

## Lieutenant Governor Nancy Dahlstrom STATE OF ALASKA

September 1, 2023

Bruce M. Botelho 401 F Street Douglas, AK 99824

Mr. Botelho:

On July 5, 2023, I received your application for the following initiative that you entitled:

"An Act preventing the expenditure of public funds for any process by which political parties select their official nominees or endorsed candidates for office."

I forwarded the application to the Division of Elections for verification of signatures and to the Department of Law for legal review.

The Division of Elections determined that 112 of the 121 signatures submitted were those of qualified voters. Therefore, the application has a sufficient number of sponsors to qualify for circulation of a petition under AS 15.45.030. The petition statistics report prepared by the Division of Elections is enclosed.

The Department of Law reviewed the application for compliance with AS 15.45.040 and recommends that I decline to certify this initiative on the grounds that the bill constrains appropriations and therefore contains a prohibited subject. Based on this recommendation, and in accordance with AS 15.45.080, I am denying certification of your initiative application. A copy of the Department of Law opinion dated September 1, 2023, regarding the application is enclosed.

Please be advised that under AS 15.45.240, "any person aggrieved by a determination made by the lieutenant governor under AS 15.45.010 - AS 15.45.220 may bring an action in the superior court to have the determination reviewed within 30 days of the date on which notice of the determination was given."

If you have further questions, please contact April Simpson in my office at (907) 465-4081.

Sincerely,

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## Enclosures

cc: Treg Taylor, Attorney General

Thomas Flynn, Assistant Attorney General

Carol Beecher, Director of Elections

Scott Kendall, Attorney, Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth