# HOUSE BILL 193: UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ANALYSIS & MODELING

Jen Griffis, LP.D
Vice President of Policy & Advocacy
Alaska Children's Trust
April 28, 2025
House Labor & Commerce Committee



### Presentation Outline and Sources



### Comparative Policy Analysis

Alaska H.B. 193 Bill Analysis (Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center)

### Cost Modeling Comparison

2023 Microsimulation Model on Worker Leave (US Dept. of Labor)

### State-Level Program Variation

Features of State Paid Family Leave Programs (Bipartisan Policy Center)

### HB 193 - Comparative Policy Analysis



Covered Purposes

**Duration of Leave** 

Wage Replacement

Funding Mechanism



## **Covered Purposes**



#### House Bill 193

paid parental leave for bonding, used within 12 months

#### **Other 14 States**

bonding leave, caring for loved one with serious health condition, worker's own serious health condition

### **Duration of Leave**



#### House Bill 193

26 weeks of paid leave



#### Other 14 States

between 7-12 weeks, with 12 weeks being most common

parent who gave birth can stack medical and family leave

## Wage Replacement



#### **House Bill 193**

maximum weekly benefit of \$675

#### **Other 14 States**

maximum weekly benefits range from \$900-\$1,681

## Funding Mechanism



#### House Bill 193

.15% of employee wages



#### Other 14 States

employee wages - 3 programs employer wages - 1 program split - 10 programs

employee contributions range from .35% to 1.3% employer contributions range from .26% to .75%

### House Bill 193



#### **Estimated Revenue**

.15% of employee wages = \$18.9 million

#### **Cost of the Program**

26 weeks of bonding leave = \$30 million

As currently written, the revenue in HB 193 is not sufficient to fund the paid leave program.

## Moving the Policy Levers



Wage Replacement	Maximum Weeks	Types of Leave	Benefit Cost	Covered by HB193 Revenue?
HB193	8	Bonding	\$16.9 M	Yes
HB193	6	Family	\$18.7 M	Yes
HB193	14	Family	\$34.4 M	No, but covered by .30%
HB193	6	Family + Medical	\$36.4 M	No, but covered by .30%

COST MODELING COMPARISON

## Adjusting the Wage Replacement



Wage Replacement	Maximum Weeks	Types of Leave	Individual Weekly Benefit (min./avg.)	% of Wages
60%	12	Family + Medical	\$286/\$778	.55%
80%	12	Family + Medical	\$381/\$1,038	.65%
100%	12	Family + Medical	\$476/\$1,297	.70%
80%-60%	12	Family + Medical	\$381/\$908	.50%

### Statewide Comprehensive PFML



#### What's the same?

- all cover bonding, caregiving, and medical leave
- most cover leave for military deployment needs
- most split cost between employer and employee

#### What's different?

- coverage of safety leave to support victims of domestic violence varies
- number of weeks for each type of leave varies

## Statewide Comprehensive PFML



The variations in state-level program design demonstrate the opportunities Alaska has to utilize various policy levers to develop a comprehensive paid leave program that meets the needs of Alaska's families, communities, and businesses.