

SENATE BILL NO. 233

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/15/22

Referred: Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to allowable absences for permanent fund dividend qualification; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 43.23.008(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) Subject to (b) and (d) of this section, an otherwise eligible individual who
6 is absent from the state during the qualifying year remains eligible for a current year
7 permanent fund dividend if the individual was absent

8 (1) receiving secondary or postsecondary education on a full-time
9 basis;

10 (2) receiving vocational, professional, or other specific education on a
11 full-time basis for which, as determined by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary
12 Education, a comparable program is not reasonably available in the state;

13 (3) serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the
14 United States or accompanying, as that individual's spouse, minor dependent, or

1 disabled dependent, an individual who is

2 (A) serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of
3 the United States; and

4 (B) eligible for a current year dividend;

5 (4) serving under foreign or coastal articles of employment aboard an
6 oceangoing vessel of the United States merchant marine **or attending a program that**
7 **prepares students for careers in the United States merchant marine;**

8 (5) receiving continuous medical treatment recommended by a
9 licensed physician or convalescing as recommended by the physician who treated the
10 illness if the treatment or convalescence is not based on a need for climatic change;

11 (6) providing care for a parent, spouse, sibling, child, or stepchild with
12 a critical life-threatening illness whose treatment plan, as recommended by the
13 attending physician, requires travel outside the state for treatment at a medical
14 specialty complex;

15 (7) providing care for the individual's terminally ill family member;

16 (8) settling the estate of the individual's deceased parent, spouse,
17 sibling, child, or stepchild, provided the absence does not exceed 220 cumulative days;

18 (9) serving as a member of the United States Congress;

19 (10) serving on the staff of a member from this state of the United
20 States Congress;

21 (11) serving as an employee of the state in a field office or other
22 location;

23 (12) accompanying a minor who is absent under (5) of this subsection;

24 (13) accompanying another eligible resident who is absent for a reason
25 permitted under (1), (2), (5) - (12), (16), or (17) of this subsection as the spouse, minor
26 dependent, or disabled dependent of the eligible resident;

27 (14) serving as a volunteer in the federal peace corps program;

28 (15) because of training or competing as a member of the United States
29 Olympic Team or a United States national team for an Olympic sport;

30 (16) participating for educational purposes in a student fellowship
31 sponsored by the United States Department of Education or by the United States

1 Department of State;

2 (17) for any reason consistent with the individual's intent to remain a
3 state resident, provided the absence or cumulative absences do not exceed

4 (A) 180 days in addition to any absence or cumulative absences
5 claimed under (3) of this subsection if the individual is not claiming an absence
6 under (1), (2), or (4) - (16) of this subsection;

7 (B) 120 days in addition to any absence or cumulative absences
8 claimed under (1) - (3) of this subsection if the individual is not claiming an
9 absence under (4) - (16) of this subsection but is claiming an absence under (1)
10 or (2) of this subsection; or

11 (C) 45 days in addition to any absence or cumulative absences
12 claimed under (1) - (16) of this subsection if the individual is claiming an
13 absence under (4) - (16) of this subsection.

14 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2023.