

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 170  
Fiscal Note Number:  
() Publish Date:

Identifier: SB170-DHSS-SBPP-2-2-2018  
Title: EXTEND: SENIOR BENEFITS PAYMENT  
PROGRAM  
Sponsor: KELLY  
Requester: Senate HSS

Department: Department of Health and Social Services  
Appropriation: Public Assistance  
Allocation: Senior Benefits Payment Program  
OMB Component Number: 2897

## Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2019 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>						
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits	19,986.1		19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	19,986.1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>19,986.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>						

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost:** 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost:** 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)  
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? N/A

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable; initial version.
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## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB170

### Analysis

SB 170 extends the Alaska Senior Benefits Payment Program from its current June 30, 2018 (FY2018) sunset through the end of FY2023. Therefore, the costs for this proposed legislation are for FY2019 through FY2023.

The regulations for the Senior Benefits Payment Program include language which instructs the division to reduce benefit payments for the highest income/lowest benefit tier to remain within the appropriated budget, when resources are short. Presently in SFY2018, the lowest benefit tier payment has therefore been reduced from \$125/month to \$76/month. For purposes of these projections, the department is continuing funding at its current level and determining the benefit amount of the highest income/lowest tier using projected growth.

Over the last five years, the division has experienced an annual average caseload growth rate of two percent. With the extension of the Senior Benefits Payment Program through FY2023, the division has projected benefit level using this two percent caseload growth per fiscal year.

Projection for adjusted top tier income benefit group utilizing a flat funding level at the current appropriation of \$19,986.1, and thus adjusting the monthly benefit amount as needed for a projected 2% increase in caseload.:.

New Payment Level for Top Income Tier	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
	\$69/mo	\$62/mo	\$55/mo	\$49/mo	\$42/mo
Current Benefit Amount Per Income Level					
\$76/month	\$3,828.4	\$3,508.8	\$3,174.9	\$2,885.1	\$2,522.4
\$175/month	\$10,881.5	\$11,099.2	\$11,321.2	\$11,547.6	\$11,788.5
\$250/month	\$5,217.8	\$5,322.2	\$5,428.6	\$5,537.2	\$5,647.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,927.7</b>	<b>\$19,930.1</b>	<b>\$19,924.7</b>	<b>\$19,969.9</b>	<b>\$19,958.9</b>