

I MOVE to amend Ordinance 24-010 as follows:

- Amend the title by adding at the end “And To Submit the Question To the Qualified Voters of the Borough At The November 5, 2024, Regular Borough Election; and
- Insert a new Section 6 as follows: Section 6. Proposition. The Borough shall submit the following proposition to the qualified voters at the November 5, 2025, Borough Regular Election. The proposition must receive an affirmative vote from the majority of the qualified voters voting on the question to be approved.

Political Party Affiliation Listed on the Ballot

Current Matanuska-Susitna Borough code does not allow for political party affiliation to be listed on a ballot with a candidate’s name.

Ordinance Serial No. 24-010 will amend Borough code to allow candidates for elected office to designate a political party affiliation on the ballot with their name. A candidate may designate a party affiliation if they are registered with a party, or may designate nonpartisan or undeclared. If a candidate makes no designation, the candidate shall be designated as undeclared.

Should this ordinance become law?

Yes _____

No _____

- Change the current Section 6 to Section 7 and amend it to read: Effective Date. Section 6 of this ordinance takes effect immediately. All other section of this ordinance shall become effective only if the proposition described in Section 6 is approved by the majority of the qualified voters voting on the proposition at the Borough regular election on November 5, 2024.

The Yellow Highlighted Areas Are the Proposed Amendments

CODE ORDINANCE

Sponsored by: Assemblymembers Yundt
and McKee

Introduced: 12/19/23

Public Hearing postponed to 01/16/24: 12/19/23

Public Hearing postponed to 02/20/24: 01/16/24

Public Hearing:

Action:

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 24-010

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY ALLOWING CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND SCHOOL BOARD TO DESIGNATE A POLITICAL AFFILIATION AND TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE BOROUGH AT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, REGULAR BOROUGH ELECTION.

WHEREAS, the intent and rationale of this ordinance is found in the accompanying Information Memorandum No. 24-103.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code.

Section 2. Amendment of section. MSB 25.05.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:

MSB 25.05.070 NONPARTISAN REQUIREMENT.

Subject to the provisions of MSB 25.15.015, [A]all borough elections shall be nonpartisan. A qualified voter may cast a vote for any candidate without limitations based on the political party or political group affiliation of either the voter or the candidate.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 25.15.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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25.15.015 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY; MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, SCHOOL BOARD, WRITE-IN.

(A) A candidate for borough office shall file a declaration of candidacy under oath on a form provided by the clerk and a public financial disclosure statement in accordance with MSB 25.15.050.

(B) A declaration of candidacy shall state the following:

(1) the full legal name of the candidate, and if different, the manner in which the candidate wishes their name to appear on the ballot. A substitute first name shall be limited to a familiar form of the candidate's name or an initial. Should a candidate choose to use a nickname, their legal name will appear on the ballot along with the nickname and the candidate will follow the guidelines in subsection (B) (1) (a) of this section. Honorary or assumed titles and the like are not allowed;

(a) Candidates who would like their nicknames to appear on the ballot will have five registered voters of the borough verify that the candidate is known by that nickname. The nickname will be less than 15 characters. The form that is to be used will be provided by the clerk.

(2) whether the candidate designates a political affiliation as follows:

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(a) if a candidate is registered as affiliated with a political party or political group, the candidate may request designation of their affiliation, or may request designation as nonpartisan or undeclared.

(b) if a candidate is not registered as affiliated with a political party or political group, the candidate may request designation as nonpartisan or undeclared.

(c) if a candidate makes no designation of affiliation, the candidate shall be designated as undeclared.

[(2)] (3) the full residence and mailing addresses of the candidate;

[(3)] (4) the day and evening telephone number and other contact information of the candidate;

[(4)] (5) the office for which the candidate declares and the date of the election at which the candidate seeks election;

[(5)] (6) a statement that the candidate is qualified for the office as provided by law and shall serve if elected;

[(6)] (7) the date and notarized statement of the candidate;

[(7)] (8) the candidate shall certify information contained in the declaration of candidacy is true and accurate.

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(C) Write-in candidates. Persons filing for elective office as a write-in candidate shall file a declaration of candidacy under this section. Write-in candidates may file only after the official filing period has closed and not later than five days before the election.

Section 4. Amendment of section. MSB 25.20.045(C) is amended to read as follows:

(C) The names of candidates shall be printed as they appear upon the declaration of candidacy filed with the clerk and in accordance with MSB 25.15.015. The names of candidates shall be arranged alphabetically. Provisions shall be made for voting for a write-in candidate for each seat. The clerk shall include the following statement on ballots containing candidates:

A candidate's designated affiliation does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or group or that the party or group approves of or associates with that candidate, but only that the candidate is registered as affiliated with the political party or political group.

Section 5. Amendment of section. MSB 25.20.060(G) is adopted to read as follows:

(G) In each polling place, the clerk shall require to be posted, in a location conspicuous to a person who will be voting, the following notice, written in bold:

A candidate's designated affiliation does not imply that the

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candidate is nominated or endorsed by the political party or group
or that the party or group approves of or associates with that
candidate, but only that the candidate is registered as affiliated
with the party or group.

Section 6. Proposition. The Borough shall submit the
following proposition to the qualified voters at the November 5,
2024, Borough Regular Election. The proposition must receive an
affirmative vote from the majority of the qualified voters voting
on the question to be approved.

Political Party Affiliation LISTED ON THE BALLOT

Current Matanuska-Susitna Borough code does not allow for
political party affiliation to be listed on a ballot with a
candidate's name.

Ordinance Serial No. 24-010 will amend Borough code to
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political party affiliation on the ballot with their name.
A candidate may designate a party affiliation if they are
registered with a party or may designate nonpartisan or
undeclared. If a candidate makes no designation, the
candidate shall be designated as undeclared.

Should this ordinance become law?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Section 7. Effective date. Section 6 of this ordinance takes
effect immediately. All other sections of this ordinance shall
become effective only if the proposition described in Section 6 is
approved by the majority of the qualified voters voting on the
proposition at the Borough regular election on November 5, 2024.

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ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day
of -, 2024.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)