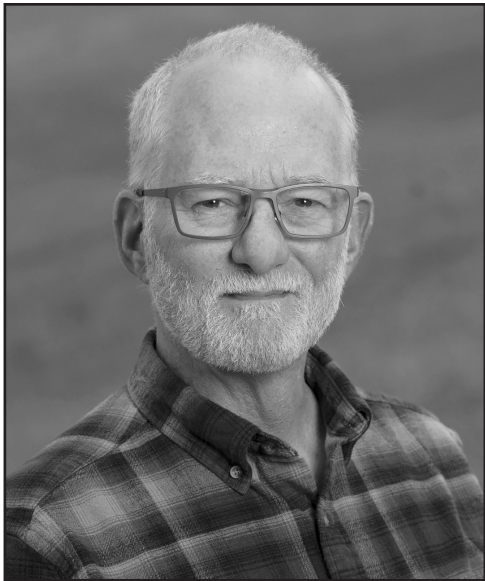


House District 25 Representative

Steven L. Merritt, Nonpartisan



MAILING ADDRESS: Merritt for State House
1150 S. Colony Way,
Ste. 3, PMB 395
Palmer, AK. 99645

EMAIL: merrittforstatehouse@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.merrittforstatehouse.com

AGE: 59

PLACE OF BIRTH: Texarkana, Texas

SPOUSE’S NAME: Belle

CHILDREN’S NAMES: Thomas, John & Arthur

OCCUPATION: Self-employed graphic designer, writer and editor

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 31 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
Anchorage: 1995-97, late '99-mid-2000; 2001-mid-'02
Girdwood: 1997-99; Soldotna: summer-2000-January 2001
Wasilla: Mid-2002-mid-2017; Palmer 2017-present

EDUCATION:
Paul H. Pewitt High School, Omaha, Texas.
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Bachelor of Science in Journalism.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Served on the Board of Directors of the Alaska Press Club
Served as President of the nonprofit Mat-Su Sentinel Board of Directors for 2 years

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:
Served on the Valley Mountain Bikers & Hikers Board of Directors for 10 years; past director of VMBaH’s youth mountain biking program
Served on the Board for the Palmer High School Nordic Ski Team Boosters

SPECIAL INTERESTS:
Fishing, hiking, skiing & year-round cycling

OTHER:
As my wife and I learned with our three boys, Alaska is a wonderful place to raise a family. Let’s keep it that way.

STATEMENT:
My candidacy for State House District 25 is built on trying to move the needle toward a sustainable future for Alaska. Like many nonpartisan, undeclared and even party-registered voters I have spoken to in the greater Palmer area, I don’t feel represented. I have watched the can continue to get kicked down the road in Juneau with regard to long-range fiscal policy, vital education funding and the future of the Permanent Fund Dividend. It’s time for forward-thinking, honest discussions on what we want as a state.

In listening to residents share what’s on their minds in the district, I have heard concerns over schools, public safety, affordability in housing and healthcare, and the cost of energy. Others worry about food security and low salmon returns. The Mat-Su Borough continues to be the fastest-growing region, but is grappling with ever-tightening budgets as state revenue sharing drains away.

The state has a role in tackling all these issues, and we must encourage the political will to get results.

Alaska is different, unlike any other state. When my wife and I moved here 30 years ago, we wanted to be a part of a broader community that not only valued individual rights and freedoms, but also recognized a shared ethos of collective responsibility toward all Alaskans. That sentiment has gotten a little off course in recent years, and the cracks are showing. I will work to maintain a community ethos in all I do.

*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections.
The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.*