

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Brent Johnson, Assembly President *BJ*
Tyson Cox, Assembly Vice President *TRC*

FROM: Michele Turner, Acting Borough Clerk *(MT)*

DATE: December 1, 2022

RE: Ordinance 2022-44, Amending KPB 4.10.060 and 4.10.110 to Eliminate the Requirement that the Informational Election Brochure be Mailed to Every Borough Boxholder and to Eliminate the Requirement of the Borough Clerk to Seek Authorship Advocating Approval and Rejection of Ballot Propositions (Johnson, Cox)

KPB 4.10.110(A) states the Borough Clerk shall prepare a brochure that contains "of a strictly factual nature" proposition information and "shall be mailed to every borough boxholder". Mailing an informational brochure to every borough boxholder costs the borough approximately \$30,000 for each regular election.

The abandoned informational brochures found at local post offices indicate that this is not a resource that everyone finds helpful. The Borough Clerk's Office will post the entire brochure online and continue to publish the informational brochure. Publishing the informational brochure online and providing for a mechanism for interested voters to request a hard copy appears to be a more targeted approach. Printed copies will be available in the Borough Clerk's Office, every city clerk's office and both borough annex offices in Homer and Seward. In addition, the Borough Clerk's Office will send a postcard to every registered voter that includes a link to the internet address where the voter pamphlet can be found online.

KPB 4.10.110(B) requires the clerk to offer authorship of statements by an individual or organization with a stated interest in advocating approval or rejection of propositions to be included in the borough election pamphlet. The administration of this code provision has proven to be difficult and an unnecessary point of contention in the public process. Nothing in the code prevents a proponent or opponent of a ballot propositions from submitting a statement in order to further their stated position on a ballot proposition. This change would simply mean that the Borough Clerk does not need to actively seek out pro/con statements.

Your consideration is appreciated.