

# Alaska State Legislature

## House of Representatives

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### **SPONSOR STATEMENT: HOUSE BILL 205**

HB 205 is a bill that provides for the issuance of a Permanent Fund Dividend Check to the caretaker of a deceased persons estate should that person die during the eligibility year. Passage of this bill would assist families with the costs associated with the loss of a family member and would close a loophole that now exists in the Permanent Fund Dividend distribution system.

Currently, children born on the last possible day of the eligibility year receive PFD, college students are able to spend the majority of their time outside the State of Alaska and still receive a PFD, and Alaskan residents are allowed to spend up to 180 days outside of Alaska and still receive a PFD. HB 205 levels the playing field for those who would have been eligible but died during the eligibility year. A persons loved ones should not be disadvantaged by a technicality.

HB 205 is a common sense bill that will decrease the burden on already suffering families. Those who are eligible to receive a Permanent Fund Dividend check from the State of Alaska should retain that eligibility whether they live for one day of the year or three hundred. HB 205 helps families and does not disadvantage the state.