

HOUSE BILL NO. 299

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON, Gara, Costello, Gruenberg

Introduced: 1/27/12

Referred: Judiciary, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act allowing appropriations to the civil legal services fund from court filing fees."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 37.05.590 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 37.05.590. Civil legal services fund.** The civil legal services fund is
5 established as a special account in the general fund. The fund consists of
6 appropriations to it. Annually, the legislature may appropriate to the fund only from
7 amounts deposited into the general fund of the state under AS 09.17.020(j) **and an**
8 **amount from the general fund that is up to 25 percent of the filing fees received**
9 **by the Alaska Court System during the previous fiscal year.** The legislature may
10 make appropriations from the fund to organizations that provide civil legal services to
11 low-income individuals. Nothing in this section creates a dedicated fund. In this
12 section, "low-income individual" means an individual with an income equal to or less
13 than 125 percent of the most recent federal poverty guidelines for Alaska set by the
14 United States Department of Health and Human Services.