

## **Benjamin E. “Ben” Carpenter—House District 29 Representative—Alaska Republican Party Primary Candidate**

**Other:** Ben is a transplant from the lower-48 and has called Alaska home for more than 30 years. Born in orchard county in eastern Washington State he moved to Alaska with his family in 1985. He grew up in Nikiski where he graduated from high school in 1993. Ben will retire from the Alaska Army National Guard this year with more than 21 years of military service, including six deployments to the Middle East with the USAF and USA. Upon departing the active duty military in 2013, Ben joined his family in establishing a commercial peony farm and is a founding member and current President of the Alaska Peony Market Cooperative, a local farm co-op specializing in marketing beautiful Alaska peonies. Ben is currently employed by Epperheimer, Inc. as a Project Manager. Ben has been blissfully married to the former Ameye Mazurek for 22 years and they have four wonderful children.

**Position Statement:** Experienced politicians are to thank for the financial mess we are in at every level of government. I've volunteered to serve in the State Legislature because I believed it to be the right thing to do. We have a desperate need for ordinary citizens who possess common sense, a functioning moral compass, and an ability to solve problems to stand up and lead for a time, and then sit down. From what I have seen of other districts' candidates, this is a season for change. This election has great potential to send some highly motivated, energetic and principled conservative leaders to Juneau. I'd like the opportunity to be part of the team and I ask for your support.

My priorities:

- SB91 was counterproductive; it shall be repealed.
- We need to change the way judges treat repeat offenders. Personal responsibility matters. No more revolving door: 3 strikes and you're out!
- State spending for Education and Health and Social Services require innovative actions to reduce cost to the taxpayer. We MUST deal with these issues instead of kicking the can down the road.
- Balance the budget and keep taxes low. We still have a spending problem. With increased oil prices we must keep up the pressure to reduce the size and scope of our government.
- With a leaner government we shouldn't need additional revenue but I favor a flat tax and partial year sales tax over other forms of revenue. No income tax... ever.
- Return the entire PFD to the people.



*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections. The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.*