ALASKA LEGISLATURE Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

 $Angoon \cdot Coffman\ Cove \cdot Craig \cdot Edna\ Bay \cdot Elfin\ Cove \cdot Game\ Creek \cdot Hollis \cdot Hoonah \cdot Kake \cdot Kasaan \cdot Klawock \cdot Kupreanof \cdot Naukati \\ Pelican \cdot Petersburg \cdot Point\ Baker \cdot Port\ Alexander \cdot Port\ Protection \cdot Sitka \cdot Tenakee\ Springs \cdot Thorne\ Bay \cdot Whale\ Pass$

rep.jonathan.kreiss-tomkins@akleg.gov

Committees: State Affairs, Chair Judiciary Fisheries



Juneau, Alaska 99801 (Jan. – April) State Capitol, Room 411 907.465.3732

Sitka, Alaska 99835 (May – Dec.) 201 Katlian Street, Ste. 103 907.747.4665

Sponsor Statement

HB 165 APPROP: EARNINGS RESERVE TO PERM FUND

House Bill 165 transfers \$4.35 billion from the Alaska Permanent Fund's Earnings Reserve Account into the Permanent Fund's Principal to be protected in perpetuity for future generations of Alaskans. In straight-up terms, HB 165 sweeps a huge amount of cash off the table, protecting it forever as an asset for future Alaskans.

As a primer, the Alaska Permanent Fund has two separate accounts: the Principal (protected savings that can never be spent) and the Earnings Reserve Account (available to appropriation by a simple majority of legislators). By making a one-time \$4.35 billion transfer from the Earnings Reserve Account to the Principal, HB 165 helps protect the real value of the Permanent Fund from irresponsible or short-sighted spending.

The \$4.35 billion figure in HB 165 is informed by Department of Revenue models that forecast Permanent Fund earnings and market behavior through FY 2027. A \$4.35 billion transfer strikes a balance by leaving sufficient funds in the Earnings Reserve Account for PFDs and public services within the framework of law, while protecting excess funds in perpetuity in the Principal.

HB 165 addresses the urgent and bipartisan goal of protecting the real value of the Permanent Fund for future generations and protecting the Permanent Fund from the short-term political and fiscal pressures of Alaska's budget crisis.