

Cowper urges campaign reform, ethical guidelines for politicians

Campaign contributions by special interest groups should be outlawed and lobbyists should be prohibited from raising money for political candidates, according to Democratic gubernatorial candidate Steve Cowper.

Cowper said the two steps, along with a clear set of ethical standards for elected officials, are necessary to restore confidence in Alaska's government.

"The first priority of my administration will be to restore public faith and trust in our state government," Cowper said. "A number of developments in recent years have eroded public confidence in our elected officials and have called into question the basic values and principles of which Alaskans were once proud," he said.