

30th Alaska State Legislature

Legislative Council Committee

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Committee Aide:

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Per Diem Subcommittee Members

FROM: Representative Sam Kito, Chairman

Legislative Council

DATE: March 7, 2017

RE: Legislative Council Per Diem Subcommittee Documents

Attached to this memo are two documents related to the question of long-term legislative per diem.

The first document is a history of legislative per diem that shows the adoption of the federal rate for per diem was adopted in 1994 by the Legislative Council. Before that time, legislative per diem changed from a specific designated amount, to different combinations of state and federal rates applied in different manners.

The second document provides a comparison of current legislative long-term per diem rates, which are defined by the federal short-term rate (for Temporary Duty assignments between 1 and 30 days), with various other federal and state per diem rates.

Adoption of the long-term federal per diem rates for TDY assignments between 31-180 days would result in a decrease to 75% of the current short-term rate. This option would result in a potential savings to the state of approximately \$378,000.

The other options compare the 181+ day federal per diem rate, and four different state rates for long-term per diem that provide savings ranging from \$670,000 to \$1.10 million.

This information is presented to advance the discussion of long-term legislative per diem.

The discussion at our meeting may also include the following:

- Special Session per diem
- Reimbursement for actual expenses
- Travel per diem