

Introduced: 2/19/81
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY PHILLIPS, BARNES AND MOSS

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 191

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Alaska longevity bonus; and
7 providing for an effective date."

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

9 * Section 1. AS 47.45.010(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) A person who is 65 years of age or over, who was domiciled in
11 the territory on or before January 3, 1959 and who has maintained a
12 continuous domicile in the territory or state for 25 years or has inter-
13 mittently maintained a domicile in the territory or state for a cumula-
14 tive total of 30 years, may apply to the commissioner of administration
15 for qualification to receive a monthly bonus of \$200.

16 * Sec. 2. AS 47.45.010 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

17 (d) For the purposes of (a) of this section, a person has inter-
18 mittently maintained a domicile in the territory or state only if he
19 has been physically present in the state for five years immediately
20 preceding his application and if the periods cumulating 30 years are 12
21 months or more in length.

22 * Sec. 3. AS 47.45.170 is amended to read:

23 Sec. 47.45.170. PURPOSE. The sole purpose of this chapter is to
24 offer and provide all law-abiding Alaskans capable of managing their
25 own affairs who have maintained a domicile in the state for at least 25
26 years continuously or 30 years intermittently and have reached a retire-
27 ment age of 65, an incentive to continue uninterrupted residency in the
28 state. Under no circumstances shall this chapter be considered a form,
29 type, or manner, of public relief. Bonuses made under this chapter are

1 not predicated on need even though they may appear to provide supple-
2 mental income to some qualified persons who would otherwise be forced to
3 become responsibilities of the state. The legislature further finds and
4 states that this legislation recognizes the economic hardships suffered
5 by many elderly Alaskans, Alaskans who through their tenacity and per-
6 severance molded Alaska as we know it through skillful application of
7 their talents. These pioneers are the same Alaskans, who in the prime
8 of their life were in effect treated as second-class citizens by the
9 federal government and who paid much of their hard-earned income to a
10 government in which they did not have the right to participate through
11 the power of the ballot. The legislature also is aware of the fact that
12 many of these pioneers have been forced to live out their retirement
13 years in areas far away from the land they loved and nurtured and there-
14 by also suffering, in many cases, the loss of familial relationship with
15 their own kin, an experience that is sad and frustrating to them as well
16 as depriving new generations of Alaskans of the benefits of their wisdom
17 and experience. This legislation hopefully will provide our pioneers
18 with the economic means to remain in and continue to serve their state
19 and to enjoy the opportunity of aiding the new Alaskan in making this
20 state truly "The Great Land."

21 * Sec. 4. This Act takes effect July 1, 1981.
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