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Quick facts on Alaska's Ballot Measure 2

Alaska's Ballot Measure 2 aims to repeal the state's system of open primaries and ranked choice voting general elections, as well as remove the campaign finance transparency laws that inform Alaskans of the interests behind their candidates and ballot measures.

Background

Alaskans voted to adopt their campaign finance disclosure laws and their system of open primaries and ranked choice voting in 2020.

They have now used this electoral system four times without issue: twice in 2022, for a special election to replace Don Young, plus a regular election; and once each for 2024 and 2026 elections.

On open primaries and ranked choice elections

THE SYSTEM: Alaskans use a system of open (aka "unified" or "all-candidate") primaries, in which all parties and unaffiliated voters may participate. The top four vote-getters advance to a ranked choice general election.

EASE OF USE: 84% of Alaskans report ranked choice voting to be simple.

OUTCOMES: Research shows Alaska's system

- Produces more competitive elections,
- Reduces the impact of "spoiler candidates,"
- Helps independent candidates break through, and
- Encourages lawmakers to work across the aisle more often than pre-reform.

On campaign finance transparency laws

THE LAW: Alaska's rules require PACs and SuperPACs to share the "true source" of donations over $2,000, plus disclose if out-of-state actors are funding ads. Since passage, this law has served as the state's only tool for illuminating the pools of dark money flowing through Alaska.

PUBLIC SUPPORT: As recently as the August 2026 primary, more than 70 percent of Alaskans voted to support a measure for campaign spending limits, indicating overwhelming distaste for dark-money meddling in their elections.

MUSK INFLUENCE: In early August, Elon Musk donated $1.5 million to support Ballot Measure 2. Ironically, Alaskans only learned about this because of the very laws he is seeking to repeal.

ALASKA CONTEXT: Alaska is especially vulnerable to dark money, due to its small population, cheap and concentrated media markets, and its small legislature. A little money goes a long way.

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