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House Bill 45- PFD Contributions to GF and PF

Sponsor Statement Version B

“An Act relating to contributions from permanent fund dividends to the general and permanent fund.”

House Bill 45 would add a button to the electronic application process to give Alaskans the choice of donating all or a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) directly to the state's general fund. Participants can donate in increments of 10% up to the full amount of the PFD. Currently, in order to return your PFD to the state, Alaskans must apply for the dividend, receive their dividend, and then return it through the U.S. mail. Passage of this bill will greatly facilitate Alaskan's ability to donate their PFD to the state's general fund.

HB 45 was originally introduced in the 32nd legislature as HB 158. It was amended in House Finance in that legislature. It enjoyed 22 co-sponsors that year. It was reintroduced in this 33rd legislature in the version that came out of House Finance. In the House Ways and Means Committee this year, it was amended by making some minor changes that would make the implementation of this bill go more smoothly.

There are numerous reasons why a person might choose to give some or all of their PFD back to the state. Alaskans deserve to have the option of doing this in a simple and efficient manner. HB 45 would give them that option, which is why I'm asking for your support.