THE ADVISOR

High moral and ethical standards are essential to assure the trust, respect, and confidence of the people of Alaska.



SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

JULY 2025

Heads Up! Special Session Ahead

• Campaign Fundraising

Remember that AS 24.60.031(a) and (b) restrict legislators and legislative employees from campaign fundraising

...on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session, solicit or accept a contribution or a promise or pledge to make a contribution...

Those restrictions extend to local, state, and federal elections. Before participating in a fundraising activity for candidates for local, state, or federal office, contact the Ethics Office at Ethics.Committee@akleg.gov or 907-269-0150 for further details.

Remember to check for and remove donation language and payment buttons from your own campaign websites during session.

• Endorsing Municipal and Federal Candidates

Legislators and legislative employees may support and endorse a candidate in a municipal or federal election. However, during a regular or special session, there are limits on engaging in other election campaign activities.

Before endorsing a candidate for a municipal or federal election or engaging in other election campaign activities, email Ethics.Committee@akleg.gov or call 907-269-0150 to make sure you are in compliance with the Legislative Ethics Act.

Informal Advice: How to get the right answer

Call the Ethics Office 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179 for help!



Informal Advice is based on specific circumstances and detail; the right answer requires the right question. The Ethics Committee staff wants to assist you in navigating compliance questions; however, they need details. When requesting informal advice, general or vague questions result in general or vague answers. Facts and

material information are required for staff to help you navigate compliance. Please be prepared to provide the details of your inquiry when calling or follow up calls will likely be required.

Committee Members

Joyce Anderson, Chair Skip Cook Deb Fancher Conner Thomas Carl White Sen Gary Stevens Sen Robert Yundt Rep Kevin McCabe Rep Alyse Galvin

Administrator

Kevin Reeve

"The purpose of ethics laws, first and foremost, lies in promoting both the reality and perceptions of integrity in government."

Mark Davies in Government Ethics and Law Enforcement: Toward Global Guidelines (2000)Guidelines

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Campaign fund raising prohibition

AS 24.60.031(a) and (b) ...on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session, solicit or accept a contribution or a promise or pledge to make a contribution....

Check for and remove donation language and payment buttons from your campaign websites during session.

Contact the Ethics Office for further details at 907-269-0150 or Ethics.Committee@akleg.gov

Sec. 24.60.031. Restrictions on fund raising.

- (a) A legislative employee may not
 - (1) on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session, solicit or accept a contribution or a promise or pledge to make a contribution for a campaign for state or municipal office; however, a legislative employee may, except in the capital city or in the municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city, solicit or accept a contribution, promise, or pledge for a campaign for state or municipal office that occurs during the 90 days immediately preceding the election for that office; or
 - (2) accept money from an event held on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session if a substantial purpose of the event is to raise money on behalf of the legislative employee for political purposes; however, this paragraph does not prohibit a legislative employee from accepting money from an event held in a place other than the capital city or a municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city during the 90 days immediately preceding an election for state or municipal public office in which the legislative employee is a candidate.
- (b) A legislator may not
 - (1) on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session, solicit or accept a contribution or a promise or pledge to make a contribution
 - (A) for the legislator's own campaign for state or municipal public office, unless the solicitation, acceptance, promise, or pledge occurs in a place other than the capital city or a municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city during the 90 days immediately preceding the election in which the legislator is a candidate;
 - (B) for another candidate in an election for municipal, state, or federal office;
 - (C) to influence a state ballot proposition or question; or
 - (D) for a political party:
 - (2) accept money from an event held on a day when either house of the legislature is in regular or special session if a substantial purpose of the event is to raise money on behalf of the legislator's campaign for state or municipal public office; however, this paragraph does not prohibit a legislator from accepting money from an event held in a place other than the capital city or a municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city during the 90 days immediately preceding a state or municipal election in which the legislator is a candidate; or
 - (3) in a campaign for state or municipal office, expend money that was raised on a day when either house of the legislature was in a legislative session by or on behalf of a legislator under a declaration of candidacy or a general letter of intent to become a candidate for public office; however, this paragraph does not apply to money raised in a place other than the capital city or a municipality in which the legislature is convened in special session if the legislature is convened in a municipality other than the capital city during the 90 days immediately preceding an election in which the legislator is a candidate.
- (c) In this section, "contribution" has the meaning given in AS 15.13.400. (§ 4 ch 127 SLA 1992; am § 27 ch 48 SLA 1996; am § 19 ch 74 SLA 1998; am §§ 2, 3 ch 106 SLA 2008)

Disclaimer

Information in this newsletter is given as a general overview. Your circumstances may require specific information and advice. Contact the Ethics Office if you have questions as to whether your intended action is in compliance with the Legislative Ethics Act AS 24.60.

Are You Planning to Participate in the Kenai Classic?



Remember to file a **Sanctioned Charity Event** disclosure for you and any of your family members who take part in the event or receive gifts associated with the event that have a value of \$250 or more. The disclosure must be filed within 60 days of your first day of attendance. Questions? Contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150.

Reminder: Disclosures are required for new associations

Disclosures must be filed within 30 days of the beginning of an association during regular or special session, a recess, or the interim.

Board memberships (within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee was elected to a condo association board on June 12, 2025. *AS 24.60.030 (f). Prohibited conduct and conflicts of interest.*

Close economic associations (both parties must file a disclosure within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator purchases a piece of artwork worth \$250 or more from a legislative employee on July 15, 2025. *AS 24.60.070. Disclosure of close economic associations.*

State Benefit and Loan Programs (within 30 days of the beginning of participation). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee receives a new commercial fishing loan on July 30, 2025. *AS 24.60.050. State programs and loans.*

State Contracts, Leases, and Grants (within 30 days of the beginning of the association). *Example:* A legislator or legislative employee renegotiates a state contract on August 1, 2025. *AS 24.60.040. Contracts or leases.*

If you are unsure whether you need to file a disclosure, contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179.

File Your Ethics Disclosures Online

- 1. Go to http://intranet.akleg.gov/ & scroll down to click on Login in the File an Ethics Disclosure section.
- 2. Enter the filer's computer login (not email address) and password. NOTE to staff: If the filer is a legislator, use the legislator's computer login and password.
- 3. Click on *Sign in*.
- 4. Choose the type of disclosure you want to file.
- 5. Complete the form using drop down menus when available. (Remember, gifts of travel are for the purpose of obtaining information about matters of legislative concern. Provide complete information about the donor, a one or two sentence narrative that addresses how the information obtained is a matter of legislative concern, and attach a copy of the agenda.)
- 6. Check your completed disclosure and click "Proceed."
- 7. Review your disclosure and if correct, press "Submit."

More Help Filing Your Disclosure

Download a four-page detailed instruction handout at https://ethics.akleg.gov/disclosures.php or contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 or 907-269-8179 if you need additional information.

Legislative Purpose Test

Before taking action or accepting a gift of travel, ask yourself:



- •What is the legislative purpose of my action?
- •Is the activity or service necessary to perform my official duties?

If there is no legislative purpose, do not accept the gift of travel.

For more information, contact the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150.

Contact the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

Mailing Address: PO Box 90251 Anchorage, AK 99509-0251 Physical Location:
Anchorage Legislative Office Building
1500 W Benson Blvd Suite 220
Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 907-269-0150 **FAX:** 907-269-0152

Email: Ethics.Committee@akleg.gov Website: http://ethics.akleg.gov/