

## Statement in Support

Every eligible citizen in Alaska should have an equal opportunity to have their voice heard in our democracy. By combining the secure PFD application process with voter registration, this proposition will help protect the fundamental right of every eligible Alaskan citizen to vote—whether they are a senior in Anchorage, an active duty member of the military deployed overseas, or an Alaska Native in a rural community.

PFD Voter Registration is a small common-sense update to Alaska's elections process that streamlines government and saves taxpayer dollars by combining the annual PFD application with simultaneous voter registration. If it passes, the information submitted to the 2017 PFD application would also be sent to the Division of Elections. While the State processes your PFD, the Division of Elections will register eligible new voters and update the addresses of established voters. New voters will receive a notification in the mail to either declare a political affiliation or opt-out of the voter registration process.

The proposition would not alter or eliminate other forms of existing voter registration. Paper applications will still exist at the DMV or from voter registrars.

From a small change, our State can reap huge rewards. What are these benefits?

- **We make government more efficient and save taxpayer dollars.** Citizens can fill out one less government form, saving municipal clerks countless hours of manually inputting hand-written information for each voter. Meanwhile, the State saves money by printing and distributing less paper ballots. And, we stretch our resources by using the existing secure PFD application process.
- **The voter database becomes more accurate and secure.** By using the PFD's existing secure electronic verification system, this proposal will make sure that only eligible Alaska citizens are registered to vote. This reduces the possibility that those who are not legally allowed to participate in our elections process can take advantage of it.
- **Every eligible voter gets an equal opportunity to have their voice heard in our democracy.** By voting YES we will protect the fundamental right of every eligible Alaskan citizen to vote and will ensure that those who find it a challenge to vote are able to participate fully in our democracy. This is especially important for Alaskans serving in the military, residents living in rural communities, and Alaska Natives. It's estimated by the Division of Elections that approximately 70,000 eligible citizens living in Alaska could be registered to vote in just one year.

PFD Voter Registration is a simple update that makes voter registration more convenient for all Alaskans—be they Republican, Independent, or Democrat. Let's make government more efficient. Let's save taxpayer dollars. Let's make sure every Alaskan has an opportunity to have their voice heard. Vote YES on the PFD Voter Registration proposition.

Kim Reitmeier: President, ANCSA Regional Association

Aaron Schutt: CEO, Doyon Limited

Tim Kascillas: US Army veteran, Student at UAA

*The statement printed on this page is the opinion of the author(s) and is presented as submitted to the Division of Elections.*