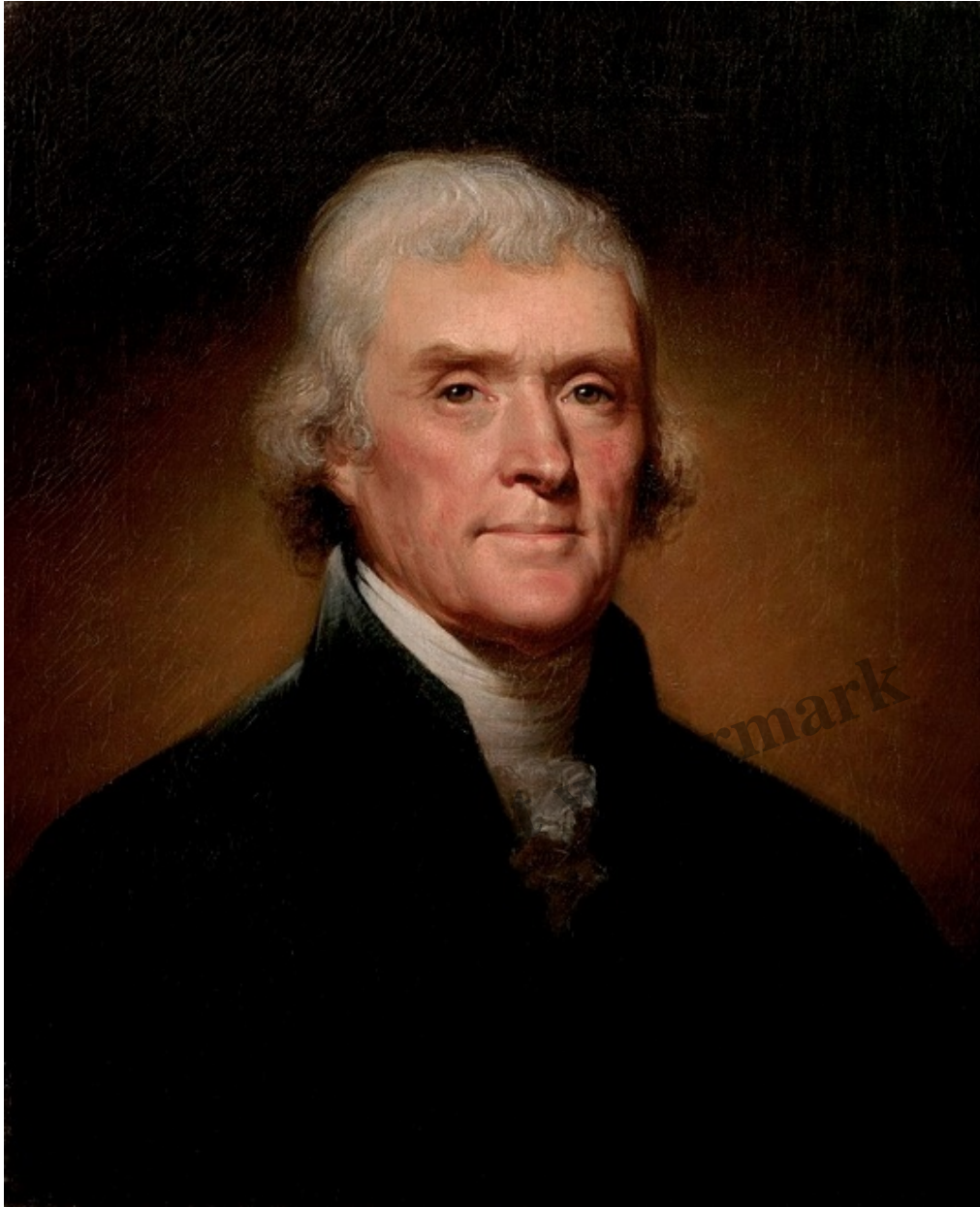




Why Some Liberals WANT An Alaska Constitutional Convention—Liberal Utopia for Alaska Revealed!

Description

default watermark



[Rembrandt Peale](#)

Thomas Jefferson, a principal author of the Declaration of Independence and 3rd President of the United States of America ((Thomas Jefferson, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Jefferson))

In the November 8 midterm elections Alaskans will be asked in Ballot Measure 1 whether to hold a Constitutional Convention. (([2]Ballot Initiative and pro/con position statements)) My late friend **John Havelock** in 2012 wrote a book about why Alaskans needed to have a constitutional convention at the last time it was possible to do so.

Today Big Money is Opposed to Alaskans having a

Con-Con

Alaska Public Office Commission REPORT for funding against Con-Con:

<https://aws.state.ak.us/ApocReports/IndependentExpenditures/IEExpenditures.aspx>

But Alaskans are an Independent lot and recent elections have shown that just throwing money at a candidate or issue will not assure a win. ((Ballot Initiative and pro/con position statements))

Position Statement in favor:

default watermark

Ballot Measure No. 1

Constitutional Convention Question

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT

Yes! Our beloved state has been captured by massive political corruption. The amendments that might have been proposed for simpler solutions to a convention have been rejected for years by the legislature while the judiciary has invented new unconstitutional powers for themselves.

1. The Alaska PFD must be constitutionalized.
2. The Judicial Council, which appoints judges and is rigged in favor of lawyers, needs to be discredited.
3. We must reject the violations of the federal constitution that were imposed upon us at statehood. While we must continue to guarantee native lands, Alaska was forced to include in our constitution Article 12, Section 12. This gave the federal government property that has no basis in the U.S. Constitution, which violates Article I, Section 8, clause 17, plus the 10th Amendment. Having the federal government own 65% of our state completely suffocates Alaska's ability to become economically prosperous and self-supporting.
4. Over the years a power grab by the judiciary has actually overthrown our state constitution. They have seized the power of the purse, the governor's line-item veto and the legislature's ability to override it. They invented the "duty" to amend the constitution through case law opinions. They have seized the definition of privacy, which is specifically reserved to the legislature in Article 1, Section 22.

Both the executive and legislative branches have had the power to halt this, but it is merely implied.

5. Therefore, the constitution needs to be more strongly worded so that citizens, governors and legislators will understand that the judiciary's power to interpret the constitution must be shared. This was said in Federalist #78:

"The judiciary has no influence over either the enforcement or the purse; no direction either of the strength or of the wealth of the society. It may truly be said to have neither force nor will, but mere judgment; and must ultimately depend upon the aid of the executive arm even for enforcement of its judgments."

6. In addition, election integrity must be addressed so that machines and computers can never again be used, and that chain-of-custody is protected by citizen poll-watchers.

A constitutional convention is a risk, but Alaskans are risk-takers and we cannot allow contrived fears to rule us. If this ballot measure should pass, we must insist the following: That the delegates not be sitting members of the legislature. They must be Alaskans of at least 5 years or more continuous residency, and they must be chosen by "town hall" type meetings through each precinct and district, not by expensive campaigns and electioneering.

Our current constitution reads that all political power is inherent in the people, government originates from the people, is instituted for the good of the people as a whole, and is founded on their will only.

This may be our last chance to do that.

In the name of liberty for ourselves and our future generations, please vote "Yes".

Bob Bird

Retired public school teacher, MS degree in History
45-year Alaskan, Radio talk-show host
Chairman, Alaskan Independence Party

Footer Tagline

Position Statement Opposed:

default watermark

Ballot Measure No. 1

Constitutional Convention Question

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION

Every 10 years, Alaskans are asked whether we should hold a constitutional convention. Every 10 years, Alaskans have strongly rejected that question. This year Alaskans should join a growing coalition across the political spectrum in once again voting "No" on a constitutional convention.

A constitutional convention is unnecessary, expensive, and dangerous. Not only would it open up our founding document to wholesale rewrite, it would create years of economic and regulatory uncertainty in our state. Opening up Alaska's entire Constitution could lead to unpredictable changes across a Pandora's box of hot-button issues like access to natural resource, taxes, abortion, guns rights, sexual orientation, the Permanent Fund, land and wildlife management and so much more.

Because no state in the nation has held a state constitutional convention in over 36 years, the interests from outside of Alaska would seize this opportunity to make Alaska the testing ground for political and partisan agendas. Exposing our founding document to years of political infighting in the face of growing divide in our nation, is the last thing hardworking Alaska families, businesses, and communities need.

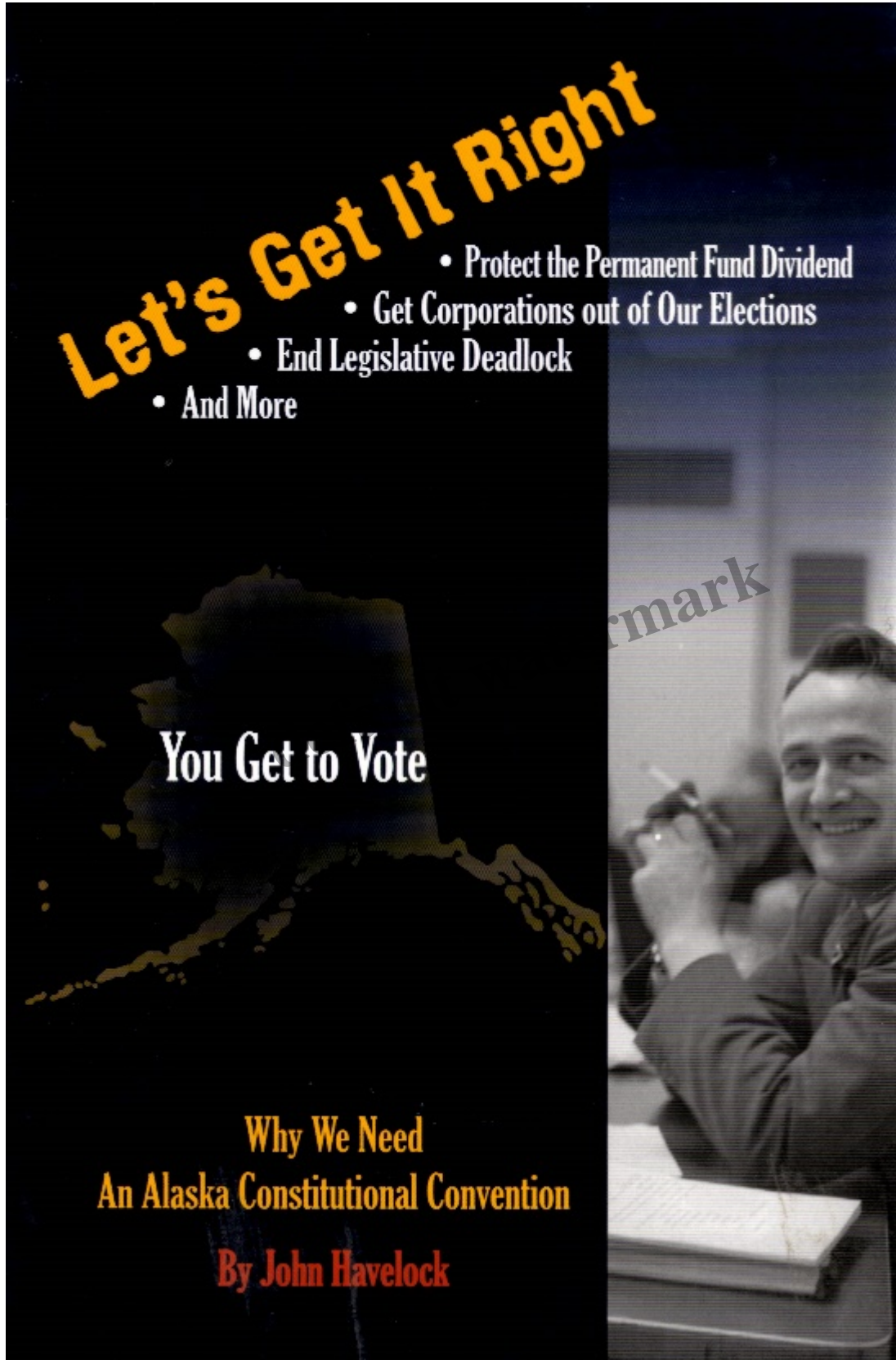
Alaska's Constitution has served our state well for over 60 years. Our state's founders included a well-devised, and transparent amendment process to make targeted changes to our Constitution. This process that has worked well for Alaskans on 40 separate occasions.

However, a convention would open up the entire Constitution for unlimited revision. Even if a convention delegates would be selected via a special election with zero restrictions on campaign contributions. And because sitting legislators in Juneau would be eligible to run, there is little chance that a convention would result in meaningful changes. A constitutional convention would be a multi-year, costly and contentious process that would distract from the real work of addressing our shared challenges.

Hundreds of individuals representing Alaska's geographic and political diversity have formed a coalition to oppose a convention. This coalition represents a broad group of Alaskans who often disagree on the issues facing our state: business and labor leaders, resource development champions and conservative Republicans and Democrats. But we all agree: a constitutional convention would be unnecessary, expensive, and dangerous for Alaska.

Holding a constitutional convention carries great risk, with little or no potential reward. Alaskans should work to protect our founding document and oppose the constitutional convention this November by voting no on Ballot Measure 1.

John Coghill: Fairbanks, AK
Joelle Hall: Anchorage, AK
William Corbus: Juneau, AK



Havelock quotes the father of the Democrat Party, Thomas

Jefferson:

"I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions. But laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regime of their barbarous ancestors." ((Let's Get it Right; You Get to Vote, John Havelock, 2010))*

In his book Havelock added: *Responding to those who feared that terrible things can happen because of all the crazies out there who want to make weird changes or repel liberties, he (Jefferson) said:*

"I know no safe depository of the ultimate power of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion."

Havelock: Alaskans now considering the possibility of a constitutional convention should consider the wisdom of Thomas Jefferson.

*In 2002 this Alaska ballot question lost by more than two-to-one, but something seems different in 2022. **This writer is hoping Alaskans are ready to look under the hood of our 1959 vehicle and perhaps give 'er a tune-up.***

This is the history of this question before voters since 1972:

Advisory Votes, Propositions, and Questions Appearing on the Ballot in Alaska

Date	Topic	For	Against
11/06/12	Question - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention?	90,079	179,567
04/03/07	Advisory Vote prohibiting insurance benefits for same-sex partners	60,896	54,442
11/05/02	Question - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention?	60,217	152,120
09/14/99	Advisory Vote on Long-Term Financial Plan	30,994	153,996
11/03/92	Question - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention?	84,929	142,735
11/04/86	Advisory Vote on Longevity Bonus Annuity Program	99,222	65,789
11/02/82	Question - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention?	63,816	108,319
11/02/82	Proposition - Relocation of the State Capital	91,249	102,083
08/26/80	Question on Alaska Statehood Commission	46,705	45,598
11/07/78	Advisory Vote on Legislative Session	87,100	29,093
11/02/76	Advisory Vote on Unicameralism	58,782	55,204
11/07/72	Question - Shall there be a Constitutional Convention?	29,192	55,389
11/03/70	Question Relating to Constitutional Convention (Article XII, Section 3)	34,911	34,472

<https://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/forms/H29.pdf>

*It seems the same Outside money that got us **Ranked Choice Voting**, and put unbelievable amounts into crazy liberal candidate campaigns last election (2020), are now urging a vote **against** Alaskans having a **Constitutional Convention**. It has been now 63 years since Alaska was blessed with statehood because statehood advocates took the initiative to make a constitution progressive enough to be acceptable to post-war Republican President, Dwight Eisenhower and Congress.*

Why Alaskans Wanted Statehood (Pt 1)

[Why Alaskans Wanted Statehood, Part 1](#)

President Franklin D Roosevelt got the United States out of the **Great Depression** with **World War II**, and during the 1950s Americans just wanted peace and prosperity. This writer is a member of that

Baby Boomer generation that has brought us to the place we are today in Alaska and America as a country. If this time the ballot question of holding a Con-Con passes, we need to know why Liberals really wanted it to pass and what we can expect from them in the actual Con-Con.

Havelock provides more perspective:

*The Constitution of Alaska was prepared in the winter of 1955-56 at a convention held at the **University of Alaska at Fairbanks**, concluding three years before Alaska would become a state and well before any **Alaska Statehood Bill** went to the desk of the President. **The Alaska Constitution** needs first to be understood as a document intended to persuade a hesitant Congress and resistant President that the people of Alaska were capable of putting together a state constitution that would be responsible—a model of its time for what a constitution should be.*

In other words, the end of **Manifest Destiny** was at Bering Strait; the Alaska subcontinent geographically separate from the rest of North America at a place then still having a majority Indigenous population, likely not ready for the demands of self-government. Instead of covered wagons in long trains drawn by oxen driven from East to West, adventurous Americans drove the Alcan Highway in American-Made station wagons and pickup trucks, pulling trailers. ((Manifest Destiny: the 19th-century doctrine or belief that the expansion of the US throughout the American continents was both justified and inevitable. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manifest_destiny))

The provision to review and update our Alaska Constitution was established in the constitution itself by these progressive visionaries who believed the path to liberal utopia was certain with opportunities to further their Camelot cause if the Democrat base remained firmly entrenched as it was at the time of statehood. **But a funny thing happened: When Alaska was broke we were wall-to-wall Democrats. When we became rich beyond our wildest imaginations, we quickly became wall-to-wall Republicans.**

At this election we will have 144,542 registered Republicans, 77,137 Democrats, 19,277 Alaska Independent Party voters, and some other party trees with squirrels. We also have 266,085 Undeclared and 83,576 Non-declared, but nobody runs as an Undeclared or Non-Declared so those numbers break out in the same proportion of Republican/Democrat/AIP when the count is finalized.

Havelock apparently saw the Con-Con as a way to consolidate State government, even suggesting a Unicameral Legislature:

He writes in his book:

U.S. CHANGES

Technology, by way of the omnipresence of television and radio and the development of propaganda arts in these media, has made money in politics, long a big problem, overwhelming. It is surely the biggest problem with American Democracy. This issue will be discussed together with a state cure in the review of Article 5. Our bicameral Congress, a lesser issue but still important, has been around for

a century or so, growing as the responsibilities of the national government relative to the states have grown, It is obvious, at least to some, that the Constitution of the United States would be much improved by changing the composition of the Congress to make it more representative and less responsive to the power of money and less subject to deadlock by reducing the power of the upper chamber, moving the whole system nearer a unicameral form. ((Let's Get it Right, P 17))

Sounds like *Get Rid of the Senate Filibuster* at the national level to me. Certainly this will go hand-in-mitten with packing the US Supreme Court goals even Roosevelt couldn't pull off.

Keep your ears open to Limousine Liberal Democrat's bleating about **too much money in politics. Alaska has it's share of trust fund babies, you know.**

[Why Alaskans Wanted Statehood Part 2 of 2](#)

For Havelock the changes in 2010 from long-standing technology, television and radio, were forces of propoganda requiring new constraints in constitutional law which he carried further on the liberal wish-list to even restructuring our bicameral legislative body.

...It is true that most conventions, called in other states over the past several decades have sometimes produced indifferent results. One might hope that if Alaska moved to Unicameralism, and cheered the results, it might encourage other states to follow suit. Maybe then, in years to come, or reforming the functions of the Senate or otherwise alleviate the extreme disproportion in popular representation. It is not possible. The graduated income tax and direct election of Senators also had to overcome powerful vested interests. ((Let's Get it Right, P 18))

Havelock's 14 Recommended Changes

PRINCIPAL CHANGE PROPOSALS

In the following pages, a number of changes will be explored, some good and some maybe not so good, or maybe of marginal importance. But there are a few key subjects that should be addressed:

1. The purposes of the permanent fund should be fixed, almost certainly to include a dividend to the people and maybe a dedication of the remaining fund income.
2. The convention should consider the dedication of a portion of state raised funds, independent of the permanent fund, to an expanded vision of education and to local government, carry with it commensurate responsibilities.
3. A unicameral legislature should be considered to focus legislative accountability, ridding us of the Byzantine intrigues of bicameralism, to give smaller communities the chance to have representation and to make more possible person-to-person campaigns.
4. A system can be adopted for fixing legislative compensation and to restrict the legislature's power to appropriate to itself.
5. The convention could propose the creation of an Office of the Inspector General to perform those services, particularly the investigation of public misfeasance and malfeasance, which frustrated citizenry sees as not being performed by an attorney general appointed by the governor. The conduct of elections, including the public offices commission and other independent functions inappropriate to the executive branch can be placed under this office.
6. It could place restraints on and create incentives in the electoral process to enhance fairness and stop legislative seats from being bought and sold at auction. In particular, it could assure that corporations are not authorized to commit funds to political

default watermark

purposes. Or the convention could require a vote of shareholders before any political participation is funded, a requirement specifically, legally consistent with the Citizens United case.

7. The convention could propose the creation of an initiative process that requires public input in the creation of the proposal to be initiated. The constitution needs to revive and improve citizen access to the referendum process that has been all but wiped out by judicial interpretation.
8. Surely all will approve getting the legislature and politics, as far as possible, out of the reapportionment business.
9. A constitutional amendment can make it clear that the right to privacy is intended to apply to invasions of privacy by corporations and other artificial persons.
10. An amendment can reduce the requirement that two-thirds of each chamber of the legislature endorse any proposed constitutional amendments to three-fifths (or some other fraction depending on whether unicameralism is adopted), and maybe give the governor some check such as the right to force an additional vote.
11. An amendment can permit the people, by initiative, to call a bipartisan jury into session for purposes of considering and drafting (or rejecting) a proposal for any initiative or a proposed constitutional amendment.
12. The new convention should provide recognition to Alaska Native communities. There was only one Alaska Native, (from Klawock) at the Constitutional Convention. Arguably we have a colonial constitution. Most of the issues that arise in Native communities can be left to Native communities, but at least, some recognition through comity should be given, as a constitutional mandate, to traditional councils recognized by the federal government and regulation of subsistence rights should allow for urban-rural distinctions.

default watermark

Havelock goes on section-by-section to advocate for a political philosophy once held by most Alaskans beholding to Uncle Sam’s bounty and US Strategic Military requirements. But we know now that once Alaskans discovered the opportunities presented by wealth from resource development, we built infrastructure and sought independence through conservative economic policies.

This change may require review of some aspects of our founding documents.

Review of our Public Institutions is in Order



Theresa Nangle Obermeyer, PH.d.

The only way to create accountability of **Alaska Bench and Bar** is to vote “Yes on a Constitutional Convention,” declares Theresa Nagel Obermeyer in her individual campaign on this topic. **Are you aware that there cannot be “Initiative Petitions” to change Alaska Constitution on any topic about Alaska Bench and Bar?**

If the **Alaska Constitutional Convention** passes, there will then be candidates elected at the ballot box to represent us. **I will not be a candidate.** After the Delegates are elected, AK Constitutional Convention will be held. The Delegates will then decide on a new Alaska Constitution. The new Constitution will be voted on at the ballot box “up or down.”

Between 1990-1994 Obermeyer was a colorful member of the **Anchorage School Board**, serving as Treasurer, 1993, Anchorage School District. This writer knew of her through my employment with the Association of Alaska School Boards in Juneau.

Two issues to included in the new Constitution are:

1. **Confirmation of Alaska Permanent Fund Board by Alaska Legislature:**
2. **An Alaska officeholder, probably Alaska Attorney General, must be required to be a member of the Alaska Bar Association. Currently, NO Alaska elected officeholder is required to be a member.**

Obermeyer provided evidence of her mistreatment by the **University of Alaska and Alaska Courts System which are attached.** ((

[8]Obermeyer Exhibits:

- 1.) A total of 12 U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Judges have fabricated court cases against me starting when I ethically did what I was supposed to do when four others and I were locked out of our offices at University of Alaska. The other four were paid off up to \$10,000 each in moving expenses to leave Alaska. I was the only one who filed a civil lawsuit Theresa (Nangle) Obermeyer v. University of Alaska for which I received a "Not for Publication" ruling and was required to pay \$17,161.75.
- 2.) My only jury trial in which I was acquitted and my three assaults for which AK Violent Crimes Compensation Committee attorneys did not so much as side with me after I had been acquitted in a seven day jury trial. Think of how much that trial cost.
- 3.) The published article by Talis Colberg as long ago as 2012 supporting the election of Alaska Attorney General.))

Alaskans want better Government.

Over 60 winters this writer has observed and participated in shaping our state from oil discovery at Prudhoe Bay to Covid shutdowns. Our institutions are handicapped by the caliber of people available and the systems meant to provide essential services. If **The People** decide our Constitution is ready for a tune-up, we who value Alaska Independence and Traditional Values must be ready to stand against those who want more government employees on their Alaska Adventure.

Category

1. Alaska Hope
2. Alaska Legislature
3. ALASKA! GOVERNMENT

Date Created

November 8, 2022

Author

donn