



Senator Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

Alaska State Legislature

Senate District P

SB 240

Sponsor Statement

fAn Act relating to permanent fund dividend raffles creating the senior citizen grants endowment fund and the senior citizen grants dividend raffle fund authorizing donations from permanent fund dividends for grants to organizations that provide support for senior citizens and for entry into the senior citizen grants dividend raffle relating to transfers from the senior citizen grants endowment fund and the senior citizen grants dividend raffle fund relating to the duties of the Department of Revenue and relating to the definition of gambling;

Senate Bill 240 creates a new, voluntary way for Alaskans to support senior services across the state by establishing the Senior Citizen Grants Endowment Fund and the Senior Citizen Grants Dividend Raffle Fund.

SB 240 allows Alaskans to donate a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend, on a voluntary basis, to support grants for nonprofit organizations that serve Alaska's senior citizens. To encourage participation, the bill also establishes a dividend raffle, providing contributors with an opportunity to win prizes while supporting a meaningful public purpose.

The bill is designed to be self-funded and voluntary. It does not require new general fund appropriations and instead relies on individual choice and private contributions. Funds collected would be administered by the Department of Revenue and used to support organizations that provide critical services to seniors, including assistance that helps older Alaskans remain independent, healthy, and connected to their communities.

As Alaska's population continues to age, many senior service providers are facing increased demand and rising costs. SB 240 offers a creative, Alaska-specific solution that builds on an existing system Alaskans are familiar with – the Permanent Fund Dividend – to strengthen long-term support for seniors without increasing taxes or mandatory fees.

This legislation gives Alaskans a new opportunity to invest directly in the well-being of our seniors and the organizations that serve them, while ensuring transparency, accountability, and voluntary participation. We look forward to gaining your support for this important legislation.

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