



ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Request for Information (RFI) Voting Rights Consultant

Background

The State of Alaska, Alaska Redistricting Board, issues this Request for Information (Request) for a Voting Rights Consultant to assist the Board, and prepare a statistical racial bloc voting analysis of statewide and state legislative elections held in Alaska in 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020.

Scope of Work

The contractor shall provide Consulting Services and Voting Rights Assistance as directed by the Redistricting Board and Project Director.

Services shall include but are not be limited to the following:

1. Preparing a statistical racial bloc voting analysis of the 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020 statewide and state legislative elections in the State of Alaska to determine whether voting in the State of Alaska, or in specific regions of the state, is polarized by race and assist the Board in complying with the Voting Rights Act while creating new legislative districts for the 2022 election cycle. This may include a vote dilution analysis of proposed plans.

This service will include the following tasks:

1. Assisting in the preparation and design of the database needed to conduct racial bloc voting analyses.
2. Preparing a draft written report and a final written report to the Board outlining the results of the racial bloc voting analysis.
3. Making an oral presentation to the Board of the results of the analysis.
4. Advising the Board on matters pertaining U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This service may include the following tasks:

1. Assist the Board in determining if one or more proposed redistricting plans may comply with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

2. Serving as an expert witness for the Redistricting Board on Voting Rights Act issues in any court challenges to the Board's redistricting plan, including testifying in deposition and/or trial as requested.
3. Performing these tasks and other Redistricting Board Consulting Services/Voting Rights Assistance as required by the Project Director.
4. Travel to the Redistricting Board Office in Anchorage for consulting as requested. Two or more visits may be needed.

Response Requirements

Responses must include the complete name, mailing address, telephone number and email address of the responder(s). Responses must, if applicable, provide notice that the offeror qualifies as an Alaskan bidder. Responses must be signed and dated by the responder.

Offeror must provide:

1. Comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of the purpose and scope of this project, any pertinent issues and potential problems, and statements that illustrate their understanding of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the impact of subsequent amendments and court decisions.
2. A description of the offeror's qualifications and experience in preparing racial bloc voting analyses.
3. A description of expert witness experience the offeror has provided.
4. A description of the statistical analytical methodology the offeror will employ to perform the required services.
5. A listing of current or past clients similar to the Redistricting Board, a brief description of service provided and a contact name and phone number of each client.
6. A listing of staff experience in advising clients on redistricting/reapportionment.
7. Information on the company ownership, headquarters, branch or affiliate offices, length of time in business,
8. Indicate if the award of this contract would require the acquisition of additional office space, equipment, personnel or any other items. Be as specific as possible, i.e., how much additional space, specific equipment, the number and function of additional employees, etc.

9. A description of any distinct and substantive qualifications for undertaking the proposed contract, such as the availability of specialized equipment, awards and recognition received for similar services or special approaches or concepts relevant to the required services under this Request

Costs & Expenses

1. Offeror's must provide an hourly rate schedule for services provided in order for the proposal to be considered responsive. Proposals received that do not included hourly rate(s) shall be considered non-responsive and shall be rejected.
2. *NOTE: Reimbursement for all travel and out-of-pocket expenses shall be limited to the items authorized by the Project Director as set out in a contract resulting from this Request.*

Travel to the Redistricting Board Office in Anchorage for consulting as requested. Two or more visits may be needed.

References

Responders are encouraged to provide a list of references the Board may contact to verify the responder's character, qualifications and experience.

Funding Source

Funding for the Alaska Redistricting Board is subject to Legislative appropriation.

Submission Details, Deadline

Provide one electronic copy of the requested information to the email address below. Responses to this Request must be received by 4:00 p.m. AST, on May 14, 2021.

- Peter.Torkelson@akredistrict.org

This Request in no manner obligates the Board to pursue a contractual relationship with an entity that responds to this Request or limits or restricts the Board to pursue a contractual relationship with an entity that does not respond to this Request.

This Request in no manner obligates the Board to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of any response to this Request. A party responding to this Request is responsible for all costs associated with their response. Responses become the property of the Board and may be subject to public disclosure.

Questions should also be directed to Peter Torkelson at

- Peter.Torkelson@akredistrict.org
- 907-406-2894