

SESSION SURVEY 2001

Please circle the letters of your choices for the following questions.

- 1) Some have advocated for an increase in the tax on alcoholic beverages to pay for state social services spending. However, the Alaska State Constitution does not allow revenues to be dedicated to any particular part of the budget. An alcohol tax could raise \$2.2 million to \$9 million per year for the General Fund. A twenty-five cent per drink increase in the tax would raise the average price of a bottle of wine by \$1.27, a six-pack of beer by \$1.50, and a bottle of liquor by \$4.00 for a 750ml bottle. Would you support such a tax?
 - a) yes
 - b) no

- 2) The federal government has mandated that all states lower the legal blood alcohol limit for DWI to .08. Those states that do not comply will lose a portion of their federal transportation funds. Do you support lowering Alaska's legal blood alcohol limit to .08?
 - a) yes
 - b) no

- 3) Which of these two alcohol-related measures is of higher priority to you?
 - a) alcohol tax
 - b) .08 blood alcohol limit

- 4) In 1993, the Department of Education developed standards for what our students should know. In 1997, the High School Competency Test law was passed. It requires all students who graduate after January 1, 2002 to pass the test in order to be awarded a high school diploma. The Governor has called for a delay of this requirement until 2006, saying schools have not had enough time to prepare students. Do you:
 - a) Support beginning the competency test requirements in 2002,
 - b) Support delaying the competency test requirements until 2006?

- 5) The State has a small budget surplus this year. It is estimated that the state will face a \$500 million deficit next year. Budget cuts alone are not likely to balance our budget. Please rank the priority of the following options that you think the Legislature should do to balance the budget. (1 - Highest Priority, 6 - Lowest Priority)
 - a) economic growth
 - b) personal taxes - sales or income
 - c) encourage rural areas to levy taxes that would replace some state spending
 - d) increase corporate/business taxes
 - e) use a portion of the Earnings Reserve of the Permanent Fund (the money left *after* the PFDs are paid)
 - f) continued limits on government growth

- 6) Would you support a constitutional amendment to establish an Educational Endowment Fund, created from the Earnings Reserve of the Permanent Fund?
 - a) yes
 - b) no

- 7) Would you support using a portion of the Earnings Reserve of the Permanent Fund for Municipal Revenue Sharing, even if it meant that the amount of your PFD would decrease over time?
 - a) yes
 - b) no

- 8) The State of Alaska has not issued any general obligation (GO) bonds for over twenty years. Would you support a GO bond issue for school construction and deferred maintenance
 - a) yes
 - b) no

- 9) Do you believe non-profit organizations (e.g. Sierra Club, AKPIRG) that engage in political activities should be required to disclose their sources of income over \$100?
 - a) yes
 - b) no

If you would like to discuss these or any other issues, please check the first line and print your name, telephone number, and/or e-mail address below, and I will get back in touch with you. If you would like to be added to our Legislative Update e-mail address list, please print your name and e-mail address, and check the second box. Thank you!

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