

FYI: Reprinted below is the section from the JUNE 2008 ETHICS NEWSLETTER, THE ADVISOR, concerning legislative newsletters during a campaign year.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ETHICS
Alaska State Legislature**

THE ADVISOR – June 2008

**LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTERS DURING AN
ELECTION YEAR**

AS 24.60.030(c) prohibits a legislator who is candidate for election the use of state funds to print or distribute a legislative newsletter to individuals eligible to vote for the candidate during the 60 days before an election.

The last day for the Legislative Print Shop to print newsletters for legislators who are candidates is June 26th.

- Please be sure to have your newsletter to the Print Shop well ahead of the June 26th deadline to allow adequate time for Print Shop staff to print and collate the newsletter.

After June 26th, legislative newsletters may be printed and distributed using personal funds, office allowance account funds (which are not considered state funds) or POET account funds.

Legislators who are not candidates may use the Print Shop to print legislative newsletters after the June 26th deadline.

The use of email to send out newsletters is not prohibited at any time.

IMPORTANT: Many offices have called asking what is the cut off date for mailing a legislative newsletter prior to an election. The Legislative Ethics Act does not stipulate a date. However, the closer to Election Day a **legislative newsletter mailing or email** is sent, the greater the appearance the mailing or email could be considered a political campaign mailing. We recommend no later than one month prior to an election but that is a personal decision each legislator must make.

Keep in mind legislative mailings may not contain any campaign related material.