Chair Thompson and esteemed committee members,

Filling mid-term vacancies by means of election by the political party which held the seat until the vacancy occurred makes sense and is more in keeping with our representative system than allowing appointments by the governor. The method of inter-party election is used for almost all vacant positions and using that same system for statewide offices is good policy and brings the selection of a new occupant closer to The People.

Thank you, Rochelle Bockover-Caler