

COMMITTEE REPORT

SENATE

**\*\*FINANCE\*\***

5/17/75

Mr. President:

Date 5/19/75

The Committee on Labor & Management has had HB 375  
relating to the Fishermen's Fund

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

- recommends it DO PASS
- recommends it DO NOT PASS
- recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)
- recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR \_\_\_\_\_ AND THAT  
CS FOR \_\_\_\_\_ DO PASS
- "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMITTEE
- reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION
- "other"

Members signing the Majority report:

Edward C. Wells \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

Edward C. Wells chairman

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## SENATE

5/19/75

Mr. President:

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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relating to the Fishermen's Fund

under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:  
\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:  
\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:  
\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:  
\_\_\_\_\_ recommends:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

1066  
Ken

Introduced: 4/3/75  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

BY ELIASON, ANDERSON, DUNCAN,  
FREEMAN, GARDINER, HAUGEN, MILLER,  
NAUGHTON, OSTERBACK, RHODE AND  
SPECKING

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 375

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the Fishermen's Fund; and providing  
7 for an effective date."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 23.35.070 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 23.35.070. BENEFITS. Subject to the limitations in sec. 140  
11 of this chapter, a [A] fisherman, upon becoming disabled, is entitled  
12 to receive benefits as follows: Immediately after he sustains an injury  
13 or disability arising out of an accident directly connected with his  
14 operations as a fisherman, either ashore in the state or in the terri-  
15 torial waters of the state, or suffers an occupational disease arising  
16 out of and directly connected with his operations as a fisherman,  
17 either ashore in the state or in the territorial waters of the state,  
18 the fisherman is entitled to emergency treatment, transportation to  
19 the nearest place where approved medical facilities are available,  
20 medical care and hospitalization.

21 \* Sec. 2. AS 23.35.080 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 23.35.080. EMERGENCY TREATMENT FOR CARDIO-VASCULAR DISEASES.  
23 Subject to the limitations in sec. 140 of this chapter, the [THE]  
24 department may pay the costs [, WITHIN THE MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS,] of  
25 emergency treatment, transportation, medical care and hospitalization,  
26 necessitated by a cardio-vascular disease, if the department determines  
27 that the disease is attributable, directly or indirectly, to the  
28 fishing endeavor.

29 \* Sec. 3. AS 23.35.090 is amended to read:

COMMITTEE COPY

1           Sec. 23.35.090. ASSISTANCE AFTER DISCHARGE. Subject to the  
2 limitations in sec. 140 of this chapter, a [A] fisherman is also  
3 entitled to such assistance after discharge from the hospital during  
4 period of convalescence as the department allows in consideration of  
5 the condition of the fund.

6 \* Sec. 4. AS 23.35.100 is amended to read:

7           Sec. 23.35.100. TRANSPORTATION, HOSPITAL, NURSING, MEDICAL AND  
8 SURGICAL EXPENSES. Subject to the limitations in sec. 140 of this  
9 chapter, the [THE] department may pay out of the fund all reasonable  
10 transportation charges incurred under secs. 70, 80 and 90 of this  
11 chapter, including cost of returning the fisherman to his boat, to his  
12 home or to another place which reasonably meets with his convenience  
13 and which is approved by the department, and the reasonable hospital,  
14 nursing, medical and surgical expense incurred in his examination,  
15 treatment and care.

16 \* Sec. 5. AS 23.35.140 is amended to read:

17           Sec. 23.35.140. LIMITATIONS ON BENEFITS. No [(A) EXCEPT FOR  
18 COMPELLING REASONS,

19           (1) NO] compensation may be paid for medical care or hos-  
20 pitalization furnished before the ascertainable time of injury, or  
21 before authorization in the case of disability caused by an occupational  
22 disease. The [;

23           (2) THE] total allowance for any one injury, [OR] disable-  
24 ment or cardio-vascular or occupational disease is \$5,000 [\$2,500].

25           [(B) THE TOTAL ALLOWANCE FOR ANY ONE HEART ATTACK IS \$2,500.]

26 \* Sec. 6. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-  
27 070(c).

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

1975 Legislature FIRST Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 375

By ANDERSON, DUNCAN, FLEEMAN, GARDNER, HAUGEN, MILLER, NAUGHTON, OSTERBACK, RHODE AND SPECKING

An Act relating to the Fishermen's Fund, and providing for an effective date.

Fishermen's fund

Introduced in the House 4/31, 1975

HISTORY IN THE HOUSE

19 75	Read first time and referred to Committee on
Apr 3	Health, Education & Social Services and Finance
Apr 22	Reported back with recommendation that
May 5	Read second time and
May 16	Read third time and
May 16	PASS Effective Date
	Yeas 37
	Nays
	Absent
	Excused
	Reconsideration
	PASS Effective Date
	Yeas
	Nays
	Absent
	Excused
	Reported correctly engrossed
	Signed by Speaker
	Sent to Senate
	<i>Gene Cohen</i> CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

HISTORY IN THE SENATE

19 75	Read first time and referred to Committee on
5/17	Health, Education & Social Services and Finance
5/19	Reported back with recommendation that
	Read second time and
	Read third time and
	PASS Effective Date
	Yeas
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	Absent
	Excused
	Reconsideration
	PASS Effective Date
	Yeas
	Nays
	Absent
	Excused
	Reported correctly engrossed
	Signed by President
	Returned to House
	SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

HISTORY IN THE HOUSE

19	Received from Senate
	Reported correctly enrolled
	Sent to Governor
	By Governor
	Filed with Lt. Governor
	Chapter No. ....

The Legislature of the State of Alaska  
 FISCAL NOTE  
 First Session - Ninth Legislature

I. REQUEST

Bill Identification: House Bill 375  
 Title: An Act relating to Fishermen's Fund and providing for an effective date.  
 Requested by: Legislative Finance Date: May 20, 1975  
 Return Date Requested: May 21, 1975  
 Agency: Labor Program: Fishermen's Fund

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Budget Request Unit(s) Affected: 0  
 A. EXPENDITURES: (Thousands of dollars)

OBJECT	FY 74	FY 75	FY 76	FY 77	FY 78	FY 79
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
Commercial Licenses - Revenue						
TOTAL	172.9	178.1	182.1	182	182	182

B. FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER - 60% of the Revenue from the sale of commercial fishing licenses.	208.9	220	210	210	210	210

C. POSITIONS:

PERMANENT/TEMPORARY	2 /	2 /	2 /	2 /	2 /	2 /
MAN MONTHS (P./T.)	/	/	/	/	/	/

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

Memorandum attached

IV. ATTACHMENTS

Memorandum

V. DATE: May 21, 1975

PREPARED BY:

*Greg H. Wilson*  
 Administrator  
 Fishermen's Fund

Original: Legislative Finance  
 cc: Budget and Management  
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) Richard I. Eliason

# MEMORANDUM

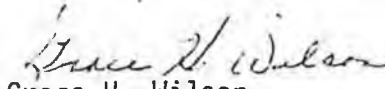
# State of Alaska

TO: Bill Ray, Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
Alaska State Legislature

DATE: May 21, 1975

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 586-6577

FROM:   
Grace H. Wilson  
Administrator  
Fishermen's Fund  
Department of Labor

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for  
House Bill 375

The Fishermen's Fund was established in 1951 to provide for the treatment and care of Alaska licensed commercial fishermen who are injured or become ill while engaged in commercial fishing activities on shore in Alaska or in the territorial waters of the State. The Fund is supported by 60 percent of the revenue collected from the sale of Alaska commercial fishing licenses. The cost of administering the Fund is paid for by the Fund. The following is a comparison of Fund balances, receipts, and disbursements for the past three fiscal years:

	<u>July 1</u> <u>Starting</u> <u>Balances</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>June 30</u> <u>Ending</u> <u>Balances</u>
1971-72	\$475,684	\$184,000	\$179,654	\$480,030
1972-73	480,030	242,000	180,800	541,321
1973-74	541,321	209,000	172,900	550,330

House Bill 375 provides for an extension of monetary limitations for Fishermen's Fund benefits. Present statutes read "Except for compelling reasons the total allowance of any one injury or disablement is \$2,500." Therefore, until now if medical bills totaled more than \$2,500 the agency, facility, or doctor had to wait until the Fishermen's Fund Advisory and Appeals Council could review the claim and approve or disapprove medical payments. Most, if not all, of the extension of benefits have been allowed, but the delay in waiting for the Council often creates hardships on all concerned. Normally the Council only meets twice a year, in the Spring and in the Fall. Total benefits to exceed the \$2,500 limit in Fiscal Year 1973 were six claims; Fiscal Year 1974, 11 claims; Fiscal Year 1975, three claims to date. The total benefits paid over the limit of \$2,500 per claim have been \$14,437.33. At the present time in Fiscal Year 1975 only four claims are approaching this \$2,500 limit out of a total of 488 claims filed.

House Bill 375 does not require any State appropriations, and as can be seen by the above comparison and trends, we do not anticipate any great expenditure increase from this bill to the Fund.

GHW/jaw

Introduced: 4/3/75  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

BY ELIASON, ANDERSON, DUNCAN,  
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