

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Education Committee

Senator Roger Holland, Chair

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Members:

Senator Gary Stevens
Senator Peter Micciche
Senator Shelley Hughes
Senator Tom Begich

To: Senate Education Committee Members

From: Senator Holland

Date: January 22, 2022

Re: HB 53 Questions from 1/21/22

Members,

The administration provided the following responses to the questions raised during our January 21, 2022, hearing on HB 53:

Question 1:

Would HB53's waiver allowing an out of state student to register for school allow the student to qualify for the PFD earlier?

Department of Revenue Response:

No. The passage of HB53 in its current form would not affect the PFD eligibility status of students who register for school under the circumstances described in the bill. PFD eligibility and residency requirements are set out in AS 43.23.015 (a) and 15 AAC 23.143. A minor child must have an eligible sponsor in order to be eligible for a dividend. A student who is 18 years of age or older who falls under an education waiver as described in HB 53 would have to have been physically present in the state and establish residency like all other Alaskans prior to the qualifying year. Under the residency requirements of Permanent Fund Dividend Program it is not possible for an applicant to establish residency before their physical arrival in the state.

Question 2:

Could the early enrollment provisions of HB 53 potentially allow the double counting of a student if the parent is moving between bases in Alaska.

Department of Education Response:

No, all students enrolled in Alaska schools are issued a unique student ID number so if a student is enrolled in Anchorage, then moves to Fairbanks the department will be able to identify the overlap in enrollment and make sure that the student is only counted as one full time equivalent.