

CODE ORDINANCE

Sponsored by: Assemblymember Kowalke
Introduced: 06/05/18
Public Hearing: 06/19/18
Defeated: 06/19/18

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 18-067**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AMENDING TITLE 25, ELECTIONS; TO CONDUCT A MAILING TO VOTERS DIRECTING THEM TO THE BOROUGH'S WEBSITE FOR ELECTION INFORMATION RATHER THAN MAILING AN ELECTION BROCHURE.

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 25.05.120 is hereby amended as follows:

ELECTION INFORMATION TO BE POSTED TO THE WEBSITE

[INFORMATIONAL BROCHURES FOR ELECTIONS]

(A) Not later than [15] 25 calendar days prior to each regular or special election, the clerk shall prepare [AND] a mailer to each [ONE ELECTION BROCHURE PER] registered voter household advising voters that the borough website will contain election information on the following items: [CONTAINING INFORMATION APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY PERTAINING TO EACH PROPOSITION ON THE BALLOT, CANDIDATE INFORMATION TO INCLUDE CANDIDATE'S NAME, YEAR OF BIRTH, ALASKA RESIDENCY, AND A 100-WORD OR LESS

POSITION STATEMENT BY THE CANDIDATE, SAMPLE BALLOTS, AND
OTHER GENERAL VOTING INFORMATION.]

(1) candidate information;

(2) propositions on the ballot and related pro
and con statements if any;

(3) general voting information to include but
is not limited to sample ballots, absentee voting, and
precinct locations.

(B) Candidate information to be published on the
website shall be submitted to the Clerk's Office
electronically the day the candidate submits their
declaration of candidacy and shall include name, year of
birth, number of years of Alaska residence, number of
years of Borough residency, and may include a 250-word
or less position statement. Candidates may submit
contact information such as mailing address, phone
number, e-mail address, or website address that can be
published on the website;

(C) Statements advocating voter approval (pro)
or rejection (con) of initiatives, referendums, or
propositions approved by the assembly:

(1) Pro and con statements for each proposition may be included on the website [IN THE ELECTION BROCHURE] if submitted. Only one pro statement and one con statement will be published on the website [PRINTED IN THE ELECTION BROCHURE] per proposition. Should only one statement be submitted on a particular proposition, whether it is a pro or con statement, no statements shall be placed on the website [in the election brochure] for that proposition.

(2) The deadline for submitting a pro or con statement is seven days following the proposition adoption deadline for a regular or special election.

(3) A statement may not exceed 250 words. Articles such as "a," "an," and "the" will be counted as a word. Numbers written in numerical form will be counted as a single word.

(4) The clerk shall offer authorship of the statement advocating voter approval of an initiative or referendum in the following order and to the extent that more than one person or organization meets the criteria for authorship preference shall also be given in the following order:

(a) to the primary contact person of the initiative or referendum;

(b) to an APOC-registered person or organization with the identified purpose of supporting or rejecting an initiative, referendum, or proposition.

(5) A statement submitted under this section must include the signature of the author(s) located at the bottom of the statement. There shall not be more than three authors' signatures. Any signers more than the allotted three will be considered endorsements and included in the text of the statement and count against the 250-word limit. Signers must include the signers' full names and organizations, if any.

(6) The clerk will not release statements until all statements regarding the question have been received in final form and have been published to the website [gone to the printer].

(7) Statements must be accepted by the clerk in order to be published.

(8) The clerk will add a disclaimer to each statement noting the information is the opinion of the author(s) and has been reproduced as submitted, without

any changes to grammar, spelling, or punctuation.

(9) The presentation of the pro and con statements shall be in the following order in the election brochure: text of the ballot language, statement advocating voter approval, statement advocating voter rejection.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 25.35.105(A)(3) is hereby amended as follows:

(3) a person who authored a statement which was published on the website [in the election brochure] as per MSB 25.05.120 or written designee previously approved to observe the canvass board.

Section 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

DEFEATED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 19 day of June, 2018.

YES: Mayfield

NO: Sykes, Beck, Doty, and Kowalke