



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.5100
Fax: 907.276.3697

June 28, 2024

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom
Lieutenant Governor
P.O. Box 110015
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0015

Re: *22AKHE Ballot Summary*
AGO No. 2023100126

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

Under AS 15.45.180, the Attorney General assists you in preparing a title and summary for initiatives that will appear on a ballot. My office usually provides this assistance when we review an application for an initiative and issue an Attorney General Opinion. In the opinion issued on January 19, 2023, we recommended that you certify the application for the Alaskans for Honest Elections initiative, designated 22AKHE. We also proposed a ballot title and summary that explained that 22AKHE would restore party primaries and single-choice voting, reversing some of the changes to election laws made by the Alaskans for Better Elections initiative, also known as 19AKBE and Ballot Measure 2, which Alaska voters approved in 2020, became effective in 2021, and governed the 2022 elections.

Since then, the sponsors of 22AKHE filed a petition and you certified this initiative for the 2024 general election ballot. The Division of Elections designated this initiative as Ballot Measure 2 on the upcoming ballot. Thus, this year's Ballot Measure 2, if approved, would largely reverse the initiative designated as Ballot Measure 2 in 2020.

To avoid any confusion this may cause, we recommend amending the 22AKHE ballot summary that we previously proposed. We now submit this ballot title and summary for your consideration:

**An Act Restoring Political Party Primaries and
Single-Choice General Elections**

This act would get rid of open primary elections and ranked-choice general elections. It would bring back political party primaries and single-choice general elections.

Elections will occur exactly as they did before a previous ballot measure changed the election laws in 2022. In the primary election, voters will choose a party's ballot. They will vote for one candidate and the winning candidate will be the party's nominee. In the general election, voters will select one candidate. The candidate with the most votes will win.

This act would also bring back party petitions, special runoff elections, and other processes in place before 2022. It would put all election laws, except campaign finance laws, back the way they were before 2022.

Should this initiative become law?

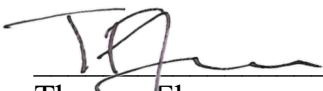
The title remains the same and the summary amends references to "Ballot Measure 2." This title and summary still comply with the requirements of AS 15.45.180. Using the readability formula described in AS 15.80.005(c), the new summary has a score of 56.43, slightly lower than the score for the previous summary but within the range of scores the Alaska Supreme Court has approved.

Finally, we note that your certification of 22AKHE is subject to ongoing litigation, which may result in a court ordering you to reject this petition and remove the initiative from the 2024 general election ballot.

Please contact us if we can further assist you in this matter.

Sincerely,

TREG TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: 
Thomas Flynn
Assistant Attorney General

TSF/ajh