

HOUSE BILL NO. 201

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE HAWKER

Introduced: 3/19/03

Referred: Labor and Commerce, State Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act allowing employers in the public employees' retirement system to elect to**
2 **classify dispatchers in a police or fire department as peace officers for retirement benefit**
3 **purposes."**

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

5 * **Section 1.** AS 39.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

6 **Sec. 39.35.382. Dispatcher service as peace officer service.** (a) An
7 employer may elect to classify credited service as a dispatcher as peace officer service
8 by notifying the administrator of the employer's election not later than February 15 of
9 the year in which the employer will begin to classify dispatcher service as peace
10 officer service. Dispatcher service shall be treated as peace officer service by that
11 employer beginning on July 1 of the year for which notice is given. An election by the
12 employer under this section becomes irrevocable on July 1 of the year for which
13 notice is given.

14 (b) Not later than April 1 of the year benefits are to be converted under (a) of

1 this section, the administrator shall notify the employer who makes an election under
2 (a) of this section of the amount of indebtedness of the employer to the system.
3 Indebtedness shall be established for the employer for the conversion of all credited
4 service of persons employed by the employer as dispatchers to peace officer service.
5 The indebtedness is equal to the full actuarial cost of the conversion of the credited
6 service to treatment as peace officer service. Indebtedness shall be paid by the
7 employer in the manner prescribed by the board.

8 (c) An employee whose employer has converted credited service as a
9 dispatcher to peace officer service under this section shall be treated as a peace officer
10 for purposes of this chapter.

11 (d) In this section, "dispatcher" means an employee occupying a position as a
12 trained public safety telecommunicator employed in a state trooper office or in a
13 police or fire department in the public employees' retirement system.