House Bill 226 Sponsor Statement

Short Title: Extend Alaska Commission on Aging

House Bill 226 would extend the Alaska Commission on Aging for eight years, until June 30, 2024, based on the recommendations of the Legislative Auditor to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee.

The recently completed audit found that the Alaska Commission on Aging is serving the public's interest by formulating and approving the comprehensive State Plan for Senior Services; advocating for older Alaskans; providing education programs; making recommendations to the legislature and the governor on legislation, appropriations, programs and services for seniors; and serving as a federally recognized advisory council to satisfy the requirement of the Older Americans Act, allowing Alaska to receive federal funding through the Administration on Community Living.

House Bill 226 is supported by many organizations including the AARP, Access Alaska, Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska, Anchorage Senior Activity Center, Coalition of Mat-Su Senior Centers, Denakkanaaga, Inc., Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman, Mat-Su Council on Aging, Municipality of Anchorage – Senior Citizens Advisory Commission, North Star Council on Aging, Senior Citizens of Kodiak, Inc., and Soldotna Area Seniors, Inc.

PUBLISHED: 1/19/16