

# **Alaska State Chamber of Commerce 2010 Priority**

## **Ballot Initiative Reform**

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce shall work with the Alaska Legislature to pass legislation that makes the drafting, signature gathering and financing of ballot initiatives, both prior to and after certification, more transparent to Alaska voters. We urge the Alaska Legislature to pass legislation that, at a minimum, establishes:

1. A streamlined financial disclosure system including disclosure of the first dollar spent or collected – prior to an initiative being formally certified for the ballot – and online filing so that Alaskans can follow the money from the beginning and access important information prior to the election.
2. An opportunity for meaningful public involvement and vetting of proposed initiatives to increase awareness and ensure the public is well-informed prior to voting, e.g. requiring public hearings in a majority of election districts prior to petition certification and requiring a standing committee of the Legislature to hold a hearing on the proposed initiative prior to an election.