Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 351

Short Title: APOC Reports by Non-electronic Means

Summary:
- Broadens the acceptable format for filing of Alaska Public Office Commission mandatory reports. Specifically, while electronic filing may be encouraged, APOC shall continue to accept paper filing from those who do not want to take advantage of electronic filing opportunities.
- Standardizes the format of APOC forms for ease of completion by the filer and posting by APOC.

Benefits:
- Gives APOC time to develop and test its electronic filing system.
- Gives potential candidates for office the choice of filing electronically or in paper format to make running for office as user friendly as possible.

Background:
Recent changes to Alaska Statues have allowed the Alaska Public Offices Commission to accommodate electronic reporting and distribution of information to the public. However, an unintended consequence is that APOC has determined that it will no longer accept filing of Public Official Financial Disclosures, Campaign Disclosures, and Legislative Financial Disclosures in a format other than electronic. Essentially, the Legislative intent to encourage APOC to develop the ability to accept electronic filing has resulted in an unnecessary obstacle for those members of the public not accustomed to using computers.