NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE DIVISION OF ELECTIONS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Division of Elections proposes to change regulations on the administration of certain state conducted elections. Many changes are being proposed as a result of recent state statute changes. Topics include procedures for poll watchers, registrars, and advisory school board elections; documentation of proof of Alaska residency; changes on the ballot and petition process; deadlines; and election pamphlet preparation.

The Division of Elections proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 6 of the Alaska Administrative Code. The changes are being proposed due to new statute changes relating to the administration of elections, including the following:

- 6 AAC 25.010(d) is being amended to update the division's procedures for poll watchers.
- 6 AAC 25.025(d)(2) is being amended to update the division's procedure for registrars.
- **6 AAC 25.027** is being changed to include documentation that is used to provide proof of Alaska residency for election purposes.
- 6 AAC 25.140(a) is being repealed. The section is being repealed because the date deadline referenced in the section has passed.
- **6 AAC 25.210** is being amended to reflect the statutory change in the number of days before a primary and general election, a candidate has to withdraw.
- **6 AAC 25.212** is being amended to change the correct legal reference outlining the deadline for a candidate to withdraw from an election.
- **6 AAC 25.240** is being amended to change the filing deadline for petitions, the locations where petitions may be filed and the counting of individual signatures.
- **6 AAC 25.255** is a proposed new section on how voters can withdraw their name from a petition the voter signed.
- **6 AAC 25.505** is being amended to update the information that must be included on an absentee ballot application if the application is not prepared by the division.
- 6 AAC 25.660 and 6 AAC 25.672 are being repealed. The sections are being repealed to reflect the statutory removal of the special absentee ballot.
- **6 AAC 25.670** is being repealed and readopted to include the division's procedures for reviewing and counting the federal write-in ballot.
- 6 AAC 25.685 is being amended to remove the reference to a special absentee ballot.
- **6 AAC 25.686** is being amended to address when the division will send absentee ballots and voting materials to voters.

6 AAC 25.690 is being amended to address that any words included in a candidate's biographical information or candidate statement beyond the allowed word count will not be published in the election pamphlet.

6 AAC 27.180 is a proposed new section relating to the conduct of an advisory school board election at the same time as a regional educational attendance area advisory election.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Becky Weimer, Division of Elections at P.O. Box 110017, Juneau, AK 99811-0017, email to becky.weimer@alaska.gov or fax to (907) 465-3203. The comments must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2013.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Becky Weimer at (907) 465-2874 no later than September 23, 2013 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact Becky Weimer, Division of Elections, P.O. Box 110017, Juneau, AK 99811-0017, telephone (907) 465-2874, or go to http://www.elections.alaska.gov/news pn.php.

After the public comment period ends, the Division of Elections will either adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. YOU SHOULD COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.

Statutory Authority: AS 15.15.010

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 14.08.071; AS 15.05.010;

AS 15.05.011; AS 15.05.014; AS 15.07.030; AS 15.07.070; AS 15.07.081; AS 15.07.100; AS 15.07.140;

AS 15.07.200; AS 15.15.010; AS 15.15.030; AS 15.15.130; AS 15.15.360; AS 15.15.365; AS 15.20.030;

AS 15.20.066; AS 15.20.081; AS 15.20.082; AS 15.20.203; AS 15.25.055; AS 15.25.110; AS 15.25.200;

AS 15.45.090; AS 15.45.100; AS 15.45.120; AS 15.45.130; AS 15.45.140; AS 15.45.245; AS 15.45.320;

AS 15.45.330; AS 15.45.350; AS 15.45.360; AS 15.45.370; AS 15.45.400; AS 15.45.465; AS 15.45.560; AS 15.45.570; AS 15.45.590; AS 15.45.600; AS 15.45.610; AS 15.45.640; AS 15.58.030; AS 15.58.090;

AS 15.80.008; AS 15.80.010

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: 8/27/13

Gail Fenumiai, Director, Division of Elections