



LAWS OF ALASKA

1967

Source

HB 1 am

Chapter No.

1

AN ACT

Giving voters the right to vote for candidates without regard to party affiliation in primary elections.

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

- * Section 1. AS 15.25.010 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 15.25.010. PROVISION FOR PRIMARY ELECTION. Candidates for the elective state executive and state and national legislative offices shall be nominated in a primary election by direct vote of the people in the manner prescribed by this chapter.

- * Sec. 2. AS 15.25.020 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.25.020. DATE OF PRIMARY. The primary election is held on the fourth Tuesday in August of every even numbered year.

- * Sec. 3. AS 15.25.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.25.030. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY. A member of a political party who seeks to become a candidate of the party in the primary election shall execute and file a declaration of candidacy. The declaration shall be executed under oath before an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and shall state in substance: (1) the full name of the candidate and the manner in which he wishes his name to appear on the ballot; (2) the full resident address of the candidate; (3) the full mailing address of the candidate; (4) if the candidacy is for the office of state senator or state representative, the election or senate district of which the candidate is a resident; (5) the office for which the candidate seeks nomination; (6) the name of the political party of which he is a candidate for nomination; (7) the date of the

primary election at which the candidate declares himself to be a candidate; (8) that the candidate meets the specific residency requirements of the office for which he is a candidate; (9) that the candidate will meet the specific citizenship requirements of the office for which he is a candidate; (10) that the candidate is a qualified voter as required by law; (11) that the candidate will meet the specific age requirements of the office for which he is a candidate; (12) that the candidate if nominated and elected will support the principles of the party he seeks to represent; (13) that the candidate requests that his name be placed on the primary election ballot; (14) that the required fee accompanies the declaration; and (15) that he is not a candidate for any other office to be voted upon at the primary election.

- * Sec. 4. AS 15.25.060 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 15.25.060. PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF BALLOTS. The primary election ballot shall be prepared and distributed by the secretary of state in the manner prescribed for general election ballots except as specifically provided otherwise for the primary election. The secretary of state shall place the names of all candidates who have properly filed in groups according to offices filed for, without regard to party affiliation. The names for each office shall be rotated as provided for the general election ballot. No blank spaces shall be provided on the ballot for the writing or pasting in of names.

- * Sec. 5. AS 15.25.070 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 15.25.070. SPECIAL PROVISIONS ON COUNTING BALLOTS. No voter may vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot. Votes cast for a person whose name is not on the ballot shall not be counted, but writing in a candidate's name does not invalidate the entire ballot.

- * Sec. 6. AS 15.25.080 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 15.25.080, DECLARATION OF PARTY PREFERENCE. The secretary of state shall provide a space upon the official voter registration book wherein a voter may, if he desires, record his party preference.

- * Sec. 7. AS 15.25.090 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.25.090. GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCT OF PRIMARY ELECTION. Unless specifically provided otherwise, all provisions regarding the conduct of the general election shall govern the conduct of the primary election, including, but not limited to, provisions concerning voter qualification; provisions regarding the duties, powers, rights, and obligations of the secretary of state, of other election officials, and of cities and organized boroughs; provision for notification of the election; provisions regarding payment of election expenses; provisions regarding employees being allowed time from work to vote; provisions for the counting, canvassing, and certification of returns; provisions for the determination of tie votes and of recount, contests and appeal; and provisions for absentee voting and the use of voting machines.

* Sec. 8. AS 15.25.110 is amended to read:

Sec. 15.25.110. FILLING VACANCIES BY PARTY PETITION. If a candidate nominated at the primary election dies, withdraws, resigns, becomes disqualified from holding office for which he is nominated, or is certified as being incapacitated in the manner prescribed by this section after the primary election and 10 days or more before the general election, the vacancy may be filled by party petition. The central committee of any political party or any party district committee may certify as being incapacitated any candidate nominated by their respective party by presenting to the secretary of state a sworn statement made by a panel of three licensed physicians, not more than two of whom shall be of the same political party, that the candidate is physically or mentally incapacitated to an extent that would in his judgment prevent the candidate from active service during the term of office if elected. The secretary of state shall place the name of the person nominated by party petition on the general election ballot or, if the general election ballot has been prepared, the secretary of state or the election officials directed by the secretary of state shall prepare, print, and distribute a sufficient number of gummed labels or stickers bearing the name of the candidate to fill the vacancy to each voting precinct with instructions that the election judges shall place one of the stickers or labels on the appropriate place on each ballot before the ballot is handed to the voter. The name of a candidate disqualified under this section shall not appear on the general election ballot.