

**SENATE BILL NO. 4005**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 7/24/08

Referred: Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act authorizing, as a temporary rebate of state resources to certain state residents,  
2 payments to assist in meeting heating costs under the federal and state heating  
3 assistance programs; and providing for an effective date."

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

5 \* **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section  
6 to read:

7 PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to rebate state resources to certain state  
8 residents.

9 \* **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
10 read:

11 STATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HEATING AND  
12 ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. (a) This section applies to heating assistance  
13 payments authorized to persons under 7 AAC 44, adopted under the authority of  
14 AS 47.05.010.

1 (b) Notwithstanding another provision of law, for the period beginning September 1,  
2 2008, and ending August 31, 2009, to supplement provisions of the federal low-income  
3 heating and energy assistance program provided under 42 U.S.C. 8621 - 8629 (Low-Income  
4 Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981), as amended, subject to legislative appropriation of  
5 state general funds for the purpose, the Department of Health and Social Services shall  
6 increase the amount of a heating assistance payment.

7 (c) Amounts payable under this section shall be calculated by application of the  
8 assistance formula set out in 7 AAC 44.080, as those provisions read on the effective date of  
9 this section, and shall be made from the appropriation described in (b) of this section.

10 \* **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
11 read:

12 STATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALASKA HEATING ASSISTANCE  
13 PROGRAM. (a) This section applies to the Alaska heating assistance payments authorized to  
14 persons under AS 47.25.621 - 47.25.625, and to others whose gross household income  
15 exceeds the income guidelines set out in AS 47.25.623(3).

16 (b) Notwithstanding another provision of law, for the period beginning September 1,  
17 2008, and ending August 31, 2009, to supplement provisions of the Alaska heating assistance  
18 program provided under AS 47.25.621 - 47.25.625, subject to legislative appropriation for the  
19 purpose, the Department of Health and Social Services shall

20 (1) increase the amounts of heating assistance payments to individuals eligible  
21 under AS 47.25.623; and

22 (2) notwithstanding AS 47.25.623(3), extend assistance under the Alaska  
23 heating assistance program to individuals who would be eligible if not for the provisions of  
24 AS 47.25.623(3) and have gross household incomes that exceed 225 percent but that do not  
25 exceed 350 percent of the federal poverty guideline for Alaska, as described in  
26 AS 47.25.623(3).

27 (c) Amounts payable under this section shall be calculated by application of eligibility  
28 criteria established under AS 47.25.623 and (b) of this section and shall be made from the  
29 appropriation described in (b) of this section.

30 \* **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).