

Alaska Policy Forum

www.alaskapolicyforum.org

2016 Alaska Freedom Index Rating Metric

(+/-1 point for each instance)

- 1) **Does it create, expand, or enlarge any agency, board, program, function, or activity of government?** *Conversely, does it eliminate or curtail the size or scope of government?*
- 2) **Does it transfer a function of the private sector to the government?** Examples include government ownership or control of goods or services such as mandatory emissions testing or pre-kindergarten.
- 3) **Does it give government any new, additional, or expanded power to prohibit, restrict or regulate activities in the free market?** *Conversely, does it eliminate or reduce government intervention in the market?*
- 4) **Does it increase barriers to entry into the market?** Examples include occupational licensure, minimum wage, certificates of need for medical facilities, and restrictions on home businesses. *Conversely, does it remove barriers to entry into the market?*
- 5) **Does it directly or indirectly create/increase any taxes, fees, or other assessments?** *Conversely, does it eliminate or reduce any taxes, fees or other assessments?*
- 6) **Does it increase government redistribution of wealth?** Examples include the use of tax policy or other incentives to reward specific interest groups, businesses, politicians, or government employees with special favors or perks; transfer payments; and hiring additional government employees. *Conversely, does it decrease government redistribution of wealth?*
- 7) **Does it increase government spending (for objectionable purposes) or debt?** *Conversely, does it decrease government spending or debt?*
- 8) **Does it in any way restrict public access to information related to a government activity or otherwise compromise government transparency or accountability?** *Conversely, does it increase public access to information related to government activity or increase government transparency or accountability?*
- 9) **Does it violate the principle of equal protection under the law?** Examples include laws which discriminate or differentiate based on age, gender, or religion or which apply laws, regulations, rules or penalties differently based on such characteristics? *Conversely, does it restore or protect the principle of equal protection under the law?*
- 10) **Does it directly or indirectly create or increase penalties for victimless crimes or non-restorative penalties for non-violent crimes?** *Conversely, does it eliminate or decrease penalties for victimless crimes or non-restorative penalties for non-violent crimes?*
- 11) **Does it violate the spirit or the letter of either the US Constitution or the Alaska Constitution?**
- 12) **Does it violate the principles of federalism by increasing federal authority, yielding to federal blandishments, or incorporating changeable federal laws into Alaska statutes or rules?** Examples include using state resources to enforce federal law and refusing to support and uphold the Tenth Amendment.