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May 3, 2023

CONTACT: Juli Lucky

Juli@AlaskansforBetterElections.com

Public Testimony Favors Open Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting

House Bill 4 subverts the will of voters

ANCHORAGE—Three in four Alaskans who testified during today's two-hour [House State Affairs Committee hearing](#) on [House Bill 4](#) urged legislators to protect the state's open primary system. HB 4 would repeal the open primary and ranked choice voting provisions from Ballot Measure 2, which Alaskans passed in 2020 to give all Alaskans more choice in their representation and a greater voice in their government.

About 40 Alaskans testified during the public hearing. More than 30 people spoke in opposition of HB4—including Alaska Federation of Natives Co-Chair Joe Nelson, senior Alaskans, and residents from both rural and urban communities throughout the state. More than 70 people were queued up and still waiting to testify when the hearing ended, with even more Alaskans unable to get through.

“Lawmakers heard loud and clear why Alaskans want to keep our election system in place,” said Juli Lucky, executive director of Alaskans for Better Elections. “Testimony to keep open primaries and ranked choice voting outpaced those wanting to go back to a closed partisan primary, three to one. We thank Alaskans for showing up and speaking out.”

The House State Affairs Committee did not close public testimony and will announce additional public testimony opportunities. Alaskans are encouraged to submit written testimony to the committee at House.State.Affairs@akleg.gov urging legislators to uphold the will of voters.

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