

Introduced: 3/10/81  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MALONE AND BEIRNE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 306

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 longevity bonus program; 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 is a resident  
11 of the state and who has been a resident of the state for not less than  
12 one year immediately preceding his application, [WAS DOMICILED IN THE  
13 TERRITORY ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 3, 1959 AND WHO HAS MAINTAINED A CONTIN-  
14 UOUS DOMICILE IN THE TERRITORY OR STATE FOR 25 YEARS] may apply to the  
15 commissioner of administration for qualification to receive a monthly  
16 bonus of \$200.

17 \* Sec. 2. AS 47.45.010(c) is amended to read:

18 (c) A person who otherwise qualifies to receive a bonus provided  
19 for in this chapter may continue to do so only as long as he contin-  
20 uously resides [RETAINS A DOMICILE] in the state.

21 \* Sec. 3. AS 47.45.150(2) is repealed and reenacted to read:

22 (2) "resident" means a person who, except for brief inter-  
23 vals, medical treatment, military service, attendance at an educational  
24 or training institution, or for absences for good cause shown, has  
25 resided in Alaska and who has maintained his domicile in Alaska;  
26 domicile is the true and permanent home of a person from which he has  
27 no present intention of moving and to which he intends to return when-  
28 ever he is away;

29 \* Sec. 4. AS 47.45.170 is amended to read:

1           Sec. 47.45.170.   PURPOSE.   The sole purpose of this chapter is to  
2 offer and provide all law-abiding Alaskans capable of managing their  
3 own affairs who have resided [MAINTAINED A DOMICILE] in the state for  
4 at least one year [25 YEARS] and have reached a retirement age of 65,  
5 an incentive to continue uninterrupted residency in the state. Under  
6 no circumstances shall this chapter be considered a form, type, or  
7 manner, of public relief. Bonuses made under this chapter are not  
8 predicated on need even though they may appear to provide supplemental  
9 income to some qualified persons who would otherwise be forced to  
10 become responsibilities of the state. The legislature further finds  
11 and states that this legislation recognizes the economic hardships  
12 suffered by many elderly Alaskans, Alaskans who through their tenacity  
13 and perseverance molded Alaska as we know it through skillful applica-  
14 tion of their talents. These pioneers are the same Alaskans, who in  
15 the prime of their life were in effect treated as second-class citizens  
16 by the federal government and who paid much of their hard-earned income  
17 to a government in which they did not have the right to participate  
18 through the power of the ballot. The legislature also is aware of the  
19 fact that many of these pioneers have been forced to live out their  
20 retirement years in areas far away from the land they loved and nurtured  
21 and thereby also suffering, in many cases, the loss of familial rela-  
22 tionship with their own kin, an experience that is sad and frustrating  
23 to them as well as depriving new generations of Alaskans of the benefits  
24 of their wisdom and experience. This legislation hopefully will provide  
25 our pioneers with the economic means to remain in and continue to serve  
26 their state and to enjoy the opportunity of aiding the new Alaskan in  
27 making this state truly "The Great Land."

28 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect July 1, 1981.

29