



## 2018 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire

Please return by Friday, August 31 to:  
[Sorr@ACLUAk.org](mailto:Sorr@ACLUAk.org)

For more information, call 907-263-2015

Candidate Name: Mark Begich  
Employer: Entrepreneur  
Office Sought: Governor of Alaska  
E-Mail Address: markbegich@begich.com  
Party Affiliation: Democratic Party  
Phone: Campaign Manager Nora Morse 907-947-8723  
Occupation: Entrepreneur  
Mailing Address: 200 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #166, Anchorage AK 99503

- 1. Would you support a bill in line with HB 42, sponsored by Rep. Tammie Wilson, that would require a conviction before an Alaskan's property could be permanently seized for violating the law?**

Response: Yes. In the US Senate, I supported civil asset forfeiture reform for the federal government. As governor, I will support efforts to reform forfeiture laws while making sure that law enforcement has the funding and resources they need and are not left holding the bag. While I believe that the overwhelming majority of forfeitures are done the right way already, we need to have due process to make sure that Alaskans who are not convicted of any crime are not punished by confiscation of their legal property. States like Nebraska and New Mexico have already done this at the state level, and Alaska should follow that example.

- 2. Do you support net neutrality or the requirement that internet providers must equally enable access to all content and websites?**

Response: Yes. I have been a strong and vocal supporter of net neutrality for years. As a US Senator, I voted in 2011 to block Republican attempts to remove the FCC's authority to enforce net neutrality.

- 3. Do you agree that Alaskans have the right to speak out on political issues and elections and that this right includes their ability to use their personal resources to amplify that speech?**

Response: Yes, but I do believe in commonsense campaign finance laws that prevent big money from drowning out the voices of everyday Alaskans.

**4. What is your position on Voter ID and what information must be provided to register to vote or cast a ballot on election day?**

Response: The current wave of attempts in Congress and in states across the country to add burdensome ID requirements for voters at the ballot box is shameful, and I opposed these measures in the US Senate. We should be doing everything we can to take down barriers to voting, not erecting new hurdles that fall most heavily on people of color, people with disabilities, seniors, and others who may have difficulty obtaining photo ID. Voter rolls need to be accurate and up-to-date, and any instance of voter fraud should be punished harshly, but that is entirely separate from strict ID proposals that serve only to keep Alaskans from being able to exercise their right to vote.

**5. Do you support allowing election day voter registration?**

Response: Yes, as well as vote-by-mail, which was secure and effective in increasing voter turnout in Anchorage this year.

**6. Do you support allowing voters to automatically update their information when they apply for the PFD?**

Response: Yes, but I have been shocked by the inability of the current administration to competently implement the 2016 ballot measure, which has thrown the votes of thousands of Alaskans into a lengthy verification process. It is a totally unacceptable situation that should have, and could have, been avoided by some basic planning and foresight.

**7. Do you support a statewide non-discrimination ordinance to protect LBGTQ Alaskans from being fired from their jobs, denied access to housing, or refused services on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity?**

Response: Yes.

**8. Do you support parental notification laws that deny women under the age of 18 access to abortion without the consent of an adult?**

Response: No.

**9. Do you support Real ID, or the federalization of DMV documents?**

Response: No. In the US Senate, I fought against establishing a federal ID and to secure exemptions for Alaskans from the Real ID Act.

**10. Do you believe state and local law enforcement should be using facial recognition technologies on the general public?**

Response: No. Law enforcement and the government should not use facial recognition on the general public. Alaskans do not want government to be tracking their every move.

**11. What is your position on the Internet Privacy Act? Do you believe the State of Alaska should act to return privacy protections overturned by President Trump on a federal level in 2017?**

Response: I strongly oppose the actions taken by President Trump and Congress to overturn FCC regulations that would have given Alaskans greater control over what their Internet providers can do with their data. As governor, I will act to return those privacy protections to Alaskans and to protect their personal data, whether used by broadband providers or big web companies.

**12. As marijuana has been made legal for purchase for adults over the age of 21 in Alaska, would you support removing prior convictions for marijuana related offenses that are no longer crimes from publically accessible legal databases?**

Response: Yes. It makes no sense to continue to punish and stigmatize Alaskans for something that is no longer a crime. Having these convictions appear in publicly-available state court databases only has the effect of reducing future opportunity for these Alaskans, who have already paid their debt for breaking the law in the past, and we need to be doing all we can to get people back on the right track.