

SENATE BILL NO. 172

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR ELLIS

Introduced: 4/11/97

Referred: HESS, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to payment assistance for costs of residing in the Alaska
2 Pioneers' Home, and providing that certain income and assets of a resident shall
3 be disregarded in determining payment assistance, including income from any
4 source in an amount up to \$100, cash dividends and other income up to \$2,000
5 received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, a permanent fund
6 dividend, an amount for burial expenses of the resident, the resident's spouse and
7 dependents of the resident, the primary residence of the resident's spouse or a
8 dependent of the resident, and other property up to a total value of \$5,000; and
9 providing for an effective date."

10 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

11 * **Section 1.** This Act may be known as the Pioneers' Dignity Act of 1997.

12 * **Sec. 2.** AS 47.55.020 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 (e) Notwithstanding AS 47.55.070 and (b) of this section, a resident whose
 2 income and assets are insufficient to pay the monthly rate set under AS 47.55.030(b)
 3 qualifies for payment assistance if the resident is otherwise in compliance with
 4 requirements under this chapter. The amount of payment assistance shall equal the
 5 amount needed, when added to other income and assets of the resident, to pay the
 6 monthly rate set under AS 47.55.030(b). Payment assistance received by a resident
 7 is a debt to the state. In determining the amount of payment assistance for which a
 8 resident qualifies, the following income and assets of a Pioneers' Home resident shall
 9 be disregarded:

- 10 (1) income from any source in an amount up to \$100 per month;
- 11 (2) the following assets received under 43 U.S.C. 1601 - 1629e (Alaska
 12 Native Claims Settlement Act):
- 13 (A) cash dividends and other income up to \$2,000;
- 14 (B) stock;
- 15 (C) noncash dividends from stock; and
- 16 (D) land;
- 17 (3) a permanent fund dividend issued under AS 43.23;
- 18 (4) veterans' benefits paid under 38 U.S.C. 1114;
- 19 (5) compensation to volunteers under the federal retired and senior
 20 volunteers (42 U.S.C. 5001), foster grandparents (42 U.S.C. 5011), and senior
 21 companion (42 U.S.C. 5013) programs made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 5044(f);
- 22 (6) federal World War II restitution payments made under 50 U.S.C.
 23 1989b-4 and c-5;
- 24 (7) payments under AS 18.67 (crime victim compensation);
- 25 (8) an amount determined by regulation of the Department of
 26 Administration sufficient for burial expenses of the resident, the resident's spouse, and
 27 dependents of the resident;
- 28 (9) real property being used as the primary residence of the resident's
 29 spouse or a dependent of the resident;
- 30 (10) other real or personal property up to a total value of \$5,000.

31 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.