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Two Initiative Petitions Properly Filed

One initiative has been cleared for primary ballot; the other is certified and pending legal decision by Alaska Supreme Court

JUNEAU –Two 2018 ballot initiatives were properly filed, according to Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott. The Lt. Gov. issued letters on March 7th and March 13th to the sponsors of the petitions: “The Alaska Government Accountability Act,” and “An Act providing protection of wild salmon and fish and wildlife habitat,” known as 17FSH2.

“I have determined that the initiative sponsors have timely filed the petition and that the petition is signed by qualified voters (1) equal in number to 10 percent of those who voted in the preceding general election; (2) resident in at least three-fourths of the house districts in the state; and (3) who, in each of the house districts are equal in number to at least seven percent of those who voted in the preceding general election in the house district,” Lt. Gov. Mallott wrote. [Initiative Petition List](#)

Currently, there is active litigation over 17FSH2, “An Act providing for protection of wild salmon and fish and wildlife habitat. The case is on appeal to the Alaska Supreme Court. Oral argument will be held in Anchorage on April 26, 2018. The Division of Elections must wait until the Supreme Court rules on the case before moving ahead with final ballot preparations for that specific initiative.

However, in accordance with state statute, the Director of the Division of Elections shall place the ballot title and proposition on the ballot of the first statewide general, special or primary election that is held after a period of 120 days has expired since the adjournment of the legislative session. Barring any unforeseen special election or a change in the date of adjournment of the current legislative session, the initiatives would appear on the ballot for the August 21st Primary Election. If the primary election takes place 120 days or less after the regular legislative session adjourns, then the initiatives would appear in the November General Election.

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