

Solidarity Update

2014- GENERAL ELECTION EDITION

A publication of the Alaska State Employees Association AFSCME Local 52, AFL-CIO



General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 recommends the following list of candidates for the upcoming General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 4. Recommendations are based on questionnaires returned by the candidate and legislative voting records. ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 endorsement for public office is based on the candidate's support for public employee issues, not party affiliation. The following recommendations reflect political positions that ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 believes are in the best interest of public employees.



Walker & Mallott For Governor & Lt. Governor

**Bill Walker for
Governor (U)**



**Byron Mallott for
Lt. Governor (D)**

Bill Walker and Byron Mallott announced their joint candidacy. They believe that their decision to move ahead as a team is in the best interest of the state. They believe that the state is on the wrong course. Both believe that there is a great deal at stake, and that their combined ticket is a strong and balanced partnership that is the best choice for moving Alaska forward.

WALKER - I am running for Governor because it is time we, as Alaskans, take control of our future. Issues I see facing Alaskans today are:

- ♦ **Oil & Gas** - Alaska is in an energy crisis now and we are doing little to solve this crisis.
 - Alaska is facing a huge fiscal cliff as the result of declining oil revenues.
- ♦ **Energy Crisis** - Immediate steps need to be taken to get economical energy to Alaska's communities.
 - Alaskans cannot continue to pay these exorbitant prices for energy and wait for Alaska to start over and still not come up with a solution for economical energy.
- ♦ **Health Care** - We must increase the number of health care providers throughout the state.
 - I support the Medicaid expansion with the caveat of continued federal funding—4,000 new Alaska jobs would be created and lower-cost coverage for 40,000+ Alaskans would be provided.
- ♦ **Education** - Our public schools must be adequately funded.
 - It is the quality of our teachers, not our facilities and equipment, that make the critical difference.
 - Our focus needs to be on attracting and retaining the very best educators who approach their positions as a calling, not just a job.

♦ **Jobs for Alaskans**

♦ **Tourism**

♦ **Alaska Marine Highway**

♦ **Fish Management**

♦ **Agriculture**

MALLOTT - I know that polarizing partisanship is not how solutions are achieved. It takes leadership and hard work. This campaign is about building a better Alaska and who's best prepared to get us there.

- ♦ My first priority is education - It grows everything else, from universal voluntary pre-K services to timely predictable K-12 funding, expecting excellence in the classroom and reducing student loan interest rates.

- ♦ I will coordinate and consolidate the efforts to bring affordable power and fuel to all Alaskans (*there's no single answer, there can and should be a singular focus on energy at the highest level*). Energy costs are crippling, Alaska faces critical choices - not in 10 or 20 years, but now.

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U.S. House - Forrest Dunbar

General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

Tamara Kruse Roselius — Senate District A - (D)



It is important to note that "Right to Work" changes, work against fair wages. These laws change the balance of power between employers and employees, so that workers reap fewer of the gains. I cannot support "Right to Work" or out sourcing for these reasons.

<http://www.alaskademocrats.org/candidates/democrats-for-state-senate/tamara-kruse-roselius>

Scott Kawasaki — House District 1 (Incumbent - D)



I have consistently voted to ratify the negotiated contracts and to fully fund contracts that have already been ratified.

<http://www.alaskascott.com/>

Larry Murakami — House District 2 (D)



Now is not the time to reduce educational funding for Alaska. Alaska must diversify it's economic base and prioritize spending focusing on the needs and of the Alaskan people.

http://www.newsminer.com/house-district-larry-murakami/article_10acaf2a-24be-11e4-adb0-001a4bcf6878.html

Tammie Wilson — House District 3 (Incumbent - R)



I will always make time to accommodate your schedule and hear your concerns; your thoughts are important. Thank you for the honor of working for you.

<http://www.housemajority.org/members/twilson/>

David Guttenberg — House District 4 (Incumbent - D)



State workers are entitled to all the benefits of collective bargaining and the security of a negotiated agreement.

<http://www.re-electdavidguttenberg.org/>

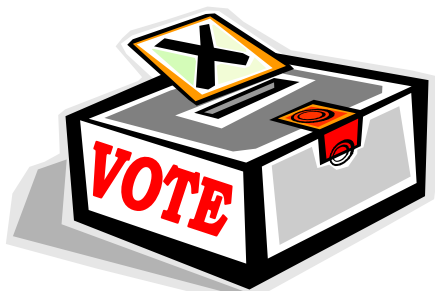
Adam Wool — House District 5 (D)



State budget, energy prices and education are main motivators for running in this election. "In two years the politicians have taken Alaska from surplus to billion dollar deficits while shortchanging our schools and ignoring the high cost to heat our homes."

<http://democracy.com/adam4statehouse/default.aspx>

Let Your Voice
Be Heard!
VOTE!



Walker & Mallott For Governor & Lt. Governor

(continued from page 1)

- ◆ Our state is in a dangerous situation: revenues don't cover costs and savings will be depleted within five years.
- ◆ Balancing the books while supporting vital public services is fundamental and urgent.

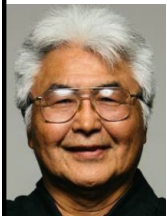
<http://www.walkerforalaska.com/walker-mallott-announce-joint-candidacy/>

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General Election - ASEA

PAC Endorsed Candidates

Wilson Justin — House District 6 - (D)



My highest priority is education. I believe that small business has long been overlooked as a source of stability in rural Alaska. More should be done for small business.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Wilson_Justin_HD6.pdf

Click Bishop — Senate District C (Incumbent - R)



I oppose the privatization of basic government services because cost savings are rarely achieved and continuity of service to the public is often disrupted. I do not support inappropriate classification

shifting from represented employees to exempt status, especially for the purpose of denying employees the right to representation.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Click_Bishop_SDC.pdf

Verne Rupright — House District 7— (I)



The concepts of Collective Bargaining are important to the stability of a workforce. "Right to Work" would force skilled personnel to work for less without any protections.

<http://verneruprightforstatehouse.com/>

Mark Neuman — House District 8 (Incumbent - R)



I would be willing to look at other options to Tier IV for public employees.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD10-Mark-Neuman.pdf>

Jim Colver — House District 9 - (R)



As your representative I will always listen to you! Your voice matters! Several of my priorities are: Resource Development of our oil, gas, minerals and timber. Education - I support traditional schools, home schooling and charter

schools. I support Military & Veterans - in obtaining benefits and healthcare.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Jim_Colver_HD9.pdf

Warren Keogh — Senate District E - (I)



The state should provide employees with the option of a defined benefit retirement since a DB provides greater retirement security which is as important to employee well-being as salaries and other benefits.

<http://www.keoghforsenate.com/>

Neal T. Lacy — House District 10 - (D)



Alaska's minimum wage has not kept up with inflation and needs to be raised. I believe that public money should be used for public education.

<http://www.democracy.com/neallacy>

Pete P. LaFrance — House District 11-(D)



Unions protect worker's rights and ensure that we have a thriving middle class. The results of collective bargaining should be respected and funded. Collective bargaining is the key to growing and protecting America's middle class. I will fight to ensure that workers retain the right to collective bargaining.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Pete_LaFrance_for_web.pdf

House Districts 12
NO ENDORSEMENT

Patricia Chesbro — Senate District F - (D)



I support unions. "At will" employees are very vulnerable in their jobs. "Right to Work" is one of our biggest misnomers. "Right to Work"

states have lower wages, fewer benefits, and fewer protections than states with strong collective bargaining laws. I am totally against "Right to Work" laws.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Chesbro-for-web.pdf>

House District 13
NO ENDORSEMENT

House District 14
NO ENDORSEMENT

State Senate G NO ENDORSEMENT

Gabrielle LeDoux — House District 15 (Incumbent - R)



I support collective bargaining. A contractual obligation is a promise to pay. The Legislature must fund the state's contractual obligations to state employees.

<http://www.facebook.com/VoteLeDoux>

Max Gruenberg — House District 16 (Incumbent - D)



I support collective bargaining and the integrity of the collective bargaining process. I understand the importance of adequately compensated state employees.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD14-Max-Gruenberg.pdf>

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General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

Berta Gardner — Senate District I (Incumbent - D)



I believe that collective bargaining is a basic right. In addition, I recognize that all workers benefit from union efforts.

<http://www.bertagardner.com/>

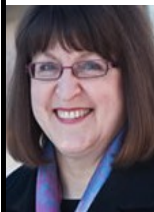
Andrew Josephson — House District 17 (Incumbent - D)



I would support the creation of a Tier V and a defined benefit for public employees. I believe in and support the collective bargaining process.

<http://www.electandystatehouse.com/>

Harriett Drummond — House District 18 (Incumbent - D)



I personally support a defined benefit or pension style retirement plan because all workers deserve fair retirement compensation, especially for public service. I support the

collective bargaining rights of workers and therefore oppose the right to work legislation.

<http://www.harrietdrummond.com/>

Geran Tarr - House District 19 - (Incumbent — D)



I worked in Juneau as legislative staff during the time period that the pension change took place. I have followed the effort to change it back. I support working families and pensions for public employees.

<http://www.tarrforstatehouse.com/>

Les Gara — House District 20 (Incumbent - D)



I have always been a supporter of the right to collectively bargain employment contracts.

<http://lesgara.org/>

Clare Ross — Senate District K - (D)



I oppose outsourcing. It is impossible to outsource work to the private sector without paying a far greater cost. Outsourcing often leads to under-bidding and poor quality of work. I absolutely oppose

“Right to Work” legislation. This leads to lower wages and benefits. States with collective bargaining attract higher caliber employees who create a productive workforce.

<http://rossforalaska.com/>

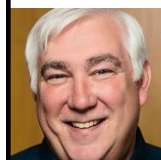
Matt Claman — House District 21 - (D)



Alaskans want government that works with our families and businesses to make sure Alaska is a great State to live, work, and raise a family.

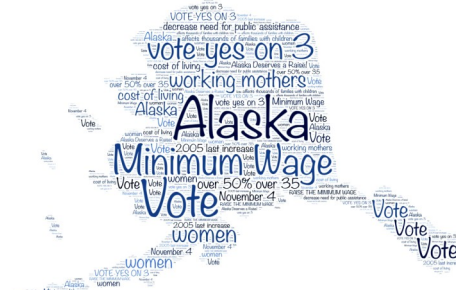
http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Matt_Claman_HD21.pdf

Marty M. McGee — House District 22 (D)



I view public employees as valuable assets of the community. I also view public employees as important long-term investments in our community. A good benefit and retirement system is important to attract and retain good employees.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Marty_McGee_HD22.pdf



Minimum Wage Initiative (Ballot Measure #3) Vote "YES"

Alaskans will have a chance to vote to increase the minimum wage to a more appropriate level, one which will help everyday hard working Alaskans and their families afford the basics, such as food, medical care and housing. This measure includes a provision maintaining it against inflation. Alaska had America's highest minimum wage for 40 years and enjoyed unprecedented growth. Today Alaska's minimum wage is only 50 cents higher than most states.

Alaskans for a Fair Minimum Wage (AFMW) was started in March of 2013 by three former Alaska State Labor Commissioners to advocate for the raising of the Alaska minimum wage to a level that would help Alaskan's provide for themselves and their families. On April 26, 2013, AFMW submitted the application to the then Lt. Governor for permission to begin collecting required signatures to place this measure on the 2014 ballot.

Thirty-thousand one hundred and sixty-nine (30,169) signatures were needed to place this measure on the ballot. From July 2013 to January 2014, one hundred and fifty (150) volunteers collected 43,489 signatures throughout the state.

On February 2014, the Division of Elections confirmed that the 36,480 signatures were valid and met the requirements to become Ballot Measure 3.

This measure proposes that the Minimum Wage be raised from \$7.75 to \$8.75 by January 2015, and to \$9.75 by January 2016, with an automatic annual cost of living adjustment based upon the Anchorage Consumer Price Index or at least \$1.00 above the federal rate, whichever is higher built in for future years.

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**Chris Tuck — House District 23
(Incumbent - D)**



I will fight against so-called "Right-to-Work" and will honor any bargaining arrangements negotiated with government employees.

http://ballotpedia.org/Chris_Tuck

**Michael "Mike" Fenster — House
District 24 (D)**



I oppose the diminishing or curtailing of the right to collective bargaining. I would vote to support appropriations to fund agreements for collective bargaining units funded by the state.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Michael_Fenster_HD24.pdf

**Kevin Meyer — Senate District M
(Incumbent - R)**



Over the past years as a legislator, I supported collective bargaining for state employees. I will continue to do so in the future.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/Sen-L-Kevin-Meyer.pdf>

Patti Higgins — House District 25 - (D)



I would support all efforts to re-establish a defined benefit program for public employees. I believe a defined benefit program favorably impacts the ability of the State, local

governments and school districts to attract and retain a qualified workforce necessary to provide government services.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD24-Patti-Higgins.pdf>

**Bob Lynn — House District 26
(Incumbent - R)**



I stand in solid support of state employees. Collective bargaining is a necessity to ensure fairness for labor & management.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD23-Bob-Lynn.pdf>

Harry T. Crawford - Senate District N - (D)



I oppose outsourcing as it has been done in the past and was unsuccessful. I believe in and I support collective bargaining rights. I would oppose the "Right to Work for Less"

legislation with every fiber of my being. I was opposed to the change to Tier IV in 2005. I think the least we should do is offer a new Tier V as an option.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Harry_Crawford_SDN.pdf

Matt Moore — House District 27 (D)



I oppose reduction of the right to collectively bargain and I oppose "Right to Work" in Alaska. Simply put, the result of "Right to Work" is a fast track to poverty and weak communities in Alaska.

Alaska needs to be developed and union members are going to play a large role in that development and success.

<http://www.alaskademocrats.org/candidates/democrats-for-state-house/matt-moore>

**Mike Hawker — House District 28
(Incumbent - R)**



Passing SB141, which took pensions away from public employees, was the single worst public policy decision made during my years in the legislature.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD27-Mike-Hawker.pdf>

**State Senate O
NO ENDORSEMENT**

**House District 29
NO ENDORSEMENT**

**Shauna L. Thornton — House District 30
- (D)**



I would absolutely vehemently oppose changing Alaska to a "Right To Work" state. This is unacceptable on every level and sets a dangerous precedent for all working people of Alaska.

<http://www.alaskademocrats.org/candidates/democrats-for-state-house/shauna-thornton>

Alaska's GENERAL

Election is Nov. 4.

Famous Words of Solidarity

From 1935 until 1980, America produced more wealth for a greater number of people than any society in history. Collective bargaining and the labor movement were crucial to that process. —Congressman William Clay

National Consumer Cooperative Bank, 1981 (From Great Labor Quotations Sourcebook and Reader by Peter Bollen)

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General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

Gary Stevens — Senate District P (Incumbent - R)



I support funding and approval of collective bargaining agreements once they have been negotiated. My priorities include excellence in education, finding solutions to the high dropout rate in our schools and low graduation rate in higher education.

http://ballotpedia.org/Gary_Stevens

**House District 31
NO ENDORSEMENT**

Louise B. Stutes - House District 32 - (R)



I support collective bargaining as employees need certain protections which are provided by the process. The collective bargaining process is an important part of employees security.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Louise_Stutes_HD32.pdf

Dennis Egan — Senate District Q (Incumbent - D)



My priorities for the next four years include supporting our public employees by reestablishing a defined benefit option, boosting our university and K-12 education and growing our economy.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Dennis_Egan_SDQ.pdf

Sam S. Kito III — House District 33 (Incumbent - D)



It is vitally important that we prioritize support in a public education system that is showing great improvement in preparing our children for life and work in Alaska and funding of our public education system. During the last session, I worked to support increases to the Base Student Allocation, support teachers, and promote the benefits of public neighborhood schools.

<http://democracy.com/kitoforhouse/issues.aspx>

Cathy Munoz — House District 34 (Incumbent - R)



I support funding and approval of collective bargaining agreements once they have been negotiated.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD31-Cathy-Munoz.pdf>

Jonathan S. Kreiss-Tomkins — House District 35 (Incumbent - D)



I personally benefited from a strong public education, and Alaska's future depends on providing a strong public education to future generations. I believe that we need to adequately fund public education.

http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Jonathan_Kreiss_TomkinsHD35.pdf

Daniel H. "Dan" Ortiz — House District 36 (I)



I publicly pledge to listen first and represent the viewpoints of those residents. My "party" will be the good people of Ketchikan.

<http://danortizalaska.com/>

Did You Know?

Did You Know That:

At the beginning of statehood, Alaska was considered a Democratic state. However, since the '70s Alaska has been considered a Republican state.



Did You Know That:

Since 1959 Alaska has had 6 Republicans, 5 Democrats and 1 Independent as Governors.

Walter Hickle was a Republican when he won the office in 1966 and was an Alaskan Independent candidate when he won the office in 1990.

(source: http://www.netstate.com/states/government/ak_formergov.htm)



November 4th is Election Day!

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General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

Lyman Hoffman — Senate District S (Incumbent - D)



I have the necessary skills to best represent Senate District S. With my vast experience in the Senate and my years on the Finance Committee, I am the most qualified person to represent you in the next legislature.

<http://www.senatorhoffman.com/>

Bryce Edgmon — House District 37 (Incumbent - D)



We need to do more to attract and retain our state employees, particularly in the Bush.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD36-Bryce-Edgmon.pdf>

Bob Herron — House District 38 (Incumbent - D)



I am concerned that the inadequate defined contribution plan (Tier IV) for state employees discourages recruitment and retention of qualified workers.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/HD37-Bob-Herron.pdf>

Donny Olson — Senate District T (Incumbent - D)



I support funding and approval of collective bargaining agreements once they have been negotiated.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2012/cs/Sen-T-Donald-Olson.pdf>

Neal Foster — House District 39 (Incumbent - D)



I believe that a good retirement system is important in recruitment and retention of quality public employees.

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/oep/2014/cs/Neal W Foster HD39.pdf>

House District 40
NO ENDORSEMENT

Anchorage Vote "NO" On AO-37

As a union of public employees whose working conditions are administered through collective bargaining, Anchorage AO-37 has possible far reaching ramifications for all ASEA members. AO-37 is a brutal initiative that seeks shredding 40 years' worth of collective bargaining rights for Anchorage Municipal employees via the local legislative process. Over 21,000 referendum signatures for repeal were gathered - many by ASEA members and staff - to require a vote on its merits; or more importantly, its lack thereof. AO-37 went through the Alaska Supreme Court to determine when it could be put to a vote of the people. It has since been revised and was passed by the assembly only to be vetoed once again by the Mayor. It is now on the Ballot, and we need to seek its permanent end.

The stakes are high for ASEA State Employee Members - maybe never higher. Lieutenant Governor candidate Dan Sullivan crafted AO-37 as Anchorage Mayor. ASEA members need to send Sullivan a strong message: **Destroying Collective Bargaining won't be tolerated no matter what political position he holds.** Let's make our message loud and clear -

VOTE "NO" on AO-37

**GET OUT
AND VOTE
ON NOV. 4**



Solidarity Update

General Election - ASEA PAC Endorsed Candidates

Mark Begich for U.S. SENATE - (D)



Mark Begich is in his first term representing Alaska in the U.S. Senate. He was elected in 2008 after serving as Anchorage's mayor for six years.

I have a proven record of fighting for Alaska.

When members of Congress introduced a bill to limit the collective bargaining rights of public employees, I stood up to defend worker's rights and earned a lifetime AFL-CIO voting record of 97% .

I successfully:

- ◆ Pushed the Obama administration to allow drilling in the Arctic Ocean.
- ◆ Fought to keep the F-16s at Eielson Air Force Base saving hundreds to thousands of jobs in Fairbanks.

- ◆ Brought the Indian Health Service and Veterans Administration together to allow Alaska veterans to get care closer to home. *(This has helped bring waitlists for veterans' health care in Alaska from hundreds to almost zero by eliminating travel to Seattle or Anchorage for care.)*

I am the only candidate who:

- ◆ Believes in raising the minimum wage
- ◆ Defends a woman's right to choose
- ◆ Believes in overturning the Supreme Court's Citizens United ruling, which unfairly allows billionaires and corporations to spend unlimited amounts to buy our elections.

<http://www.begich.senate.gov/public/>

Forrest Dunbar for U.S. House - (D)



I am a life-long Alaskan, who grew up in Eagle and Cordova. I worked my way through college in D.C., where I interned and worked as a staffer in the U.S. Congress. Public service has been central to my life. I have

worked at Alaska Legal Services, done policy research at the Alaska Office of Public Advocacy, and recently commissioned as an officer in the Alaska Army National Guard.

Our state deserves a congressperson who will fight for resource development, veterans and clean elections. I've opposed the Paul Ryan budget, which my opponent voted for repeatedly, because it raises taxes on middle class families, cuts funding for veterans' healthcare, slashes funding for the HIS and turns Medicare into a voucher program.

<http://www.forrestforalaska.com/index.html>



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