

**HB**

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**REPRESENTATIVE ERIC CROFT**

**Sponsor Statement HB 411  
PFD Privacy Act**

This legislation would allow a Permanent Fund Dividend applicant to check a box to keep the information disclosed on their form private, except in cases where disclosure of such information is required by the state or federal government.

Currently, the list of PFD applicants and their addresses are public information. Although this appears benign on the surface, to victims of violent crime disclosing their mailing address can be a terrifying and potentially life-threatening mistake.

There is no anticipated fiscal note for this bill.



Dear Legislators;

After five years, two domestic violence shelters, one protective order, counsel from seven attorneys, extensive internet research and a name and social change my son and I are free from a man who will kill us if he finds us. Today life is grand. We have a home, a great job, lots of friends and a wealth of information on domestic violence. My son enjoys playing hockey for the Boy's and Girl's Club and we are pretty normal, content tax paying folk. I earned over \$110,000 last year and paid almost 30% in taxes. No problem.

My question is this; will my son or I ever be able to collect our PFD with out endangering our lives? The PFD database is available to anyone. It's cheap and easy for anyone to access. This could mean death for us.

I do lead a very public life, under my new legal name, as a Loan Officer. This allows for me to provide for my son and not rely on social services. I stopped hiding and cowering a long time ago but that doesn't mean I need to make it easy for him to find us. I still use prudence and common sense.

Some say I should just be happy to be alive and moving on with my new life. I am. Does this mean I should be so happy that I don't at least try to collect a PFD to start my son's college fund? He will never see a dime in child support. If you say this is how it has to be then I will be ok with that. It just doesn't seem right. Wouldn't it be possible to pass some sort of legislation that can protect domestic violence survivor's names and address' from the public PFD database? I doubt I am the only woman in this situation.

Respectfully submitted,



PS: I have been busy trying to get my court approved name change documents off the State's name index. A very nice lady by the name of Christine Johnson, Deputy Alaska Court System Administrator, was very helpful and I am hopeful she will be successful in permanently removing my records from the site. I know I am not the only one who needs this extra precaution in place to help keep us safe as well.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: HB 411  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: Revenue  
 Title PF Dividend Application Records RDU Revenue Programs & Services  
Private Component Permanent Fund Dividend  
 Sponsor Representative Croft  
 Requester House State Affairs Component No. 981

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Personal Services	16.5					
Travel						
Contractual	15.0					
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Permanent Fund Dividend Fund	31.5					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2004) cost: 0.0  
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time					
Part-time	3				
Temporary					

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See Attached for analysis.

Prepared by: Sharon Bardon, Director Phone (907) 465-4785  
 Division Permanent Fund Dividend Division Date/Time 4/12/04 9:32 AM  
 Approved by: Steve Porter, Deputy Commissioner Date 4/12/2004  
 Agency Department of Revenue

## FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 411

### ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

HB 411 - Fiscal Note Analysis

HB 411 proposes a check off on the annual Permanent Fund Dividend application to require the applicant's name and address be kept confidential. The bill allows the confidential name and address information to be released to a state or federal agency; in compliance with a court order or as directed by the individual. It is currently the policy of the division to publish names and mailing addresses only. In some cases, the physical and mailing address will be the same.

Most state and federal agencies access our data via the division web page.

The division projects that most applicants, given the option, will request their information be kept confidential.

Fiscal Impacts on the division include:

- Implementation - \$15.0 Reprogramming of the Dividend Application Information System and the associated mainframe applications can be accomplished for the 2005 dividend cycle in the course of a re-write of those applications currently underway. However, implementation of the re-writes is dependant on other system upgrades to be funded in a pending CIP request (PFD Image System Upgrades). This additional work may be done by contract to meet the deadline.
- Subsequent changes to individual records -\$3.5 The cost impact of processing requests from applicants who will need or want to change their check-off mid-cycle is difficult to estimate.
- Garnishments - \$13.0 Currently the division provides a file of all applicants to governmental agencies that want to garnish dividends. These agencies match the PFD file with their records using our unique identifier (ALN) and submit garnishments only for those who match. The bill as written does not allow sharing of the information with local government agencies. If we cannot share the file, or if the file is not complete, local government agencies will submit their full lists to PFD and we will have to do the matching process. Approximately 60,000 garnishments will need to be keyed into the system and matched.

• Other considerations:

The PFD Applicant file has become the state's data base of name and address information. Use of the PFD file is woven into the workings of many programs and businesses around the state. For example, it is used by local government law enforcement and assessors, native corporations, process servers, research entities, university and high school students, and private investigators.

HB 411 - Recommended Changes/Considerations

• This bill would plug only one hole in the problem of protecting vulnerable Alaskans; name and address information is available from other public sources. Better protection would be provided if vulnerable individuals used a post office box instead of a physical address.

• If the bill moves forward, the following changes would reduce the cost of the bill:

1) Include "local" in Section 1, line 12 - Including local government entities among those who could access the confidential data would reduce the fiscal note by \$13.0 (the cost of keying and matching garnishments)