

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Mike Dunleavy, Chair
State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-6308
Senator.Mike.Dunleavy@akleg.gov



Members:
Sen. Cathy Giessel
Sen. John Coghill
Sen. David Wilson
Sen. Dennis Egan

Official Business

Senate Bill 48

Summary of Changes

SB 48\J to SB 48\O

Committee Substitute (STA) Work Draft

Prepared by the Senate State Affairs Committee 3/2/2017

1. Changes "police officer" to "peace officer" throughout the bill in order to extend the benefits within this legislation to include probation and correctional officers
2. Consistently uses the term "major medical" throughout the bill
3. Sec. 39.60.020: Changes the annual deadline for the commissioner to determine the amount of money sufficient to pay premiums to December 15th
4. Sec. 39.60.040:
 - a. Eliminates the gap in coverage by removing the requirement for the surviving dependent to submit an application. After the date of death of a peace officer or firefighter the commissioner will have thirty days to determine continued eligibility.
 - b. Requires annual determination of continued eligibility by the commissioner. The commissioner may require a surviving dependent to provide relevant information in order to make the determination.
 - c. Clarifies the term "year-round" by replacing it with "a full-time position for which the state or municipality paid or expected to pay the employee for 12 months each year."
 - d. Establishes that a surviving spouse becomes "permanently" ineligible for premium payments upon receiving ten years of premium payments, becoming eligible to receive major medical insurance or reaching the age of sixty-five, whichever comes first.

5. Sec. 39.60.050: Removes the word “immediately” to clarify that the municipality may elect to participate in the fund at any time.
6. Sec. 39.60.190:
 - a. Expands upon the definition of “firefighter” to be an employee of the state or municipality whose primary duty is to preform fire suppression services.
 - b. Replaces the definition of “police officer” with a new definition for “peace officer.