

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Steve Cleary–AkPIRG–278-3661

APOC Bill Will Streamline Boost in Campaign Contributions by Lobbyists

- ELIMINATES CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM PAST BY VOTERS IN 1996
- COMMITTEE TOOK NO PUBLIC TESTIMONY
- Bill DOUBLES Campaign Contribution amounts

The Senate State Affairs committee passed a Committee Substitute of the bill originally designed to eliminate the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC). The new bill is entitled: “An Act Streamlining the complaint procedures of the APOC.”

“While AkPIRG is glad they decided not to kill APOC, the changes this bill makes will counteract important campaign finance reform Alaskan voters passed in 1996,” stated Steve Cleary of AkPIRG. “The least they could have done would be to accept public testimony,” Cleary continued.

The bill also changes the definition of lobbyists and removes the restriction on lobbyists donating outside their district. “Now lobbyist not only can donate to all the legislators they lobby, but they will be able to donate twice as much,” Cleary added. “This is only going to increase the control special interest money has on Alaska’s elections.”