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IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS PHILLIPS  
AND POLLOCK

SENATE BILL NO. 126

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act creating annual pensions for  
persons who have served as governors of  
the state."

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

\* Section 1. AS 39 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 37. GOVERNORS' PENSIONS

Sec. 39.37.010. ANNUAL PENSIONS FOR GOVERNORS. A  
person who serves as governor of the state is entitled to  
an annual pension for the remainder of his life. Payment  
of an annual pension granted under this chapter shall com-  
mence on the last day of the first full month following the  
date on which the person ceases to act as the governor.

Sec. 39.37.020. AMOUNT OF PENSION. (a) The amount  
of an annual pension granted under sec. 10 of this chapter  
is determined as follows:

(1) a person who serves as governor for more than  
one full term is entitled to an annual pension equal in  
amount to 67 per cent of the highest annual salary which he  
received while serving as governor;

(2) a person who serves as governor for one full  
term is entitled to an annual pension equal in amount to 50  
percent of the highest annual salary which he received while  
serving as governor;

(3) a person who serves as governor for less than

1 one full term except for reason of absence from office or  
2 for physical or mental disability, is entitled to an annual  
3 pension equal in amount to 12.5 percent of the highest  
4 annual salary which he received while serving as governor  
5 multiplied by the number of years which he served as gover-  
6 nor, provided that for purposes of this computation a year  
7 is served if a person executes the duties of governor for  
8 six months or more in any 12-month period;

9 (4) a person who serves as governor for less  
10 than one full term and who vacates that office by reason of  
11 physical or mental disability is entitled to an annual  
12 pension equal in amount to 50 percent of the highest annual  
13 salary he received while serving as governor;

14 (5) a person who serves as governor and who, at  
15 any time, vacates that office because of continued absence  
16 is not entitled to an annual pension.

17 (b) The Department of Administration shall pay annual  
18 pensions to authorized recipients in equal monthly install-  
19 ments.

20 Sec. 39.37.030. PAYMENT OF ANNUAL PENSION TO WIDOWS.

21 (a) Upon the death of a person receiving, or entitled to  
22 receive, an annual pension under this chapter, the surviving  
23 widow is entitled to receive the same pension for a period  
24 of five years from the date of death.

25 (b) The period in which a widow may receive an annual  
26 pension may be extended by the legislature for good cause.

27 Sec. 39.37.040. SUSPENSION OF PENSION. If a person  
28 who is receiving an annual pension under this chapter is  
29 subsequently elected governor or secretary of state of this

1 state, payment of the pension shall be suspended during such  
2 time as he receives compensation for that office, provided  
3 that if and when the person is again eligible to receive an  
4 annual pension, his additional service as governor entitles  
5 him to any increase in pension amounts which he may qualify  
6 for under sec. 20 of this chapter.

7 \* Sec. 2. AS 39.20.060 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 39.20.060. EXCLUSION OF GOVERNOR AND SECRETARY  
9 OF STATE FROM PERSONNEL LAWS. Notwithstanding the provisions  
10 of any other law, the governor and secretary of state are  
11 not considered employees of the state for the purpose of  
12 state personnel laws relating to hours of employment, an-  
13 nual leave, sick leave, overtime, compensatory time, and  
14 travel allowances. Nothing in this section shall be con-  
15 strued to deprive the governor and the secretary of state  
16 of the right to participate [IN THE STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
17 OR] in state group insurance plans. The governor may not  
18 participate in the public employees' retirement system, but  
19 the secretary of state may participate in the public em-  
20 ployees' retirement system until such time as he succeeds  
21 to the governorship.

22 \* Sec. 3. A person serving as governor of the state on the  
23 effective date of this Act is ineligible to participate in the  
24 public employees' retirement system (AS 39.35) and, if a partici-  
25 pant, is entitled to a refund of the balance in his employee con-  
26 tribution and savings accounts in that system.