

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 161(JUD)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/15/24

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES WRIGHT, Hannan, Armstrong, Gray, Mina

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the civil legal services fund."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 37.05.590 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 37.05.590. Civil legal services fund.** The civil legal services fund is
 5 established as a special account in the general fund. The fund consists of
 6 appropriations to it. Annually, the legislature may appropriate to the fund only from
 7 amounts deposited into the general fund of the state under AS 09.17.020(j) and an
 8 amount from the general fund that is up to **25** [10] percent of the filing fees received
 9 by the Alaska Court System during the previous closed fiscal year. The legislature
 10 may make appropriations from the fund to organizations that provide civil legal
 11 services to low-income individuals. **An organization may not use funds received**
 12 **under this section to provide legal assistance for issues arising under AS 34.03**
 13 **(Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act).** Nothing in this section creates a
 14 dedicated fund. In this section, "low-income individual" means an individual with an
 15 income equal to or less than 125 percent of the most recent federal poverty guidelines

1 for Alaska set by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.