

## Alaska State Legislature

## Senator Bill Wielechowski

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## **Senate Bill 21**

## Sectional Analysis Version 34-LS0254\N

**Section 1** establishes that money can be subtracted from the Permanent Fund dividend payment and contributed to the Alaska Work and Save Program participant account.

**Section 2** establishes that the Alaska Work and Save Program is one of the eligible programs under the contribution list for the PFD.

**Section 3** prohibits the department from withholding a coordination fee for contributions to the Alaska Work and Save Program participant account.

**Section 4** Establishes the Alaska Work and Save Program under the Department of Revenue.

- New AS 44.25.400 is the language of the program:
  - (b) states that an employer that does not offer a qualified retirement plan shall facilitate participation of their employees in the program.
  - o (c) states that under the program,
    - An eligible employee is automatically enrolled in the program. Their default contribution rate increases at a rate established by the administrator.
    - An employee can opt out of the program or set different contribution rates.
    - Any person who earns compensation in Alaska can voluntarily enroll in the program.
  - (d) Specific rates of return are not guaranteed. The state is not liable for loss from participation in the program.
  - o (e) Employers may still set up their own retirement plans.
- New AS 44.25.410 establishes the purpose of the program and the administrator's mission.
  - Develop the program, conduct market research, and administer the program.
- New AS 44.25.420 establishes powers and duties of the administrator.

- Subsection (a) establishes the bounds of what will be required of the administrator.
- Subsection (b) establishes what the board may or may not do.
- New AS 44.25.430 establishes:
  - Individual's information shall be confidential.
- New AS 44.25.440 establishes:
  - The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development will accept complaints and issue fines for employers not participating in the program.
- New AS 44.25.490 provides definitions

Section 5 Sets an effective date of January 1, 2026.