

ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION Standing Committee on Fair and Impartial Courts Judge Elaine Andrews (Ret.), Chair

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Fair and Impartial Courts is charged by the association's Bylaws with promoting the concept of judicial independence, through public education and other means; and

WHEREAS "appropriate educational activity" is described in the committee's guidelines to include, among other actions, "[t]aking an official position in support of the judicial selection and retention process established in the Judiciary Article of Alaska's Constitution; and ... [t]aking an official position in support of merit selection generally, as the best way to ensure the best judges";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Alaska Bar Association supports the current system of selection and retention of judges; and

THAT members of the Standing Committee on Fair and Impartial Courts should be authorized to testify before legislative bodies or communicate with legislators in their official capacities to convey the Association's official position in support of the current system of selection and retention.

Adopted by the Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar Association September 5, 2014

G:\ADMIN\EXDIR\Committee\Fair & Impartial Courts\Resolution adopted re judicial selection & retention.doc