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Governor Bill Walker  
STATE OF ALASKA

January 18, 2016

The Honorable Mike Chenault  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Chenault:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill amending eligibility requirements for the Alaska senior benefits payment program.

The bill proposes to add an additional qualifying criterion to the eligibility requirements for the senior benefits payment program. An individual must be either a citizen of the United States or a qualified alien under 8 United States Code 1641, in addition to meeting existing age, state residency, financial and program application criteria. This change would align the eligibility requirements of the Alaska senior benefits payment program with other public assistance programs and allow continued assistance to eligible seniors in a fiscally responsible manner.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Walker".

Bill Walker  
Governor

Enclosure

**HOUSE BILL NO. 262**