## **Ballot Measure No. 1**

## Constitutional Convention Question

## STATEMENT IN SUPPORT

Yes! Our beloved state has been captured by massive political corruption. The amendments that might have been proposed for simpler solutions to a convention have been rejected for years by the legislature, while the judiciary has invented new unconstitutional powers for themselves.

- 1. The Alaska PFD must be constitutionalized.
- 2. The Judicial Council, which appoints judges and is rigged in favor of lawyers, needs to be discarded.
- 3. We must reject the violations of the federal constitution that were imposed upon us at statehood. While we must continue to guarantee native lands, Alaska was forced to include in our constitution Article 12, Section 12. This gave the federal government property that has no basis in the U.S. Constitution, which violates Article I, Section 8, clause 17, plus the 10th Amendment. Having the federal government own 65% of our state completely suffocates Alaska's ability to become economically prosperous and self-supporting.
- 4. Over the years a power grab by the judiciary has actually overthrown our state constitution. They have seized the power of the purse, the governor's line-item veto and the legislature's ability to override it. They invented the "duty" to amend the constitution through case law opinions. The courts have seized the definition of privacy, which is specifically reserved to the legislature in Article 1, Section 22.

Both the executive and legislative branches have had the power to halt this, but it is merely implied.

- 5. Therefore, the constitution needs to be more strongly worded so that citizens, governors and legislators will understand that the judiciary's power to interpret the constitution must be shared. As it was said in Federalist #78:
  - "The judiciary has no influence over either the enforcement or the purse; no direction either of the strength or of the wealth of the society. It may truly be said to have neither force nor will, but merely judgment; and must ultimately depend upon the aid of the executive arm even for enforcement of its judgments."
- 6. In addition, election integrity must be addressed so that machines and computers can never again be used, and that chain-of-custody is protected by citizen poll-watchers.

A constitutional convention is a risk, but Alaskans are risk-takers and we cannot allow contrived fears to rule us. If this ballot measure should pass, we must insist the following: That the delegates not be sitting members of the legislature. They must be Alaskans of at least 5 years or more continuous residency, and they must be chosen by "town hall" type meetings through each precinct and district, not by expensive campaigns and electioneering.

Our current constitution reads that all political power is inherent in the people, government originates from the people, is instituted for the good of the people as a whole, and is founded on their will only.

This may be our last chance to do that.

In the name of liberty for ourselves and our future generations, please vote "Yes".

Bob Bird
Retired public school teacher, MS degree in History
45-year Alaskan, Radio talk-show host
Chairman, Alaskan Independence Party