



Alaska Public Offices Commission



COMPLAINT

FILING A COMPLAINT <i>To be accepted, complaint must include</i>	APOC LAWS ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED <i>Specify section of law or regulation</i>		APOC case name/number/date
1. Complainant's name + contact info 2. Respondent's name + contact info 3. Laws, regulations allegedly violated 4. Description of allegations 5. Basis of knowledge of alleged facts 6. Documentation to support allegations 7. Notarized signature of the complainant 8. Proof that complaint and all supporting documents were served on respondent	Campaign Disclosure Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AS 15.13 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 AAC 50.250-405	
	Public Official Financial Disclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> AS 39.50 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 AAC 50.680-799	
	Legislative Financial Disclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> AS 24.60 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 AAC 50.680-799	
	Lobbying Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AS 24.45 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 AAC 50.550-590	

If complaint meets requirements for acceptance, APOC will investigate the allegations and notify the respondent of the right to respond. APOC will notify Complainant and Respondent when APOC accepts or rejects a complaint.

COMPLAINANT		RESPONDENT <i>Person or group allegedly violating law</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> APOC <input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Party <input type="checkbox"/> Group	Yes for 2 for Better Elections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Party <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group	Brett Huber Protect My Ballot Alaska Policy Forum
Address City / Zip	P.O. Box 210295, Anchorage, AK 99521	Please see attached supporting information and documentation, page 3, footnotes 10, 11, and 12.	
Phone/Fax	907-250-1125		
E-mail	Shae@AlaskansForBetterElections.com		

COMPLAINANT'S REPRESENTATIVE		RESPONDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE	
<i>If complainant or respondent is political party or group, list contact person. If complainant or respondent is represented by attorney, list name + contact info</i>			
Name/Title	Samuel Gottstein, Esq., for Yes for 2 for Better Elections	Please see attached at page 3, footnotes 10, 11, and 12.	
Address	701 W. 8th Ave., Ste 700, Anchorage, AK 99501		
Phone/Fax	907-274-0666 / 907-277-4657		
E-mail	sgottstein@hwb-law.com		

DESCRIPTION or SUMMARY of ALLEGED VIOLATION Please see attached supporting information and documentation.	Use extra pages if needed	<input type="checkbox"/> SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS – DESCRIBE:
		Please see attached.

PROOF of SERVICE ATTACHED: Fax – receipt confirmation Certified mail – signed receipt
 Process server – return of service E-mail – delivery/read receipt Other:

COMPLAINANT'S SWORN STATEMENT: To the best of my knowledge and belief, these statements are true

Signature: Title: Samuel Gottstein
 Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed by me at Anchorage, Ak on August 31, 2020
 Signature: Title: Notary in for Alaska, my commission expires September 18, 2022
 Date: 8-31-2020

APOC ANCHORAGE	APOC JUNEAU	APOC COMPLAINT PROCESS: 2 AAC 50.450 - 476	
2221 E. NORTHERN LIGHTS #128 ANCHORAGE, AK 99508 907-276-4176 / FAX 907-276-7018 TOLL-FREE 800-478-4176 WEB: http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/	240 MAIN STREET #500 P.O. BOX 110222 JUNEAU, AK 99811 465-4864 / FAX 465-4832 APOC FORMS: http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/forms_all.html	FILING COMPLAINTS: 2AAC 50.870	ANSWERING COMPLAINTS: 2AAC 50.880 APOC CRITERIA for ACCEPTING COMPLAINTS: 2 AAC 50.870 INVESTIGATIONS & HEARINGS: 2 AAC 50.875-891 RULES for REQUESTING EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION: AS15.13.380(c) APOC LAWS: http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/apoclaws.html

AFFIDAVIT - RETURN OF SERVICE

FILE STAMP

YES FOR 2 FOR BETTER ELECTIONS

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

BRETT HUBER, PROTECT MY BALLOT FORUM, ALASKA POLICY FORUM

Defendant(s).

I solemnly swear or affirm that on 9/1/2020, at 7:39 PM, I served the following documents:

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION COMPLAINT, ATTACHMENTS

upon the therein named BETHANY MARCUM FOR PROTECT MY BALLOT FORUM at 7463 WHITE HAWK DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99507, by handing and leaving a true and correct copy with BETHANY MARCUM.

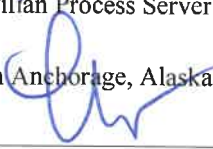
Process Server Notes:

RUSH


TERRENCE GLAZE
Civilian Process Server

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to or affirmed before me this September 03, 2020 in Anchorage, Alaska.

Client: HOLMES WEDDLE & BARCOTT, PC
Client Contact: BRIAN
File Number: 7349-32430


Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 8/1/2021

North Country Process, Inc.
P.O. Box 101126
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
Office: (907) 274-2023
Fax Line: (907) 274-2823

NCPI@alaska.net

Return No.: 197701



Service Fee [Rule 11(a)(1)(i/ii)]:	\$45.00
Mileage Fee [Rule 11(a)(7)]:	\$20.00

Total Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11:	\$65.00
Endeavor Fee:	\$15.00
Total Non-Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11:	\$15.00
Total Service Fees:	\$80.00

AFFIDAVIT - RETURN OF SERVICE

FILE STAMP

YES FOR 2 FOR BETTER ELECTIONS

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

BRETT HUBER, PROTECT MY BALLOT FORUM, ALASKA POLICY FORUM

Defendant(s).

I solemnly swear or affirm that on 9/2/2020, at 1:59 PM, I served the following documents:

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION COMPLAINT, ATTACHMENTS

upon the therein named BRETT HUBER, SR. at 2617 SHEPHERDIA DRIVE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508, by handing and leaving a true and correct copy with BRETT HUBER, SR.

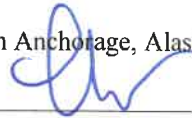
Process Server Notes:

RUSH



DOUGLAS CALLISON
Civilian Process Server

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to or affirmed before me this September 03, 2020 in Anchorage, Alaska.



Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 8/1/2021

Client: HOLMES WEDDLE & BARCOTT, PC
Client Contact: BRIAN
File Number: 7349-32430

North Country Process, Inc.
P.O. Box 101126
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
Office: (907) 274-2023
Fax Line: (907) 274-2823

NCPI@alaska.net

Return No.: 197699



Service Fee [Rule 11(a)(1)(i/ii)]: \$45.00
Mileage Fee [Rule 11(a)(7)]: \$20.00

Total Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11: \$65.00
Endeavor Fee: \$15.00
Total Non-Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11: \$15.00
Total Service Fees: \$80.00

AFFIDAVIT - RETURN OF SERVICE

FILE STAMP

YES FOR 2 FOR BETTER ELECTIONS

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

BRETT HUBER, PROTECT MY BALLOT FORUM, ALASKA POLICY FORUM

Defendant(s).

I solemnly swear or affirm that on 9/2/2020, at 1:12 PM, I served the following documents:

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION COMPLAINT, ATTACHMENTS

upon the therein named ALASKA POLICY FORUM at 7926 OLD SEWARD HIGHWAY, STE. A6, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99518, by handing and leaving a true and correct copy with MELODIE, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR.

Process Server Notes:

RUSH



DOUGLAS CALLISON

Civilian Process Server

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to or affirmed before me this September 03, 2020 in Anchorage, Alaska.



Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska

My Commission Expires: 8/1/2021

Client: HOLMES WEDDLE & BARCOTT, PC

Client Contact: BRIAN

File Number: 7349-32430

North Country Process, Inc.

P.O. Box 101126

Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Office: (907) 274-2023

Fax Line: (907) 274-2823

NCPI@alaska.net



Service Fee [Rule 11(a)(1)(i/ii)]: \$45.00

Mileage Fee [Rule 11(a)(7)]: \$20.00

Total Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11: \$65.00

Endeavor Fee: \$15.00

Total Non-Recoverable Fees per Admin Rule 11: \$15.00

Total Service Fees: \$80.00

Return No.: 197700

August 31, 2020

To: Alaska Public Offices Commission
From: Yes on 2 for Better Elections

Re: Supporting Information and Documentation for APOC Complaint Against Brett Huber, Alaska Policy Forum, and Protect My Ballot

Introduction and Parties

Brett Huber is Governor Michael J. Dunleavy's former campaign manager and senior advisor. Huber has been actively opposing Ballot Measure 2, the Better Elections Initiative ("Ballot Measure 2"). Huber formalized his ongoing opposition on August 11, 2020, when he resigned from the Governor's office to work full-time for the campaign against Ballot Measure 2.¹ Huber claims to be operating this campaign.²

Protect My Ballot ("PMB") is a nationwide group openly campaigning against election reform measures, such as Ballot Measure 2, in multiple states. PMB's website not only generally campaigns against election reform measures, it also posts explicit materials advocating a "no" vote on measures in several states, including explicitly advocating a "no" vote on Ballot Measure 2.³

¹ <https://www.adn.com/politics/2020/08/11/former-dunleavy-campaign-manager-leaves-administration-to-campaign-against-ranked-choice-voting/> [hereinafter Huber Article].

² *See id.*

³ One page includes a piece titled "Ranked-Choice Voting and Ballot Measure 2 Should be Voted Down." <https://protectmyballot.com/ranked-choice-voting-and-ballot-measure-2-should-be-voted-down/>. Another page advocating a "no" vote is titled "Alaska's Election Initiative is Rank." <https://protectmyballot.com/alaskas-election-initiative-is-rank/>. Yet another piece opposes ranked choice voting generally, but includes a dateline from "Anchorage, Alaska" and leads with quotes from Bethany Marcum of the Alaska Policy Forum referring to Alaskans voting on this issue "in November," leading to the only reasonable conclusion that it is yet another piece in opposition to Ballot Measure 2. <https://protectmyballot.com/protect-my-ballot-new-campaign-exposes-flaws-in-ranked-choice-voting/>. All of these pieces are prominently linked on PMB's homepage. <http://protectmyballot.com/>.

The Alaska Policy Forum (“APF”) is a think-tank that visions itself as a protector of individual freedoms.⁴ On July 24, APF announced itself as the leader of a “coalition” of state think tanks launching a “new campaign” opposed to ranked choice voting (“RCV”), a key element of Ballot Measure 2.⁵ APF has provided material support to PMB, including: (1) promoting its explicit messages including specifically warning “Alaskans tak[ing] to the polls in November” against RCV;⁶ (2) posting videos characterizing the reforms in Ballot Measure 2 as “threatening our democracy”;⁷ (3) openly promoting links for, and driving traffic to ProtectMyBallot.com;⁸ and (4) given the amount of materials on the topic—and the explicit claim that the anti- Ballot Measure 2 coalition is “led by” APF—it is further believed that APF is providing in-kind staff time from Executive Director Bethany Marcum through time spent expending APF resources in targeted digital communications signed by her.⁹

⁴ See <https://alaskapolicyforum.org/aboutus/vision-mission/>.

⁵ <https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2020/07/pr-exposing-flaws-rcv/> [hereinafter APF Press Release]. The title of this press release was “Protect My Ballot: New Campaign Exposes Flaws in Ranked Choice Voting. Coalition of state think tanks, led by Alaska Policy Forum, educates on pitfalls of this convoluted voting scheme.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ <https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2020/07/video-rcv-explained/>.

⁸ See APF Press Release (specifically stating “[t]o learn more, visit ProtectMyBallot.com” (emphasis in original)).

⁹ A sample 3-page email from July 24 is included as supporting documentation.

Collectively, Huber,¹⁰ PMB,¹¹ and APF¹² are referred to herein as the “Respondents.”

Violations of Campaign Disclosure Law

Respondents have engaged in the extensive campaign activities described above, including but not limited to video production, web registration and design, staff time for writing, press releases promoting the “launch” of this “new campaign”, salary or wages for Huber, and links promoting a “no” vote on Ballot Measure 2. But despite these wide-ranging activities, none of the Respondents have registered as a group with APOC, nor have they reported any of the donations received or expenditures made in opposition to Ballot Measure 2.

Because many of Respondents’ materials openly call for a “no” vote on Ballot Measure 2, and because the rest of their communications cannot be reasonably interpreted as anything but an exhortation to vote against the measure, they are all campaign activities and communications triggering registration and reporting with APOC.¹³

The scope of Respondents failure to report activities related to their self- described

¹⁰ Brett Huber Sr.’s contact information, required for the APOC complaint, is as follows:

Address: 2617 Shepherdia Drive Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 907-269-0084
Email: brett.huber@gmail.com

¹¹ As explained below, PMB appears to be a non-existent entity, which may in and of itself be a campaign law violation. Because Bethany Marcum is acting as the effective leader of PMB’s campaign-related activity on Ballot Measure 2 in Alaska, her contact information is used for purposes of the APOC complaint:

Bethany Marcum
Address: 7463 White Hawk Drive Anchorage, AK 99507
Phone: 907-334-5853
Email: Bethany@AlaskaPolicyForum.org

¹² AFP’s contact information is as follows:

Address: 7926 Old Seward Highway, Suite A6 Anchorage, AK 99518
Phone: 907-334-5853
Email: info@alaskapolicyforum.org

¹³ See AS 15.13.400(7) (defining “express communications”).

“new campaign” is unknown. But the website ProtectMyBallot.com was registered on November 6, 2019, and this registration was updated on July 13, 2020.¹⁴ Therefore, at a minimum, Respondents have been making expenditures and failing to report them for over nine months.

APOC’s database was reviewed on August 31, 2020, and as of that date neither APF or PMB have registered as a group, entity, or campaign, nor have the entities reported any expenditures or donations related to the ongoing campaign activities described above. There are also no reports of any “in kind” staff time, nor any salary or debt under a contract to pay Huber.¹⁵

Alaska Statute 15.13.050(a) requires groups to register with APOC before making an expenditure in support or against a ballot measure. Alaska Statute 15.13.052 requires a group to establish a political activities account before making such an expenditure. Alaska Statute 15.13.110(g) requires periodic reports of all contributions received and expenditures made. Alaska Statute 15.13.110(h) requires all independent expenditures be reported within 10 days. Respondents have failed to comply with these statutes and, as APOC staff may determine, potentially others. In addition to daily fines accumulating for failing to register and report, APF and PMB must immediately identify all of their donors and the amounts donated.

Another related issue that has arisen is that PMB appears to be a non-existent entity (or be a fictional name for a collection of entities).¹⁶ To the extent APF attempts to push its liability for reporting contributions and expenditures onto PMB, they could be violating

¹⁴ See <https://www.whois.com/whois/protectmyballot.com>.

¹⁵ The article on Huber’s involvement running the campaign against Ballot Measure 2 strongly implied that he would be paid to work on the campaign “full time,” and that he would not be involved as a volunteer. See Huber Article.

¹⁶ There is no such entity listed as “Protect My Ballot” according to the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. See <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/cbp/main/search/entities> (last searched Aug. 31, 2020). Similarly, the IRS has no record of a non-profit entity by that name. See <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/cbp/main/search/entities> (last searched Aug. 31, 2020).

AS 15.13.084(2) by trying to falsely report using a fictitious name or the name of another. APF appears to be the nexus of logistical, material, and financial support for the campaign against Ballot Measure 2 and must therefore report as such.

Violation of Lobbying Regulations

In the process of assembling this complaint, it was discovered that APF has also apparently violated the APOC's regulations requiring reporting of expenses related to lobbying.

APF has never registered with APOC as a lobbying entity in Alaska.¹⁷ In 2014, APF defended itself against accusations of improper lobbying, claiming that it does “not actively lobby.”¹⁸ This claim is at odds with APF's 2018 990-EZ tax filing with the IRS that reported \$4,027 on “direct lobbying” of a legislative body.¹⁹ This failure to report appears to violate AS 24.45 and following code sections.

Violations of AS 24.45 can lead to a \$10 fine per day for each day APF has been out of compliance.²⁰ Knowing violations (or knowingly aiding or abetting the violation of these statutes) can expose individuals to criminal penalties of up to \$1,000 and imprisonment of not more than one year—and it can expose entities involved in such conduct to fines up to \$10,000.²¹

The Alaska Policy Forum Obscures its Finances and is Run Primarily with “Dark Money”

One of the reforms contained in Ballot Measure 2 is to require reporting of the “True Source” of donations to entities that make expenditures to impact candidate campaigns, thereby eliminating the existence of campaign spending for which the actual donor is

¹⁷ APOC's lobbying database was last accessed on August 31, 2020.

¹⁸ See Letter to the Editor, Alaska Dispatch News, (Mar. 31, 2014) (authored by David Boyle, APF's then-Executive Director).

¹⁹ https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/display_990/264380206/08_2019_prefixes_26-26%2F264380206_201812_990EZ_2019082716600171.

²⁰ See AS 24.25.141.

²¹ See AS 24.45.151.

unknown (commonly referred to as “Dark Money”). Respondents do not attack Ballot Measure 2 on this particular policy, yet it may be a motivating factor in their opposition, since APF does not disclose their donors.

Ironically, APF claims transparency is a core value—that they “highly value government and campaign transparency”²²—yet they fail to live up to this ideal. As a 2014 Anchorage Daily News profile noted, “one of the values of the Alaska Policy Forum is not disclosing [their own] donors.”²³

APF keeps its finances almost entirely secret. However, through extensive research of other non-profits’ tax filings who have donated to APF, sources were identified for half the funds that have gone to APF from 2009 - 2018. But as can be seen from the below research, the source of over \$400,000 of APF’s funds remains unknown:

²² <https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2018/10/outsidemoney-influencing-alaskas-november-election/>.

²³ <https://www.adn.com/politics/article/little-known-think-tank-shapes-public-policy-discussion/2014/09/15/>.

Year	Total Contrib. To APF²⁴	Total Contrib. Identified²⁵	Total Contrib. Dark²⁶	Dark Money %²⁷
2018	\$149,708.00	\$106,800.00	\$42,908.00	29%
2017	\$13,928.00	\$1,000.00	\$12,928.00	93%
2016	\$23,916.00	\$7,900.00	\$16,016.00	67%
2015	\$26,478.00	\$7,800.00	\$18,678.00	71%
2014	\$70,161.00	\$0.00	\$70,161.00	100%
2013	\$119,400.00	\$78,000.00	\$41,400.00	35%
2012	\$56,386.00	\$36,000.00	\$20,386.00	36%
2011	\$36,064.00	\$10,000.00	\$26,064.00	72%
2010	\$291,683.00	\$148,580.00	\$143,103.00	49%
2009	\$63,405.00	\$50,000.00	\$13,405.00	21%
Total	\$851,129.00	\$446,080.00	\$405,049.00	48%

²⁴ "Total Contrib. to APF" is the amount of contributions APF reported receiving in that year.

²⁵ "Total Contrib. Identified" is the amount of contributions from that year that research has connected to a source of the contribution.

²⁶ "Total Contrib. Dark" is the amount of APF contributions that do not have an identified donor source.

²⁷ "Dark Money %" is the percent of dark funding in the total contributions to APF.

Confirmed Contributions To Alaska Policy Forum

Year	Group	Location	Amount	Source
2019	Lynde And Harry Bradley Foundation	Milwaukee, WI	\$70,000.00	<u>Bradley Foundation 2019 Annual Report</u>
2018	Donors Trust	Alexandria, VA	\$100,300.00	<u>Donors Trust 2018 Form 990</u>
2018	Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation	Anchorage, AK	\$6,500.00	<u>Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation 2018 Form 990</u>
2017	Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation	Anchorage, AK	\$1,000.00	<u>Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation 2017 Form 990</u>
2016	Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation	Anchorage, AK	\$7,900.00	<u>Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation 2016 Form 990</u>
2015	Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation	Anchorage, AK	\$7,800.00	<u>Nicole Laurel Cuddy Foundation 2015 Form 990</u>
2010	Atlas Economic Research Foundation	Washington, DC	\$6,580.00	<u>Atlas Economic Research Foundation 2010 Form 990</u>
2009	Donors Capital Fund	Alexandria, VA	\$50,000.00	<u>Donors Capital Fund 2009 Form 990</u>
Total			\$516,080.00	

Because APF obscures its finances from public view, it is especially important that APOC act to compel disclosure of the sources funding their campaign against Ballot Measure 2.

Conclusion

This complaint establishes that Respondents have collectively been preparing and making expenditures in support of a campaign against Ballot Measure 2 since at least November 2019. More recently, in July 2020, Respondents formally “launched” their “new campaign” against the measure. Yet despite this formal launch, Respondents continue to flout Alaska’s campaign finance and lobbying disclosure laws.

Although an expedited proceeding is not requested, it is of the utmost importance that the Commission take action and address these issues well in advance of the November 3 general election, when the fate of Ballot Measure 2 will be decided.

From: Bethany Marcum <bethany@alaskapolicyforum.org>

Date: July 24, 2020 at 05:45:12 AKDT

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Begich, Parnell Co-Sign Wall Street Journal Op-Ed Against Ranked Choice Voting

Hi [REDACTED],

Today, Alaska Policy Forum, in partnership with other state-based think tanks, is launching a national educational campaign, Protect My Ballot, to inform the public on the harms of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).

The campaign includes a website, ProtectMyBallot.com, highlighting bipartisan opposition to Ranked Choice Voting, and an explainer video that details how the electoral scheme works and why it disenfranchises voters and decreases voter turnout.

You can visit the campaign website [here](#), and watch the video [here](#).

Today, *The Wall Street Journal* ran an [op-ed](#) by Mark Begich, the former Democratic Senator from Alaska, and Sean Parnell, the former Republican Governor of Alaska, on the dangers of Ranked Choice Voting.

A full press release is below. If you would like more details about Ranked Choice Voting or the campaign, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Bethany

--

Bethany Marcum

Executive Director

Alaska Policy Forum

(907) 440-7000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Protect My Ballot: New Campaign Exposes Flaws in Ranked Choice Voting

Coalition of state think tanks, led by Alaska Policy Forum, educates on pitfalls of this convoluted voting scheme

Anchorage, Alaska (Friday, July 24, 2020)—Today, a coalition of state-based think tanks, led by Alaska Policy Forum, launched the national education campaign Protect My Ballot. The campaign details the harmful consequences of an electoral scheme known as Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).

The campaign highlights bipartisan opposition to RCV—ranging from California Governor Gavin Newsom, to Alaska's former Democratic Senator Mark Begich, to members of the NAACP New York State Conference—along with a list of localities that have repealed RCV.

View the campaign website at ProtectMyBallot.com. View a brief explainer video on Ranked Choice Voting [here](#).

Unlike a traditional election where voters select one candidate and the candidate with the most votes wins, under RCV, voters are expected to rank candidates. If no candidate receives a majority of votes in the first round of counting, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. The process repeats until a remaining candidate receives a majority of votes.

This confusing process leads to many unintended consequences. For instance, if a voter misunderstands the process or chooses not to rank all candidates, her ballot could be eliminated from consideration. It's as though she never showed up on election day. That may explain why a handful of jurisdictions that previously adopted and tested RCV, have since repealed it.

Research also casts doubt on proponents' claims about the benefits of RCV. According to [research](#) from Jason McDaniel, an associate professor of political science at San Francisco State University, voter turnout decreased (three to five percentage points on average) in cities where RCV was used.

Coalition members released the following statements:

Bethany Marcum, Executive Director at Alaska Policy Forum:

“As Alaskans take to the polls in November, history should provide a warning for what Ranked Choice Voting would lead to. Not only can Ranked Choice Voting cause votes to be discarded, research shows it also decreases voter turnout. We need to encourage Americans of all backgrounds to visit the polls, not give them another reason to avoid casting a ballot.”

Annette Meeks, Founder and CEO of the Freedom Foundation of Minnesota:

“Public participation in elections is vital for a democracy to work. Discouraging and complicating the system threatens the people's voice. That's why a bipartisan coalition of citizens and legislators wants to ban ranked choice voting in Minnesota.”

Trent England, Executive Vice President of the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs:

“Ranked Choice Voting is not the solution for election reform. In Oklahoma, our Chief Election Official has opposed this system. Not only does it disenfranchise voters, but implementing it in Oklahoma would be a logistical nightmare.”


Matthew Gagnon, CEO of Maine Policy Institute:

"Whether you examine data captured during Maine's brief experience with ranked-choice voting or the experiences of other jurisdictions, the lofty claims used to sell this voting system to the general public do not withstand factual scrutiny. Voters should be skeptical when they hear from special interest groups trying to change the way we exercise our sacred right to vote."

Protect My Ballot coalition members include Alaska Policy Forum, Maine Policy Institute, Freedom Foundation of Minnesota, and the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs

To learn more, visit ProtectMyBallot.com.

###

This email was sent to 

Alaska Policy Forum, 7926 Old Seward Highway, Suite A6, Anchorage, AK 99518, USA

[Unsubscribe](#)