

A RESOLUTION DEMANDING AN IMMEDIATE END TO ELECTION INTERFERENCE IN THE DISTRICT 27 RACE

WHEREAS on November 3rd 2020, David Eastman was elected to represent the rural Mat-Su in the Alaska House of Representatives with 73.70% of the vote, and more votes than any other candidate for the Alaska State House in a contested race;

WHEREAS before he was even sworn into office, the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL) in Anchorage began a public campaign to try to remove Rep. David Eastman from office;

WHEREAS the campaign to overturn a lawful election and remove a duly-elected representative from office began more than eight months before its participants were even aware that Representative Eastman had joined Oath Keepers twelve years earlier;

WHEREAS Representative Eastman has never been charged with any crime;

WHEREAS the campaign by the PSL and other groups to overturn the outcome of the 2020 election and have Representative Eastman expelled from the legislature ultimately failed;

WHEREAS the campaign to defeat Representative Eastman in the recent August primary was ultimately unsuccessful after he placed first in the primary by a wide margin;

WHEREAS the Northern Justice Project, on behalf of Randall Kowalke, has now filed a lawsuit against David Eastman based on a specious reading of Alaska's Constitution;

WHEREAS this lawsuit was filed during the middle of an election campaign;

WHEREAS the PSL and the Alaska Democratic Party contend that rural Mat-Su voters should be deprived of their elected voice in the Alaska House of Representatives based on the assertion that simply being associated with Oath Keepers deprives an individual of the ability to work in state government or serve their constituents in public office;

WHEREAS the lawsuit demands that the outcome of the last election be overturned and that Representative Eastman be removed from public office by a judge in Anchorage;

WHEREAS the lawsuit further demands that the decision of whether to reelect Representative Eastman be taken away from District 27 voters and given to a judge in Anchorage, in violation of Alaska's Constitution and the right of the people to elect their own representatives;

WHEREAS attorney Scott Kendall, the PSL and the Alaska Democratic Party declare that Oath Keepers is an organization which advocates the overthrow of the United States government by force or violence, and that anyone associated with Oath Keepers is disloyal to the Constitution;

WHEREAS the official website of the PSL declares that "Capitalism cannot be voted out of power" and that "only a revolution can do away with the rule of the capitalists once and for all";

WHEREAS the PSL describes its members as Marxists;

WHEREAS the PSL advocates on its official website that “Capitalism itself cannot be reformed”, that “the military, police, intelligence agencies, courts, prisons, bureaucracy and so on—defend the interests of the capitalist class”, and that “revolution is a necessity”;

WHEREAS the official bylaws of Oath Keepers limits membership to currently serving and former public servants in the military, police, and fire service, who were required by law to take an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and who continue to honor that oath;

WHEREAS the official bylaws of Oath Keepers bars from membership any individual who advocates, or has been associated with any organization that advocates, “the overthrow of the government of the United States or the violation of the Constitution”;

WHEREAS as an honorably discharged military veteran, former military police officer and currently serving legislator, Rep. David Eastman is the antithesis of a Marxist revolutionary intent on overthrowing the government of the United States through violence;

WHEREAS Representative Eastman is now being personally sued by Randall Kowalke based on the assertion that Alaskan voters should be legally barred from exercising their right to vote for any candidate associated with Oath Keepers;

WHEREAS there is currently no fund setup to provide legal resources for legislators who are sued personally for simply serving in the legislature and/or running for office;

WHEREAS Randall Kowalke ran against Mike Shower for the state senate in 2018 and lost by a margin of more than 2-to-1 in the Republican Primary.

WHEREAS Randall Kowalke ran for the state house against David Eastman in 2020 and withdrew from the race after gaining little support;

WHEREAS after ending his campaign for state house, Randall Kowalke declared the Alaska Republican Party to be the “Alaska Libertarian Fascist Party” and very publicly left the Republican Party in 2019;

WHEREAS Randall Kowalke declared his desire to overturn the result of the election he lost to Representative Eastman by having him removed from office in January 2021, more than eight months before he was even aware that Representative Eastman had ever been a member of Oath Keepers;

WHEREAS the judge in the case has now ordered the Division of Elections to set aside state law and delay certification of the House District 27 election until at least the end of December;

WHEREAS the judge in the case has determined that the Division of Elections must now assess whether candidates are sufficiently loyal to the government before allowing voters to cast a ballot for any and all such candidates;

WHEREAS before a trial has been held, and before single witness has been called, the judge in the case has publicly announced, during the middle of an election campaign, that it is his opinion that Representative Eastman will likely be barred from holding office after the trial is held, this despite his not having been accused of any crime or possessing any intention to violate the Constitution;

WHEREAS the *Kowalke v. Eastman* lawsuit represents an unconscionable attempt to weaponize the judicial branch of government for the purpose of influencing an on-going election;

WHEREAS the *Kowalke v. Eastman* lawsuit also represents an unprecedented attempt to require the state to subjectively determine the political allegiances of candidates before their names may even be placed on the ballot;

WHEREAS no one weighing the decision of whether to run for office, having committed no crime, should be threatened with the prospect of being dragged into court and asked to prove their innocence to the satisfaction of those who oppose them politically;

WHEREAS all government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, and the right to vote is not a privilege that government bestows, but an individual right which must never be surrendered to the judiciary under any circumstances;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that House District 27 Republicans stand with Alaskan voters in the Mat-Su Valley, and will defend their right under the Alaska Constitution to elect their own representatives without interference from the judicial branch of government; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Constitution in no ways empowers a state agency to determine the political allegiances of candidates before their names may be placed on a ballot at a special, primary or general election; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that House District 27 Republicans will oppose in the strongest possible terms every attempt to overthrow the United States Constitution through revolution and every attempt to use the Alaska Constitution to subvert the rights of the people to associate for the purpose of defending the United States Constitution and the republican form of government which it guarantees to the people of Alaska.

ACCEPTED and PASSED, this 30th day of October 2022.



Rob Yundt
District 27 Chairman
Alaska Republican Party