

2020 Official Candidate Statement
City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska
Alicia Hughes-Skandijs
Candidate: District #1 Assemblymember



Name: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

Office Sought: District #1 Assemblymember

Residence & Mailing Address: 9087 N. Douglas Hwy., Juneau, AK 99801

Email Address: alicia@alicia4assembly.com

Website: alicia4assembly.com

Age: 35

Occupation: Grants Administrator

Place of Birth: New York City, New York

Length of Residency in Juneau: 16 years

Communities lived in & dates of residency: Hamlin, West Virginia, 1985-2004
Juneau, Alaska, 2004-2020

Education: Bachelor of Science, Mathematics,
University of Alaska Southeast

Political and Government Positions: District 1 Assemblymember

Business and Professional Positions: Grants Administrator, State of Alaska
Department of Health and Social Services

Service Organization Memberships: Steward, Alaska State Employees Association

Local 52
ASEA representative, Central Labor Council
Former board member, Alaska Folk Festival
Former board member, League of Women Voters

Special Interests:

Walking my dogs on our beautiful trails, hiking, camping, live music, cross country skiing, and stand-up comedy.

Biographical Information *[limited to 150 words or less.]:*

I moved to Juneau sixteen years ago to attend UAS and I immediately fell in love with the people, thriving arts scene, and outdoor culture here and I knew that this was my home. I received my BS in Mathematics and was proud to be the student speaker at my graduation.

I spent time working in the service industry, the nonprofit sector, retail, and the school district before entering state service as a Grants Administrator for the Department of Health and Social Services. I became a union steward, the treasurer for the local executive board, and a contract negotiator. I went on to represent the Alaska State Employees Association by serving on the Central Labor Council.

I live in North Douglas with my sister, my mother, two adorable dogs and a cat. I love being 5 minutes away from front row seats to the Aurora, great hiking trails, and Eaglecrest!

Position Statement *[limited to 250 words or less.]:*

I'm proud of the assembly's response so far to COVID-19. It's tricky balancing public safety and economic stressors, and I feel we've done a great job following the science while being mindful of the impact on our local businesses. We moved quickly to shore up local payroll with small business loans from the city and have likewise worked to pass federal relief grants on to business owners and renters.

It's important that we continue work on the goals we set prior to the pandemic. The loss of our tourist season highlighted the need to have a diverse local economy; one way to do that is by continuing toward our goal of 80% renewable energy by 2045. Another is continued investment in local care and services for seniors. The community need for increased childcare was also already on our agenda but has been underscored by the stress of distance education on parents. We have adopted the recommendations of our Early Childhood Task Force and city staff to assist with expanding options.

Our success in meeting this year's challenges lies in the strong working relationships we have formed. I'm an enthusiastic communicator who is always open to hearing "the other side" of an issue. I consider all the pro's and con's and carefully consider public testimony and discussion before making up my mind on a vote. I have no special interests outside making the best decisions possible for Juneau as a whole, and considering how our policies will affect the entire community.