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| <p data-bbox="224 205 406 231">9/23/2016 10:45</p> <p data-bbox="152 340 289 399">John-Henry Heckendorn</p> | <p data-bbox="412 205 1471 231">Campaign contact information: Facebook.com/pfdvoter, PFDvoter.com, campaign@pfdvoter.com</p> <p data-bbox="412 273 1442 399">PFD Voter Registration is a commonsense proposal for streamlining government services and simplifying voter access. If passed, any voter-eligible Alaskan who applies for their annual Permanent Fund Dividend will be automatically registered to vote if unregistered, or have their registration updated if it's out of date.</p> <p data-bbox="412 499 1471 802">In May 2015, project partners determined that this proposal was feasible, that the governor could not implement it unilaterally, and that the current legislature was unlikely to implement via legislation. In June 2015, the team submitted a ballot initiative application to the lieutenant governor's office, approved in August 2015, and then registered with the Alaska Public Offices Commission as a Ballot Initiative Group. In September 2015, the group launched a drive to gather the required 28,500 signatures from Alaskan voters before the start of the 2016 Alaska Legislative Session. In January 2016, the group submitted over 42,000 signatures to the Division of Elections. The Division of Elections certified the signatures in March 2016, and the initiative is now slated for a popular vote in the statewide general election on November 8th, 2016.</p> <p data-bbox="412 856 506 882">Impacts:</p> <p data-bbox="412 894 860 919">>10% Increase in Total Registered Voters: The Alaska Division of Elections has publicly projected that this initiative could result in as many as 70,000 newly registered voters in year one. (Currently Alaska has about 500,000 registered voters.)</p> <p data-bbox="412 1033 1445 1188">>Comprehensive, Annual Updates to Registration Get Out the Native Vote projects that there may be as many as 30-40,000 Alaskans registered in rural communities but living in urban areas. These people would have their votes thrown out in local elections if they attempt to vote where they currently live, because they are not listed as eligible in their home area.</p> <p data-bbox="412 1201 1471 1356">>Enfranchising Marginalized Communities: This initiative improves voter registration for communities that are underrepresented in the status quo, or who have high rates of out-of-date registration. These communities include: Alaskans serving in the military and their families, young Alaskans, Alaskans with disabilities, Native Alaskans, and Alaskans working in resource development.</p> <p data-bbox="412 1369 552 1394">Cost Savings:</p> <p data-bbox="412 1407 1448 1499">>Research by the Pew Foundation and the National Center on Budget and Policy Priorities indicate a proposal of this nature could save the State more than 10% on registration processing costs.</p> <p data-bbox="412 1554 1179 1579">The coalition of support for PFD Automatic Voter Registration includes:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 1591 925 1843" style="list-style-type: none"> AARP of Alaska Anchorage Economic Development Corporation ACLU of Alaska AFL-CIO AK & Affiliates Alaska Federation of Natives Alaska Native Village Corporation Association (12) Alaska Native Corporations |

ANCSA Regional Association
BP Alaska
Bush Caucus – Alaska State Legislature
Coastal Villages Regional Fund
Get Out the Native Vote
Great Alaska Schools
League of Women Voters of Alaska
NEA—AK
NAACP AK
Our Alaska
Tanana Chiefs Conference
The Alaska Center