

# Sponsor Statement for SB 103

## Election Campaigns and Legislative Ethics

An Act relating to election campaigns and legislative ethics; and providing for an effective date.

**Last Updated:** April 12, 2001

**Contact:** Joe Balash, Committee Aide to Senator Gene Therriault, at (907) 465-4522

Senate Bill 103 is largely a clean-up bill to address conflicts and concerns that have arisen in the campaign finance and legislative ethics statutes. It also puts into law administrative rulings made by the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) and informal advice given by the Legislative Ethics Committee. This legislation is different from last year's HB 225. It does not contain what were the more controversial elements of that bill.

SB 103 makes the following changes:

- Clarifies that multiple groups controlled by a single candidate be treated as a single group for purposes of the contribution limit in AS 15.13.070(b)(1)
- Adds thank you advertisements to list of permissible uses of unused campaign funds
- Increases the total value of personal property which may be retained by a candidate
- Provides that money held by public entities may be used to influence the outcome of a ballot proposition or question under limited circumstances
- Clarifies and further defines contributions
- Adds new exceptions to and clarifies the prohibition on use of public assets and resources by legislators and legislative employees for non-legislative purposes and certain previously prohibited public political uses