



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Initiative Petition Calling for Permanent Fund Dividend Voter Registration
Properly Filed with the State of Alaska**

March 7, 2016, JUNEAU – Alaska Division of Elections Director Josie Bahnke announced that signature petitions for an initiative related to the permanent fund dividend application and the registration of voters were properly filed, allowing the initiative to proceed to the ballot.

If approved by voters, the ballot initiative would instruct the Division of Elections to automatically register qualified Alaskans to vote when applying for the annual Permanent Fund dividend.

“This will be the only initiative on the primary ballot,” Bahnke noted as she witnessed Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott sign the certification documents and letter to the sponsors this morning at the capitol.

Sponsors were required, within one year, to submit 28,545 total signatures, including at least 7 percent of those who voted in the previous election in 30 House districts. The Division of Elections verified 36,907 voter signatures in the submitted petitions.

“I’m pleased the division was able to complete this process before the March 14th deadline,” noted Mallott, who oversees the division as part of the Lt. Governor’s duties.

Barring an unforeseen special election, or change in the scheduled adjournment of the current legislative session, the measure will be placed on the ballot on the August 16, 2016 primary election.

The lieutenant governor’s letter to the initiative’s sponsors and ballot title and proposition is available at <http://www.elections.alaska.gov>. To register to vote online, or update your registration record, go to: <https://voterregistration.alaska.gov/>.

For more information please contact Director Bahnke at 907.465.4611

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