

SENATE BILL NO. 162

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR PASKVAN

Introduced: 3/25/09

Referred: Senate Special Committee on Energy, Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to a heating fuel energy relief program; and providing for an effective
2 date."

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 44.33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Article 5A. Heating Fuel Energy Relief Payments.**

6 **Sec. 44.33.325. Heating fuel energy relief payment program.** (a) The
7 Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development shall establish
8 and, subject to appropriation made for the purpose, maintain a program that may be
9 used to provide energy relief to customers relating to the retail sale of heating fuel.
10 Whenever the average monthly light sweet commodity price per barrel of low sulfur,
11 easily refined grade of crude oil, traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange for the
12 previous month exceeds \$75, the energy relief payment provided by this section is the
13 amount necessary to reduce the retail price of heating fuel to not more than

14 (1) \$2.50 a gallon for the period that begins on the effective date of

1 this section and ends June 30, 2010;

2 (2) \$2.75 a gallon for the period that begins July 1, 2010, and ends
3 June 30, 2011;

4 (3) \$3 a gallon for the period that begins July 1, 2011.

5 (b) If money is appropriated for the purpose, the department shall pay the
6 energy relief payment described in (a) of this section to a fuel distributor that applies
7 for the energy relief payment on a form prepared by the department and who promises
8 not to charge customers more than the retail price specified in (a) of this section.

9 (c) The heating fuel assistance fund is created in the department, consisting of
10 money appropriated to the fund by the legislature. The department shall use money in
11 the fund for the sole purpose of defraying the payment of retail costs of heating fuel as
12 authorized by (a) of this section.

13 (d) Heating fuel for which an energy relief payment is paid under this section
14 is not eligible for home heating assistance payments under AS 47.25.621 -
15 AS 47.25.626.

16 (e) The department may adopt regulations to implement this section.

17 (f) In this section, "heating fuel" means Alaska Number 2 distillate or Alaska
18 Number 2 residential heating oil.

19 * **Sec. 2.** AS 44.33.325 is repealed June 30, 2012.

20 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).