

Election Procedures for Bilingual Election Workers and Translators REAA/CRSA Elections

State of Alaska
Division of Elections

Language Assistance Requirements

■ Background

- The Voting Rights Act of 1965 included requirements concerning the conduct of elections in languages other than English if over five percent of the voting age population are members of a single language minority group whose language is either Spanish, Native American, Alaska Native, or one of the Asian languages. In addition, the Voting Rights Act stipulated that a voter requiring assistance may receive it from a person of the voter's choice other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union.
- Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act requires jurisdictions to provide language assistance if more than five percent of the voting age population of a language minority group is limited English proficient.





■ **How does the Voting Rights Act impact Alaska?**

- The State of Alaska is covered under Sections 4(f)4 and 203 of the Voting Rights Act for Alaska Native languages. In addition, some communities along the Aleutian chain are covered for Filipino (Tagalog) and Spanish. **This means we MUST provide language assistance to Alaska Native Voters with limited English proficiency at all stages of the electoral process.**

- Alaska has submitted to the United States Department of Justice our minority language assistance program. Alaska's language assistance plan provides for written translations of election materials in languages that are historically written, and oral translations for languages, such as Alaska Native languages, that are historically unwritten.

- ***This means, we need bilingual election workers and/or interpreters to serve on Election Day in areas of the state identified as needing language assistance.***

- ***This means we must keep track of the number of voters requesting language assistance using the Language Assistance Requests Log.***

General Guidelines for Providing Language Assistance

Follow these guidelines when providing language assistance:

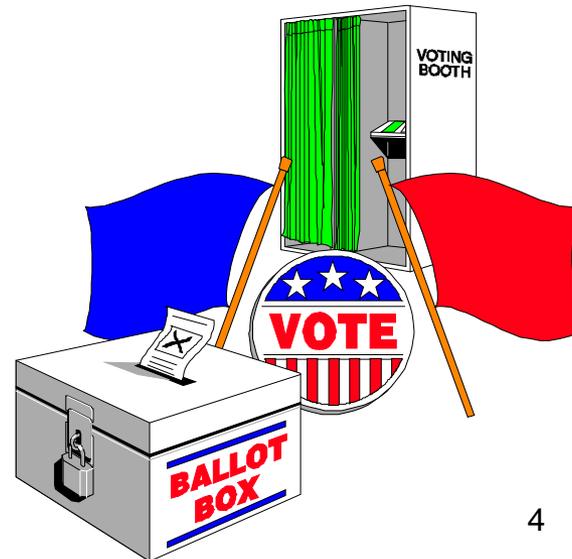
- Be courteous, sensitive and respectful.
- Wear the “Can I Help You?” badge.
- Don’t wait for the voter to ask for assistance. Provide “active” language assistance. A voter may not feel comfortable asking for assistance. Approach voters to ask them if they need language or other assistance while voting. **You may go into the voting booth to assist the voter.**
- If the voter indicates he or she needs assistance from the bilingual election worker and/or translator, provide oral translation in the local Alaska Native language to assist the voter in the voting process with ballot information and election materials.
- When providing an oral translation of ballot information, you may not voice your own opinion on candidates appearing on the ballot.
- Using the Language Assistance Requests Log, keep track of the type of assistance provided (not names of voters) to voters that received language assistance from a member of the election board.



- **AND, REMEMBER:**

- **Federal law allows a voter to have a person of his or her choice provide language or other assistance to the voter.**

- *This person may go into the voting booth with the voter to assist them.*
- *This person may be an election official, a family member, friend, bystander, campaign worker, etc.*
- *This person may not be a candidate for office in the election, the voter's employer or agent of that employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union.*



The following materials will be available for the Bilingual Election Worker in the Language Assistance Worker Packet for use on Election Day:

- Disability Awareness & Voter Assistance Information with “Can I Help You?” Badge(s)
- Language Assistance Requests Log
- English Language Sample Ballot
- Yup’ik Precincts - Yup’ik Language Sample Ballot
 - The Yup’ik sample ballot is to be used only by the bilingual election worker and/or translator when providing oral ballot translation assistance to the voter. It is not to be given out to the voters.
- Yup’ik Precincts - Yup’ik Glossary of Election Terms
- Alaska Native Language “I Voted” stickers
- CD Player (with batteries, headphones & headphone covers) with Alaska Native Language CD
 - The Alaska Native Language CD is to be used only by the bilingual election worker and/or translator as a tool when providing oral ballot translation assistance to the voter. It is not to be shared with the voters.
- Election Board Handbook and Individual Job Assignment Sheets

Voter's Options for Language Assistance

- The voter has the following options if he or she needs assistance in reading or marking the ballot:
 - Bring a person of his or her choice to the polling place to assist the voter with reading, translating and/or marking the ballot in the voting booth.
 - Have the bilingual election worker and/or translator provide assistance.

Providing Assistance During the Voting Process

■ Precinct Register

- The precinct register worker will look for the voter's name on the register and ask the voter for one of the following types of identification:

- Driver's license, State ID card, voter ID card, military ID card, current and valid photo ID, birth certificate, hunting or fishing license, or passport

or, the voter may use one of the following documents if it contains the voter's name and current address:

- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check, pay check or other government document

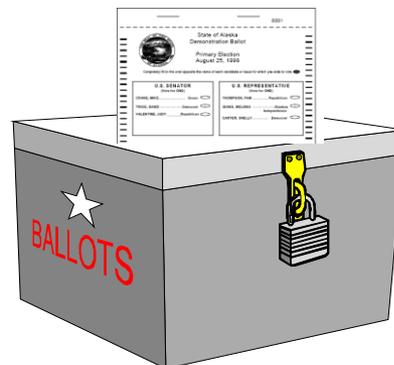
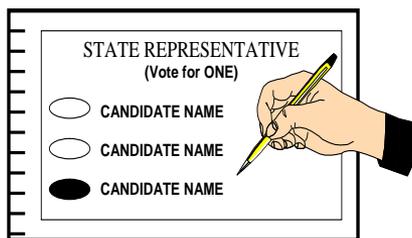
- **The voter must sign the register.** If the voter is unable to sign, the voter may make a mark such as an X.
- If the voter's name is not on the precinct register or if the voter does not have valid identification explain to the voter that he or she has a right to vote a questioned ballot and escort the voter to the questioned ballot worker.



VREMS Time: 18:06		ST	IONS		Date: 06/25/98
GEPR8BP-R1		EL - ID 98MSBS	District 2		PAGE: 1
GREATER WASILLA					
Voter No	NAME & SIGNATURE LAST-FIRST-MIDDLE INITIALS (Voter's name)			ADDRESS	
1	01234567 [Redacted] Robert Adams	U	() (x) ()	2222 GOLDEN ROAD PO BOX 123456	WASILLA WASILLA
2	08912345 [Redacted] MUST SHOW ID	A	() () () ()	1111 VALLEY ROAD PO BOX 789234	WASILLA WASILLA
3	06789123 [Redacted] ADAMS TONYA M	U	() () () ()	9999 JONES ROAD PO BOX 223344	WASILLA WASILLA
4	04567890 [Redacted] ADLER FREDERICK	G	() () () ()	1122 SILVER STREET PO BOX 123456	WASILLA WASILLA
5	01234000 [Redacted] ADLER JEFF	D	() () () ()	2233 COPPER HWY	WASILLA
6	0067890 [Redacted] ALBERT JAMES	U	() () () ()	2233 COPPER HWY	WASILLA
7	00045678 [Redacted] ALBERT JANET J	D	() () () ()	4455 ALASKA ROAD PO BOX 8899443	WASILLA WASILLA
	[Redacted] ALBRIGHT ESTHER M I				

■ Voting the Ballot

- The voter will be given an official ballot by the election board.
- The bilingual election worker, translator, or a person of the voter's choice may assist the voter with translating and marking the ballot.
- Instruct the voter to completely fill in the oval next to the voter's choice.
- If the voter makes a mistake in voting, DO NOT erase or correct the ballot. The voter may return the spoiled ballot to the election worker and request a new ballot. (The voter may request only up to two replacement ballots.)
- The voter only has to mark the races the voter wants to vote for.
- If the voter marks more than one choice in a race, that section of the ballot will NOT be counted. The sections of the ballot that are properly marked will be counted.
- When the voter is finished voting, the ballot goes into to the ballot box.



Questioned Voting

- If the voter's name is not on the register or if the voter does not have identification, the voter has the right to vote a questioned ballot.
 - The voter must sign the Questioned Register.
 - The voter must complete the Questions Ballot Oath & Affidavit Envelope. Ask the voter if he or she would like assistance with completing the envelope. **DO NOT** tear off the yellow flap on the envelope, this is not a receipt for the voter. **The information on the outside of the envelope will be used to update the voter's registration record and to determine voting eligibility.**
 - The voter will be issued a paper ballot and secrecy sleeve.
 - The voter's voted ballot is placed inside the secrecy sleeve.
 - The sleeve is sealed inside the completed Questioned Ballot Oath & Affidavit Envelope.
 - The questioned ballot envelope containing the voted ballot is then placed in the ballot box.
 - All questioned ballots are returned to the Election Supervisor for review and counting.

I certify that I have not and will not vote in any other manner in this election. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, I am a resident of Alaska, I have not been convicted of a felony, or have been unconditionally discharged from incarceration, probation and/or parole. I have been 4 years or more in the last 4 years or am newly registering. I am not registered to vote in another jurisdiction. **WARNING:** If you provide false information, you may be convicted of a misdemeanor.

#	Printed Name	Signature	Ballot Date
1.	Rodney Voter	Rodney Voter	12
2.	Helen Ballot	Helen Ballot	65
3.			
4.			

Questioned Ballot Oath & Affidavit Envelope - Please print and press hard - You are making a copy

1. You **MUST** complete this section
 Yes No I am a citizen of the United States.
 Yes No I am at least 18 years old.

2. Last Name: Voter First Name: Rodney Middle Initial: _____ Suffix (jr., sr., etc.): _____
 VN: _____
 D/P: _____
 Initials: _____

3. Name Previously Registered: _____
 For Review Board Use Only
 Serial Registered: _____ Subarea No.: _____

4. Alaska Residence Address Where You Claim Residency
 House No.: 123 Street Name: Main St City: Upernivik State: Alaska
 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 address confidential.

5. Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 For Review Board Use Only
 Count Code: _____ Reject Code: _____
 Purge Date: _____

6. *You **MUST** provide at least one
 Social Security No.: _____ Last 4 Digits of SSN: 1235
 AK Driver's License No.: _____ AK State ID Card No.: _____
 [] If have not been issued a SSN, AK Driver's License or AK State ID No.

7. *You **MUST** provide Date of Birth: 12/14/1960 B. Sex: Male Female
 9. *Alaska Voter Number: _____ (if known) *Daytime Phone No.: _____
 *Evening Phone No.: _____

11. Write Political Affiliation Choice Here _____
 Election Official Use
 Reason for Questioned Ballot
 Not on Precinct Register
 Moved
 No Identification & Unknown
 Not a US Citizen
 Not 18 years of Age
 Felony Conviction

12. 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. I further certify that I am a resident of Alaska and 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. I am or have been a registered voter in Alaska at some time in the last 4 years or am newly registering. I have not and will not vote in any other manner in this election.

*Voter Signature: Rodney Voter

13. This form must be witnessed. By signing as a witness, I attest that to the best of my knowledge, the applicant is the person whose claims to be and this certification was made in my presence on the date indicated.
 Signature of Election Official: Nicole Johnson Date: 11-4-08 District & Precinct No.: 18005 Primary Ballot Choice: _____ Questioned Register Line: _____

*Items are kept confidential by the Division 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. 823 (Rev. 12/2007) 00-15-00, 02, 20, 4 Acc. 25.



STATE OF ALASKA
 DEMONSTRATION BALLOT
 November 4, 2008

INSTRUCTIONS: To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice. To vote for a candidate not on the ballot, fill in the oval AND write in the candidate's name on the line provided.
 FILL IN THE OVAL LIKE THIS:

STATE BIRD (vote for one)	BALLOT MEASURE 1 Alaska Protection QUESTIONS Ballot Measure 1
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Place the voted ballot in the Questioned Ballot Oath & Affidavit envelope.

Special Needs Voting

- If a voter is unable to come to the polls due to age, disability or serious illness, the voter may ask a person to serve as their representative to bring him or her a ballot.

- **STEP 1** on the Special Needs Ballot Envelope is completed by the voter's representative.
- The election worker gives the representative the Special Needs Ballot Envelope, ballot, and secrecy sleeve to deliver to the voter.
- **STEP 2** of the Special Needs Ballot Envelope is completed by the voter, with assistance from the representative, and both the voter and representative sign the envelope.
- The voter's voted ballot is placed inside the secrecy sleeve.
- The secrecy sleeve is then sealed inside the Special Needs Ballot Envelope.
- The representative returns the ballot envelope containing the voted ballot to the election worker.



Special Needs Ballot Oath & Affidavit Envelope	
<p>Election Official</p> <p>When Issuing a Ballot</p> <p>1. Complete this section. Date: <u>11-4-08</u> Location: <u>Seward</u> District: _____ Precinct: _____ Type Issued: _____</p> <p>2. Remove top flap of the envelope and keep with the register to account for the issued ballot.</p> <p>3. Give the representative the ballot, gray secrecy sleeve and this envelope to take to the voter. (Voter does not sign the register.)</p> <p>When Ballot is Returned</p> <p>1. Verify that the voter and representative signed in STEP 1 and STEP 2.</p> <p>2. Complete lines below: Date: _____ Location: _____</p> <p>For Office Use ONLY</p> <p>VIP _____ C/NP _____</p> <p>For Review Board Use</p> <p>Count Clerk _____ Reject Code _____ Print Date _____</p>	<p>STEP 1</p> <p>Representative - You MUST Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 1 through 4 with your information Section 5 with the voter's name Section 6 sign and date Deliver ballot and voting materials to voter <p>1. Representative's Name: <u>Michelle Thompson</u></p> <p>2. Representative's Identifier - You MUST provide ONE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voter Number: <u>376335</u> Social Security No.: _____ Date of Birth: _____ <p>3. Representative's Residence Address - You Must Provide: House # <u>133</u> Street Name <u>Main St</u> Apt # _____ City <u>Seward</u> State <u>Alaska</u></p> <p>4. Representative's Mailing Address - You MUST Provide: House # _____ Street Name _____ City _____ State _____</p> <p>5. Print the name of the voter you are serving as a representative for: Voter's Name: <u>Heidi Baird</u></p> <p>6. Representative's Certificate: I certify I have been requested to obtain and deliver a ballot to the above named voter. I will not vote the ballot for the voter or cause the voter also voting for a specific candidate or issue. I will not divulge the way the voter votes the ballot.</p> <p><small>WARNING: Unlawful interference with voting is punishable under AS 15.16.030</small></p> <p><u>Michelle Thompson</u> <u>11-4-08</u> Representative's Signature Date</p>
	<p>STEP 2</p> <p>Voter and Representative - YOU MUST COMPLETE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voter - Sections 1-9 with your information Representative - Section 10, sign as witness Voter - Place voted ballot in secrecy sleeve and seal in this envelope Representative - Return ballot in envelope by Sign election day <p>1. Voter - You MUST complete this section</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No I am a citizen of the United States.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No I am at least 18 years old.</p> <p>2. Voter's Last Name <u>Baird</u> First Name <u>Heidi</u> MI Suffix (Mr., Jr., etc.) _____</p> <p>3. Voter's Alaska Residence Address - Where You Claim Residency House # <u>133</u> Street Name <u>5th Avenue</u> City <u>Seward</u> State <u>Alaska</u></p> <p>4. Voter's Mailing Address House # _____ Street Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>5. *Voter's Identifier - You MUST Provide One <input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you have not been issued a SSR, ADL or AK State ID. Social Security No. or Last 4 of SSN: _____ / <u>7332</u> Alaska Voter Number, Alaska Driver's License No. or State ID No.: _____</p> <p>6. *Voter's Date of Birth - You MUST Provide Month <u>07</u> Day <u>14</u> Year <u>1986</u> 7. Voter's Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>8. Voter Write Political Affiliation Choice Here: 9. Voter's Certificate I certify that I am a voter and I have not been convicted of a felony or other crime that would disqualify me from voting. I further certify that I am a voter and I have not been convicted of a felony or other crime that would disqualify me from voting. I am not registered to vote in another state, or I have taken the necessary steps to cancel that registration. I am or have been a registered voter in Alaska at some time in the last 4 years or am newly registered. I have not and will not vote in any other election in this election.</p> <p><u>Heidi Baird</u> *Voter's Signature</p> <p>10. Representative Witnessing: By signing as a witness, I attest to the best of my knowledge, the voter is the person whose name is on the certificate and the certificate was made in my presence.</p> <p><u>Michelle Thompson</u> *Representative's Signature</p>
	<p>STATE OF ALASKA DEMONSTRATION BALLOT</p> <p>November 4, 2008</p> <p>fill in the oval next to your choice. To vote for a candidate not AND write in the candidate's name on the line provided. L IN THE OVAL LIKE THIS: <input type="radio"/></p> <p>BALLOT MEASURE 1 Mosquito Protection GGSTING</p> <p>Ballot Measure 1</p>

*These are kept confidential by the Division 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 AS 08A.05. 03/18/08 (10/08)

Final Comments

- If you have any questions on Election Day, contact your Election Supervisor:

Region I Elections Office

PO Box 110018
Juneau, AK 99811-0018
Toll Free 1-866-948-8683

Region III Elections Office

675 7th Avenue, H3
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4594
Toll Free 1-866-959-8683

Region IV Elections Office

PO Box 577
Nome, AK 99762-0577
Toll Free 1-866-953-8683

Yup'ik Language Assistance

2525 Gambell St, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99503-2838
Toll Free 1-866-954-8683