

## **REQUEST TO SANCTION AND CENSURE ALASKA STATE DISTRICT D SENATOR JESSE BJORKMAN**

To: Alaska Republican Party Senate District D; House Districts 7 & 8 Chairs  
Date: May 9, 2025

Dear Honorable ARP Chairs of Senate District D,

The Alaska Republican Party Rules addresses grounds for sanctions or censure of elected officials in:

**Article VII, Section 1: Grounds for Sanctions or Censure**

Any candidate or elected official may be sanctioned or censured for any of the following reasons:

- (a) Failure to follow the party platform.
- (e) Forming a majority caucus in which non-Republicans are at least 1/3 or more of the coalition.
- (f) Engaging in other activities that may be reasonably assessed as bringing dishonor to the ARP, such as commission of a serious crime.

and,

**Article VII, Section 2: Who May File Charges**

- (a) For non-statewide races or offices: Any three registered Republican constituents may file charges concerning violations of these rules, provided proper grounds and reasons are submitted in writing. The charges shall be filed with the District Chair of all districts represented by the official. In the case of a State Senator, the charges shall be filed to both District Chairs of the districts represented by the State Senator...
- (b) For statewide races or offices, or legislators who violate Article VII Section 1(e); Any three registered Republican constituents may file charges concerning violations of these rules, provided proper grounds and reasons are submitted in writing. The charges shall be filed with the District Chair of all districts represented by the official. The charges in their entirety, including the penalties, must be verbatim. The district committee may summarily dismiss the charges.
- (g) Engaging in other activities that may be reasonably assessed as bringing dishonor to the ARP, such as commission of a serious crime.

and,

**Article VII, Section 3: Process of Hearing of Charges**

The charges shall be heard by the appropriate ARP District committee or Committees. Notice of the charges shall be provided to the elected official or candidate at least 15 days before the hearing on the charges. The elected official or candidate shall be invited to attend and defend.

- (a) For non-statewide races or offices, the threshold to censure an elected official or candidate shall be a 2/3 vote of each affected District Committee. Alternatively, an elected official or candidate for non-statewide office may be censured if a majority of organized districts censure that elected official or candidate under the same procedures for statewide elected officials and candidates.
- (b) For statewide races or offices, the elected official or candidate shall be censured if a majority of Districts each vote for censure. The threshold for voting at each of those Districts is a majority vote of the District Committee.

- (c) The SEC shall confirm the procedures were followed in these Sections, but shall honor, and not overrule, the decisions made by the Districts.
- (d) The hearing procedures shall be open, unless the body votes to move to executive session with consent of the affected elected official or candidate.

and,

#### Article VII, Section 4: Sanctions and Censures

- (a) When the charges are found to be valid, the hearing committee may impose any appropriate sanction not disallowed by ARP or RNC rules. Sanctions may include censure, declaring elected officials or candidates ineligible for endorsement or support by the ARP or its affiliates, recruiting a challenger, and prohibiting participation in ARP events, or any other appropriate sanction not disallowed by ARP or RNC Rules.
- (b) A written decision of sanctions shall be provided to the person charged, along with a remedy if appropriate. The written decision shall include the duration of the penalty. If duration is omitted the penalty shall terminate after the next election of the official.

and,

#### Article VII, Section 5: Right of Appeal

A person sanctioned under this rule shall have the right to appeal in writing within 10 days to the ARP State Chair. Upon receiving an appeal, the Chair shall request from the appropriate committee all available written records of the hearing. The State Chair shall then place the appeal on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled SCC meeting. A 2/3 vote of SCC members present at this meeting shall decide the issue and this decision shall be final.

There are two House Districts within Alaska State Senate District D; State House Districts 7 & 8.

Accordingly, this request to sanction and censure Alaska State District D Senator Jesse Bjorkman is being submitted congruently by three constituents in HD7 and three constituents in HD8. These are all the districts represented by Senator Bjorkman.

The violations the six constituents listed below are asserting include:

1) Alaska State Senator Jesse Bjorkman of Senate District D has failed to follow the party platform. He has voted on numerous bills that create laws for Alaska that are directly in opposition to the party platform. For brevity purposes, we include just one example below on one of his more current voting actions:

- a) In *Must Read Alaska's* May 4, 2025 article titled "District 27 Republicans pass resolution asking governor to veto the Big Brother Bill – HB57"<sup>1</sup>, District 27 of the ARP reflects how the bill "undermines key principles of the Alaska Republican Party's platform, particularly individual liberty, limited government, and parental rights" by citing the bill's "government overreach, education spending, and potential violations of constitutional privacy rights". Senator Bjorkman voted to pass this bill.

2) Senator Jesse Bjorkman has joined in a non-Republican led majority caucus consisting of 9 non-Republicans and 5 registered Republicans<sup>2</sup>. This majority caucus includes 9 non-Republicans, or 64% of the coalition.

3) Senator Bjorkman brings dishonor to the Republican party through his lack of integrity by regularly making false statements:

- a) In a Q&A Interview with James Brooks on July 22, 2022<sup>3</sup>, Mr. Brooks asked Mr. Bjorkman, "Would you be willing to join a coalition majority in which the opposite political party controls a majority of seats? Mr. Bjorkman's response was "No". As

reported in 2) above, he has in fact joined a coalition majority with the opposite political party in control.

- b) On the Kenai Peninsula's "Soundoff" talk show, Senator Bjorkman (a registered Republican) has frequently made false statements that dishonor the Republican Party and repels voters against the Alaska Republican Party. These voters are frequently in strong agreement with the ARP Platform, but negative towards the party. One of these voters is the primary Soundoff host, Duane Bannock, whom on his 2-hour radio program frequently mocks and belittles the ARP in large part due to what Mr. Bannock describes as Senator Bjorkman's "fundamentally dishonest" persona. His disrespectful nickname for the senator is "The Joiner". Additionally, callers into the program have described Senator Bjorkman as a "pathological liar". KSRM Radio archives have recorded Senator Bjorkman's false statements. Here are a few for reference:

i. May 10, 2023 – Mr. Bannock asked Senator Bjorkman "Are you working in conjunction with Senator Mike Shower on any bills? If yes, give us an idea of at least the subject." Sen. Bjorkman's response: "Yes, we are working on an election integrity bill."

ii. May 10, 2023 – Later that day on the Soundoff program, co-host April Orth asked Senator Mike Shower: "were you aware that he is working that diligently with you?" Senator Shower's response: "Uh, no...I can only tell you what's happening here in the legislature, and so far this year, the only time I've been in the same room with Senator Bjorkman regarding election integrity was that meeting with Senator Kawasaki... Senator Kawasaki is the only one in the senate that I've directly worked with..."

When April Orth informed Senator Shower that Senator Bjorkman has stated in Republican meetings on the Kenai that nobody likes Senator Shower in Juneau, and that he was working with Sen. Shower on this bill in Juneau, Sen. Shower's response was "Bjorkman doesn't know me, and he would have no reason to say [that]...but I can tell you that that is a flat out lie that has been used by multiple members down here on the Republican side of the senate because they're trying to cover their rear-ends, because they have a binding caucus...so therefore, if you can't get us to join your binding caucus, you have to shoot the messenger, right? ... and then they can say 'oh, well that's why we didn't join with them' [the Republican caucus]." Shortly thereafter, the program recorded Senator Shower going on a brief hold, and then later stating that he had to address someone in his office asserting that Senator Bjorkman asked him to not speak to his constituents of the Kenai peninsula on Soundoff. Subsequently, Mr. Bannock asked Senator Bjorkman if he interrupted the interview with Senator Shower, and Bjorkman's response was no, he was in session on the senate floor at that time. Follow-up fact finders discovered that the session was in fact at an "at-ease" at that specific time and neither Senator Shower or Senator Bjorkman were in the senate chambers at that time.

Wikipedia's definition of *lying* describes the act of lying as dishonorable and "Lying is a perversion of the natural faculty of speech...When one lies, one undermines trust in society." Wikipedia's definition of *defamation* describes the criminal act of slander that accurately describes Senator Bjorkman's characterization of Senator Shower to the citizens of the Kenai peninsula as reported in the May 10, 2023 KSRM Soundoff program.

Therefore, in accordance with the above ARP rules supported with the written grounds and reasons, we six registered Republican constituents, (three from District 7, and three from District

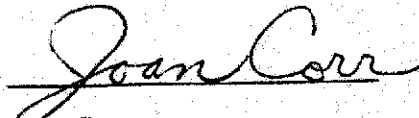
8), submit this letter of written complaints against Senator Jesse Bjorkman and request that the Alaska Republican Party separate itself from Senator Bjorkman immediately through sanction and censure, declaring him ineligible for endorsement or support by the ARP or its affiliates; prohibiting his participation in ARP events; actively recruiting Republican challengers for all his future elections, and every other appropriate sanction not disallowed by ARP or RNC Rules. We request the sanction and censure be made in perpetuity for Senator Bjorkman's time in office as an Alaska State Senator. We also respectfully request that Senator Bjorkman change is party affiliation to a different party with a platform more in alignment with his values and beliefs.

Respectfully submitted to the ARP House District's 7 & 8 Chairs of Senate District D this 9th day of May, 2025.

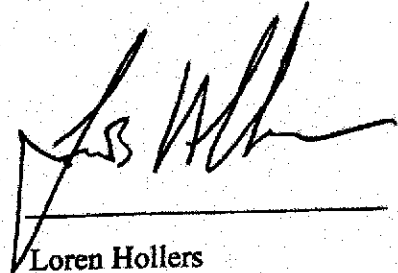
House District 7 Constituents:



Tom Bedunnah

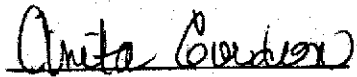


Joan Corr

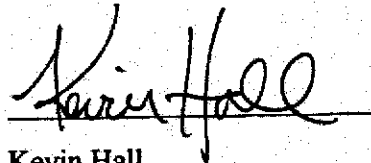


Loren Hollers

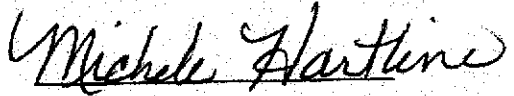
House District 8 Constituents:



Anita Gordon



Kevin Hall



Michele Hartline

1 District 27 Republicans pass resolution asking governor to veto the Big Brother Bill - HB 57 - Must Read Alaska

2 Welcome - Alaska Senate Republican Caucus

3 Q&A with Alaska Senate District D candidate Jesse Bjorkman | Alaska Beacon

4 ALASKA'S CONSERVATIVE SENATE REPUBLICANS PREPARE TO FIGHT DESPITE MINORITY STATUS - ALASKA WATCHMAN