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CS HB 87 Version S Sectional Analysis

Section 1: Amends AS 12.62 to authorize the Department of Revenue to collect fingerprints for completion of a national criminal history record check for the purpose of determining suitability for employment. The amendment to AS 12.62 authorizes the Department of Public Safety to conduct national criminal history checks for division employees.

Section 2:

- Removes the traditional formula for determining the net income of the Permanent Fund for purposes of calculating the amount available for appropriation (which previously had been used only for the distribution in the form of a transfer to the Dividend Fund.)
- This section retains the language stating that the amount available for appropriation is 5% of the average market value of the fund for the first five of the preceding six fiscal years.
- The amount available for appropriation cannot exceed the balance of the Earnings Reserve Account (ERA) as described in AS 37.13.145 (Sec 3)

Section 3: States that the legislature may appropriate from the ERA to the dividend fund 50% of the amount available for appropriation.

Section 4: Clarifies that under AS 37.13.145(c) the mechanism for inflation proofing the principle of the Permanent Fund is an appropriation by the legislature.

Section 5: Clarifies that proceeds from State v. Amerada Hess, et al is not available for appropriation to the dividend fund, for inflation proofing, or the Mental Health Trust fund but will be deposited annually into the capital income fund (AS 37.05.565).

Section 6: Clarifies that net income from the Mental Health Trust Fund may not be included in the computation of the amount of the Permanent Fund available for appropriation.

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Section 7: Amends AS 43.23.008(a) to allow merchant mariners attending qualified vocational programs to qualify for an allowable absence from the state for eligibility purposes. Includes a provision allowing for absences for breaks or holidays during an academic year. Changes "Armed Services" to "Uniformed Services," defined in Section 9 (Page 6, lines 26-28) meaning Army, Navy, Air Force, Maine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Services.

Section 8: Provides a definition of "Uniformed Services" for purposes of dividend eligibility under AS43.23.008(a). Usage of "Uniformed Services" appears in Section 7 of Version S.

Section 9: Adds a new subsection to AS 43.23.011 to allow a grace period for dependents of Alaskans who experience a medical emergency that prevents them from filing for their dependents' permanent fund dividend by the March 31st filing deadline.

Section 10: Language change to clarify that the amount in the dividend fund is "appropriated."

Section 11: As referenced in Sec. 1, this section amends AS 43.23 "Duties of the Department" of Revenue to submit fingerprints to DPS for national criminal history record checks for the purpose of determining suitability for employment.

Section 12: Amends AS 43.23.140(d) to allow the division to use electronic notice of levy for individuals who are subjected to a court order or writ for the collection of a debt. Currently, the division is required to provide notice of levy via mail, despite the consent of many applicants to receive electronic notices.

Section 13: Applicability: AS 43.23 as amended for "Uniformed Services" "Training, Breaks and Holidays during academic year" and "Medical Emergency" apply to the 2024 qualifying year for the 2025 dividend.

Section 14 Transition: The Dep. Of Revenue may adopt regulations but not before the effective date of the law implemented by the regulation.

Section 15 and 16: Effective Dates