

HB

41

<TARGET><BILL>HB 41</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
41</SUBJECT><COMM></COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

Sponsor Statement for House Bill 41

An act relating to joint prime sponsorship of bills, or The Bipartisan Cooperation Act.

House Bill 41 aims to allow Legislators, and especially legislators from different parties, to work together. In the past, the Legislature allowed joint prime sponsorship of bills, which encouraged Legislators, including those from different parties, to build relationships and find common ground on legislation on which they can be co-equal bill carriers. The bill would allow prime sponsors to remove their name from a bill, at their discretion, under the uniform rules.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

To: Senator Kevin Meyer

From: Representative Gara

RE: Hearing Request for HB 41

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Les Gara", written over a horizontal line.

I respectfully request this committee hear House Bill 41, a which seeks to allow Joint-Prime Sponsorship of bills in the Alaska State Legislature to help encourage the development of relationships across the aisle. House Bill 41 has been passed out of the House of Representatives and referred to your committee.

We have attached the following documents relating to HB 41:

- Sponsor Statement
- Sectional Analysis
- Most recent version (Version D)
- Summary of changes
- Supporting memo from Legislative Legal
- Fiscal Note

Thank you for your consideration.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

Sponsor Statement for House Bill 41

An act relating to joint prime sponsorship of bills, or The Bipartisan Cooperation Act.

House Bill 41 aims to allow Legislators, and especially legislators from different parties, to work together. In the past, the Legislature allowed joint prime sponsorship of bills, which encouraged Legislators, including those from different parties, to build relationships and find common ground on legislation on which they can be co-equal bill carriers. The bill would allow prime sponsors to remove their name from a bill, at their discretion, under the uniform rules.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

Sectional Analysis

Committee Substitute House Bill 41: an Act Relating to Joint Prime Sponsorship of bills.

Section 1. This section amends AS 24.08.060 (a) to add language allowing a group of legislators to become joint prime sponsors of bills under the uniform rules.

Section 2. This section amends AS 24.08.060 to add a new section to proscribe how legislators may add a new joint prime sponsor to a bill and remove themselves from being a joint prime sponsor on a bill, under the uniform rules. It also describes how the joint prime sponsors may withdraw a bill under the uniform rules.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

Summary of Changes CS HB 41: an Act Relating to Joint Prime Sponsorship of bills. Detailing changes from 30-LS0189A to 30-LS0189D

Section 1: Deleted Short Title, Bipartisan Cooperation Act, lines 3-5

Section 2: Line 13, phrase "up to four joint prime sponsors" deleted, to remove limitations on number of joint prime sponsors.

HOUSE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE GARA

Introduced:
Referred:

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to joint prime sponsorship of bills."**

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

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

5 SHORT TITLE. This Act may be known as the Bipartisan Cooperation Act.

6 * **Sec. 2.** AS 24.08.060(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) A member of the legislature, a group of members, or a committee
8 chairman, with the concurrence of a majority of the active members of the committee
9 and on behalf of the committee, may introduce a bill or resolution. Bills and
10 resolutions shall be prepared and introduced in the manner and form prescribed in the
11 uniform rules and the legislative style manual.

12 * **Sec. 3.** AS 24.08.060 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (c) A bill may be introduced by a group of members of the legislature with up
14 to four joint prime sponsors in the manner and form prescribed in the uniform rules of
15 the legislature and the legislative style manual. All joint prime sponsors must agree to

1 allow additional joint prime sponsors. When the bill is in the possession of a joint
2 prime sponsor's house of the legislature, that joint prime sponsor may remove that
3 sponsor's name in accordance with the uniform rules of the legislature. A bill
4 introduced by joint prime sponsors under this subsection may only be withdrawn with
5 the agreement of all joint prime sponsors and in the manner prescribed in the uniform
6 rules of the legislature.

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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

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

MEMORANDUM

April 2, 2018

SUBJECT: HB 41 (Work Order No. 30-LS0189\A)

TO: Representative Les Gara
Attn: Tristan Walsh

FROM: Doug Gardner
Director

Mr. Walsh of your office requested that I address the following questions regarding HB 41 (Work Order No. 30-LS0189\A).

Question 1: Can this bill pass by a majority vote?

Yes. HB 41 amends AS 24.08.060(a) to add to the list of how legislators can move to introduce a bill; the amendment adds that a group of members may introduce a bill to carry out the sponsor's intent of allowing the joint prime sponsor process. The language added, "a group of members", is consistent with the language in Uniform Rule 37 regarding the introduction of bills. The bill, of course, does not amend the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature which may only be done by a concurrent resolution with a two thirds vote of both bodies. Accordingly, HB 41 only requires a majority vote of the membership of the house to pass.

Question 2: Under the above version of the bill, how would a joint sponsor remove their name from the bill?

HB 41 amends AS 24.08.060 to add a new subsection (c). That subsection refers to the process in the Uniform Rules regarding changing sponsorship and removing the prime sponsor's name from the bill. In my tenure as legal services director, I do not recall an objection in the rare circumstances when a member has moved to remove the member's name as the bill's sponsor. In the event of an objection, Uniform Rule 35 would require a vote of a majority of the members present for a change of sponsorship.

Question 3: Based on your experience, are there typically objections from other members when a member moves to withdraw their name from a bill as the bill's sponsor?

No. See the answer to question 2 above.

DDG:boo
18-250.boo

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 41(FIN)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	4/4/2018

Identifier: HB41-LEG-LEG-03-30-18
 Title: JOINT PRIME SPONSORSHIP OF BILLS
 Sponsor: GARA
 Requester: HOUSE FINANCE

Department:
 Appropriation:
 Allocation:
 OMB Component Number: 0

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2019 Request	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency?

If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

INITIAL VERSION. ONE PAGE, ZERO NOTE.

Prepared By: SANTE LESH, ADMIN OPERATIONS MANAGER
 Division: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
 Approved By: JESSICA GEARY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 Agency: LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

Phone: (907)907-
 Date: 03/30/2018 01:13 PM
 Date: 03/30/2018

REPORTED OUT OF
HFC 04/03/2018