

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

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Finance Committee

- Chair, Judiciary Subcommittee
- Chair, Military and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee
- Public Safety Subcommittee

Sen.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

May 11, 2022

The Honorable Kelly Merrick
Co-Chair, House Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 511
Juneau, AK 99801

Co-Chair Merrick and committee members:

Thank you for holding an initial hearing on Senate Bill 25, the Alaska Online Checkbook Act, on May 10, 2022. Please see the following response to Representative Wool's question. The Department of Administration will be responding separately with answers to technical questions asked by committee members.

1: Representative Wool asked whether specific information from taxpayers would be available on the Alaska Online Checkbook website.

No. Section 4, subsection (f),¹ explicitly states that “[n]othing in this section requires disclosure of information that is confidential under state or federal law.” AS 43.05.230 prohibits disclosing “the amount of income or particulars set out or disclosed in a report or return.”² There are several exceptions enumerated in statute, for example law enforcement purposes, but none that would allow disclosing data on the Alaska Online Checkbook website. For information that is required to be kept confidential, this subsection requires that aggregated data be post to the website, but only if doing so “continues to protect confidentiality.”³

¹ Page 5, Lines 20-24, HCS for CS SB 25 (STA) (Version N)

² AS 43.05.230(a)

³ Page 5, Lines 23-24, HCS for CS SB 25 (STA) (Version N)

Thank you for your time and consideration, please do not hesitate to contact me or David Dunsmore of my staff at (907) 465-2435 with any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Wielechowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "B".

Senator Bill Wielechowski