



# REPRESENTATIVE MIKE HAWKER

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE ♦ DISTRICT 28

Anchorage ♦ Glen Alps ♦ Rainbow ♦ Indian ♦ Bird ♦ Girdwood ♦ Portage

## House Bill 222 Sponsor Statement

### Short Title: Increase of Appropriation Item

House Bill 222 closes a loophole in the process for accepting additional funds for items in the budget when the legislature is not in session and protects Alaska's constitutional balance of powers.

Specifically, the bill codifies a process for the legislature to expressly prohibit the Governor from accepting and spending additional federal or other program receipts for an existing appropriation item.

This bill essentially gives substance to legislative intent language placed in a budget bill to restrict the Governor from accepting and spending certain additional receipts.

Currently, the Governor is allowed to accept and spend any and all additional federal or other program receipts without restriction or limitation; simply by complying with specified procedures for notifying the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee through the Revised Program Legislative (RPL) process. If the Committee votes affirmatively to approve the RPL, the Governor may immediately receive and spend those additional monies. If the committee does not act on the notification or recommends against the proposed expenditure, the Governor may still receive and expend those monies when 45 days have elapsed.

Additionally, the proposed legislation clarifies that, unless the committee approves the RPL, the Governor must wait 45 days from the date of the notification before authorizing the proposed expenditures.