



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COASTAL BALLOT INITIATIVE FALLS SHORT ***Sponsor Group Promises to Seek Restoration of Program***

The Alaska Sea Party: Restoring Coastal Management today acknowledged defeat of their Ballot Measure No. 2.

“The results of the primary election are conclusive, if not disappointing,” Sea Party Chair Bruce Botelho said, “but the volunteer effort that drove this initiative was truly heartening. We gathered the necessary signatures in record time from across the state. We saw scores of volunteers step forward to help in communities from Ketchikan to Kotzebue. We collected over \$200,000.00 in donations from hundreds of individual Alaskans along with a wide array of entities and organizations. Every single person who supported this grassroots campaign has a lot to be proud of.”

Outspent during the campaign ten to one by Outside corporate donations to an opposition group, the Alaska Sea Party still managed to garner nearly 40,000 votes, or 38% of the total primary votes cast.

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This message paid for and approved by
The Alaska Sea Party: Restoring Coastal Management
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Top contributors: North Slope Borough (Barrow, Alaska); Robert Gillam (Port Alsworth, Alaska);
Alaska Conservation Foundation (Anchorage, Alaska).

“Significant statewide support for our proposal tells me Alaskans want some form of coastal management program back,” Sea Party co-chair Terzah Tippin Poe said. “This is not the end of the quest to restore Alaska’s voice in coastal development decisions. All through the campaign, our opponents said again and again they wanted coastal management, just not this particular plan. We’re going to hold them to that. We’re ready to work with them to bring back the coastal management program.”

The Alaska Sea Party will remain active in seeking restoration of the program. “The need still exists,” Botelho said, “and Alaskans still want a voice in development decisions along their coastline. The Sea Party will remain active and will work with all interested parties to promote Alaska involvement in coastal management. This effort is far from over.”

“Beyond the coastal management issue, this exercise has inspired deep concerns for the future of all Alaska elections,” Botelho continued. “Obviously, there is a problem with an election system that allows Outside interests to so thoroughly distort a conversation among Alaskans.”

The Alaska Sea Party is a group of municipal officials, local leaders, and interested voters committed to restoring Alaska’s voice in coastal development decisions. Top contributors are the North Slope Borough, Robert Gillam, and the Alaska Conservation Foundation – all Alaskans. More than 33,000 Alaska citizens signed petitions to place the issue before voters statewide.

For more information, visit www.yeson2.ocom or www.alaskacoastalmanagement.org.