



## **Advisory Opinion 18-03 Approved July 17, 2018**

*Does the Legislative Ethics Act (the Act) restrict a legislator's use of the legislative print shop, and state funds to print materials, during the period leading up to a primary election, if the legislator is an independent candidate and therefore participating only in the general election?*

The Select Committee on Legislative Ethics finds as follows:

- (1) AS 24.60.030(a)(2) and (a)(5) apply specifically to the use of legislative resources in connection with a partisan political purpose or a political campaign, and limit or prohibit the printing or distribution of printed material in that connection.
- (2) The prohibition on printing or distributing political mass mailings during a campaign period, under AS 24.60.030(c), discussed above, applies to:
  - (A) use of the legislative print shop; and
  - (B) candidates for election, whether they are participating in a primary election, running as an independent candidate, or running as a member of a political party.
- (3) A legislator who is a candidate in a general election and uses the legislative print shop or other state resources to print materials during the campaign period described in AS 24.60.030(c) creates a substantial appearance of impropriety, even where the legislator is an independent candidate whose name is not on the primary election ballot.

[Full text of the Advisory Opinion](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/search/ethics/) is available at <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/search/ethics/>.

## **Advisory Opinion 18-04 Approved July 17, 2018**

*Would a legislator's reservation or submission of a Legislative Citation in memoriam or in honorarium of a person who is not the legislator's constituent raise an issue under the Legislative Ethics Act (the Act)?*

The Select Committee on Legislative Ethics finds the Act does not prohibit a legislator from reserving or submitting a Legislative Citation, in honorarium or in memoriam, that names a person who is not a constituent of that legislator. However, limitations under AS 24.60.030 would apply, and if there were an appearance of ethical impropriety, that would also be a factor the committee would consider.

[Full text of the Advisory Opinion](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/search/ethics/) is available at <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/search/ethics/>.

### **Sexual and Other Workplace Harassment Training**

Beginning in 2019, all legislators and legislative employees will be required to attend *Sexual and Other Workplace Harassment Policy Training*. The Alaska State Commission for Human Rights will conduct the training.

Contact the Personnel Office at 907-465-3854 or the Ethics Office at 907-269-0150 for more information.

# Campaign Ethics Dates to Remember

**July 22**..... Last day the Ethics Committee advises sending general information newsletters prior to the Primary Election, whether paper or electronic, without utilizing “state resources”

**August 21** ..... Primary Election Day

**August 22** ..... OK to send newsletters again, but not utilizing “state resources”

**October 7** ..... Suggested last day to send general information newsletters prior to the General Election, whether paper or electronic, without utilizing “state resources”

**November 6** ..... General Election Day

**November 7** ..... OK to send out newsletters including those utilizing “state resources”

## Disclosure Notes

**The following types of associations must be filed within 30 days of the beginning of the association — even during the interim!**

- Membership on a Board
- Close Economic Association
- State Contracts, Leases, & Grants \$5,000+
- State Benefit & Loan Program
- Representation for Compensation
- Travel/Hospitality Disclosures

**A little more description, please, when filing travel and/or hospitality disclosures!**

- Spell out acronyms such as NCSL.
- Provide complete information about the donor.
- Give a description of the topics discussed, forums attended, or other pertinent agenda items. Simply entering “Annual Summit,” for example, does not provide enough information for the public.

**File your disclosure online. It’s easy!**

Go to <http://intranet.akleg.gov/> and click on “File an Ethics Disclosure”. Enter your credentials (same as computer log-in). Click on the type of disclosure you want to file, fill out using drop down menus when appropriate, check for accuracy and submit. So easy!

**Thank you!**

## Contact the Select Committee on Legislative Ethics

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