5	60.1	Yes
32	M. Hawker	R	70.4	100.0	No
33	K. Olson	R	76.3	100.0	No
34	C. Chenault	R	80.7	100.0	No
35	P. Seaton	R	97.4	100.0	No
36	A. Austerman	R	68.0	100.0	No
37	B. Edgmon	D	97.1	100.0	No
38	B. Herron	D	97.8	100.0	No
39	N. Foster	D	95.9	57.8	Yes
40	R. Joule	D	97.6	100.0	No

	Number	% of Total
Uncompetitive general elections (out of 500 total)	220	44.0%
Uncontested general elections (out of 500 total)	106	21.2%
Uncompetitive primaries preceding uncompetitive general (out of 220 total)	189	85.9%
Uncontested primaries preceding uncompetitive general (out of 220 total)	153	69.5%

Notes: We define a competitive election, for the purposes of this report, as one in which the winner receives less than 65 percent of the vote.
 1) Senate District are in grey-scale.
 2) Highlighted cells for general and primary election vote percentages indicate an uncontested race. Uncontested vote totals in general elections do not tally 100 percent due to the impact of write-in votes.
Source: Alaska Division of Elections, http://www.elections.alaska.gov/ei_return.php.



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Memorandum

TO: Representative Max Gruenberg
FROM: Susan Haymes, Legislative Analyst
DATE: December 10, 2010
RE: General Obligation Bond Election Materials in Other States
LRS Report 11.083

You asked how other states present general obligation bond proposition information to voters in election materials.

Most states (and local governments) have authority to issue general obligation (GO) bonds, which are bonds used primarily to fund capital projects that are backed by the full faith and credit of the issuing state. This means the debt is the first obligation that the state must pay, and its repayment is guaranteed by the state's full taxing power. When a state issues a GO bond it agrees to pay the borrowed money back over a specified period of time, with interest. The principal and interest on all GO bonds are paid out of the state's general fund, rather than from a dedicated source of revenue. Many state constitutions provide certain restrictions on GO bonds such as an absolute limit on the amount or a limit on the amount of state debt that can be outstanding.¹ Moreover, the issuance of a GO bond generally requires legislative approval, and in at least 19 states a popular vote is required as well before the state can issue a GO bond.²

The states that require voter ratification generally provide that the bond measure must be described in the voters' pamphlet and must include the amount being borrowed, the projects that will be funded, and arguments for and against the proposal.³ Five states—Idaho, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington—require more detailed fiscal information to be provided to voters in election materials.⁴ Of those, Oregon and Washington require the most detailed fiscal information.

Washington law requires that a fiscal impact statement be prepared for each bond measure and that the statement be printed in the voters' pamphlet and made available online.⁵ Oregon lawmakers established a financial estimate committee that is charged with estimating the financial impact on state and local government revenues and expenditures if a bond measure is enacted. The following table describes the degree of financial information that is required, and how the information is provided to residents in the five selected states.⁶

¹ The Washington State Constitution provides a formula that allows the state to issue GO bonds only if the total debt service will not exceed nine percent of the average of general state revenues for the preceding three fiscal years. Other states such as Texas and Ohio have a definite limit to the amount the state can borrow. Such states have successfully overruled the limit by amending their respective constitutions.

² Those states are Alaska, Arkansas, California, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington. The constitutions of Illinois and South Carolina require members of each house of the General Assembly (three-fifths and two-thirds, respectively) or a majority of the voters approve a GO bond before it can be issued. We used the National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL), "State Budget Requirements: Provision and Practice," 2004, which includes references to many state's debt provisions. From among the states that require a popular vote before issuing a GO bond, we selected five that require more detailed financial information for voters. If the NCSL report was silent on debt limits, we reviewed that state's constitution. The NCSL report can be accessed at <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=12612>. Please note that while we believe our research to be thorough, there may be additional states with provisions similar to the selected states that we did not locate due to variations in wording and construction of statutes.

³ In Alaska, under AS 15.58.020(a)(7), "a statement of the scope of each project" authorized in the bond measure must be included in the voters' pamphlet.

⁴ Of the 15 states requiring a majority vote, including the five we selected, we did not find any that required the indebtedness resulting from passage of a GO bond measure be expressed as per capita or per household. The five selected states do require that the aggregate amount of indebtedness be provided to residents in election materials.

⁵ Attachment A is a fiscal impact statement prepared for a Washington GO bond measure (Referendum 52) before the general election in November 2010, www.secstate.wa.gov/osos/en/PreviousElections/2010/general/Pages/OVG_20101102.aspx#ososTop.

⁶ We include copies of each of the statutes cited as Attachment B.

Required Information for Voters on General Obligation (GO) Bond Measures in Election Materials

State	Citations	Information Required	Information Format
Idaho	Idaho Code § 34-440 Idaho Code § 34-1812C	Existing indebtedness of state, interest rate, and total amount of bond (principal and interest) over life of the bond.	Statement printed on ballot, in the official notice of election, and in voters' pamphlet, which is mailed to every household before general election. Voters' pamphlet and ballot information are available online.
Oregon	ORS § 250.035 ORS § 250.037 ORS § 250.125 ORS § 250.127 ORS § 250.131 ORS § 254.085	Financial estimate committee prepares detailed financial analysis including impact on state and local governments if enacted, specifically aggregate amount of expenditures, reduction in revenues, and indebtedness required by any local government to meet provisions.	Estimate printed on ballot and voters' pamphlet. Voters must be notified if bond measure is to be payable from property taxes. Voters' pamphlet and ballot information are available online.
Rhode Island	R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-1-2 R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-5-1 R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-5-1.1 R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-5-3	Estimated total cost of project including financing, legal and other costs; terms of the bond; and detailed description and timetable of the project.	Required in voter pamphlet which is mailed to each residential unit before general or special referenda election. Voters' pamphlet available online.
Virginia	Va. Code Ann. § 24.2-105.1 Va. Code Ann. § 30-19.10	Fiscal impact statement describing the need for and uses of the bond proceeds, and estimated costs and expenditures if enacted.	Required to be posted on State Board of Elections web site and distributed to the general registrar of each county and city.
Washington	ARCW § 29A.04.321 ARCW § 29A.32.070 ARCW § 29A.72.025	Fiscal impact statement describing any projected increase or decrease in revenues, costs, expenditures or indebtedness state or local governments will experience if enacted and including statement and assumptions used in preparing statement.	Fiscal impact statements must be available online and included in the voters' pamphlet which is distributed to each household.

Notes: Among the states that require a popular vote, Washington and Oregon require the most detailed financial information be provided in election materials. All five states require the aggregate amount of indebtedness be provided in election materials.

Sources: The web sites of each state's Elections Division including, <http://www.sos.idaho.gov/elect/eleindex.htm>, <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/>, <http://sos.ri.gov/elections/>, <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/>, and <http://www.sos.idaho.gov/elect/eleindex.htm>. State statutes available through Lexis Nexis.

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.



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Memorandum

TO: Representative Max Gruenberg
FROM: Chuck Burnham, Legislative Analyst
DATE: November 4, 2010
RE: Voter Registration by Legislative District and Political Affiliation in the 2010 General Election
LRS Report 11.068

You asked for tables showing the number of registered voters in each legislative district and the distribution of those registrants among political parties.

The attached tables provide the information you requested as follows:

- Table 1: Number of Registered Voters by House District and Political Affiliation;
- Table 2: Percent of Registered Voters by House District and Political Affiliation; and
- Table 3: Number of Registered Voters by Senate District and Political Affiliation.

Counts of registered voters in these tables are from the Alaska Division of Elections (ADOE) online voter registration database (http://www.elections.alaska.gov/vi_vrs.php); percentages are our calculations using those data.

As you may know, the Division of Elections currently recognizes four political parties under the requirements to gain party status under AS § 15.60.010(25). They are as follows:

- Alaskan Independence Party;
- Alaska Democratic Party;
- Alaska Libertarian Party; and
- Alaska Republican Party.

In addition, the ADOE recognizes three political groups as delineated in AS § 15.60.010(24) that have applied for but have not fulfilled the requirements for political party status. Those groups are as follows:

- Green Party;
- Republic Moderate Party; and
- Veteran's Party of Alaska.

Finally, two classifications of voter registration are recognized that do no claim affiliation with any political party or group. Voters registered as "Nonpartisan" and those who are "Undeclared" collectively comprised 260,901, or approximately 52 percent, of the 495,270 registered voters statewide.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.

Table 1: Number of Registered Voters by House District and Political Affiliation, Nov. 2, 2010

		Political Parties:					Political Groups:			Other:		
		A - Alaska Independence					G - Green Party			N - Nonpartisan		
		D - Democratic					M - Republic Moderate Party			U - Undeclared		
		L - Libertarian					V - Veteran's Party of Alaska					
		R - Republican										
District	Total	A	D	L	R	N	U	G	M	V		
1	11,117	352	1,288	81	2,877	1,799	4,600	62	53	5		
2	11,529	354	1,875	52	2,469	2,155	4,474	82	58	10		
3	12,524	348	3,149	77	1,841	2,538	4,438	90	41	2		
4	12,497	287	2,105	64	2,607	2,454	4,826	81	71	2		
5	11,060	438	2,043	52	1,953	1,901	4,482	128	48	15		
6	10,735	490	1,667	79	2,575	1,870	3,933	47	50	24		
7	15,341	466	1,972	105	3,961	2,827	5,815	121	60	14		
8	14,471	345	2,482	115	3,176	2,667	5,424	180	75	7		
9	11,455	339	2,048	77	2,751	1,881	4,247	36	63	13		
10	10,809	269	1,957	78	3,031	1,472	3,839	33	115	15		
11	15,517	447	1,374	96	5,695	2,142	5,619	28	102	14		
12	11,654	342	1,166	103	3,988	1,683	4,234	36	73	29		
13	16,339	384	1,478	213	5,891	2,560	5,640	46	92	35		
14	15,404	423	1,427	218	5,311	2,298	5,558	37	89	43		
15	16,800	610	1,432	271	5,144	2,761	6,339	87	119	37		
16	15,087	377	1,298	236	5,184	2,471	5,334	53	83	51		
17	13,381	274	1,459	212	4,870	1,905	4,472	23	78	88		
18	11,557	226	1,793	244	4,046	1,189	3,769	19	120	151		
19	12,088	297	2,078	479	2,891	1,817	4,289	34	60	143		
20	9,938	264	2,042	678	1,693	1,213	3,733	45	57	213		
21	12,421	222	2,138	376	3,365	1,977	4,172	30	70	71		
22	10,787	247	2,188	525	2,001	1,654	3,891	66	61	154		
23	11,708	281	2,678	576	1,996	1,963	3,985	75	73	81		
24	12,395	294	2,153	454	2,908	1,950	4,446	46	74	70		
25	10,640	294	2,069	492	1,892	1,750	3,954	68	68	53		
26	12,139	232	2,370	367	2,638	2,157	4,226	70	48	31		
27	12,245	247	1,655	347	3,291	2,029	4,520	42	80	34		
28	13,613	256	1,864	274	4,099	2,247	4,730	44	76	23		
29	11,177	281	1,727	402	2,740	1,631	4,253	46	55	42		
30	12,898	264	1,845	352	3,564	2,050	4,703	38	50	32		
31	13,775	226	1,688	257	4,491	2,373	4,625	35	58	22		
32	16,434	278	2,225	297	5,136	2,914	5,372	119	56	37		
33	13,489	414	1,372	113	4,297	2,347	4,787	52	91	16		
34	13,775	513	1,089	131	4,655	2,423	4,820	48	71	25		
35	13,663	419	2,071	139	3,272	2,327	5,204	162	55	14		
36	10,454	279	1,201	64	3,031	1,666	4,112	30	50	21		
37	8,021	345	1,449	67	1,326	1,208	3,549	21	47	9		
38	8,835	524	2,560	56	906	1,332	3,397	26	25	9		
39	8,858	649	2,143	70	1,119	1,349	3,450	27	39	12		
40	8,640	643	2,026	95	1,129	1,053	3,627	22	37	8		
Total	495,270	14,240	74,644	8,984	129,810	80,003	180,888	2,335	2,691	1,675		

Notes: Political Parties have gained recognized status under AS 15.60.010(25) or by court order. Political Groups are those that have applied for party status but have not met the qualifications to be a recognized political party under AS 15.60.010(24).

Source: Alaska Division of Elections voter registration database, http://www.elections.alaska.gov/vi_vrs.php.

Table 2: Percent of Registered Voters by House District and Political Affiliation, Nov. 2, 2010

Political Parties:	Political Groups:	Other:
A - Alaska Independence	G - Green Party	N - Nonpartisan
D - Democratic	M - Republic Moderate Party	U - Undeclared
L - Libertarian	V - Veteran's Party of Alaska	
R - Republican		

District	Statewide	Percent of Registered Voters in District								
		A	D	L	R	N	U	G	M	V
1	2.2%	3.2%	11.6%	0.7%	25.9%	16.2%	41.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%
2	2.3%	3.1%	16.3%	0.5%	21.4%	18.7%	38.8%	0.7%	0.5%	0.1%
3	2.5%	2.8%	25.1%	0.6%	14.7%	20.3%	35.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%
4	2.5%	2.3%	16.8%	0.5%	20.9%	19.6%	38.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%
5	2.2%	4.0%	18.5%	0.5%	17.7%	17.2%	40.5%	1.2%	0.4%	0.1%
6	2.2%	4.6%	15.5%	0.7%	24.0%	17.4%	36.6%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%
7	3.1%	3.0%	12.9%	0.7%	25.8%	18.4%	37.9%	0.8%	0.4%	0.1%
8	2.9%	2.4%	17.2%	0.8%	21.9%	18.4%	37.5%	1.2%	0.5%	0.0%
9	2.3%	3.0%	17.9%	0.7%	24.0%	16.4%	37.1%	0.3%	0.5%	0.1%
10	2.2%	2.5%	18.1%	0.7%	28.0%	13.6%	35.5%	0.3%	1.1%	0.1%
11	3.1%	2.9%	8.9%	0.6%	36.7%	13.8%	36.2%	0.2%	0.7%	0.1%
12	2.4%	2.9%	10.0%	0.9%	34.2%	14.4%	36.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%
13	3.3%	2.4%	9.0%	1.3%	36.1%	15.7%	34.5%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%
14	3.1%	2.7%	9.3%	1.4%	34.5%	14.9%	36.1%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%
15	3.4%	3.6%	8.5%	1.6%	30.6%	16.4%	37.7%	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%
16	3.0%	2.5%	8.6%	1.6%	34.4%	16.4%	35.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%
17	2.7%	2.0%	10.9%	1.6%	36.4%	14.2%	33.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%
18	2.3%	2.0%	15.5%	2.1%	35.0%	10.3%	32.6%	0.2%	1.0%	1.3%
19	2.4%	2.5%	17.2%	4.0%	23.9%	15.0%	35.5%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%
20	2.0%	2.7%	20.5%	6.8%	17.0%	12.2%	37.6%	0.5%	0.6%	2.1%
21	2.5%	1.8%	17.2%	3.0%	27.1%	15.9%	33.6%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%
22	2.2%	2.3%	20.3%	4.9%	18.6%	15.3%	36.1%	0.6%	0.6%	1.4%
23	2.4%	2.4%	22.9%	4.9%	17.0%	16.8%	34.0%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%
24	2.5%	2.4%	17.4%	3.7%	23.5%	15.7%	35.9%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%
25	2.1%	2.8%	19.4%	4.6%	17.8%	16.4%	37.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%
26	2.5%	1.9%	19.5%	3.0%	21.7%	17.8%	34.8%	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%
27	2.5%	2.0%	13.5%	2.8%	26.9%	16.6%	36.9%	0.3%	0.7%	0.3%
28	2.7%	1.9%	13.7%	2.0%	30.1%	16.5%	34.7%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%
29	2.3%	2.5%	15.5%	3.6%	24.5%	14.6%	38.1%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%
30	2.6%	2.0%	14.3%	2.7%	27.6%	15.9%	36.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
31	2.8%	1.6%	12.3%	1.9%	32.6%	17.2%	33.6%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
32	3.3%	1.7%	13.5%	1.8%	31.3%	17.7%	32.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%
33	2.7%	3.1%	10.2%	0.8%	31.9%	17.4%	35.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.1%
34	2.8%	3.7%	7.9%	1.0%	33.8%	17.6%	35.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%
35	2.8%	3.1%	15.2%	1.0%	23.9%	17.0%	38.1%	1.2%	0.4%	0.1%
36	2.1%	2.7%	11.5%	0.6%	29.0%	15.9%	39.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%
37	1.6%	4.3%	18.1%	0.8%	16.5%	15.1%	44.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%
38	1.8%	5.9%	29.0%	0.6%	10.3%	15.1%	38.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%
39	1.8%	7.3%	24.2%	0.8%	12.6%	15.2%	38.9%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%
40	1.7%	7.4%	23.4%	1.1%	13.1%	12.2%	42.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%
Total	100.0%	1.4%	7.3%	1.0%	11.0%	7.4%	16.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%

Notes: Political Parties have gained recognized status under AS 15.60.010(25) or by court order. Political Groups are those that have applied for party status but have not met the qualifications to be a recognized political party under AS 15.60.010(24).

Source: Alaska Division of Elections voter registration database, http://www.elections.alaska.gov/vr_vrs.php.

Member

Standing Committees:

Judiciary
Rules
State Affairs
Transportation

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.
House District 20
Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Floor Leader

Interim:
716 W 4th Avenue, Rm 350
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2133
Phone: (907) 269-0123
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Session:
Alaska State Capitol, Rm 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-4940
Toll Free: (866) 465-4940
Fax: (907) 465-3766

Email:
Rep.Max.Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

House Bill 74:

Information on Matters in Election Pamphlet

List of Expected Witnesses

- Gail Fenumiai, Director—Division of Elections
- Deven Mitchell—Debt Manager