



TRANSMITTAL

Municipal Clerks in Alaska serve as the Election Official in local elections and often assist the State of Alaska in the conduct of statewide elections.

The Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) is a professional organization dedicated to the education of municipal clerks statewide and to sound local government.

On April 27, 2022, AAMC adopted attached Resolution 2022-01, expressing its non-partisan, professional concern that altering the position of municipal clerk from an appointed position to an elected position would jeopardize the role of the clerk as a fair and impartial referee in elections and cause clerks to violate the state's conflict of interest law.

In the interest of preserving integrity in elections, the AAMC believes municipal clerks should adhere to the highest ethical standards as well as legal requirements.

Brenda Ballou, President

Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks
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ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS IN ALASKA; URGING MUNICIPALITIES TO RETAIN THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK; AND OPPOSING EFFORTS TO ALTER THE POSITION OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK FROM AN APPOINTED OFFICIAL TO AN ELECTED OFFICIAL

WHEREAS, AS 29.20.360 calls for the appointment of the clerk as an officer of a municipality by either the chief administrator or by the governing body unless otherwise provided by ordinance, and

WHEREAS, AS 29.20.380 provides for the duties of the municipal clerk, which among many other responsibilities, requires the administration of all municipal elections, and

WHEREAS, AS 29.20.010 outlines that a municipal clerk could be in violation of the Conflict of Interest law by participating in the official action of conducting an election while appearing on the ballot, because that same municipal clerk could have a substantial financial interest in the outcome of the election – i.e., retaining the position, and

WHEREAS, AS 29.20.010 applies to home rule and general law municipalities, and

WHEREAS, AS 29.20.600, provides that the clerk, before taking office, shall take an oath to perform the duties of office honestly, faithfully and impartially, and

WHEREAS, according to the local government specialists in Division of Community and Regional Affairs, a sub-unit of the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, there are currently no elected municipal clerks in the State of Alaska, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks is to provide for the continuing professional education of municipal clerks across the state and to promote sound local government,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS AS FOLLOWS:

Section One: The AAMC Board urges maintaining the position of municipal clerk in Alaska as an appointed official in order to retain the integrity and neutrality of the clerk in conducting elections.

Section Two: The AAMC Board opposes efforts to alter the position of municipal clerk in Alaska from an appointed official to an elected official for the legal and ethical reasons noted in the foregoing recitals and in Section One.

Effective Date of Resolution. This resolution will be effective the 27th day of April, 2022.

ENACTED THIS 27th DAY OF APRIL, 2022.



Brenda Ballou, President

ATTEST:



Danyielle Snider, Secretary

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