

Primary Election

August 28, 2012



State of Alaska
**Ballot Measures
Pamphlet**

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Help Your Community!

If you'd like to get paid to serve your community.....

If you enjoy spending time with your neighbors and meeting new people.....

If you like helping people exercise their right to vote.....

Sign up to be a poll worker!

Each election cycle the regional election offices appoint hundreds of poll workers.

If you would like to be a poll worker, contact the regional office closest to you.
(Office locations are on the back of this pamphlet)

This publication was prepared by the Division of Elections, produced at a cost of \$.15 per copy to inform Alaskan voters about issues appearing on the 2012 Primary Election Ballot per AS 15.58.010 and printed in Portland, Oregon.

Redistricting 2012

Explanation of the Changes in House and Senate Districts in Alaska

Every ten years, after the federal census, states must redraw their legislative districts to make the districts equal in population. During the intervening years some districts have gained population and others have lost population. The process of drawing new legislative district boundaries is called redistricting. In Alaska, the redistricting process is performed by the Alaska Redistricting Board as outlined in Article VI of the Alaska Constitution.

When determining the boundaries of the new legislative districts, the Alaska Redistricting Board must follow several requirements outlined in the Alaska constitution as well as in the federal Voting Rights Act. Some of the basic requirements specify that districts must have equal population, be compact and have an integrated socio-economic area. In addition, districts must be drawn in a way that does not discriminate against minority voters.

The 2012 Primary and General elections will be conducted under the new redistricting plan adopted by the Alaska Redistricting Board. Please see the redistricting map as adopted by the Alaska Redistricting Board. A table describing new house and senate districts follows.

Your house and senate district are printed on your voter registration card. For more information about your house and senate district, please call your regional elections office.

Region I – Juneau

House Districts 28-35
(907) 465-3021
Toll Free 1-866-948-8683

Region III – Fairbanks

House Districts 1-6, 38-39
(907) 451-2835
Toll Free 1-866-959-8683

Region II – Anchorage

House Districts 12-27
(907) 522-8683
Toll Free 1-866-958-8683

Region IV – Nome

House Districts 36-37, 40
(907) 443-5285
Toll Free 1-866-953-8683

Region II – Mat-Su

House Districts 7-11
(907) 373-8952

State of Alaska
Division of Elections
House and Senate District Designations

Based on "Amended Proclamation of Redistricting" April 5, 2012

SENATE DISTRICT	HOUSE DISTRICT	HOUSE DISTRICT
A	1 North Pole/Eielson	2 Farmers Loop/Two Rivers
B	3 Fairbanks/Wainwright	4 City of Fairbanks
C	5 Chena Ridge	6 Richardson Highway
D	7 Rural Mat-Su	8 Greater Palmer
E	9 Greater Wasilla	10 Big Lake/Point McKenzie
F	11 Butte/Chugiak	12 Eagle River
G	13 Elmendorf	14 College Gate
H	15 University	16 Spenard
I	17 Mountainview	18 Downtown
J	19 West Anchorage	20 Sand Lake
K	21 Oceanview	22 Taku
L	23 Huffman	24 Abbott
M	25 Basher	26 Eagle River Valley
N	27 South Anchorage	28 North Kenai
O	29 Kenai/Soldotna	30 Homer/South Kenai
P	31 Mendenhall Valley	32 Downtown Juneau/Skagway/Petersburg
Q	33 Ketchikan/Wrangell	34 Southeast Islands
R	35 Kodiak/Cordova	36 Dillingham/Illiamna
S	37 Bethel/Aleutians	38 Wade Hampton/McKinley
T	39 Bering Straits/Interior Villages	40 Arctic

Amended Proclamation House Districts

Statewide

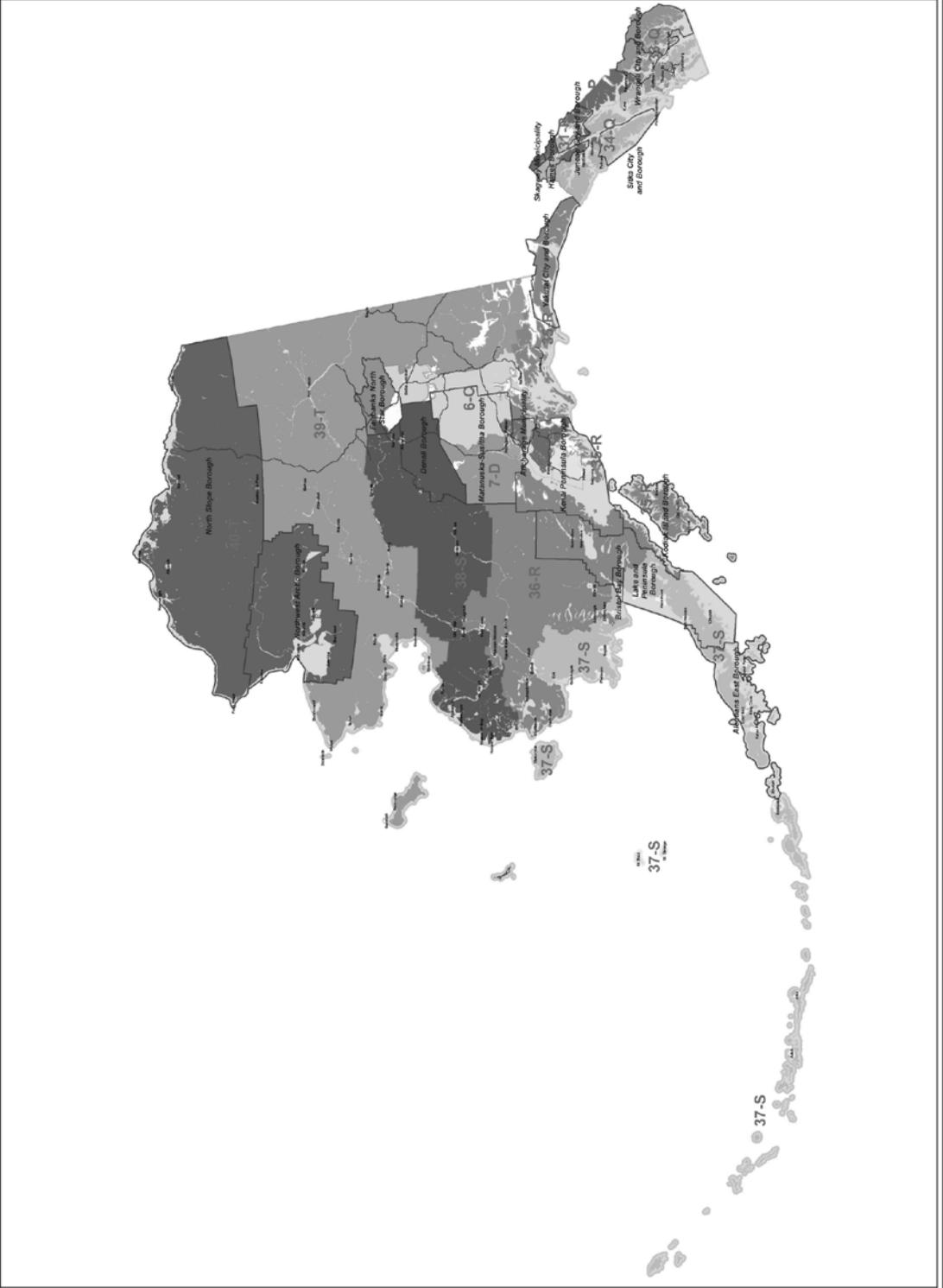


Legend

- City
- Borough
- Water Boundary



Prepared by:
Alaska Redistricting Board



Polling Places

Due to redistricting of the legislative districts, precinct boundaries and polling places were changed to conform to the new districts.

In July 2012, voters were mailed a new voter identification card and notice of polling location. Voters are encouraged to go to their assigned polling place. If you go to a different polling location, you will be required to vote a questioned ballot.

If you are not sure where your assigned polling location is, you have the following options:

- **Scan the bar code on your new my.Alaska.gov voter ID card.**
- **Locate your polling place by entering your address online at:**

www.elections.alaska.gov

- **Call the Polling Place locator at 1-888-383-8683, or in Anchorage, please call 269-8683.**
- **Call your regional elections office:**
 - **Region I – Juneau**
House Districts 28 – 35
907-465-3021 or Toll Free 1-866-948-8683
 - **Region II – Anchorage/Mat-Su**
House Districts 7 – 27
907-522-8683 or Toll Free 1-866-958-8683
 - **Region III – Fairbanks**
House Districts 1 – 6, 38, 39
907-451-2835 or Toll Free 1-866-959-8683
 - **Region IV – Nome**
House Districts 36, 37, 40
907-443-5285 or Toll Free 1-866-953-8683

You can also see if you are registered and check your registration information online!

www.elections.alaska.gov

Voting Information

Primary Election Day is August 28, 2012

Polling Places

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. **To locate your polling place please call 1-888-383-8683. In Anchorage, please call 269-8683.**

Bring Identification to the Polls

You **MUST** be prepared to show one form of identification. You may use the following ID:

- Voter ID Card
- Driver's License
- State ID Card
- Current and valid photo ID Card
- Passport
- Military ID Card
- Birth Certificate
- Hunting or Fishing License

or, you may use an original copy of one of the following documents if it contains your name and current address:

- Current Utility Bill
- Government Check
- Bank Statement
- Pay Check
- Other Government Document

If you do not have identification when voting, you will be asked to vote a questioned ballot.

What Happens if Your Name is not on Register

If your name does not appear on the precinct register, you may vote a questioned ballot. Before receiving a ballot, you must complete a questioned ballot envelope. Your voted ballot will be placed in a secrecy sleeve and then the secrecy sleeve will be sealed inside the completed questioned ballot envelope. All questioned ballots are returned to the Election Supervisor for review and counting by the Questioned Ballot Review Board.

Marking the Ballot

When voting the ballot, completely fill in the oval next to the candidate or issue you wish to vote for. Fill in the oval like this: 

You only have to mark the races or issues you choose to vote for. If you mark more than one choice in a race or issue, that section of the ballot will **NOT** be counted. The sections of the ballot that are properly marked will be counted.

If you make a mistake marking your ballot, **DO NOT** erase or correct the ballot. You may return the spoiled ballot to an election worker and request a new ballot. If you attempt to correct a mistake on the ballot, the corrected vote may not be counted. **Note:** *You may only receive a replacement for a spoiled ballot 2 times.*

Campaigning Prohibited Near Polls

Alaska law prohibits political persuasion within 200 feet of any entrance to a polling place during the hours the polls are open. This means you may not discuss or display campaign items for candidates or issues appearing on the ballot at that polling place.

Voter Rights, Assistance and Concerns

Questioned Voting

If your name is not listed on the precinct register or if you do not have identification, you have the right to vote a questioned ballot. The information you provide on the outside of the questioned ballot envelope will be used to determine your voting eligibility and to update your voter registration information. If for any reason your questioned ballot is not fully counted, you will be notified in writing.

Language or Other Assistance While Voting

If you need assistance during the voting process, you may have a person of your choice provide any needed assistance as long as that person is not a candidate for office in the election, is not your employer, agent of your employer or agent of a union you belong to. Assistance may be provided during each step of the voting process, including assistance inside the voting booth with reading or marking the ballot. You may also receive assistance from the election board. This is your right under federal law.

The Division of Elections provides language assistance to Alaska Native voters who have limited English proficiency through the use of bilingual election workers and interpreters. Alaska Native language assistance is available on Election Day in many rural polling places throughout the state. In addition, Filipino (Tagalog) and Spanish language assistance is available on Election Day in certain communities along the Aleutian chain. If you need language assistance, please contact the Division of Elections. Yup'ik language assistance is available by calling, toll-free, 1-866-954-8683.

Touch Screen Voting Option

There will be one touch screen voting unit in each polling place. Touch screen voting is intended for the blind, disabled, and for voters who do not read well. Alaska's touch screen voting unit allows disabled voters to vote unassisted through the use of magnified, high contrast and audio ballots. If you need to vote using the touch screen voting unit, let the election board know.

Visually Impaired Voters

Magnifying ballot viewers for the visually impaired will be available at all polling places and absentee voting sites.

Audio recording of this Pamphlet is available at each Regional Election Office or from the Alaska State Library, Talking Book Center, located in Anchorage. Telephone the library at (907) 269-6575 for information.

Hearing Impaired Voters

The Division of Elections has a TTY telecommunications device, which allows hearing impaired voters to obtain general information about elections by calling (907) 465-3020.

Physically Disabled Voters

If you have difficulty gaining access to your polling place, or if you have accessibility questions about your polling place, please let the Division of Elections know. We make every effort to ensure that polling places are accessible to all Alaskans.

Concerns, Comments, Questions

If you have any concerns or comments about voting, if you have questions, or if you would like more information about our special services, please contact any regional elections office.

<u>Region I</u> Juneau: (907) 465-3021 Toll free: (866) 948-8683	<u>Region III</u> Fairbanks: (907) 451-2835 Toll free: (866) 959-8683
<u>Region II</u> Anchorage: (907) 522-8683 Toll free: (866) 958-8683 Mat-Su: (907) 373-8952	<u>Region IV</u> Nome: (907) 443-5285 Toll free: (866) 953-8683

Yup'ik Language Assistance, Toll-free 866-954-8683

Director's Office, Toll-free 866-952-8683

Primary Election Ballot Choices

There are three ballot types – you may only vote ONE

Your party affiliation listed on the precinct register will determine the ballot type you are eligible to vote.

Ballot Type	Candidates on Ballot	Who Can Vote This Ballot
Alaskan Independence Democrat and Libertarian Candidate and Ballot Measures	Alaskan Independence Democrat Libertarian	Any registered voter Party affiliation listed on register is: (A – C – D – G – L – R – N – U – V)
Republican Candidate and Ballot Measures	Republican	Voters registered as: Republican, Undeclared and Nonpartisan Party affiliation listed on register is: (R – U – N)
Measures Only	No Candidates This ballot contains ballot measures only.	Any registered voter

If you request a primary ballot type that you are not eligible to vote, you must vote a questioned ballot.

If you would like to vote for just the ballot measures and not vote for any candidates, you may request the measures only ballot.

Absentee Voting

Early / In Person / By Mail / Electronic and Special Needs Voting

There are several absentee voting options available during each election. You may vote absentee in person, by mail, by fax or vote a special needs ballot through a personal representative.

Voting Early or Absentee In Person

Beginning **August 13, 2012**, you may vote at an absentee voting site. Ballots for all 40 districts are available at all Regional Elections offices. In addition to the Regional Elections offices, there are many other voting sites throughout Alaska that will have ballots for their house district. For more information or for a list of absentee voting locations visit our website or contact a Regional Elections office.

Special Needs Voting

If you are unable to go to the polls due to age, serious illness or a disability, you may have a personal representative pick up and deliver a ballot to you beginning 15 days before an election at an absentee voting site or on Election Day at the polling place. Your personal representative can be anyone, except a candidate for office in the election, the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union.

Voting By Mail or Electronically

The Division of Elections Absentee Office in Anchorage handles all absentee by mail and electronic applications. To vote by mail or electronically, you must submit an application.

Absentee By Mail

Absentee ballot applications can be submitted after January 1st of each election year. You can request a ballot for a specific election or for all elections in the year. **Absentee by mail ballot applications for the Primary election must be received by August 18, 2012.**

Apply early to ensure timely delivery of your ballot. Your voted ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day.

Absentee By Electronic Transmission

Voting by electronic transmission should be your last alternative for casting a ballot. You may apply for electronic voting **August 13, 2012 through 5:00pm Alaska Time on August 27, 2012.** You may return your voted electronic ballot by mail or by fax. **If you return your voted ballot electronically, it must be received no later than 8:00pm Alaska Time on Election Day.** If you return your voted ballot by mail, it must be postmarked on or before Election Day.

If you have questions about voting by mail or fax, please contact the Absentee Office at (907) 375-6400 or Toll Free (877) 375-6508.

For more information about absentee voting, contact any Division of Elections office or visit our website at:

www.elections.alaska.gov

State of Alaska Absentee Ballot Application

This application MUST be received AT LEAST 10 DAYS prior to election day - APPLY EARLY

1. Send ballot(s) for: <input type="checkbox"/> All Elections (in Calendar Year) <input type="checkbox"/> Primary (August) <input type="checkbox"/> General (November) <input type="checkbox"/> REAA/CRSA (October) <input type="checkbox"/> Special Election			
To request an absentee by mail ballot for city/borough elections, you must apply directly with your city/borough clerk's office.			
2. You MUST complete this section for registration: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No I am a citizen of the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No I am at least 18 years old or will be within 90 days of completing this application. If you checked NO to either question, do not complete this form as you are not eligible to register to vote.			
3. Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Suffix (Sr., Jr., Etc.)
4. Name Previously Registered: _____		5. *Voter Number: _____ (If Known)	
6. You MUST Provide the Alaska Residence Address Where You Claim Residency - do not use PO, PSC, HC or RR House No. Street Name Apt # City State _____ <div style="text-align: right;">ALASKA</div> If your mailing address is DIFFERENT than your residence address, and you want to keep your residence address confidential, check the following box. * [] Yes, please keep my residence address confidential.			
7. Permanent Mailing Address: _____ _____ _____		8. *Identifiers – You MUST provide at least ONE SSN or Last 4 of SSN: _____/_____/_____ AK Driver's License No.: _____ AK State Identification No.: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I have not been issued a SSN or AK Driver's License or AK State ID No.	
9. *Date of Birth - You MUST provide _____ / _____ / _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Month Day Year</div>		10. Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
11. Political Affiliation – For information on political affiliation choices in Alaska, see No. 7 in instructions: Write political affiliation here: _____ . (Your primary ballot choice is based on your political affiliation.)			
12. For Military and Overseas Voter ONLY – Check One <input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty, or an eligible spouse or dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a U.S. Citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S. or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. How do you want your ballot sent? – Check One <input type="checkbox"/> Mail – Provide your ballot mailing address in box 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Fax – Provide your fax number in box 13.		13. *Contact – (Include all state and international prefixes) Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____ Fax Number: _____ <small>Provide all prefixes. If outside the U.S., provide International prefixes and name of country.</small>	
14. Ballot Mailing Address <input type="checkbox"/> Check here to mail your ballot to the permanent mailing address listed above or provide a different address below: _____ _____ _____		15. *Primary Ballot Choice (August Election Only) You MUST select ONE ballot choice or you may not receive a ballot. See instructions for more information about ballot choice. <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot with Alaskan Independence, Democratic, Libertarian Candidates and Ballot Measure(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot with Alaska Republican Candidates and Ballot Measure(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot Measure(s) ONLY (no candidates)	
16. <input type="checkbox"/> For Military and Overseas Voters: Check here if you selected a choice under No. 12 and would like to receive ballots through the next two regularly scheduled General Elections.			
17. <input type="checkbox"/> Special Advance Ballots: Check this box if you will be living, working, or traveling outside the U.S. or you are in a remote area of Alaska and would like a special advance ballot. Ballots are mailed beginning 60 days prior to election day. See No. 9 in instructions for additional information about this ballot.			
18. Voter Certificate. Read and sign: I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that: The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and I am eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, I am not requesting a ballot from any other state, and I am not voting in any other manner in this (these) election(s). I further certify that I am an Alaska resident and that I have not been convicted of a felony, or having been so convicted, have been unconditionally discharged from incarceration, probation and/or parole. I am not registered to vote in another state or I have taken the necessary steps to cancel that registration. WARNING: If you provide false information on this application you can be convicted of a felony and/or misdemeanor. (AS 15.56.040; AS 15.56.050)			
*Signature _____		Date _____	
Registrar/Agency/Official – Check ID and complete this section Registrar Name _____ Voter # or SSN _____		For Office Use Only D/P: _____ VN _____	

C06 (Rev. 05/31/2011)

* Items are kept confidential by the Division of Elections and are not available for public inspection except that confidential addresses may be released to government agencies or during election processes as set out in state law.

State of Alaska - Division of Elections

Absentee Ballot Application

You may use this application to request an absentee ballot for federal and state elections conducted by the Division of Elections. This form may also be used simultaneously to request a ballot and initially register to vote. If you are not registered, this application MUST be received or postmarked at least 30 DAYS prior to election day. If you are registered, this application MUST be received 10 DAYS prior to election day.

When Completing This Application, Provide:

1. **Alaska Residence Address Where You Live** – A physical residence address in Alaska **must** be included. The residence address is used to assign your voting district and precinct. Your application will not be processed if you do not provide a residence address or if you provide a PO Box, HC No. and Box, PSC Box, Rural Route No., Commercial Address or Mail Stop Address in number 6 of the application.

If your residence has been assigned a street number, provide that number. If not, indicate exactly where you live such as, highway name and milepost number, boat harbor with pier and slip number, subdivision name with lot and block or trailer park name and space number. If you live in a rural village in Alaska, you may provide the community name as your residence address.

Are you temporarily out of State? If so, and you have intent to return (active military and military spouses are exempt from intent requirements), you may maintain your Alaska residence as it appears on your current record. If you provide a new residence address, it must be within Alaska.

2. **Proof of Identity** – Your identity **must** be verified. If you have been issued a Social Security Number, an Alaska Driver's License number or an Alaska State ID card number, you **MUST** provide at least one in number 8. If you have never been issued one of the identification numbers, you may indicate this by checking the appropriate box.

3. **Date of Birth** – If you do not provide a date of birth, your application will not be processed.

4. **Are you submitting this application by mail, by FAX or by PDF file through e-mail?** If so, and if you are not already registered to vote in Alaska, your identity **must** be verified either at the time you register or the first time you vote. If you would like to ensure that your identity is verified at the time you register, submit a copy of one of the following:

- Current and valid photo identification
- Passport
- Birth certificate
- Driver's license
- State identification card
- Hunting and Fishing license

If you do not provide proof of identification at the time of registration, you will be required to meet certain identification requirements at the time you vote.

5. **Are you registering from outside the State of Alaska?** If so, you **must** provide proof of Alaska residency, such as a copy of your Alaska driver's license, hunting or fishing license, student loan documents, proof of employment in Alaska, military leave and earnings statement or other documentation that supports your claim as an Alaska resident.

6. **Have you been convicted of a felony?** If so, you may register to vote only if you have been unconditionally discharged. Provide a copy of your discharge papers with this application if available.

7. **Political Affiliation - Recognized political parties** are those parties that have gained recognized political party status under Alaska Statute. **Political groups** are those groups who have applied for political party status but have not met the qualifications to be a recognized political party under Alaska Statutes. Political affiliations in Alaska are as follows:

Recognized Political Parties:

- Alaska Democratic Party
- Alaska Libertarian Party
- Alaska Republican Party
- Alaskan Independence Party

Political Groups:

- Alaska Constitution Party
- Green Party of Alaska
- Veterans of Alaska

Other:

- Nonpartisan (not affiliated with a political party or group)
- Undeclared (do not wish to declare a political affiliation)

8. **Primary Election Ballot Choice Information** – Your political affiliation 30 days before the election determines the ballot selection you are eligible to make. You **must** select a ballot type that is available to you and corresponding to your political affiliation in number 11. If you are not affiliated with a political party or group and you do not select a ballot choice, your application will not be processed for the primary election.

- Any registered voter may select the Alaskan Independence, Democratic, Libertarian Candidates ballot.
- Only voters registered as Republican, Nonpartisan or Undeclared may select the Republican Candidates ballot.
- Any registered voter may select the Ballot Measures ONLY ballot. This ballot will have only ballot measures and no candidates will appear on this ballot.

9. **Special Advance Ballots** – This ballot is a blank ballot with spaces for you to write-in the names of the candidates you wish to vote for and is mailed beginning 60 days before election day. This ballot is for those voters who are overseas or in remote areas of Alaska where the mail service may be slow. In addition to the 60 day advance ballot, you will also be mailed the official ballot 2-3 weeks before the election. You may vote and return both ballots. If both ballots are returned in time, only the official ballot will be counted.

10. Mail, fax or email (as a pdf, tiff or jpg attachment) your completed application to the office below.

Division of Elections
Absentee Voting Office
619 E. Ship Creek Ave., Suite 329
Anchorage, AK 99501-1677

FAX: 1-907-677-9943
Phone: 1-907-375-6400
Toll Free 1-877-375-6508 (within the U.S.)
E-Mail: akabsentee@alaska.gov

Yup'ik Language Assistance Toll Free 1-866-954-8683



**State of Alaska
Primary Election
August 28, 2012
Official XXX Party Ballot**

Instructions: To vote, completely fill in the the oval next to your choice, like this: ●

United States Representative (vote for one)
<input type="radio"/> Candidate
State Senator (vote for one)
<input type="radio"/> Candidate
State Representative (vote for one)
<input type="radio"/> Candidate
Ballot Measure No. 1 Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption
Ballot Measure No. 1 This bill would allow a city or borough to raise the property tax exemption on a residence from \$20,000 to at most \$50,000. This kind of tax exemption must be put to a vote and approved at a local election. The bill also allows a city or borough to pass a law to adjust this exemption to reflect a raise in the cost of living. Should this initiative become law?
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO

Continue Voting on Next Side

**Ballot Measure No. 2
Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program**

Ballot Measure No. 2

This bill would create the Alaska Coastal Management Program in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development ("the Department"). The program would develop new state and local standards to review projects in coastal areas of the State. These standards and new permitting procedures would be in addition to existing state and federal permitting requirements. Projects requiring state or federal permits would be reviewed under the program. The program would not become entirely effective until approval of these new state and local standards by the U.S. Department of Commerce under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act.

The bill creates a Coastal Policy Board. The board would have 13 members appointed by the governor. Nine would be members of the public from coastal areas. 4 would be state commissioners. The board would coordinate agencies for coastal and ocean planning. The board would work with agencies to develop and implement the program. The board would also review, approve, and evaluate coastal district management plans ("district plans"). The board would direct the Department to apply for funding. The board would review and approve regulations. Board members could receive per diem and travel expenses.

The bill sets out 9 coastal districts. Each district would adopt a district plan. District plans would need board approval. To be approved, the district plan must comply with the bill's provisions and regulations approved by the board. Each district plan would set boundaries for the coastal area subject to the district plan. District plans would define the land and water uses subject to the district plan's requirements. District plans would also set special management areas and enforceable policies. The bill sets standards for district enforceable policies. The bill defines when an enforceable policy is pre-empted by existing state or federal law.

The bill would restore coastal districts, boundaries, and district plans that were in effect on June 30, 2011 under the prior coastal management program. Coastal districts would have to review their prior district plans and submit any needed changes for board approval. Coastal districts with zoning or land use authority would use those powers to apply their district plans. Otherwise, state agencies would put the district plan into effect. Local and state agencies would regulate uses to conform to the district plans. The superior court could enforce board or department orders.

The bill would also create the Division of Ocean and Coastal Management in the Department. This division would issue state consistency determinations and respond to federal consistency determinations and certifications. It would adopt board-approved regulations. It would also give planning and management information to coastal districts. The division would create a financial aid program to help coastal districts create and effect their district plans.

The bill sets goals for the program. These goals include (1) management goals for coastal uses and resources; (2) the coordination of coastal planning among government and citizens; (3) public and government participation in the program; and (4) require state agencies to comply with the program.

The bill requires that regulations be adopted. The regulations would be approved by the board and then issued by the division. They would set state coastal standards, district plan requirements, and consistency review procedures.

The bill would allow regional education attendance areas ("REAs") in the unorganized borough to be used as Coastal Resource Service Areas ("CRSAs"). CRSAs would act through a board and function like coastal districts. The Department could combine or divide REAs into CRSAs under set conditions. A coastal city could also be included in a CRSA under set conditions. CRSAs could also be created by voters or by a voter-approved city or village council decision. Service areas would elect boards with seven members. The State would run and fund CRSA board elections. Under some circumstances, board members could be appointed. Board members could be recalled. They could receive per diem and travel expenses. If voters fail to create a needed service area, the Department could create a district plan for the area to submit to the legislature. Under set conditions, the Department could complete a district plan for a CRSA. The bill creates a development, approval and implementation process for district plans in service areas.

The bill sets out rules of construction and defines 16 terms.

Should this initiative become law?

YES

NO

2012 Primary Election Ballot Measures

Ballot Measure No. 1

Bill Increasing the Maximum
Residential Property Tax Exemption

Ballot Measure No. 2

Establishment of an Alaska
Coastal Management Program

Ballot Measure 1

Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption

BALLOT LANGUAGE

Ballot Measure No. 1
Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption

This bill would allow a city or borough to raise the property tax exemption on a residence from \$20,000 to at most \$50,000. This kind of tax exemption must be put to a vote and approved at a local election. The bill also allows a city or borough to pass a law to adjust this exemption to reflect a raise in the cost of living.

Should this initiative become law?

Yes No

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY SUMMARY

This Act is about municipal property taxes. Under current law, part of the value of a home may be exempted from those taxes. The Act does two things. It raises the amount of value that may be exempt from \$20,000 to \$50,000 per home. It also allows an exemption to be increased if the cost of living goes up.

STATEMENT OF COSTS

Prepared by the Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development:

As required by AS 15.45.090(a)(4), the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development has prepared the following statement of costs to the State of Alaska implementing the law proposed by this ballot initiative.

This ballot initiative will allow municipalities to increase the optional residential property exemption, as authorized in AS 29.45.050(a), from the current \$20,000 up to \$50,000. There is no cost to the state for administering the exemption. However, there could be a loss of revenue to the state if municipalities with significant oil and gas property within their boundaries enact the exemption to the maximum amount. This is a result of the shifting of the tax burden from residential property to nonresidential property.

At the present time, the state levies a 20 mill property tax on all oil and gas property in the state (AS 43.56). If the oil and gas property is located within a municipality that levies a property tax, the municipality's property tax levy is deducted from the 20 mills the state receives; thus the state's revenue is reduced.

The initiative allows for an exemption "of up to \$50,000" and a municipality may choose how that is calculated. Of the six municipalities that allow the exemption, three of them allow a percentage of 10%, 20%, or 30% of the assessed value up to the maximum. Of the six

Ballot Measure 1

Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption

municipalities that allow the exemption, four of them contain significant oil and gas properties: the North Slope Borough, the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the City of Valdez.

In order to estimate the maximum revenue the state could lose by the implementation of this measure, we have estimated that all four of these municipalities will enact an exemption to the maximum amount allowed, \$50,000. If these municipalities do not reduce their budgets, the mill rates will have to be increased because of the reduction in assessed value, thus shifting a higher tax burden to commercial, industrial and oil and gas property.

Based on this scenario, it is estimated that the state could lose a maximum of \$1.1 million in tax revenue it currently receives from the 20 mill levy on all oil and gas property.

FULL TEXT OF PROPOSED LAW

“An Act Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Exemption and Providing for Annual Adjustments”

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

Sec. 1. AS 29.45.050(a) is amended to read:

A municipality may exclude or exempt or partially exempt residential property from taxation by ordinance ratified by the voters at an election. An exclusion or exemption authorized by this subsection may be applied with respect to taxes levied in a service area to fund the special services. An exclusion or exemption authorized by this subsection may not exceed the assessed value of \$(20,000) 50,000 for any one residence except that a municipality may, by ordinance, annually adjust their voter-authorized exemption by the amount calculated by the State Assessor to reflect the increase, if any, in the annual average cost of living, using the U.S. Department of Labor CPI-U for Anchorage.

Ballot Measure 1

Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT

The initiative, if passed by voters, would increase the allowable residential property tax exemption from \$20,000 to \$50,000.

State law currently allows municipalities to offer partial tax breaks to homeowners. The homeowner, or owner-occupant, exemption is capped by state law at \$20,000 per property. Attempts to increase the exemption value to \$50,000 by changing state law through the Alaska Legislature have been unsuccessful over the years. The Fairbanks North Star Borough opted to directly enact legislation through the citizen's initiative process.

If the initiative passes, municipalities would be allowed to offer a residential property tax exemption up to \$50,000. A municipality could exclude or exempt or partially exempt residential property from taxation by ordinance ratified by the voters at an election. An exclusion or exemption authorized by this subsection may be applied with respect to taxes levied in a service area to fund the special services. An exemption may not exceed the assessed value of \$50,000 for any one residence which a municipality may adjust each year in the amount calculated by the State Assessor to reflect the increase, if any, in the annual average cost of living, using the U.S. Department of Labor CPI- U (Consumer Price Index) for Anchorage.

Local option, through the ordinance and local election process, would determine how much the exemption would be and whether or not to adjust the exemption each year for inflation. The increased exemption will allow for homeowner tax relief. It will also provide municipalities a tool when they consider diversifying their revenue stream.

Nadine Winters, Assembly Member, Fairbanks North Star Borough
Jim Whitaker

Ballot Measure 1

Bill Increasing the Maximum Residential Property Tax Exemption

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION

Several years ago, the voters of Anchorage chose to implement a residential property tax exemption which applies to the first 10% of assessed value up to a limit of \$20,000. This allowed for the maximum tax benefit to the majority of homeowners and a fair distribution of the cost of government. This also required all homeowners to pay a part of the bill for government services. The current residential exemption program shifts about \$14 million of taxes from those receiving the exemption to other taxpayers.

A change in the exemption from the current \$20,000 to the proposed \$50,000 limit would create a reduction in the tax base and an increase in the tax rate. If approved, about \$22 million in taxes will be shifted to other taxpayers.

It comes as a surprise to most taxpayers that increasing the residential tax credit results in an increase in taxes for lower value homes. For the 2012 tax year, there are 47,000 property owners receiving the current \$20,000 residential exemption. If the exemption is increased to \$50,000, 32% of those currently enrolled will see an average \$30 increase to their tax bill. Property owners with an assessed value over \$237,000 will receive an average reduction in taxes of \$190. Increasing exemptions from property tax does not reduce the demand for services from government or the cost of the services provided; it just lowers the tax base. If the cost of government stays the same, and the tax base is reduced, then the tax rate must be increased to pay the bills.

The impact on homeowners is not the whole story. Since the residential exemption does not apply to business personal property or commercial real estate, those property owners will see an increase in taxes. Business personal property and commercial real estate account for 37% of the tax base. Non-residential property owners will see an increase in their tax bills if the exemption is increased. The \$22 million tax shift will go to the 38% of homes not in the program, lower value homeowners, and the owners of business related property in the community.

Among those not receiving the exemption would be apartment owners. The shift in taxes would result in higher property taxes and thus, upward pressure on rents. Since renters typically represents our community's lowest socioeconomic group, the proposed exemption increase would negatively affect those who can least afford it.

While an increase in the residential exemption sounds good, in reality it would benefit a few people at the expense of many homeowners, renters, and all of the business owners in the community. This is not a good bargain, and is not good public policy. The community should vote no on this proposal and should continue to work with their elected officials to limit the growth of the Municipal budget or seek alternative revenue sources as the best means for meaningful property tax relief.

Marty McGee, Assessor/Municipality of Anchorage

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

BALLOT LANGUAGE

Ballot Measure No. 2 Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

This bill would create the Alaska Coastal Management Program in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (“the Department”). The program would develop new state and local standards to review projects in coastal areas of the State. These standards and new permitting procedures would be in addition to existing state and federal permitting requirements. Projects requiring state or federal permits would be reviewed under the program. The program would not become entirely effective until approval of these new state and local standards by the U.S. Department of Commerce under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act.

The bill creates a Coastal Policy Board. The board would have 13 members appointed by the governor. Nine would be members of the public from coastal areas. 4 would be state commissioners. The board would coordinate agencies for coastal and ocean planning. The board would work with agencies to develop and implement the program. The board would also review, approve, and evaluate coastal district management plans (“district plans”). The board would direct the Department to apply for funding. The board would review and approve regulations. Board members could receive per diem and travel expenses.

The bill sets out 9 coastal districts. Each district would adopt a district plan. District plans would need board approval. To be approved, the district plan must comply with the bill’s provisions and regulations approved by the board. Each district plan would set boundaries for the coastal area subject to the district plan. District plans would define the land and water uses subject to the district plan’s requirements. District plans would also set special management areas and enforceable policies. The bill sets standards for district enforceable policies. The bill defines when an enforceable policy is pre-empted by existing state or federal law.

The bill would restore coastal districts, boundaries, and district plans that were in effect on June 30, 2011 under the prior coastal management program. Coastal districts would have to review their prior district plans and submit any needed changes for board approval. Coastal districts with zoning or land use authority would use those powers to apply their district plans. Otherwise, state agencies would put the district plan into effect. Local and state agencies would regulate uses to conform to the district plans. The superior court could enforce board or department orders.

The bill would also create the Division of Ocean and Coastal Management in the Department. This division would issue state consistency determinations and respond to federal consistency determinations and certifications. It would adopt board-approved regulations. It would also give planning and management information to coastal districts. The division would create a financial aid program to help coastal districts create and effect their district plans.

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

The bill sets goals for the program. These goals include (1) management goals for coastal uses and resources; (2) the coordination of coastal planning among government and citizens; (3) public and government participation in the program; and (4) require state agencies to comply with the program.

The bill requires that regulations be adopted. The regulations would be approved by the board and then issued by the division. They would set state coastal standards, district plan requirements, and consistency review procedures.

The bill would allow regional education attendance areas (“REAs”) in the unorganized borough to be used as Coastal Resource Service Areas (“CRSAs”). CRSAs would act through a board and function like coastal districts. The Department could combine or divide REAs into CRSAs under set conditions. A coastal city could also be included in a CRSA under set conditions. CRSAs could also be created by voters or by a voter-approved city or village council decision. Service areas would elect boards with seven members. The State would run and fund CRSA board elections. Under some circumstances, board members could be appointed. Board members could be recalled. They could receive per diem and travel expenses. If voters fail to create a needed service area, the Department could create a district plan for the area to submit to the legislature. Under set conditions, the Department could complete a district plan for a CRSA. The bill creates a development, approval and implementation process for district plans in service areas.

The bill sets out rules of construction and defines 16 terms.

Should this initiative become law?

Yes No

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY SUMMARY

This Act creates a state coastal management program. The program will regulate projects and activities that require state or federal permits in the state’s coastal zone. The Act sets program goals. Goals include the balanced use and protection of the state’s coastal resources, coordination of decision making among levels of government, and participation by the public.

The Act creates a Coastal Policy Board. The board will oversee the program. The board has nine public members from the coastal areas of the state. Four department commissioners are members. Each member has an alternate. The governor will appoint the public members. The Act provides how the board will meet and operate. Public members may receive per diem and travel expenses. The board will approve regulations necessary for the program. It will start a program of planning for the coastal areas of the state. It will approve coastal district management plans.

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

A new division of ocean and coastal management will run the program. The division will be in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. The division will seek federal approval of the program. It will also seek funding. It will adopt regulations approved by the board. It will provide information and funds to coastal districts. It will review resource development projects for consistency with the program. The superior court may enforce orders of the board and the department.

The Act lists what the program regulations must include. The regulations must set out program standards, district plan criteria, and project review procedures. The Act restores coastal management districts, district boundaries, and district plans that were in effect under the prior state coastal management program.

The Act requires districts to develop and adopt plans. It lists plan requirements. It sets forth how a plan must be carried out. It sets criteria for board approval of a plan. It requires restored districts to review their former plans. If plan changes are called for, a district must submit a revised plan for board approval. It requires state agencies to carry out the plan for a district that does not exercise zoning or other controls on the use of resources in its area. Municipal and state regulation of land and water use must conform to district plans.

The Act provides for the creation of coastal resource service areas in the unorganized borough. A service area would be much like a coastal district. The Act provides how these service areas may be formed. It sets out how service area boundaries will be determined. It requires each area to have a local service area board. It sets the duties and powers of service area boards. It provides for the composition and membership of service area boards. It provides how board members will be elected. It also sets terms of office, and provides for filling vacancies and the recall of board members. It directs the lieutenant governor to hold the service area elections.

If the residents of a service area reject the organization of a service area at an election, the Act permits the board to submit a plan for that area to the legislature for consideration. First the board must find that major economic activity has occurred, or will occur, in the proposed service area. Then the department, on request of the board, would prepare a plan. The board may also request the division to work with a service area to prepare a plan, if the service area has not been able to complete its own plan.

The Act sets a process for review of a proposed plan by cities and villages in a service area. The review must be done before the service area board can adopt the plan.

A city in the coastal area that is not part of a service area will be included in a service area unless the city opts out. A municipality and a service area may work together under the program.

The Act is not to be read to reduce state or municipal planning authority.

STATEMENT OF COSTS

The estimated total cost of this program during the next five years is \$27.0 million. Of that

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Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

estimated cost, the minimum expenditure by the State of Alaska under this initiative during the next five years, if it becomes law, is \$22.3 million. The program has no expiration date, and the estimate – developed by the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget -- does not provide for inflation.

Expenses of the proposed program may be shared with the federal government in year three or later if the U.S. Department of Commerce approves the program and provides partial funding, and Congress makes the required appropriation. **Of the annual estimated program cost of \$5.4 million, federal support is estimated to be up to a maximum of \$2.0 million per year after year five.** The program is not required by federal law.

Expenditures for this program are subject to legislative appropriation. The estimate excludes potential litigation expenses and revenue impacts to the State of Alaska.

The overall cost estimate may be high or low, depending on decisions made by the new Board proposed in the initiative. The number of days that Board and Coastal District Boards decide to meet, the number and kind of consistency reviews, elevations and appeals over natural resource permits that the program may authorize, and the potential duplication of permitting reviews at the Department of Environmental Conservation and at the Coastal District level are among the major cost uncertainties.

Costs or savings the program would provide in the management or protection of public trust resources or permit coordination cannot be estimated at this time, nor can the estimate include the costs or savings the program would provide in the process of allowing the State and local districts to comment on or condition federal permits issued in Alaska’s coastal regions.

The complete budget estimate prepared by the Office of Management and Budget is below:

**Statement of Costs for Initiative:
Establishment of Alaska Coastal Management Program
Prepared by the Office of Management and Budget**

As required by AS 15.45.090(a)(4), the Office of Management and Budget has prepared the following estimate of costs to the State of implementing the law proposed by this ballot initiative.

This ballot initiative would establish a coastal management program for Alaska. To govern the envisioned program, the initiative creates a new thirteen-member Coastal Policy Board, referred to as the Alaska Coastal Policy Board, which would be responsible for overseeing the proposed coastal management program. Among its principal duties are reviewing and approving regulations for the program and the management plans and enforceable policies prepared by local coastal district boards. The Coastal Policy Board is also to “initiate an interagency program of strategic coastal and ocean planning for each geographic region of the state.”

Administrative support for the program and board would be provided by the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development. The department, under the direction of the board, would contract with or employ personnel or consultants the department considers

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Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

necessary to assist the board in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. To provide the structure for the administrative support, the initiative creates within the department a Division of Ocean and Coastal Management. Among its other duties, the division would be responsible for rendering determinations whether projects subject to the program would be “consistent” with applicable statewide standards and enforceable policies of an affected coastal district.

The initiative would create a coastal management program with a number of substantive differences from the most recent federally approved Alaska Coastal Management Program that existed up until July 1, 2011. If the initiative is approved by the voters, a new administrative structure for the program would be built from scratch. This would include recruiting and hiring personnel, acquiring office space, equipment and supplies. It would also include tasks such as developing implementing regulations and guidance to administer the program. There is insufficient detail in the initiative to identify all of the costs to implement the program – this represents an estimate of the costs and the actual costs are likely to be different.

As a basis for providing cost estimates, it was assumed that the operation and procedural requirements of the Coastal Management Program envisioned by the initiative would include most if not all of the costs that existed before July 1, 2011. The initiative provides the board with broad power to create a program or procedures that could vary widely from the previous program. Substantive differences in the management or procedural requirements of the program could result in the costs varying substantially from the costs presented. Areas of program implementation difference that increase costs to the state include but are not limited to: Costs of additional board meetings should the board be required to meet more than the estimated four times annually; the level and timing of federal funding for the program; potential costs to state agencies in implementing the coastal management program and administering other state programs due to an increase in the number and/or complexity of local enforceable policies and other plan requirements; an increase in the amount and complexity of coordination and enforcement of actions taken by the board; and an increase in the level of financial and other support for local coastal districts.

Expenditures for the program would be subject to legislative appropriation. The estimate excludes litigation expenses and potential revenue impacts to the State of Alaska.

In 2011, the budget estimate for renewing the State’s previous federally approved coastal management program was approximately \$4,700,000 annually, a portion of the program was funded with federal funds and a portion was funded with state funds.

The cost associated with the administration and implementation of the new Coastal Policy Board was not anticipated in the estimate above. The estimate to provide administrative support to the Coastal Policy Board is approximately \$700,000 annually, and the additional cost is assumed to be state funded.

Until the new coastal management program is federally approved and becomes eligible to receive federal funds, the State would expect to initially absorb the entire cost. This would be followed by a period of gradually increasing federal participation in sharing of the costs until the program met eligibility requirements for full federal funding. Typically, it takes a coastal management program approximately two years from initial application to federal approval and an additional three years

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Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

before qualifying for a full program cost share. During the initial two years, the State could expect to support the program at its anticipated annual funding level of \$5,400,000. The amount of federal funds available in the out years is unknown, however given the current federal program; the state would anticipate federal participation to top out at \$2,000,000 in year five.

A year by year estimate of federal and state funding is presented below:

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
Year 1	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 0	\$ 5,400,000
Year 2	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 0	\$ 5,400,000
Year 3	\$ 4,320,000	\$ 1,080,000	\$ 5,400,000
Year 4	\$ 3,763,633	\$ 1,636,634	\$ 5,400,000
Year 5	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 5,400,000
Year 6	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 5,400,000

Administrative support for the new agency would be provided by a new division in the Alaska Department of Commerce and Community Development. It is assumed that the new agency would be similarly structured to the previous Alaska Coastal and Ocean Management component in the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Alaska Coastal Management Program estimate by category

TOTAL \$5,400,000

Personal Services \$3,260,000

This expenditure would support salaries and benefits for 34 full time positions ranging from a Division Director to an Office Assistant. The majority of the positions are Natural Resource Specialists supporting the envisioned Alaska Coastal Management Program. One additional position was added to the previously configured program to cover the additional work associated with the administration of the Alaska Coastal Policy Board and coordinating district planning functions and information sharing.

Travel \$267,900

The projected travel expenditure would support employee and board related in-state and out of state travel to coastal districts and includes hotel, per diem, airfare and reimbursement for Alaska Coastal Management Program district assistance, staff training, mediation, public education, conferences and other travel supporting the program. This estimate anticipates increased travel costs in the first two years following the establishment of the board in order to assist coastal districts with their plans and advocate for the federal approval of the plan in Washington DC.

This estimate assumes travel costs associated with four annual in-person meetings of the 13-member Alaska Coastal Policy Board and two support staff members.

Services \$1,815,300

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This expenditure supports contracts in the form of Reimbursable Services Agreements (RSA) to agencies participating in the Alaska Coastal Management Program. These contracts would support the implementation of the Alaska Coastal Management Program by the participating state agencies, coastal management areas and other contractors.

It also supports purchased services from other state agencies including centralized telecommunication, mail and human resource services, legal services, professional services to support monitoring & compliance activities and development and implementation activities for the Alaska Coastal Management Program. In the initial years, additional contractual services will be needed to draft and review implementing program regulations, conduct district elections, and other start up activities.

Commodities \$56,800

This expenditure estimate supports purchases related to office supplies, office furnishings and equipment, software as well as minor repairs to office equipment.

Additional one-time costs associated with the initiative

**Statement of Costs for Initiative
“An Act establishing the Alaska Coastal Management Program”
Costs to certify the initiative application and review the initiative petition
Prepared by the Office of Lieutenant Governor and the Division of Elections**

Elections cost statement

The minimum cost to the Division of Elections associated with certification of the initiative application and review of the initiative petition, excluding legal costs to the state and the costs to the state of any challenge to the validity of the petition, is estimated to be \$66,821. This statement is required under AS 15.45.090(a) (3).

Total \$66,821

Elections estimate by category

Personal Services \$65,521

Expenses associated with certification of the initiative application and review of the initiative petition:

Three full-time employees at 522 hours is \$26,067

8 temporary employees at 2520 hours is \$39,454

Services \$ 1,300

Printing of booklets is \$1,300

Lt. Governor’s Office Cost statement

The minimum cost to conduct public hearings concerning the initiative in two communities in each

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

of four judicial districts is estimated to be \$4,470. This statement is required under 15.45.195.

Total \$4,470

Lt. Governor's Office Estimate by category

Travel \$ 4,270

Average round trip airfare for the Lieutenant Governor and one staff member to travel to seven communities in Alaska: Average airfare: \$310 * 7 locations * 2 staff = \$4,270. It is assumed one of the hearings would be in Anchorage which would not involve travel costs.

Services \$ 200

Cost breakdowns for teleconferencing services:

\$25.00 X 8 meetings = \$200.00 as a minimum cost estimate

FULL TEXT OF PROPOSED LAW

“An Act establishing the Alaska Coastal Management Program.”

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

* **Section 1.** AS 46 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

Chapter 41. Alaska Coastal Management Program

Sec. 46.41.010 Coastal Policy Board

(a) There is created in the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development the Alaska Coastal Policy Board. The board consists of the following:

(1) nine public members and alternates appointed by the governor from a list composed of at least three names from each region, nominated and submitted by the coastal districts of each region; one public member shall be appointed from each of the following regions:

(A) northwest Alaska, including, generally, the area of the North Slope Borough and the Northwest Arctic Borough;

(B) Bering Straits, including, generally, the area of the Bering Straits regional educational attendance area and the City of Nome;

(C) southwest Alaska, including, generally, the area within the Lower Yukon, Lower Kuskokwim, and Southwest regional educational attendance areas, the City of Bethel, and the Lake and Peninsula and Bristol Bay Boroughs;

(D) Kodiak-Aleutians, including the area of the Kodiak Island and Aleutian East Boroughs and the Aleutian, Adak and Pribilof regional educational attendance areas;

(E) Upper Cook Inlet, including the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough;

(F) Lower Cook Inlet, including, generally, the area within the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

(G) Prince William Sound, including, generally, the area east of the Kenai Peninsula

The text of this bill is presented as submitted by petition sponsors.

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

Borough to 141 W. longitude;

(H) northern Southeast Alaska, including the area southeast of 141 W. longitude and north of 57 N. latitude, including the entirety of the City and Borough of Sitka; and

(I) southern Southeast Alaska, including that portion of southeastern Alaska not contained within the area described in (H) of this paragraph;

(2) each of the following:

(A) the commissioner of environmental conservation;

(B) the commissioner of fish and game;

(C) the commissioner of natural resources; and

(D) the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development.

(b) Public members serve staggered terms of three years. Except as provided by (c) of this section, each member serves until a successor is appointed. A public member may be reappointed.

(c) The alternate for a commissioner serving under (a)(2) of this section shall be a deputy commissioner or the director of a division in the commissioner's department. The names of alternates shall be filed with the board.

(d) The board shall designate co-chairs, one of whom shall be selected from among the public members appointed under (a)(1) of this section and one from among the members designated in (a)(2) of this section.

(e) The board may recommend that the governor remove a public member for cause.

(f) Five public members and two designated members of the board constitute a quorum, but the board may delegate to one or more of its members the power to hold hearings. All decisions of the board shall be by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

(g) The board shall meet at least four times a year and as often as necessary to fulfill its duties under this chapter. Meetings may be held and members may vote telephonically, except one board meeting a year shall be held in person.

(h) Public members of the board or their alternates are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for members of boards and commissions.

(i) Administrative support for the board shall be provided by staff of the department. The department, under the direction of the board shall contract with or employ personnel or consultants the department considers necessary to assist the board in carrying out the board's duties and responsibilities.

Sec. 46.41.020. Powers and duties of the board.

(a) The board shall

(1) review and approve regulations necessary to implement the coastal management program in conformity with this chapter and 16 U.S.C. 1451 – 1464 (Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972);

(2) direct the department to seek approval of the Alaska coastal management program by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management in conformity with 16 U.S.C. 1451 – 1464 (Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972);

(3) initiate an interagency program of strategic coastal and ocean planning for each geographic region of the state;

(4) review and approve coastal district management plans after receiving the department's recommendations, including local enforceable policies, that meet the provisions of this

The text of this bill is presented as submitted by petition sponsors.

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

chapter and the district plan criteria.

(5) establish continuing coordination among state agencies to facilitate the development and implementation of the Alaska coastal management program;

(6) evaluate the effectiveness of district coastal management plans; and

(7) direct the department to apply for and accept grants, contributions, and appropriations, including application for and acceptance of federal funds that may become available for coastal planning and management.

(b) The board may

(1) contract for necessary services;

(2) take any reasonable action necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 46.41.030. Division of Coastal Management.

(a) There is created in the department the division of ocean and coastal management.

(b) The division shall

(1) render, on behalf of the state, all federal consistency determinations and certifications authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1456 (Sec. 307, Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972), and each conclusive state consistency determination when a project requires a permit, lease, or authorization from the department or from two or more state resource agencies.

(2) adopt regulations approved by the board necessary to implement this chapter under the provisions of AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act).

(3) assure continued provision of data and information to coastal districts to carry out their planning and management functions under the program.

(4) develop and maintain a program of financial assistance to aid coastal districts in the development and implementation of district coastal management plan.

Sec. 46.41.040. Development of Alaska coastal management program.

(a) The regulations developed under this chapter shall include

(1) statewide coastal program standards;

(2) the criteria and process for the preparation and approval of district coastal management plans; and

(3) consistency review procedures in accordance with this chapter, including provisions for

(A) review of activities proposed or permitted by a state or federal agency;

(B) the types of activities that will trigger a consistency review;

(C) review of phased activities and uses;

(D) public notice and opportunities for public comment;

(E) elevation of proposed consistency determinations to the resource agency commissioners;

(F) establishment of review timelines;

(G) exclusion from an individual project review aspects of activities that are covered by a general permit previously found consistent with the Alaska coastal management program;

(H) exclusion of routine activities with insignificant effects to coastal uses or resources from an individual consistency review.

(b) The coastal districts, coastal district boundaries and approved coastal management plans that were in effect as of June 30, 2011 are in effect and are incorporated into the Alaska coastal management program.

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Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

Sec. 46.41.050. Objectives.

The Alaska coastal management program shall be consistent with the following objectives:

- (1) the use, management, restoration, and enhancement of the overall quality of the coastal environment for this and succeeding generations;
- (2) the development of industrial or commercial enterprises that are consistent with the social, cultural, historic, economic, and environmental interests of the people of the state;
- (3) the orderly, balanced utilization and protection of the resources of the coastal area consistent with sound conservation and sustained yield principles;
- (4) the management of coastal land and water uses in such a manner that, generally, those uses that are economically or physically dependent on a coastal location are given higher priority when compared to uses that do not economically or physically require a coastal location;
- (5) the protection and management of significant historic, cultural, natural, and aesthetic values and natural systems or processes within the coastal area;
- (6) the prevention of damage to or degradation of land and water reserved for their natural values as a result of inconsistent land or water usages adjacent to the land;
- (7) the recognition of the need for a continuing supply of energy to meet the requirements of the state and the contribution of a share of the state's resources to meet national energy needs; and
- (8) the full and fair evaluation of all demands on and uses of the land and water in the coastal area.
- (9) the coordination of planning and decision-making in the coastal area among levels of government and citizens engaging in or affected by activities involving the coastal resources of the state;
- (10) the participation of the public, local governments, and agencies of the state and federal governments in the development and implementation of a coastal management program; and
- (11) the requirement that state resource agencies carry out their duties, powers and responsibilities that affect the use of coastal area resources in accordance with the coastal program adopted pursuant to this Act.

Sec. 46.41.060. Development of district coastal management plans.

(a) Coastal districts shall

- (1) develop and adopt district coastal management plans in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The plan adopted by a coastal district shall be based upon a municipality's existing comprehensive plan or a new comprehensive resource use plan or comprehensive statement of needs, policies, objectives, and standards governing the use and conservation of resources within the coastal area of the district. The plan must meet the district plan criteria adopted under AS 46.41.040 and must include
 - (A) a delineation within the district of the boundaries of the coastal area subject to the district coastal management plan;
 - (B) a statement, list, or definition of the land and water uses and activities subject to the district coastal management plan;
 - (C) a designation of any special management areas;
 - (D) enforceable policies to be applied to all the land and water uses subject to the district coastal management plan as well as policies that apply to special management areas.

The text of this bill is presented as submitted by petition sponsors.

Ballot Measure 2

Establishment of an Alaska Coastal Management Program

- (b) The board shall approve an initial or amended district coastal management plan if the
 - (1) district coastal management plan meets the requirements of this chapter and the district plan criteria in regulation adopted by the department; and
 - (2) enforceable policies of the district coastal management plan
 - (A) do not duplicate, restate, or incorporate by reference state or federal statutes or regulations;
 - (B) are not preempted by federal or state law;
 - (C) do not arbitrarily or unreasonably restrict a use of state concern;
 - (D) are clear and concise as to the activities and persons affected by the policies and the requirements of the policies;
 - (E) use prescriptive or performance-based standards that are written in precise and enforceable language; and
 - (F) address a coastal use or resource of concern to the residents of the coastal resource district as demonstrated by local knowledge or supported by scientific evidence
- (c) In (b)(2)(B) of this section, an enforceable policy of the district coastal management plan is preempted
 - (1) by federal statutes or regulations if the United States Congress expressly declares that local law or regulation is preempted, if the United States Congress demonstrates the intent to occupy the field exclusively, or if there is an actual conflict between federal and local law or regulation;
 - (2) by state law if it is prohibited, either by express legislative direction or direct conflict with a state statute or regulation, or where a local law or regulation substantially interferes with the effective functioning of a state statute or regulation or the underlying purposes of a state statute or regulation.

Sec. 46.41.070. Submission of district plans by coastal districts.

- (a) Within one year after the effective date of regulations implementing this chapter, coastal districts shall review their coastal management plans and if changes are necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter and implementing regulations, submit to the department a revised district coastal management plan.

Sec. 46.41.080. Implementation of district coastal management plans.

- (a) A district coastal management plan approved under this chapter for a coastal district that does not have and exercise zoning or other controls on the use of resources within the coastal area shall be implemented by appropriate state agencies. Implementation shall be in accordance with the comprehensive use plan or the statement of needs, policies, objectives, and standards adopted by the district.
- (b) A coastal district that has and exercises zoning or other controls on the use of resources within the coastal area shall implement its district coastal management plan. Implementation shall be in accordance with the comprehensive use plan or the statement of needs, policies, objectives, and standards adopted by the district.

Sec. 46.41.090. Compliance and enforcement.

- (a) Municipalities and state resource agencies shall administer land and water use regulations or controls in conformity with district coastal management plans approved under this chapter and in effect.

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(b) The superior courts of the state have jurisdiction to enforce lawful orders of the board and the department under this chapter.

Sec. 46.41.100. Coastal management plans in the unorganized borough.

(a) A coastal resource service area incorporated into the coastal management program under this chapter shall exercise those authorities and perform those duties required under this chapter.

Sec. 46.41.110. Coastal resource service areas.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, each regional educational attendance area established under AS 14.08.031 containing a part of the coastal area may be organized as a coastal resource service area.

(b) The commissioner of the department may, after public hearings held in the affected area, consolidate two or more regional educational attendance areas as a single coastal resource service area

(1) if a substantial portion of the coastal area contains land and water area owned by the federal government over which it exercises exclusive jurisdiction or land held in trust by the federal government for Alaska Natives over which the state would not exercise control as to use; or

(2) if, after giving due consideration to the standards applicable to incorporation of borough governments and the likelihood that a borough will be incorporated within the area, the commissioner determines that the functions to be performed under this chapter could be undertaken more efficiently through the combination of two or more regional education attendance area as a single coastal resource service area.

(c) A determination under (b) of this section shall be made before the organization of the coastal resource service area.

(d) or purposes of coastal management only, the commissioner of the department may, after public hearings held in the regional education attendance area affected, divide an existing regional education attendance area into no more than three coastal resource service areas according to geographic, cultural, economic, environmental, or other features relevant to coastal management planning. However,

(1) each coastal resource service area formed by dividing an existing regional education attendance must contain at least one first class city or home rule city; and

(2) a city within a coastal resource service area formed by dividing an existing regional education attendance area may not elect to exclude itself from the coastal resource service area.

Sec. 46.41.120. Organization of a Coastal Resource Service Area.

(a) Organization of a coastal resource service area may be initiated by

(1) submission to the coastal policy board of a petition signed by a number of registered voters equal to 15 percent of the number of votes cast within the coastal resource service area at the last state general election; or

(2) by submission to the board of a resolution approved by the city council or traditional village council of not less than 25 percent of the number of cities and villages within the coastal resource service area.

(b) Acting at the request of the council, the lieutenant governor, not less than 60 nor more than 90 days after receipt of a proper petition under (a)(1) of this section, a proper resolution under

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(a)(2) of this section, or at the direction of the council under (a)(3) of this section, shall conduct an election on the question of organization of a coastal resource service area.

Sec. 46.41.130. Coastal resource service area boards

(a) Each coastal resource service area shall have an elected board representing the population of the service area. The board shall have the powers and duties and perform the functions prescribed for or required of coastal districts.

(b) A coastal resource service area board shall contain seven members. Board members shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of the coastal resource service area.

(c) The term of office of a member of a coastal resource service area board is three years. Members serve until their successors are elected and have qualified. This section does not prohibit the reelection of a board member.

(d) The lieutenant governor shall provide for the election of the members of coastal resource service area boards.

(e) Election of members of coastal resource service area boards shall be held annually on the date of election of members of regional educational attendance area boards under AS 14.08.071(b). If no candidate files for election to a seat on the coastal resource service area board, the seat is considered vacant at the time a newly elected member would have taken office.

(f) A seat on a coastal resource service area board shall be declared vacant by the board if the criteria under AS 14.08.045 (a) apply to the person elected. A vacancy on a coastal resource service area board shall be filled by appointment as provided in AS 14.12.070 for vacancies in the membership of regional educational attendance area boards.

(g) Members of coastal resource service area boards are subject to recall on the same grounds and in the same manner as provided for recall of municipal officials in AS 29.26.240 – 29.26.350. The lieutenant governor functions in place of the assembly or council and municipal clerk for receipt and review of recall petitions and the conduct of recall elections.

(h) Members of a coastal resource service area board are entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for members of boards and commissions and for honorariums for meetings attended in person.

Sec. 46.41.140. Elections in coastal resource service areas.

Elections under AS 46.41.100 – 46.41.160 shall be administered by the lieutenant governor in the general manner provided in AS 15 (Election Code). In addition, the lieutenant governor may adopt regulations necessary to the conduct of coastal resource service area board elections. The state shall pay all election costs.

Sec. 46.41.150. Preparation of district coastal management program by the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

(a) If residents of a coastal resource service area reject organization of the service area at an election called for the purpose and the coastal policy board finds, after public hearing, that major economic development activity has occurred or will occur within the service area, the board may direct the department to prepare and recommend for consideration by the council and for submission to the legislature a district coastal management plan for the service area.

(b) At the request of the coastal policy board, the department shall complete the district coastal management plan in accordance with this chapter and the guidelines and standards adopted

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by the board for a coastal resource service area that has been organized but that has failed to make substantial progress in the preparation of an approvable district coastal management program within 18 months of certification of the results of an organization election or that has not submitted for approval to the board a program within 30 months of certification of the results of its organization election. Preparation of the program shall be conducted in consultation with the coastal resource service area and shall, to the maximum extent consistent with this chapter, reflect the expressed concerns of the residents of the service area.

(c) Before requesting the department to complete the district coastal management plan under (b) of this section, the board shall meet with members of the coastal resource service area board to determine whether the board is able to complete a district coastal management program within the time limitations established in this section.

Sec. 46.41.160. Approval of plans in coastal resource service areas.

(a) Before adoption by a coastal resource service area board, a district coastal management plan shall be submitted for review to each city or village within the coastal resource service area. The council of a city or traditional village council shall consider the plan submitted for review. Within 60 days of submission, the council of a city or traditional village council shall either approve the plan or enter objections to all or any portion of the plan.

(b) If a city or village within a coastal resource service area fails to approve a portion of the district coastal management plan prepared and submitted for approval under (a) of this section, the governing body shall advise the coastal resource service area board of its objections to the proposed plan and suggest alternative elements or components for inclusion in the district coastal management plan. New matter submitted by a city or village that meets the district plan criteria adopted under this chapter may be accepted by the district and the district coastal management plan modified accordingly. If a city or village fails to provide objections and suggested alternatives within the time limits established in this section, the coastal resource service area board may adopt the district coastal management plan as initially offered.

(c) Objection by a city council under (b) of this section is limited to objection to elements of the plan affecting resources or the use of resources within the corporate limits of the city. Objection by a traditional village council under (b) of this section is limited to objection to elements of the plan affecting resources or the use of resources within the village or within two miles of the village.

(d) For purposes of this section, "village" means an unincorporated community where at least 25 persons reside as a social unit as determined by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

Sec. 46.41.170. Cooperative administration.

(a) A city within the coastal area that is not part of a coastal resource service area shall be included for purposes of this chapter within an adjacent coastal resource service area unless its governing body, by resolution adopted by a majority of its membership, chooses to exclude the city from an adjacent coastal resource service area and a copy of the resolution is filed with the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development.

(b) This chapter does not restrict or prohibit cooperative or joint administration of functions between a municipality and a coastal resource service area organized under the provisions of this chapter upon initiation of a mutual agreement for the purpose.

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Sec. 46.41.180. Construction with other laws.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to

- (1) diminish state jurisdiction, responsibility, or rights in the field of planning, development, or control of land or water resources, submerged land, or navigable water;
- (2) affect in any way any state requirement imposed under a federal authorization or federal waiver of sovereign immunity; or
- (3) diminish the zoning or planning authority of municipalities under AS 29.

Sec. 46.41.900. Definitions.

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (1) “affected coastal district” means a coastal district with a publically reviewed draft or approved plan in which a project is proposed to be located or that may experience a direct and significant impact from a proposed project;
- (2) “board” means the Alaska Coastal Policy Board established in AS 46.41.010;
- (3) “coastal district” means each of the following that contains a portion of the coastal area of the state:
 - (A) unified municipalities;
 - (B) organized boroughs of any class that exercise planning and zoning authority;
 - (C) home rule and first class cities of the unorganized borough or within boroughs that do not exercise planning and zoning authority;
 - (D) second class cities of the unorganized borough, or within boroughs that do not exercise planning and zoning authority, that have established a planning commission, and that, in the opinion of the commissioner of commerce, community, and economic development, have the capability of preparing and implementing a comprehensive district coastal management plan under AS 46.41.030;
 - (E) coastal resource service areas established and organized under AS 29.03.020 an AS 46.41.100 – 46.41.160;
- (4) “coastal use or resource” means any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone. Land and water uses include, but are not limited to, public access, recreation, fishing, historic or cultural preservation, development, hazards management, marinas and floodplain management, scenic and aesthetic enjoyment, and resource creation or restoration projects. Natural resources include biological or physical resources that are found within a State’s coastal zone on a regular or cyclical basis. Biological and physical resources include, but are not limited to, air, tidal and nontidal wetlands, ocean waters, estuaries, rivers, streams, lakes, aquifers, submerged aquatic vegetation, land, plants, trees, minerals, fish, shellfish, invertebrates, amphibians, birds, mammals, reptiles, and coastal resources of national significance;
- (5) “coastal zone” means the coastal water including land within and under that water, and adjacent shoreland, including the water within and under that shoreland, within the boundaries approved by the former Alaska Coastal Policy Council and by the United States Secretary of Commerce under 16 U.S.C. 1451 – 1465 (Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended); “coastal zone” includes areas added as a result of any boundary changes approved by the board and by the United States Secretary of Commerce under 16 U.S.C. 1451 – 1465; “coastal zone” does not include
 - (A) those lands excluded under 16 U.S.C. 1453(1); or
 - (B) areas deleted as a result of any boundary changes by the board in conformance with 16 U.S.C. 1451 – 1465;

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- (6) “consistency review” means the evaluation of a proposed project against the statewide standards and the approved enforceable policies of an affected coastal district under the process developed by the board;
- (7) “department” means the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development;
- (8) “direct and significant impact” means an activity which proximately contributes to a material change or alteration in the natural or social characteristics of a part of the state’s coastal area and in which
- (A) would have a net adverse effect on the quality of the resources of the coastal area;
 - (B) would limit the range of alternative uses of the resources of the coastal area; or
 - (C) would, of itself, constitute a tolerable change or alteration of the resources within the coastal area but which, cumulatively, would have an adverse effect;
- (9) “district coastal management plan” means a plan developed by a coastal district, including enforceable policies of that plan, setting out policies and standards to guide public and private uses of land and water within that district and approved by the board as meeting the requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted under this chapter;
- (10) “enforceable policy” means a policy established by this chapter or approved by the board as a legally binding policy of the Alaska coastal management program applicable to public and private activities;
- (11) “local knowledge” means a body of knowledge or information about the coastal environment or the human use of that environment, including information passed down through generations, if that information is
- (A) derived from experience and observations; and
 - (B) generally accepted by the local community;
- (12) “project” means all activities that will be part of a proposed development and includes all federal agency activities as defined in 15 C.F.R. 930.31, including lease sales and development projects affecting a coastal use or resource;
- (13) “resource agency” means
- (A) the Department of Environmental Conservation;
 - (B) the Department of Fish and Game; or
 - (C) the Department of Natural Resources.;
- (14) “scientific evidence” means facts or data that are
- (A) premised upon established chemical, physical, biological, or ecosystem management principles as obtained through scientific method and submitted to the department to furnish proof of a matter required under this chapter;
 - (B) in a form that would allow resource agency review for scientific merit; and
 - (C) supported by one or more of the following:
 - (i) written analysis based on field observation and professional judgment along with photographic documentation;
 - (ii) written analysis from a professional scientist with expertise in the specific discipline; or
 - (iii) site-specific scientific research that may include peer-review level research or literature.
- (15) “special management area” includes areas meriting special attention and means a delineated geographic area within the coastal area which is sensitive to change or alteration

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and which, because of plans or commitments or because a claim on the resources within the area delineated would preclude subsequent use of the resources to a conflicting or incompatible use, warrants special management attention, or which, because of its value to the general public, should be identified for current or future planning, protection, or acquisition;

(16) “use of state concern” means a land and water use that would significantly affect the long-term public interest; a “use of state concern” includes

(A) uses of national interest, including the use of resources for the siting of ports and major facilities that contribute to meeting national energy needs, construction and maintenance of navigational facilities and systems, resource development of federal land, and national defense and related security facilities that are dependent upon coastal locations;

(B) uses of more than local concern, including those land and water uses that confer significant environmental, social, cultural, or economic benefits or burdens beyond a single coastal district;

(C) the siting of major energy facilities, activities pursuant to a state oil and gas lease, a state gas only lease, or a federal oil and gas lease, or large-scale industrial or commercial development activities that are dependent on a coastal location and that, because of their magnitude or the magnitude of their effect on the economy of the state or the surrounding area, are reasonably likely to present issues of more than local significance;

(D) facilities serving statewide or interregional transportation and communication needs; and

(E) uses in areas established as state parks or recreational areas under AS 41.21 or as state game refuges, game sanctuaries, or critical habitat areas under AS 16.20.

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STATEMENT IN SUPPORT

When he proposed a coastal management program for Alaska in 1976, Governor Jay Hammond declared that it “would better enable the state to protect, use and manage its immensely valuable coastal areas...” His words ring true today.

Governor Hammond foresaw that coastal management would provide Alaskans a voice in managing our coasts as new development occurred through federal programs like offshore oil and gas leasing. Hammond realized that a coastal management program would give the state the ability to directly influence federal decisions affecting Alaska’s coastlines and the opportunity to manage our abundant coastal resources for the benefit of all Alaskans.

The program worked for more than three decades and was the subject of periodic legislative review and renewal. Unfortunately, in 2011, despite an overwhelming majority of Alaska legislators supporting some form of coastal management, this vital program was allowed to expire because the legislature and the governor failed to agree on the conditions for its extension.

With the longest coastline in the nation, Alaska is now the only coastal state without a coastal management program. Yet the pressures on our coasts are growing and the need for the program is greater than ever. There is increased interest in offshore oil and gas drilling in federal waters, increased shipping traffic and more of us are living, working and playing along our coastlines. By restoring the state’s coastal management program, we regain an effective voice in ensuring responsible development along our coasts that benefits Alaska and Alaskans.

There are some who believe coastal management is a deterrent to development. They fear coastal communities could veto projects they don’t like. They think coastal management is just another layer of bureaucracy. That is simply not the case. Coastal management gives communities an active and effective voice in the decisions affecting their area, but they do not gain a veto power. Coastal management fosters responsible development by bringing federal, state and local governments together with developers, facilitating communication and balancing potentially competing demands on coastal resources. Since the 1970s, virtually every development undertaken on Alaska’s coasts, including world-class oil, mining and port projects, was secured through the state coastal management program.

We now have a chance to regain our influence in federal government decisions. The coastal management ballot initiative lays the foundation for a new coastal management program and restoring an effective voice to the state and local communities in the development of Alaska’s coastal lands and waters.

All of us, wherever we live in Alaska, are affected by what happens on our coasts. Please vote “Yes” for the coast, for Alaska’s voice, for your community and for you.

For more information, please go to <http://www.alaskacoastalmanagement.org/>

Bruce Botelho, Chair, Alaska Sea Party
L. Terzah Tippin Poe, Co-Chair, Alaska Sea Party
Lisa Weissler, Policy Director, Alaska Sea Party

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STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION

No on 2 = No New Bureaucracy

Alaskans across the state share a longstanding commitment to a balanced approach to development with strong environmental standards. Ballot Measure 2 alters that balance in a dangerous way.

This measure is deeply flawed and could impose a new set of rules and standards that give unprecedented and un-checked powers to an entirely new body of unelected Alaskans unaccountable to the voters. Ballot Measure 2 creates more government red tape and grows the bureaucracy but contains no substantive coastal protections.

Alaskans should Vote No on this poorly drafted measure that could cause serious economic harm.

A broad cross section of individuals, groups, and industries oppose this measure, not because it creates a coastal zone management program, but because it could dramatically slow or stop development activities across Alaska. This initiative does not renew Alaska's tested coastal management program, but instead it establishes a board with the power to create an all-new regulatory regime. Members of this new statewide board are not required to have technical expertise or a scientific background.

A truly effective coastal management program needs clear and reasonable triggers for applicability, specific timelines, and firm deadlines for completion of the required review process. This measure does none of these things.

Ballot Measure 2:

- Delegates authority to a handful of unelected Alaskans to create a coastal management program with **few standards to guide the development of the program**.
- Contains no requirement for a timely permitting process nor a prohibition on duplicative processes. This means **permits may be delayed** and the **same issues can be reviewed more than once** before *final* approval.
- Allows each coastal district the power to **overlay State statutes relating to air, water, and land** with more stringent standards than those required by the State or Federal government.
- Allows a district to **veto a permit** based on additional standards that may have no scientific basis - even if a landowner or project developer **meets all State and Federal requirements**.
- Defines "coastal use or resource" to mean **ANY** land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone including **public access, recreation, development, scenic and aesthetic enjoyment**, etc.
- Allows any local district to regulate any activity if the district determines it has a direct and significant impact on a coastal use or resource – dramatically **extending the program miles in-land from coastal areas**.

In short, this measure may create a crippling web of bureaucracy and conflicting rules that have not been subject to public scrutiny and serious review. It does not reinstate the old coastal program but instead creates a new powerful statewide board unaccountable to voters. It opens the door to dangerous, never ending legal and political battles over Alaska's resources.

Ballot Measure 2 will create unnecessary barriers to development and harm job creation and economic growth. **Vote No on Ballot Measure 2.**

Rachael Petro, President/CEO, Alaska State Chamber of Commerce

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