

*Alaska State Legislature*  
REPRESENTATIVE BRYCE EDGMON  
*House District 37*



HB 65  
Senior Citizens Housing Development Fund Grants

**SPONSOR'S INTENT**

Adak  
Akutan  
Aleknagik  
Atka  
Chignik  
Chignik Lagoon  
Chignik Lake  
Clark's Point  
Cold Bay  
Dillingham  
Egegik  
Elkwok  
False Pass  
Ivanof Bay  
King Cove  
King Salmon  
Koliganek  
Manokotak  
Naknek  
Nelson Lagoon  
New Stuyahok  
Nikolski  
Perryville  
Pilot Point  
Portage Creek  
Port Heiden  
St. George  
St. Paul  
Sand Point  
South Naknek  
Togiak  
Twin Hills  
Ugashik  
Unalaska

HB 65 will benefit senior citizens across the state by including regional housing authorities among the entities eligible for grants through the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation's Senior Citizens Housing Development Fund (SCHDF).

The SCHDF contributes funding to organizations that develop quality housing for older Alaskans, who make up the fastest growing segment of our population.

While SCHDF grants have been available to municipalities and 501(c)(3) and (4) nonprofits since the fund's inception, Alaska's regional housing authorities have not been eligible. HB 65, which has the support of the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, will correct that omission.

In most cases, grants through the SCHDF complement funding from a variety of other sources. Often an SCHDF grant is the final piece of the puzzle that allows a project to go forward. Funds can be put toward pre-development expenses and new construction as well as acquisition of properties, accessibility modifications, and rehabilitations.

Alaska's 14 regional housing authorities span from Ketchikan to Barrow and are among the state's most experienced developers of affordable housing. Making housing authorities eligible for grants will not increase spending through the SCHDF. It may, however, widen the selection of projects competing for grants and increase AHFC's ability to more effectively allocate funding.

I would be very grateful for your support for this legislation, which I hope will benefit elders in every region of Alaska.