

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

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POLITICS

Alaska Democrats again seek to remove Republican legislative candidate from ballot

Litigation over failure to report financial interests could also have a bearing on Treg Taylor's standing in governor's race.

Iris Samuels
Anchorage Daily News

The Alaska Democratic Party is asking a court to reverse the Dunleavy administration's decision allowing a Republican legislative candidate to remain on the ballot, despite his initial refusal to declare his financial interests.

The court challenge could have far-reaching implications for Alaska's financial disclosure laws, which are designed to avoid public officials acting or appearing to act to benefit their private interests while in office.

The litigation could also affect the governor's race, in which one of four candidates — Republican former Attorney General Treg Taylor — was allowed to remain on the ballot, even after months of refusing to disclose the names of his rent-paying tenants as required by law.

The Alaska Public Offices Commission found late last month that both Taylor and the legislative candidate, Anchorage's Jose Tagle, should not appear on the ballot because they failed to comply with financial disclosure laws.

Lt. Gov. Nancy Dahlstrom, a Republican who oversees Alaska's elections, initially heeded the commission's recommendation and removed both Tagle and Taylor from the November ballot. But four days later, she reinstated them, citing a preliminary Department of Law review that found that dozens of other candidates may have errors on their financial disclosure forms.

Dahlstrom said the decision had no bearing on the commission's findings that Tagle and Taylor were out of compliance with the state's disclosure laws. But she said that since other candidates may also be out of compliance, she could not remove the two from the ballot.

Jenny Marie Stryker, executive director of the Alaska Democratic Party, said in a statement Wednesday that Dahlstrom's decision was part of a pattern of mishandled election decisions this year.

"You cannot tell a court one thing, tell candidates another, and then expect voters to trust whatever answer comes next. This inconsistency is embarrassing and a poor example of public service," Stryker said.

The Alaska Democratic Party had filed its original challenge in July seeking to disqualify Tagle — who is running against Democratic incumbent Rep. Ted Eischeid in an East Anchorage district — after Tagle filed a blank financial disclosure form that listed no income or interests, despite evidence that he had both.

Tagle eventually filed an amended form on Aug. 8, more than a month after the commission's 30-day grace period had concluded, disclosing some income and business interests. On Aug. 16, two

See **BALLOT**, A4

ANCHORAGE

Audit of police use of force draws renewed calls for civilian oversight



BILL ROTH / ADN

APD Chief Sean Case speaks during a community meeting on the APD audit at the Fairview Community Recreation Center on Tuesday.

Review released last week finds APD documented use-of-force rates higher than other large Northwest departments.

Chris Aadland
Anchorage Daily News

Some community members say a recently released audit of the Anchorage Police Department's use of force highlights the need for civilian oversight of the department.

Anchorage's municipal attorney last week released a sweeping audit of the department's practices

and policies that found use-of-force incidents reported at higher rates than at some of the Northwest's largest departments. The audit also found that a relatively small group of Anchorage officers were involved in a disproportionate share of the encounters.

The audit followed a series of officer-involved shootings in 2024 that left four people dead, including 16-year-old Easter Leafa, a case that galvanized public attention on the department's use of force.

The audit, among other findings, showed that Anchorage's

See **AUDIT**, A5

FLOWER BED COMMEMORATES AMERICA'S ROOTS



BILL ROTH / ADN

A pickup displaying two American flags passes by the L Street picture bed at West 15th Avenue on a recent Sunday. Municipal gardeners planted flowers in the shape of a U.S. flag to commemorate America's 250th anniversary. Separately, several events in Anchorage will mark the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. See our weekend events listing on **Page A4**. A Wasilla High School graduate was among the victims of the attack on the Pentagon. **Story, A4**

NATION

SNAP cuts could lead to children losing free school breakfast and lunch



SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN / AP archive August 2023

Students eat lunch in the cafeteria at Lowell Elementary School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on Aug. 22, 2023.

Many low-income families are struggling to keep their kids fed, according to a recent survey from the nonprofit No Kid Hungry.

Kevin Hardy
Stateline.org

Cuts to the nation's largest food assistance program will likely spill over into schools, causing students to lose access to free breakfast and lunch.

More than 1 million American children have lost access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, following a recent federal law. Now, as schools gear up for a new term, a portion of those children could be at risk of losing free meals — viewed as crucial supports for both childhood hunger and classroom learning.

But the changes in cafeterias could

See **SNAP CUTS**, A6

NATION

The largely hidden force helping drive America's craze for weight-loss drugs

Firms are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to convince doctors to prescribe GLP-1 drugs.

Christopher Rowland, Lydia Sidhom and Ariana Eunjung Cha
The Washington Post

Carlos Campos spends most of his days as a family physician, seeing patients for all manner of conditions, especially obesity and diabetes. But he has built a steady side gig beyond his practice in south-central Texas.

Over the past seven years, drug manufacturers have paid Campos nearly \$1 million to spread the gospel of weight-loss and diabetes drugs known as GLP-1s to colleagues in his home state and beyond.

"I'm a lot like an evangelical preacher man," Campos said. "They hire me to sell the science."

Whether speaking in a private dining room at a fancy steakhouse or over bags of Chick-fil-A in a primary care office, Campos is part of a vast effort by drug companies to build sales of their revolutionary weight-loss drugs by targeting the

prescribers who act as the gatekeepers to the American health care system, according to an analysis of public federal government data by The Washington Post and interviews with six physicians involved in the marketing program.

The analysis shows that Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk, the largest manufacturers of the weight-loss drugs, have made at least one payment to more than a quarter of a million individual doctors and other prescribers including nurse practitioners since

See **WEIGHT-LOSS DRUGS**, A7

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