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CONTACT: Juli Lucky
media@alaskansforbetterelections.com

Alaska Federation of Natives Endorses Preservation of Open Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting

Organization Represents 160 Tribes, 154 corporations, 10 consortiums

ANCHORAGE—The state’s largest Native organization voted Saturday to endorse the preservation of the open primary and ranked choice voting system during the Alaska Federation of Natives annual convention.

“Given the polarization in the country, Alaskans cannot afford to merely preserve the nonpartisan open primary and ranked choice voting model,” said **Joe Nelson, AFN Co-Chair**. “We have an obligation to lead a movement. Our current elections law will help restore confidence in our electoral system by creating a lane that allows politicians to become public servants—in service of all Alaskans.”

Highlighted in [AFN Resolution 23-26](#):

- One in five Alaskans is of Native descent
- Six in 10 Alaskans are nonpartisan
- Navigating ballots and proxies is a way of life for most Alaska Natives
- Alaskans should be able to choose a person, not a political party, and trust that the process will encourage good public policy, not extreme partisanship

“We are honored to be aligned with Alaska’s largest organization of indigenous voices,” said **Alaskans for Better Elections Executive Director Juli Lucky**. “I thank Sealaska Corporation for sponsoring the resolution and the AFN delegates who voted to preserve our current voter-centric election system—which leads to more voice, more choice, and better representation.”

Hear what AFN attendees had to say about the open primary and ranked choice voting system. Watch the video [here](#).

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