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Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary  
and Finance

6-1964A

BY SEN. COGHILL

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE BILL NO. 395

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the hold harmless provisions of  
the permanent fund dividend program; and providing  
for an effective date."

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

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\* Section 1. PURPOSE. The legislature intends to fund the costs of the  
hold harmless provisions of AS 43.23.075 through sources other than the  
dividend fund. It is the purpose of the legislature to preclude the admin-  
istrative use of money in the dividend fund for costs of the hold harmless  
provisions.

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\* Sec. 2. AS 43.23.025(a) is amended to read:

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(a) By October 1 of each year, the commissioner shall give  
public notice of the value of each permanent fund dividend for that  
year. The public notice shall contain a statement disclosing the  
amount by which each individual dividend has been reduced in order to  
pay the costs of administering the dividend program [AND THE HOLD  
HARMLESS PROVISIONS OF AS 43.23.075]. The commissioner shall also  
include the statement on the stub attached to each individual dividend  
check. The commissioner shall determine the value of a permanent fund  
dividend by

(1) determining the total amount available for dividend  
payments, which equals

(A) the amount of income of the Alaska permanent fund  
transferred to the dividend fund under AS 43.23.045(b) during the  
current year;

1 (B) plus the unexpended and unobligated balances of  
2 prior fiscal year appropriations that lapse into the dividend  
3 fund under AS 43.23.045(d);

4 (C) less the amount necessary to pay dividends from  
5 the dividend fund in the current year under AS 43.23.055(3);

6 (D) less the amount necessary to pay dividends from  
7 the dividend fund due to eligible applicants who, as determined  
8 by the department, filed for a previous year's dividend by the  
9 filing deadline but who were not included in a previous year's  
10 dividend computation;

11 (E) less the amount necessary to pay the costs of  
12 administering the dividend program except for the hold harmless  
13 provisions of AS 43.23.075;

14 (2) determining the number of individuals eligible to  
15 receive a dividend payment for the current year; and

16 (3) dividing the amount determined under (1) of this sec-  
17 tion by the amount determined under (2) of this section.

18 \* Sec. 3. AS 43.23.075(b) is amended to read:

19 (b) An individual who is denied medical assistance under 42  
20 U.S.C. 1396 - 1396p (Social Security Act, Title XIX) solely because  
21 of the receipt of a permanent fund dividend by the individual or by a  
22 member of the individual's household is eligible for state-funded  
23 medical assistance under the general relief assistance program  
24 (AS 47.25.120 - 47.25.300). Subject to appropriations for the pur-  
25 pose, the [THE] individual is entitled to receive, for a period not to  
26 exceed four months, the same level of medical assistance as the indi-  
27 vidual would have received under 42 U.S.C. 1396 - 1396p (Social Secu-  
28 rity Act, Title XIX) had there been no permanent fund dividend pro-  
29 gram.

1 \* Sec. 4. AS 43.23.075(c) is amended to read:

2 (c) An individual who is denied assistance solely because perma-  
3 nent fund dividends received by the individual or by a member of the  
4 individual's household are counted as income or resources under fed-  
5 eral law or regulation is eligible for cash assistance under the  
6 general relief assistance program (AS 47.25.120 - 47.25.300). Subject  
7 to appropriations for the purpose, notwithstanding [NOTWITHSTANDING]  
8 the limit in AS 47.25.130, the individual is entitled to receive, for  
9 a period not to exceed four months, the same amount as the individual  
10 would have received under other public assistance programs had there  
11 been no permanent fund dividend program.

12 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).