

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

*Interim – May-December:*  
**1292 Sadler Way Rm. 323**  
**Fairbanks, AK 99701**  
**907-452-1088**



*Session – January-April:*  
**State Capitol Rm 513**  
**Juneau, AK 99801**  
**907-465-3004**

## Representative Will Stapp

District 32: East Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright, Badger

[Rep.Will.Stapp@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Will.Stapp@akleg.gov)

### Sponsor Statement HB 258 General Relief & Burial Assistance

House bill 258 aims to refine our state's assistance programs by focusing on what matters most. By enhancing Burial Relief, we ensure dignity and support for Alaskan families during their most challenging times.

This would effectively change of the existing General Relief Assistance program, to now include Burial Assistance. This better aligns with the goals and objectives of the intent of the relief program that exists within regulation. Creating this change within statute encapsulates the essence of the program more accurately considering the division currently processes and funds approved applications for Burial Assistance Division of Public Assistance (DPA) through the General Relief Assistance program.

Through this bill we are proposing to simultaneously remove certain forms of relief, such as assistance for shelter, and utilities, which, due to stringent requirements, have not effectively met the needs of our residents. This change allows us to concentrate resources where they can have a more significant impact.

This targeted approach will streamline state workflows, enabling the administration to focus more effectively on critical areas of assistance. It aligns our resources with the most impactful forms of support, ensuring better management and distribution of aid.

Staff Contact: Honour Miller-Austin

Phone Number: 907-465-3004

Email: [Honour.Miller-Austin@akleg.gov](mailto:Honour.Miller-Austin@akleg.gov)