

Alaska Supreme Court Nominees Submitted

JUNEAU—The Alaska Judicial Council has submitted the names of five persons to Gov. Walter J. Hickel for consideration for appointment to two positions on the Alaska Supreme Court.

Under legislation passed by the first session of the Fifth Alaska Legislature in 1967, the state's high court will be expanded from its present three members to five on Dec. 1 of this year.

The men nominated by the council are:

Superior Court Judge James M. FitzGerald of Anchorage, a former U.S. attorney in Alaska and former Alaska Commissioner of Public Safety under former Gov. Willaim Egan;

George Boney, also of Anchorage, another former U.S. Attorney now associated with the law firm of Burr, Boney and Peace;

Willaim V. Boggess, a Fairbanks lawyer;

Charles J. Clasby, also of Fairbanks, a former assistant U.S. attorney at Nome.

Roger G. Connor, former lawyer in Juneau and a past president of the Alaska Bar Association, now living and practicing law in Anchorage.

The Governor has 45 days from the time of nomination to appoint two of the men to the high court. The two selected will join Chief Justice Buell A. Nesbett, Anchorage; Associate Justice John H. Dimond, Juneau; and Associate Justice Jay A. Rabinowitz, Fairbanks, on the high bench.

The members of the Supreme Court serve for three year terms, going before the voters of Alaska at the general election each year for reconfirmation.

Associate justices receive a salary of \$26,000 annually. The chief justice recieves \$27,000.

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Write-in Vote Seen as Key to GOP Win

The key to victory in Alaska's U.S. Senate race "lies hidden in the intentions of the 16,015 voters who supported Ernest Gruening in the August 27 primary."

GOP state chairman Robert A. Davenny made this cryptic observation today as he issued a call for Gruening's backers "to join the winning Republican team and march ahnd-in-hand with victory from the court house to the white house."

On Tuesday, Alaska's supreme court reversed an earlier superior court ruling and gave Gruening's write-in campaign a quasi-legal status. It is expected that Gruening will forge ahead with his campaign to defeat Mike Gravel and Elmer Rasmuson in the November 5 general election.

Davenny said, "Rasmuson will be the next U.S. Senator from Alaska if he can pick up 40 per cent of the Gruening primary vote, or if he can deny Gravel a simple majority of the Gruening vote." He predicted

there is a good chance this will happen.


The chairman, who has a reputation for being one of the most knowledgeable politicians in Alaska, said late Tuesday after the Supreme Court decision was announced, he doesn't think more than 3,000 persons will support Gruening's write-in bid. He said the other 13,000 who voted for Gruening in the primary will split up their votes between Rasmuson and Gravel.

"I believe that Rasmuson will pick up more of the Gruening votes than Gravel will," he said. "Gruening's supporters have never liked Gravel. I think they will switch over to the Rasmuson camp in wholesale numbers. They know they can trust Elmer Rasmuson.

In the primary, Rasmuson and Ted Stevens, the two Republican candidates, polled a total of 19,431 votes. Gravel polled 17,971 and Gruening received 16,015. Many of Gravel's votes,

reportedly, were crossover votes from Republicans and Democrats who voted for him in order to defeat Gruening. Gruening himself made this claim shortly after the primary.

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