

HB

260

<TARGET><BILL>HB 260</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
260</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA27</COMM></TARGET>

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STATE OF ALASKA
Division of Elections
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

HB260

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Bob Lynn, Chair
House State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 108
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Lynn:

At the February 2, 2012, House State Affairs committee hearing on HB 260, you inquired about the number of absentee by-mail ballots applied for and voted. I am providing you with this information for the 2008 and 2010 primary and general elections.

The detailed information you requested is reflected in the table below.

2010 General Election Absentee By-Mail Ballots Issued and Returned	
Total Issued:	30,401
Total Returned	22,135
Percentage:	72.80%

2010 Primary Election Absentee By-Mail Ballots Issued and Returned	
Total Issued:	16,650
Total Returned	8,562
Percentage:	51.40%

2008 General Election Absentee By-Mail Ballots Issued and Returned	
Total Issued:	45,769
Total Returned	36,662
Percentage:	80.00%

2008 Primary Election Absentee By-Mail Ballots Issued and Returned	
Total Issued:	13,402
Total Returned	10,533
Percentage:	78.50%

There were also questions from the committee regarding the state's list maintenance process. The state's list maintenance process is governed by AS 15.07.130. An outline of the process is below:

1. Send a notice by nonforwardable mail to voters whose mail from the division has been returned as undeliverable in the two years immediately preceding the examination of the register; who has not contacted the division in the two years immediately preceding

The Honorable Bob Lynn

February 3, 2012

Page 2 of 2

the examination of the register; who has not voted or appeared to vote in the two general elections immediately preceding the examination of the register.

2. If a voter has not, within the preceding four calendar years contacted the division, voted or appeared to vote and the notice sent above is returned undeliverable, the voter is sent a second notice by forwardable mail advising them their registration will be inactivated unless they respond to the notice in 45 days.
3. Failure to return the second notice results in the voter's record being inactivated.
4. The voter's record will be cancelled if the voter does not contact the division during, or vote or appear to vote in an election held during a four year period from the date the notice was mailed.

Enclosed is an information sheet showing purge statistics.

If you have further questions or need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Gail Fenumiai
Director

Enclosure

cc: House State Affairs Committee Members

STATE OF ALASKA DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

PURGE STATISTICS

Purge Notice First Mailing	Purge Notice Second Mailing	Purged	First Notice Delivery Status Unknown (1)	Inactive Records Removed from System
02/04/1986: 22,420		05/05/1986: 16,578		
02/23/1987: 51,409		05/28/1987: 41,909		
01/25/1988: 15,920		05/05/1988: 12,039		
01/25/1989: 38,721		05/02/1989: 30,933		
01/29/1990: 18,228		05/17/1990: 13,827		05/17/1990: 18,734
01/25/1991: 44,308		06/13/1991: 34,597		07/02/1991: 50,433
01/18/1992: 19,518		04/17/1992: 15,192		04/17/1992: *0
04/04/1993: 31,707		07/09/1993: 25,652		07/09/1993: 37,915
		06/06/1994: 10,873		06/06/1994: *0
03/20/1999: 53,422		07/27/1999: 23,368		
12/01/1999: 32,241		03/29/2000: 10,641		
01/17/2001: 49,370		05/31/2001: 33,163		
01/15/2002: 37,815		03/05/2002: 19,557		
11/25/2002: 30,478		03/07/2003: 12,026		03/07/2003: 72,720
11/05/2003: 45,388		02/12/2004: 23,814		
01/11/2005: 52,615		06/01/2005: 17,795		
01/03/2006: 28,674		03/02/2006: 14,486		
12/04/2006: 15,655	01/08/2007: 5,192	03/02/2007: 5,089	9,757	
12/03/2007: 36,872	01/03/2008: 15,599	03/03/2008: 15,151	20,238	03/28/2008: 16,419
11/20/2008: 59,817	01/07/2009: 28,174	03/03/2009: 27,405	30,262	01/02/2009: 27,218
11/23/2009: 38,600	01/06/2010: 11,888	03/04/2010: 11,521	25,306	01/07/2010: 32,044
11/19/2010: 50,738	1/5/2011 18,700	03/02/2011 18,331	30,919	1/4/2011: 16,842

¹This column reflects notices that were not completed and returned by the voter nor returned to the Division of Elections by U.S.P.S. as undeliverable by the time the second notice was mailed.

²When reviewing absentee and questioned ballots, we can count ballots if the person voting was registered in one of the last two General Elections. In late 1989, the "delete" code was initiated to delete inactive voters completely, after no activity in the past two General Elections. The first time it was used was in the 1990 purge.

In the 1990 purge, voters with no activity since 1985 were deleted because we only needed to keep the records for the 1986 and 1988 elections. In the 1991 purge, voters with no activity since 1986 and 1987 were deleted because we only needed to keep the records for the 1988 and 1990 elections. Therefore, in the 1992 purge, no voters were deleted because for the 1992 elections, we needed to know if A/Q voters were registered from the 1988 and 1990 elections.

In 1998 legislation was passed to enable the division to perform list maintenance that was acceptable to the federal government. No list maintenance was performed between 6/94 and 6/99.

Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Pete Petersen
Serving Northeast Anchorage and Muldoon

List of Invited Testimony

January 30, 2012

To: Rep. Bob Lynn
Chair, House State Affairs Committee

From: Rep. Pete Petersen

Re: List of Invited Testimony

Please see the following list of individuals that we have invited to testify on HB 260.

Larry Benson, Midnight Sun Area Local 2756 President, American Postal Workers Union

Please feel free to contact me, or my aide Monica Southworth, at 465-4939 with any questions, thoughts, or ideas.

HOUSE BILL NO. 260

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE PETERSEN

Introduced: 1/13/12

Referred: Prefiled

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing a permanent absentee voting option for qualified voters; and
2 providing for an effective date."

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 15.07.127 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 (b) The director shall maintain the list under (a) of this section so that the
6 names of persons who have the status of permanent absentee voters under
7 AS 15.20.085 may be readily identified.

8 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.07.130(e) is amended to read:

9 (e) For purposes of (b) and (d) of this section, a voter "appears to vote" if

10 (1) the voter is present at a polling place or at an absentee voting
11 station at a time when the polling place or absentee voting station is operating, for the
12 purpose of casting a vote;

13 (2) the voter applies to the division

14 (A) to obtain an absentee ballot; or

1 (B) for permanent absentee voter status under
 2 AS 15.20.085; or

3 (3) in an election conducted by mail under AS 15.20.800, a voter who
 4 has not received a ballot by mail makes a timely request to the division for a ballot.

5 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 15.20.085. Permanent absentee voting.** (a) A qualified voter may apply
 7 to the director for permanent absentee voting status in the same manner as provided
 8 for applying for an absentee ballot under AS 15.20.081, except that another individual
 9 may not apply for permanent absentee voting status on behalf of a qualified voter.

10 (b) A person may supply a permanent absentee voting application to a voter.
 11 However, the provisions of AS 15.20.081(a) that apply to the supplying and
 12 submission of an absentee ballot application also apply to the supplying and
 13 submission of a permanent absentee voting application.

14 (c) For each state primary, general, and special election, and each other
 15 election for which the state has responsibility for the conduct of the election, the
 16 director or an election supervisor shall send an absentee ballot to each voter designated
 17 as a permanent absentee voter for that election and who is otherwise qualified to vote
 18 in that election. The director or election supervisor shall send the ballot to the
 19 permanent mailing address set out on the official registration list unless the voter has
 20 notified the director or an election supervisor of a different address to which the ballot
 21 should be sent. The director or an election supervisor shall send the absentee ballots

22 (1) by first class, nonforwardable mail;

23 (2) not later than the 15th day before the election; and

24 (3) with an accompanying explanation of the absentee voting
 25 procedure under AS 15.20.020 and notice that the voter's permanent absentee voting
 26 status will be removed if the voter does not vote or appear to vote in a primary,
 27 special, or general election for a period of four calendar years.

28 (d) The director shall make available a change of address form for permanent
 29 absentee voters.

30 (e) Nothing in this section requires the director or an election supervisor to
 31 send an absentee ballot under (c) of this section to a permanent absentee voter after the

1 director or election supervisor receives actual notice that mail sent to the voter's
2 permanent mailing address or a different address provided by a voter under this
3 section is undeliverable to the voter at the address.

4 (f) A permanent absentee voter to whom a ballot is provided under this section
5 may cast the ballot under AS 15.20.081(d) and (e).

6 (g) Ballots voted under this section shall be reviewed under procedures
7 established for the review of absentee ballots under AS 15.20.201 and 15.20.203.

8 (h) Nothing in this section limits a voter's eligibility to vote

9 (1) in person at a precinct under AS 15.15.195 or 15.15.198;

10 (2) in person before an absentee voting official under AS 15.20.061;

11 (3) early under AS 15.20.064; or

12 (4) by electronic transmission under AS 15.20.066.

13 (i) If a voter designated as a permanent absentee voter under this section does
14 not vote or appear to vote in a primary, special, or general election for a period of four
15 calendar years, the director shall remove the voter's permanent absentee voter status.

16 (j) In this section, "appear to vote" has the meaning given in AS 15.07.130(e).

17 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.56.030(a) is amended to read:

18 (a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with voting in the
19 first degree if the person

20 (1) uses, threatens to use, or causes to be used force, coercion,
21 violence, or restraint, or inflicts, threatens to inflict, or causes to be inflicted damage,
22 harm, or loss, upon or against another person to induce or compel that person to vote
23 or refrain from voting in an election;

24 (2) knowingly pays, offers to pay, or causes to be paid money or other
25 valuable thing to a person to vote or refrain from voting in an election;

26 (3) solicits, accepts, or agrees to accept money or other valuable thing
27 with the intent to vote for or refrain from voting for a candidate at an election or for an
28 election proposition or question;

29 (4) violates AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b) by knowingly supplying
30 or encouraging or assisting another person to supply to a voter a permanent absentee
31 voting or [AN] absentee ballot application form with a political party or group

1 affiliation indicated if the voter is not already registered as affiliated with that political
 2 party or group, and the person has been previously convicted of unlawful interference
 3 with voting in the second degree under AS 15.56.035(a)(5);

4 (5) knowingly designs, marks, or encourages or assists another person
 5 to design or mark a permanent absentee voting or [AN] absentee ballot application
 6 in a manner that suggests choice of one ballot over another as prohibited by
 7 AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b), and the person has been previously convicted of
 8 unlawful interference with voting in the second degree under AS 15.56.035(a)(6); or

9 (6) knowingly submits or encourages or assists another person to
 10 submit a permanent absentee voting or [AN] absentee ballot application to an
 11 intermediary who could control or delay the submission of the application to the
 12 division of elections or who could gather data from the application form as prohibited
 13 by AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b), and the person has been previously convicted of
 14 unlawful interference with voting in the second degree under AS 15.56.035(a)(7).

15 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.56.035(a) is amended to read:

16 (a) A person commits the crime of unlawful interference with voting in the
 17 second degree if the person

18 (1) has an official ballot in possession outside of the voting room
 19 unless the person is an election official or other person authorized by law or local
 20 ordinance, or by the director or chief municipal elections official in a local election;

21 (2) makes, or knowingly has in possession, a counterfeit of an official
 22 election ballot;

23 (3) knowingly solicits or encourages, directly or indirectly, a registered
 24 voter who is no longer qualified to vote under AS 15.05.010[,] to vote in an election;

25 (4) as a registration official

26 (A) knowingly refuses to register a person who is entitled to
 27 register under AS 15.07.030; or

28 (B) accepts a fee from an applicant applying for registration;

29 (5) violates AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b) by knowingly supplying
 30 or encouraging or assisting another person to supply to a voter a permanent absentee
 31 voting or [AN] absentee ballot application form with a political party or group

1 affiliation indicated if the voter is not already registered as affiliated with that political
2 party or group;

3 (6) knowingly designs, marks, or encourages or assists another person
4 to design or mark a permanent absentee voting or [AN] absentee ballot application
5 in a manner that suggests choice of one ballot over another as prohibited by
6 AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b); or

7 (7) knowingly submits or encourages or assists another person to
8 submit a permanent absentee voting or [AN] absentee ballot application to an
9 intermediary who could control or delay the submission of the application to the
10 division of elections or who could gather data from the application form as prohibited
11 by AS 15.20.081(a) or 15.20.085(b).

12 * **Sec. 6.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
13 read:

14 TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS: REGULATIONS. The director of elections may
15 adopt or amend regulations as necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The
16 regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the
17 effective date of the law implemented by the regulations.

18 * **Sec. 7.** Section 6 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

19 * **Sec. 8.** Except as provided in sec. 7 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2013.

Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Pete Petersen
Serving Northeast Anchorage and Muldoon

An Act establishing a permanent absentee voting option for qualified voters; and providing for an effective date.

This act will streamline the absentee voting process for Alaskans by giving voters the option to register for permanent absentee voting status for state elections. Once a voter is on the permanent absentee voter roll, they will not have to fill out an absentee request form for each election cycle. Instead, an absentee ballot will be automatically sent to them by the Division of Elections.

This act will expedite the absentee voting process for Alaskans who vote absentee as their primary avenue of voting. This bill will reduce paperwork for the Division of Elections and will increase access to voting. This act will affect Alaskans across the board from rural Alaskans to college students to senior citizens who choose to vote from home.

Currently, absentee voting solely consists of "early and in-person voting", and "voting by mail and fax." This act does not change voting rights. Voters can still request a one-time absentee ballot vote at their regular voting places, just as they do now.

This act does not change any of the security or evaluation procedures that are already in place in Alaska statutes for handling absentee ballots; all of the provisions currently in place for absentee ballots would apply to permanent absentee ballots. This act includes a provision for removal from the permanent absentee roll if the Division of Elections receives notice that mail sent to the voter's address is undeliverable.

This act only applies only to primary, general and special elections, not local elections, and any election for which the state has the responsibility for the conduct of the election.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alaska State Legislature

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Sectional Analysis of HB 260

Section 1 of this bill amends AS 15.07.127 by adding a new subsection (b) that states “the director shall maintain the list under (a) of this section so that the names of persons who have the status of permanent absentee voters under AS 15.20.085 may be readily identified.”

Section 2 of this bill amends AS 15.07.130(e) by adding (b) which states that a voter who applies to the Division of Elections for a permanent absentee voter status qualifies as a voter who “appears to vote” under (b) and (d) of this section.

Section 3 Amends AS 15.20 by adding a new section (15.20.085) that:

- (a) enables Alaskan voters to apply to the Division of Elections for permanent absentee voting status;
- (b) allows a person to provide a voter with a permanent absentee voting application form with a political party or group affiliation only if that voter is already registered with the political party or group indicated. This paragraph also sets forth requirements that only the voter may mark the application form, indicate their choice of primary ballot and submit the application to the Division of Elections on a form prescribed by the Director of the Division of Elections;
- (c) requires the Division of Elections to send an absentee ballot to each voter designated as a permanent absentee voter for each state primary, general and special election and any other election for which the state has the responsibility for conducting the election; and establishes the timeline and manner in which the ballots will be sent;
- (d) requires the Director of the Division of Elections to make change of address forms available for permanent absentee voters;
- (e) allows the Director of the Division of Elections to not send an absentee ballot if the Division has received notice that mail sent to an address is undeliverable;
- (f) allows a permanent absent voter to cast the ballot under AS 15.20.081(d), which lists persons who are authorized to witness the casting of a ballot, and AS 15.20.081(e), which lists the dates by

Alaska State Legislature

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which the ballot must be cast and the means by which it must be returned to the Division of Elections;

(g) requires that ballots voted under this section be reviewed under the procedures that are established for the review of absentee ballots in AS 15.20.201 and AS 15.20.203;

(h) establishes that nothing in this section prohibits a person from voting early, or in person at a precinct, or in person before an absentee voting official, or by electronic submission as provided by AS 15.15.195, AS 15.15.198, AS 15.20.061, AS 15.20.064 and AS 15.20.066..

Section 4 amends AS 15.56.030(a) by making the provisions that govern the unlawful interference with voting in the first degree apply to permanent absentee voting.

Section 5 amends AS 15.56.035(a) by making the provisions that govern the unlawful interference with voting in the second degree apply to permanent absentee voting.

Section 6 authorizes the Director of the Division of Elections to adopt regulations to implement the changes made in this act.

Section 7 provides for an immediate effective date for section 6, which will allow the Division of Elections to adopt regulations to implement the changes made in this act.

Section 8 provides for a January 1, 2013 effective date for all other provisions of this act.



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

Anchorage, Bethel, Chugiak, Copper Center, Cordova, Eagle River, Girdwood, Glennallen,
Homer, Kenai, Palmer, Seward, Soldotna, Sutton, Talkeetna, Valdez, Wasilla, Willow

**Midnight Sun Area Local 2756
1111 East 80th Avenue, Suite 3
Anchorage, Alaska 99518**

January 18, 2012

Representative Pete Petersen
Alaska State Legislator
State Capitol Building Room 422
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Pete,

The American Postal Workers Union supports HB 260; we see this as a way to simplify the voter process and we believe that a greater return in votes cast would result.

Currently Alaskans can apply for an absentee ballot which is valid for one year. HB 260 would allow voters to receive an absentee ballot in perpetuity or until the voter fails to vote in one election cycle, at which point the voter would revert back to the original voter roll.

Permanent absentee vote by mail increases voter turnout and results in more citizens having a stake in their government, provides greater procedural integrity, favors neither of the political parties, saves taxpayer money, and enhances the democratic process.

Receiving a ballot in the mail two weeks before an election reminds voters an election is imminent. Vote by mail allows voters to study and research candidates and issues and vote at their convenience instead of within the voting booth.

In Alaska weather conditions may cause voters to miss an election, with vote by mail voters will still be able to cast their votes.

With the transient nature of the state, permanent absentee vote by mail would be beneficial. Alaska has fishermen, miners, slope workers, shift workers and construction workers that would have a better opportunity to cast votes as a result of HB 260. HB 260 would also be of benefit to the disabled, seniors and working families who face challenges in casting their vote at the polls.

A University of Oregon study shows that demographically young people aged 26-38 voted 44% more often, homemakers vote 51% more often, disabled and unable to work vote 48% more often, and across all demographics voters vote 29% more often.

In 2004, 40% of New Mexico voters used vote by mail, In 2006, nearly 90% of Washington State voters used vote by mail. Oregon passed vote by mail in 1998 with 69% for the Initiative and by 2003 had an approval rate of 81%.

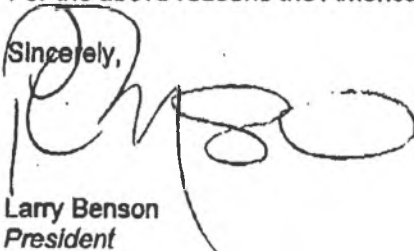
Voting by mail provides a paper trail for each vote cast unlike electronic voting machines which are susceptible to computer hackers and have no such safeguards. Vote by mail provides for accurate cleansing of registration rolls. When the ballot is returned because the voter has moved, their registration can be updated and a new ballot can be mailed to the new address.

County clerks in Oregon report that vote by mail elections cost about 30% less than traditional polling place elections

The sanctity of the ballot is paramount to the process. The United States Postal Service has been delivering vital documents for over two hundred years. The US Postal Service workforce is background checked; drug screened, and held to the US government code of conduct and ethics laws. Additionally the US Postal Service has internal enforcement agencies that work closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigations to protect the public from mail fraud. The US Postal Service is currently the only delivery service to handle absentee ballots and would like to continue as such.

For the above reasons the American Postal Workers Union supports "Voting by Mail"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Benson". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font with a large initial "L".

Larry Benson
President



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January 31, 2012

Honorable Bob Lynn, Chair
House State Affairs Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 108
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Chair Lynn:

RE: HB 260 (Peterson, Tuck, Kawasaki, Miller, Gara)--Support

On behalf of the AARP members in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House State Affairs Committee to support HB 260, authored by your Committee colleague Representative Pete Peterson and Representatives Chris Tuck, Scott Kawasaki, Bob Miller and Les Gara.

HB 260 would allow qualified citizens to have permanent absentee voting status. AARP believes the right to vote is the most basic of all political rights.

Normal aging and disabilities often interfere with a citizen's ability to exercise his or her right to vote. If someone has a permanent problem that prevents their ability to vote on a regular basis, it will be much easier if they can be given permanent absentee voting rights.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on HB 260.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506
Juneau, AK 99801
586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Wes Keller
Representative Peggy Wilson
Representative Paul Seaton
Representative Max Gruenberg
Representative Pete Peterson
Representative Kyle Johansen

Representative Chris Tuck
Representative Scott Kawasaki
Representative Bob Miller
Representative Les Gara

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version HB260
Fiscal Note Number _____
() Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) HB260-DOE-OOG-1-28-12 Dept. Affected Office of the Governor
Title "An Act establishing a permanent absentee voter Appropriation Division of Elections
option for qualified voters" Allocation Division of Elections
Sponsor Representatives Petersen, Tuck, Kawasaki...
Requester House State Affairs Committee OMB Component Number 21

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services	21.0		20.0		20.0		20.0
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	21.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	20.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF	21.0	20.0		20.0		20.0
1005	#REF!						
1037	#REF!						
1178	#REF!						
TOTAL		21.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs _____ (separate supplemental appropriation required;
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs _____ (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Initial version

Prepared by Gail Fenumiai, Director
Division Division of Elections
Approved by Guy Bell, Administrative Director
Administrative Services, Office of the Governor

Phone 465-2644
Date/Time 1/28/2012, 11:52am
Date 1/28/2012

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB260

Analysis

This legislation will allow for a qualified voter to apply for permanent absentee voter status. A voter may request on an absentee by-mail application to be designated to receive absentee by-mail ballots for all future elections in which they are qualified to vote. In order to track permanent absentee voters in the division's absentee module of the statewide voter registration system, programming modifications will be required.

The division estimates this cost to be \$21.0.

In order to ensure the integrity of the process, the division would send confirmation notices at the beginning of each election year to all voters designated as permanent absentee voters to ensure the address on file is still accurate. The division estimates postage and printing costs of \$20.0. This amount would be a recurring cost during each election year.

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