

SB

117

(FILE 1)

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral

DATE: 3/6/03

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3/18/03
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
 IN TO OFFICE: 4/4/03

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 117

SB 117 ELIMINATING LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM

"An Act eliminating the longevity bonus program and making related conforming changes; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
 same title
 new title
- House Bill:**
 same title
 technical title
 new: SCR # _____

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

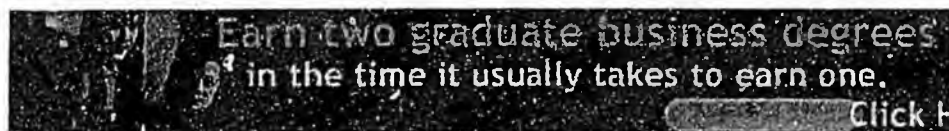
Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#
809	3/5/03	✓		1

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	Do PASS	Do NOT PASS	No REC	AMEND
<i>[Signature]</i>			✓	
<i>[Signature]</i>		✓		
<i>[Signature]</i>				
<i>[Signature]</i>				
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>			✓	



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COMPASS: Points of view from the community

Longevity bonus creates class clash

By GOV. FRANK MURKOWSKI

(Published: March 24, 2003)

The Longevity Bonus Program was established in 1972 as a way to say thank you to pioneer Alaskans who brought us into statehood. "Pioneer" was defined as someone older than 65 who had lived in Alaska for 25 years -- in other words, a person who had been in Alaska before statehood. Initially, the pioneers were paid \$100 a month.

This program cost the state \$2.5 million in its first year and served approximately 4,300 Alaskans. In 1981, that \$100 a month was increased to \$250. In 1984, the Alaska Supreme Court opened the program to all seniors in Alaska who were 65 or older at the time and could establish a one-year residency. By 1993, the cost to the state was up to \$67 million a year and had 22,741 recipients. In 1996, the Legislature closed the program to new entrants. At that time, the Legislature considered means-testing the program, but that approach was firmly rejected by seniors. The next year, the cost totaled \$73 million.

Today, 18,000 Alaskans are on this program at a general fund cost of \$47 million. Very few of the original pioneers whom the Legislature sought to benefit in 1972 are among this group. The inequity is apparent. If you were 65 before 1994, you receive \$250 a month, but if you were 65 after 1994, you receive less. And if you turned 65 after Dec. 31, 1996, you get nothing from the program. Thus we are treating similarly situated seniors differently.

We now have more than 20,000 seniors older than 65 who receive absolutely nothing from the state. Many of those post-1996 seniors are as needy as those who receive the longevity bonus, yet no provision is made for them. It is not fair to have two classes of senior citizens.

Elimination of this program would allow state funds to be redirected to primary services of education, public safety and safe transportation systems -- services that benefit all seniors as well as other Alaskans.

In the tradition of Alaska's pioneers, I am confident that pre-1996 seniors who are receiving the longevity bonus would want to lead the effort to right Alaska's fiscal problems. They would be among the first to agree to share the load in down times. They would not want to pass fiscal problems on to their children and grandchildren. They would want to be fair to other seniors.



(Seanna O'Sullivan/AP)

Click on photo to enlarge

Please understand that we will spend \$137.8 million in general funds in the fiscal year 2004 budget in support of our seniors. These expenditures are for programs that provide services to all seniors and give them the security that there will be the social safety nets to meet their needs.

I will work with the Legislature, the congressional delegation, the Department of Health and Social Services and the pharmaceutical industry to find a solution to the rising cost of pharmaceuticals in Alaska. I know that many longevity bonus recipients count on the bonus to help pay for necessary medication. I have been assured that Congress will pass legislation to cover pharmaceutical costs. However, any solution we reach on this issue must benefit all seniors.

In conclusion, the budget we have presented is responsible and fair. It achieves our goals of narrowing the budget gap while keeping our promise not to impose an income tax or raid the Permanent Fund. I look forward to working with the Legislature to have it enacted.

Frank Murkowski was elected governor in 2002 after representing Alaska for 22 years in the U.S. Senate.

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Longevity Bonus (HB 162/SB 117)

Today 18,000 Alaska senior citizens receive a monthly check ranging between \$250 and \$100 from the State of Alaska under the state's Longevity Bonus Program, at an annual cost to the state of \$47 million. There are more than 20,000 Alaska seniors who do not receive any money under the program. Among both groups — those who receive the monthly bonus and those who do not — are well off seniors as well as those in need. Financial need was not taken into account in determining eligibility for this program that was in effect from 1972 through 1996.

As a result, today the state is treating similarly situated senior citizens differently. Is it fair to have two categories of 65 year olds among our senior citizens? This is not fair, not justifiable and very expensive.

The Longevity Bonus Program was established in 1972 as a way to say "thank you" to pioneer Alaskans who brought us into statehood. A "pioneer" was defined at the time as someone who was over 65, lived in Alaska prior to statehood, and had continuously lived in Alaska for 25. Initially, the pioneers were paid \$100 per month. This program cost the state \$2.5 million dollars in its first year and served approximately 4,300 Alaskans. In 1981, that \$100 per month was increased to \$250.

In 1984, the Alaska Supreme Court opened the program to all seniors in Alaska who were 65 or older at the time and could establish a one-year residency. By 1993, the cost to the state was up to \$67 million dollars a year, and had 22,741 recipients. In 1996, the Legislature closed the program to new entrants. At that time, the Legislature considered means-testing the program, but this approach was firmly rejected by seniors. The next year, the program's cost totaled \$73 million.

Today, very few of the original pioneers who the Legislature sought to benefit in 1972 are among the group of 18,000 receiving a monthly bonus check. The inequity is apparent. If you were 65 before 1994, you receive \$250 a month, but if you were 65 after 1994, you receive less. And if you turned 65 after December 31, 1996, you get nothing from the program.

Many of the post-1996 seniors are as needy as those who receive the longevity bonus, yet no provision is made for them as part of the Longevity Bonus Program. It is not fair to have two classes of senior citizens.

Elimination of this program will allow state funds to be redirected to primary services of education, public safety and safe transportation systems – services that benefit all seniors as well as other Alaskans.

Governor Murkowski believes that in the tradition of Alaska's pioneers, pre-1996 seniors now receiving the longevity bonus are most likely to be the first to agree that all Alaskans must share the budget adjustments now being required in state spending. Life-long Alaskans would not want to pass fiscal problems on to their children and grandchildren, he said. Nor would they want to be unfair to other seniors.

The Governor's budget request for FY04 contemplates spending \$138 million in general funds to support Alaska seniors. This represents six percent of the total operating budget. These expenditures are for programs that provide services to all seniors, and provide the security of a social safety net to care for those most in need.

Governor Murkowski has committed the Department of Health and Social Services to work with the Legislature, the Congressional delegation and the pharmaceutical industry to find a solution to the rising cost of pharmaceuticals in Alaska. He has heard from many seniors who say they count on the monthly bonus payment to help pay for necessary medications. The Governor anticipates that Congress soon will pass legislation to help cover pharmaceutical costs, and he is pursuing other options as well.

Attached is a list of the services the state currently provides to senior citizens and represents the safety net for those most in need.

In conclusion, the budget that the Murkowski Administration has presented is responsible and fair. It achieves the governor's goals of narrowing the budget gap, while keeping the promise not to impose an income tax or raid the Permanent Fund.

White Paper on the Alaska Longevity Bonus Program
March 14, 2003

History and Legislative Action

The Alaska Longevity Bonus Program was created in 1972. The intent of the program was to provide incentive for older Alaskans to continue uninterrupted residency in Alaska, acknowledge the economic hardships of living out retirement years in the state, and acknowledge the contributions these people made while Alaska was a territory.

The original statutory eligibility requirements were:

Sec. 47.45.010. PERSONS WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR LONGEVITY BONUS. (a) A person who is 65 years of age or over, who was domiciled in the territory on or before January 3, 1959 and who has maintained a continuous residence domicile in the territory or state for 25 years may apply to the commissioner of administration for qualification to receive a monthly bonus of \$100.

By legislative action, the bonus amount was raised to \$125 in 1977, \$150 in 1979, \$200 in 1981 and \$250 in 1982.

The age and 25 year residency eligibility continued until a 1984 Superior Court opinion in the case of Schafer v. Vest (680 P.2d 1169 Alaska 1984) found the residency provision to be unconstitutional. As a result, the Legislature amended the statutes governing the program so that any person who was age 65 or older and an Alaskan resident for one year was eligible for the program.

In 1990, a hold-harmless ruling allowed bonus recipients to receive monthly checks without affecting public assistance eligibility. Also that year, legislation was enacted doubling the residency requirement to two years.

In June of 1991 the Superior Court ruled against the two-year residency requirement and eligibility reverts to one-year residency. The bonus amount continued to be \$250 per person, per month.

At the end of 1992 there were 21,645 recipients in the bonus program at a cost to the state of \$63 million.

In 1993 legislation was passed "phasing out" the longevity bonus program over the next three years. New applicants in 1994 received \$200 per month; 1995

White Paper on the Alaska Longevity Bonus Program
March 14, 2003

applicants received \$150/mo; and 1996 applicants received \$100/mo. No new applicants were accepted into the program after December 31, 1996.

In July, 2002, legislation was enacted to allow recipients to be absent from the state for 60 days without loss of a bonus payment. Prior to this, the allowed absence without loss of a bonus payment was 30 days.

Monthly Operations

The longevity bonus check document is a three-part sheet. The top section is the check itself. The second section is an information area and lists Alaska Longevity Program numbers to call for answers concerning the check. Each February, the second section becomes the recipient's Federal 1099 form for income tax purposes. The lower portion of the page is an eligibility "validation stub" that must be completed, signed and mailed or faxed to the longevity bonus program office for the recipient to be eligible for the next month's check. Eligibility validation stubs are received and processed in the office throughout the month. At month end, a computer system compiles all the validation information and generates an interface with the state accounting system to print the checks.

Longevity bonus checks are issued on a two month "lag" period; that is, a check is issued based on a person's eligibility two months earlier. For example, the check a recipient receives in December is actually payment for October.

Alaska Longevity Bonus Statistical Summary

Most Recent Month January 2003		
Sex of Active Participants:	Male	45%
	Female	55%
Active Participants Receiving Warrant:		17,340
Total Warrants Issued:		17,531
Total Cost of Warrants Issued:		\$3,846,600

Includes past warrants due to some participants.

Budget		
	FY 2001	FY 2002
Authorized	\$54,858,600	\$51,158,600
Cost	54,829,900	50,958,000
Difference	\$28,700	\$200,600

History			
Fiscal Year	Total Cost	Bonus Amount	# Recipients (FY end)
1973	\$2,532,300	\$100	4,753
1974	6,009,700	100	5,250
1975	6,255,300	100	5,463
1976	6,533,400	100	5,553
1977	8,666,900	125	6,228
1978	9,444,200	125	6,671
1979	12,195,500	150	7,207
1980	13,226,500	150	7,897
1981	19,420,600	200	8,527
1982	26,198,750	250	9,101
1983	27,504,500	250	9,731
1984	29,155,750	250	10,769
1985	43,096,750	250	15,135
1986	44,024,250	250	15,763
1987	46,943,250	250	16,834
1988	49,994,000	250	17,675
1989	53,348,500	250	18,439
1990	57,172,700	250	19,490
1991	60,069,500	250	20,298
1992	63,073,750	250	21,645
1993	66,607,500	250	22,741
1994	70,414,100	See (5)	23,850
1995	72,709,500	See (5)	24,959
1996	73,270,100	See (5)	26,083
1997	71,950,800	See (5)	26,427
1998	68,031,900	See (5)	24,610
1999	63,528,600	See (5)	23,039
2000	59,125,450	See (5)	21,467
2001	54,829,900	See (5)	20,238
2002	50,957,990	See (5)	18,741

See (1)

See (2)

See (3)

See (4)

Projections		
Fiscal Year	Total Cost	Average # Monthly Recipients
2003	47,981,000	17,954
2004	44,777,917	17,252
2005	41,543,333	16,081
2006	38,344,167	14,917
2007	35,203,333	13,766
2008	32,130,417	12,631
2009	29,080,833	11,468
2010	26,115,000	10,324
2011	23,361,667	9,304
2012	20,743,333	8,322
2013	18,250,000	7,376
2014	15,914,583	6,484
2015	13,740,417	5,654
2016	11,734,167	4,883
2017	9,901,250	4,165
2018	8,251,250	3,510
2019	6,768,750	2,917
2020	5,457,083	2,390
2021	4,326,667	1,931
2022	3,342,917	1,524
2023	2,510,833	1,168
2024	1,832,917	876
2025	1,282,083	638
2026	848,750	447
2027	525,833	298
2028	288,333	176
2029	116,250	81
2030	36,250	28
2031	5,833	5

See (6)

See (7)

Note (1) 25 year residency requirement

Note (2) 1 year residency requirement, 5/1

Note (3) 2 year residency requirement, 1/1

Note (4) 1 year residency requirement, 6/11

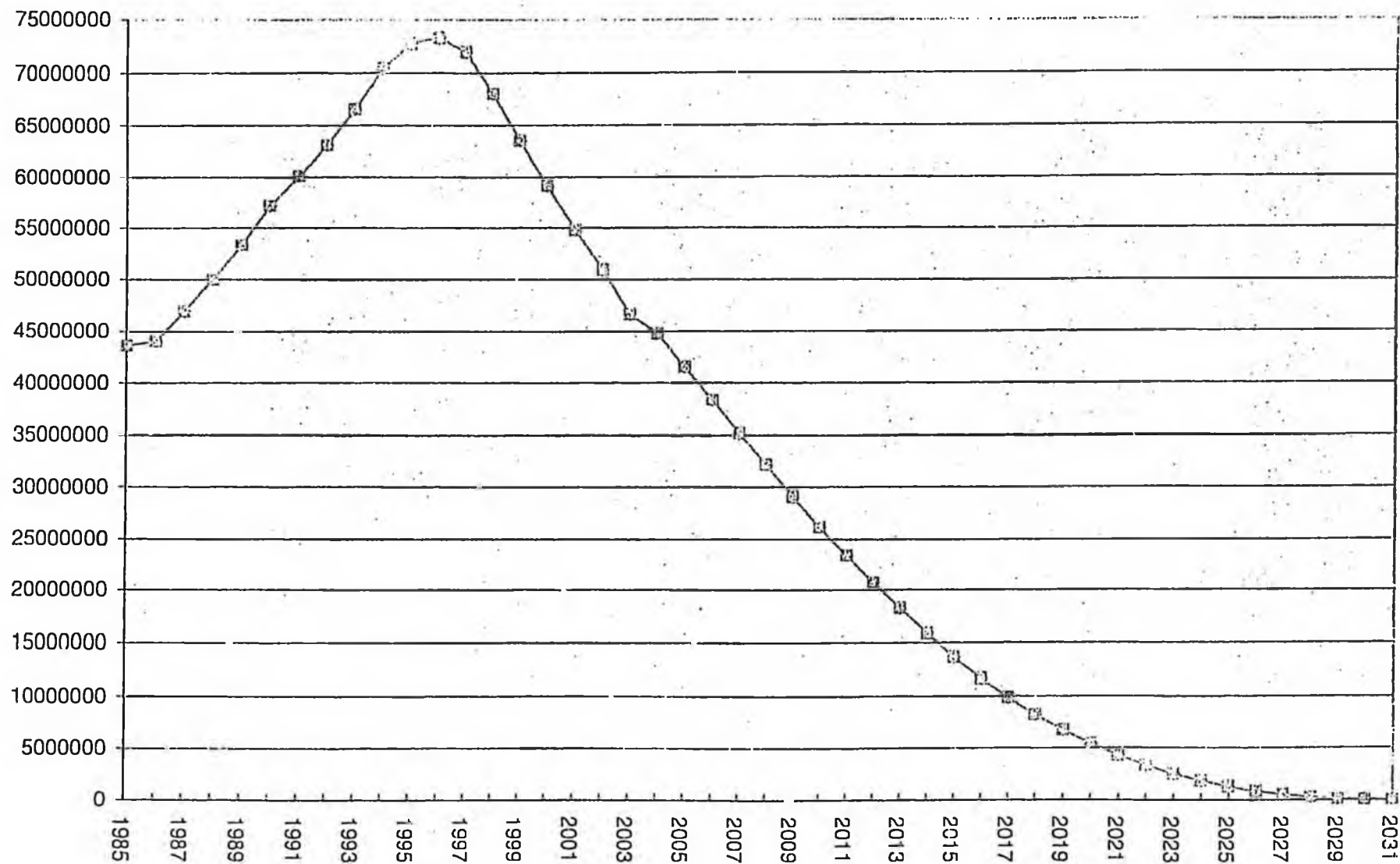
Note (5) The Longevity Bonus Program is being phased out. New applicants in: 1994 received \$200 per month; 1995 received \$150 per month and 1996 received \$100 per month. No recipients were added to the program after December 31, 1996. All people on the program prior to 1997 continue to receive their monthly bonus as long as they maintain their eligibility.

Note (6) Based on actual expenditures through February 28, 2003.

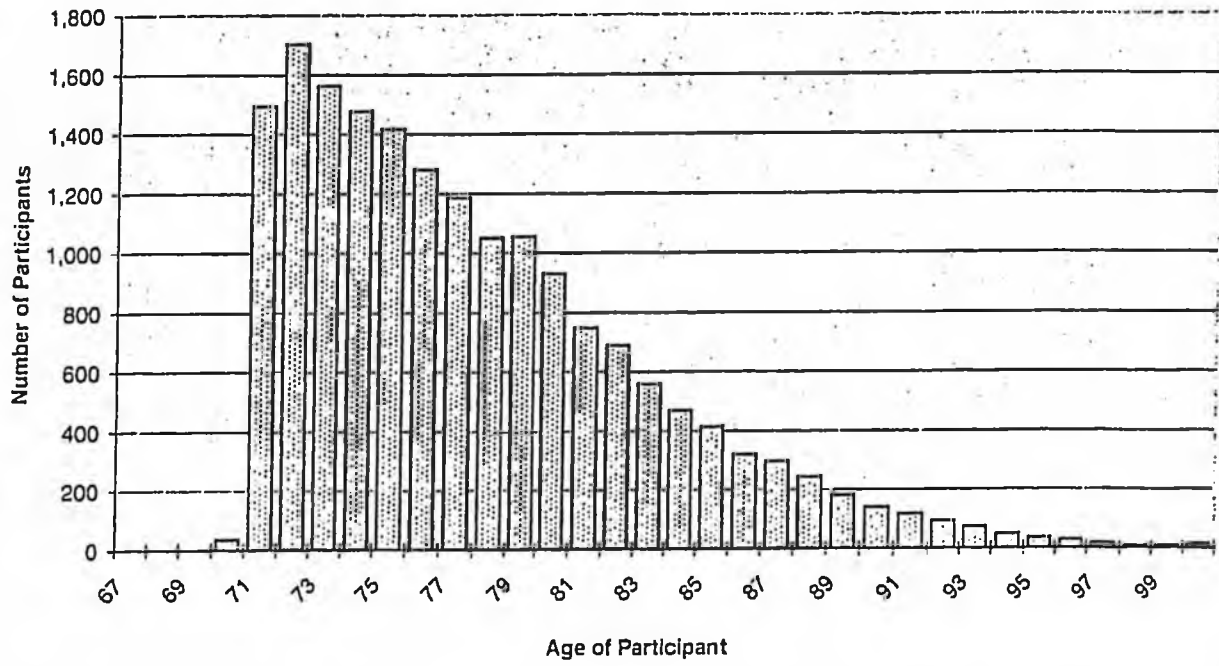
Note (7) Low projections as of October 9, 2002 forecast run.

Note (8) Based on the average low payment estimate per the McDowell Group forecast model.

Longevity Bonus Program Phase-out (amounts from FY1985 - FY2002 are actual expenditures; amounts from FY 2003 are the forecasted low estimates)



Age Distribution of Participants



**Longevity Bonus Program
Age of Participants
As of December 2001**

Age	Number of Participants	Percent	% This Age or Older	% Younger	% Older
67	1	0.01%	100.00%		99.99%
68	1	0.01%	99.99%	0.01%	99.99%
69	0	0.00%	99.99%	0.01%	99.99%
70	35	0.20%	99.99%	0.01%	99.79%
71	1,494	8.45%	99.79%	0.21%	91.34%
72	1,702	9.62%	91.34%	8.66%	81.72%
73	1,560	8.82%	81.72%	18.28%	72.90%
74	1,476	8.34%	72.90%	27.10%	64.56%
75	1,415	8.00%	64.56%	35.44%	56.56%
76	1,279	7.23%	56.56%	43.44%	49.33%
77	1,186	6.70%	49.33%	50.67%	42.63%
78	1,050	5.94%	42.63%	57.37%	36.69%
79	1,055	5.96%	36.69%	63.31%	30.73%
80	928	5.25%	30.73%	69.27%	25.48%
81	748	4.23%	25.48%	74.52%	21.25%
82	688	3.89%	21.25%	78.75%	17.36%
83	558	3.15%	17.36%	82.64%	14.21%
84	469	2.65%	14.21%	85.79%	11.56%
85	414	2.34%	11.56%	88.44%	9.21%
86	320	1.81%	9.21%	90.79%	7.41%
87	297	1.68%	7.41%	92.59%	5.73%
88	244	1.38%	5.73%	94.27%	4.35%
89	180	1.02%	4.35%	95.65%	3.33%
90	141	0.80%	3.33%	96.67%	2.53%
91	118	0.67%	2.53%	97.47%	1.87%
92	94	0.53%	1.87%	98.13%	1.33%
93	73	0.41%	1.33%	98.67%	0.92%
94	49	0.28%	0.92%	99.08%	0.64%
95	35	0.20%	0.64%	99.36%	0.45%
96	30	0.17%	0.45%	99.55%	0.28%
97	17	0.10%	0.28%	99.72%	0.18%
98	8	0.05%	0.18%	99.82%	0.14%
99	9	0.05%	0.14%	99.86%	0.08%
100	15	0.08%	0.08%	99.92%	0.00%
Total	17,689	100.00%			

Average Age of Participant: 77.5

Median Age of Participant: 76

Original legislation



LAWS OF ALASKA

1972

Source

Chapter No.

FCCS HCS CSSB 211

205

AN ACT

Providing for an Alaska longevity bonus; and providing for an effective date.

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

* Section 1. AS 47 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 45. ALASKA LONGEVITY BONUS.

Sec. 47.45.010. PERSONS WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR LONGEVITY BONUS. (a) A person who is 65 years of age or over, who was domiciled in the territory on or before January 3, 1959 and who has maintained a continuous domicile in the territory or state for 25 years may apply to the commissioner of administration for qualification to receive a monthly bonus of \$100.

(b) When the commissioner of administration determines that an applicant qualifies under this chapter he shall immediately begin payment of the bonus.

(c) A person who otherwise qualifies to receive a bonus provided for in this chapter may continue to do so only as long as he continuously retains a domicile in the state.

Sec. 47.45.020. CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES. After qualification, monthly applications for bonuses may be made in person to any office of the Department of Administration. Mailed monthly applications shall also be considered by the Department of Administration. In-person or mailed applications shall be made on forms provided by the Department of Administration and shall conform to the conditions as provided by regulation. The commissioner may make exceptions to those residents who are

isolated in rural areas and cannot mail a monthly application; however, they shall mail an application at least once every six months.

Sec. 47.45.030. ABSENCE FROM THE STATE. A recipient shall notify the commissioner of administration when he expects to be absent from the state if the absence is for a continuous period that exceeds 30 days. After such notification, the recipient shall no longer receive bonuses from the Department of Administration after his last regularly approved monthly application. Upon his return to the state he may again make application for a bonus. Whenever the absence is for a continuous period that exceeds 180 days the recipient shall be disqualified from receiving bonuses for the next 12 calendar months after his return to the state. However, when the commissioner of administration determines a period of absence is beyond the control of the recipient, he may not be disqualified, if he still otherwise qualifies upon his return to the state. Continual absences from the state, even though reported, and failure to notify the commissioner of an expected absence may be grounds for disqualification.

Sec. 47.45.040. DISQUALIFICATION. Disqualification under this chapter shall rest solely with the commissioner of administration and shall be outlined in the regulations promulgated under sec. 100(1) of this chapter.

Sec. 47.45.050. DEPARTMENT HEARING. The Department of Administration may hold a departmental hearing upon the request of any applicant or recipient who has been disqualified. Previous to this hearing the department shall by certified mail notify an applicant or recipient in plain and comprehensive language the exact reason for his disqualification. Form letters using only referral to state statutes or department regulations, or otherwise vague in detail, shall not be considered compliance by the department with this section.

Sec. 47.45.060. LEGAL REMEDY. Legal remedy from disqualification may be sought by an applicant or recipient in any court of competent jurisdiction in the state. The burden of proof shall rest solely upon the applicant or recipient and any costs related to a disqualification verdict determined against the applicant or recipient may be recoverable by the attorney general from that person, or from any agency representing that person supported in whole, or in part, with state appropriations.

Sec. 47.45.070. UNQUALIFIED PERSONS. An unqualified person is one who

(1) does not meet the age or residence requirements as provided for under this chapter;

(2) meets the age and residence requirements of this chapter but is confined in a state or federal mental health institution or facility and is certified by the state as unable to manage his own affairs; however, if such a person was at the time of his commitment the principal support of a spouse, the commissioner of

administration may determine to pay the confined person's bonus to his spouse until the spouse is qualified for a bonus;

(3) is otherwise qualified but confined in a penal or correctional institution or facility; upon completion of sentence or upon the conferral of a pardon, parole or probation, the person may make application; confinement outside the state shall be considered as residence in the state if a person was convicted and sentenced from a court in Alaska; revocation of parole or probation shall be cause for immediate disqualification until release from confinement is again effected;

(4) leaves the state of his own volition and remains absent from the state for a continuous period of more than 180 days.

Sec. 47.45.080. ACCRUAL OF BONUSES. No recipient may, for any reason, receive an accrual of bonuses in excess of two monthly payments. No interest may be paid on accrued bonuses. Upon the death of a recipient the commissioner of administration shall pay to the beneficiary of the recipient any accrued bonuses not to exceed two monthly payments.

Sec. 47.45.090. ALASKA LONGEVITY BONUS FUND. (a) There is the Alaska longevity bonus fund created for the purpose of paying the monthly bonuses provided for in this chapter. The fund consists of all money made available by appropriations of the state legislature, and from other appropriated funds, all contributions from whatever source, and income and interest derived from the investment of money.

(b) The commissioner of administration is the administrator of the fund.

Sec. 47.45.100. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR. The commissioner of administration shall

(1) promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter;

(2) make expenditures from the fund necessary to administer this chapter;

(3) establish and maintain an adequate system of accounts for the fund;

(4) publish annually a report showing the financial condition of the fund.

Sec. 47.45.110. CUSTODY OF FUNDS. The commissioner of revenue is the treasurer of the system and has powers and duties for this purpose including but not limited to the following:

(1) to act as official custodian of the cash and securities belonging to the fund;

(2) to receive all items of cash belonging to the fund.

Sec. 47.45.120. EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION AND PROCESS. Bonuses received under this chapter are exempt from all state and political subdivision taxes except sales and use taxes and are not subject to execution, attachment, garnishment or other process. No bonus received under this chapter may be exempt from a federal tax requirement.

Sec. 47.45.130. DEATH OR CESSATION OF RESIDENCY. The commissioner of administration shall establish procedures to stop a bonus when a recipient under this chapter no longer qualifies. When a recipient dies or discontinues his residency in the state his qualification for a bonus shall stop at the time of his last approved monthly application.

Sec. 47.45.140. PENALTY FOR FALSE STATEMENTS. A person who wilfully or knowingly makes a false statement, or falsifies or permits to be falsified any record required by this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both, forfeits all rights under this chapter, and shall make adequate restitution for any bonuses illegally received.

Sec. 47.45.150. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter

(1) "bonus" means a monthly Alaska longevity bonus payment made to a person or his beneficiary who qualifies under this chapter;

(2) "domicile" means the place with which a person has a settled connection for determination of his civil status or other legal purposes because it is actually or legally his permanent and principal home.

Sec. 47.45.160. APPLICABILITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT. The Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62) does not apply to this chapter.

Sec. 47.45.170. PURPOSE. The sole purpose of this chapter is to offer and provide all law-abiding Alaskans capable of managing their own affairs who have maintained a domicile in the state for at least 25 years and have reached a retirement age of 65, an incentive to continue uninterrupted residency in the state. Under no circumstances shall this chapter be considered a form, type, or manner of public relief. Bonuses made under this chapter are not predicated on need even though they may appear to provide supplemental income to some qualified persons who would otherwise be forced to become responsibilities of the state. The legislature further finds and states that this legislation recognizes the economic hardships suffered by many elderly Alaskans, Alaskans who through their tenacity and perseverance molded Alaska as we know it through skillful application of their talents. These pioneers are the same Alaskans, who in the prime of their life were in effect treated as second-class citizens by the federal government who paid much of their hard-earned income to a government in which they did not have the right to participate through the power of the ballot. The legislature also is aware of the fact that many of

these pioneers have been forced to live out their retirement years in areas far away from the land they loved and nurtured and thereby also suffering in many cases, the loss of familial relationship with their own kin, an experience that is sad and frustrating to them as well as depriving new generations of Alaskans the benefit of their wisdom and experience. This legislation hopefully will provide our pioneers with the economic means to remain in and continue to serve their state and to enjoy the opportunity of aiding the new Alaskan in making this state truly "The Great Land".

* Sec. 2. AS 01.10.030 does not apply to this Act. If any provision of this Act, or the application of a provision of this Act to any person or circumstance is held invalid, this entire Act shall be considered invalid.

* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 1973.

Safety Net Programs Supporting Senior Citizens

- **Adult Public Assistance** – 4,880 seniors for \$20 million annually through Old Age Assistance
 - a. Eligibility
 - i. Age 65; US citizen or legal alien; Alaska resident
 - ii. Less than \$2,000 (\$3,000/couple) in assets excludes house, car & burial fund
 - iii. Monthly income below \$1,025 for an individual or \$1,519 a couple, with both eligible.
 - b. Benefit
 - i. \$914 (\$1,357/couple) maximum per month
 - ii. Medicaid coverage
- **Assisted Living General relief** – Assisted living payments to 263 individuals served for \$2,463,000 annually
 - ❖ Eligibility Age 60, no income criteria, target Seniors in need
- **Food stamps** – approximately 1,092 seniors reside in households that receive \$2.8 million annually
 - ❖ Eligibility Income below \$1,201/month for single or \$1618/month for couple
- **Home and community based programs** (not waiver programs, but General Fund programs). \$1.5 million in grants for seniors served in these programs - approximately 70% have dementia, 74% live in rural areas
 - ❖ Eligibility Age 60, no income criteria, target Seniors in need
- **Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver Services** – 1250 seniors eligible for nursing home care chose to receive care at home instead for \$19.7 million
 - ❖ Eligibility same as Adult Public Assistance
 - ❖ Also available to the Special Income group for nursing home (300%) which uses the income standard of \$1656/month for one person.
- **Alaska Pioneers' Homes** – Licensed assisted living facilities in Fairbanks, Palmer, Anchorage, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan – 602 beds for \$34 million
 - ❖ Age 65, one year resident, rates are subsidized for low income

- **Assisted living licensing** -1,403 assisted living beds in approx. 131 homes
 - ❖ Eligibility Age 60, no income criteria, target Seniors in need
- **Nursing homes** -850-900 people, largely senior citizens, approx. \$58 million in FY02 Medicaid costs
 - ❖ Available for all eligibility groups, including the 300% Special Income group for individuals in need of nursing home or HCB waiver services, which uses an income standard of \$1656/month for one person.
- **Adult protective services** - 1,724 intakes
 - ❖ Adults and mentally incapacitated, no income criteria, and targets seniors in need.
- **Guardianships and conservatorships** serving 850 adults for \$1.4 million
 - ❖ Open to those in need. There is an income based sliding scale fee.
- **Personal Care Attendant Program** -- Serving 1,831(?) people with functional impairments for \$13.7 million
 - ❖ Eligibility same as Adult Public Assistance plus some who are eligible for HCB waiver services.
- **Assistance with Medicare costs for low income seniors**
 - ❖ Premium, co-pay, and deductible coverage eligibility set at 100% of poverty (\$935/month for single; \$1262/month for couple)
 - ❖ Part-B Premium only coverage eligibility set at 130% of poverty (\$1262/month for single; \$1704/month for couple)
- **Total Medicaid Program Assistance** - prescriptions, Medical care, hospitalization, etc. 6,300 elderly persons at a cost of \$95 million.
- **Nutrition transportation and support services** - 100+ communities
 - ❖ Eligibility Age 60, no income criteria
- **Senior Community Service Training & Employment program**
 - ❖ Eligibility Age 60, no income criteria
- **Help lines** - information on Medicare, Medicaid and other programs for seniors 1800+ calls annually.
- **Long Term Care Ombudsman's Office** -investigated 427 complaints for \$370,163

- **Senior Citizens Property Tax exemptions**
 - ❖ Over age 65, up to \$150,000 value of property

- **Senior Citizens sales tax exemptions**
 - ❖ Varies with community

- **Hunting and fishing license exemption**
 - ❖ Age 65

- **Assistance for Prescription Drugs**
 - a) Medicaid covers prescription drugs for seniors who are Medicaid eligible.
 - b) Medicare enrollees may qualify for The Together Rx program (eight companies) who offer 15-40% discounts on more than 150 covered drugs to seniors with incomes below \$28,000 for single, \$38,000 for couples.
 - c) Many pharmaceutical companies have their own low income patient assistance programs, each with their own financial eligibility requirements. Some are specific to seniors and some are limited to specific drugs. Medicare and AARP websites have links to these programs. Examples of two programs geared toward seniors are shown in d) and e)
 - d) GlaxoSmithKline "Orange Card" program provides discounts off retail for seniors with income below 300% of the poverty level and who have no other prescription drug coverage.
 - e) Pfizer, Inc. Share Card Program provides discounts for seniors who are enrolled in Medicare, have no other prescription drug coverage, and have gross income less than \$18,000 per year (\$24,000 for couples).

- **Housing Assistance**
 - a. AHFC Senior housing for incomes up to \$25,000 limits rents to 30% of income in those facilities.
 - b. Home Equity Conversions allows Seniors, age 62, to draw equal monthly payments as long as one borrower lives and continues to occupy property as principal residence.

Adult Public Assistance Numbers:

Anchorage (907) 269-6000

Juneau (907) 465-3537

AGE 65+ VOTERS COMPARED TO LONGEVITY BONUS RECIPIENTS

DISTRICT	AGE 65+ VOTERS	LONGEVITY BONDS RECIPIENTS	DIFFERENCES
			AGE 65+ NO-BONUS
NOT-AVAIL	5934	3880	2054
1	1170	455	715
2	1427	566	861
3	1281	529	752
4	764	262	502
5	1313	453	860
6	1211	384	827
7	898	318	580
8	723	206	517
9	1242	503	739
10	714	263	451
11	708	195	513
12	697	211	486
13	1085	389	696
14	956	348	608
15	1168	372	796
16	943	306	637
17	589	173	416
18	253	89	164
19	1076	432	644
20	684	240	444
21	933	294	639
22	883	334	549
23	1635	677	958
24	1088	401	687
25	1180	522	658
26	1276	581	695
27	727	259	468
28	801	244	557
29	737	222	515
30	549	146	403
31	779	266	513
32	847	273	574
33	1294	445	849
34	1440	433	1007
37	543	199	344
38	727	274	453
39	792	316	476
40	757	314	443

TOTALS

44037

17543

26494

District 35 Communities

Community	District	Senate	District Description		# recipients per zip code
Anchor Point	35	R	Homer/Seward	99556	63
Bear Creek	35	R	Homer/Seward	99664	139
Bradley Lake	35	R	Homer/Seward	no people	
China Poot Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Chinitna Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	99566	7
Chisik Island	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Cooper Landing	35	R	Homer/Seward	99572	43
Crown Point	35	R	Homer/Seward		
English Bay (Nanwalek)	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	324
Fox River	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Fritz Creek	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Halibut Cove	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Homer	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Ismailof Island	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Jakolof Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Kachemak	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Kachemak Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Kalgin Island	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Kenai Lake	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Lakeview	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Little Tutka Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Lowell Point	35	R	Homer/Seward	99664	
MacDonald Spit	35	R	Homer/Seward	99663	18
Moose Pass	35	R	Homer/Seward	99631	6
Nanwalek (English Bay)	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Nuka Island	35	R	Homer/Seward	no people	
Port Chatham	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Port Graham	35	R	Homer/Seward	99603	
Red Mountain	35	R	Homer/Seward	99663	
Sadie Cove	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Seldovia	35	R	Homer/Seward	99663	
Seward	35	R	Homer/Seward	99664	
Tutka Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
Tuxedni Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Windy Bay	35	R	Homer/Seward		
Yukon Island	35	R	Homer/Seward	#	
					600

District 36 Communities

Community	District	Senate	District Description		# recipients per zip code
Afognak	36	R	Kodiak		
Akhiok	36	R	Kodiak	99615	253
Cape Chiniak	36	R	Kodiak		
Igiugig	36	R	Kodiak		
Iliamna	36	R	Kodiak	99606	11
Karluk	36	R	Kodiak	99608	0
Kodiak	36	R	Kodiak	99615	253
Kodiak Island Borough	36	R	Kodiak	99615	
Kokhanok	36	R	Kodiak		
Kokhanok Bay	36	R	Kodiak		
Larsen Bay	36	R	Kodiak	99624	6
Levelock	36	R	Kodiak	99625	6
Nelson Island	36	R	Kodiak		
Newhalen	36	R	Kodiak		
Nondalton	36	R	Kodiak	99640	8
Old Harbor	36	R	Kodiak	99643	5
Ouzinkie	36	R	Kodiak	99644	12
Pedro Bay	36	R	Kodiak	99647	3
Pleasant Harbor	36	R	Kodiak		
Port Alsworth	36	R	Kodiak	99653	4
Port Bailey	36	R	Kodiak		
Port Lions	36	R	Kodiak	99550	14
Raspberry Island	36	R	Kodiak		
Seal Bay	36	R	Kodiak		
Shuyak Island	36	R	Kodiak		
Spruce Island	36	R	Kodiak		
					575

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Governor Murkowski
CC: Alaska State Legislature
From: Rebecca Morris
Date: 3/27/2003
Re: Longevity Bonus

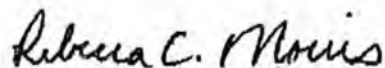
I work with Seniors Citizens daily, and assist them with procuring financial assistance, housing, medical care, and food. For many Elders, the income from the Longevity bonus makes a difference between barely subsisting at poverty level, and living at a standard that allows them to maintain a sense of dignity, independence and wellness.

As one who is all too familiar with the Medicaid Waiver system, may I remind you that unless an applicant is almost completely incapacitated, and suffering from serious life threatening disease, they are deemed ineligible and most often denied.

If you must rob Peter to pay Paul, why not at least, maintain the Longevity Bonus for Seniors who can show financial need!! Heavens knows there are thousands of vital, contributing Elder Alaskans who struggle daily to even make ends meet because of the outrageously HIGH COST of living in our great state.

I implore you to please consider other alternatives to elimination of the Bonus!!

Respectfully,



Rebecca C. Morris

March 27, 2003

**To: The Honorable Governor Frank Murkowski
Honorable Men and Women of the Alaska State Legislature**

I am writing to urge you to reconsider the Governor's suggestion of eliminating the Alaska Longevity Bonuses.

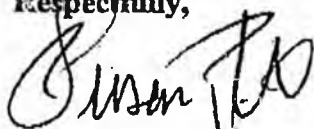
So many of our seniors depend on this income to make ends meet; many already live on very meager allowances and will not qualify for other programs because they will fail to meet the ever-tightening eligibility criteria. For these folks there are no alternatives and they are very frightened and pleading that their voices be heard!

Our seniors have contributed so much to making Alaska the great state that it is – isn't it our responsibility to help keep them as comfortable and secure as we can in their remaining years?

Please consider other alternatives to this – too many lives will be adversely affected.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



**Susan J. Walker
P.O. Box 35124
Juneau, AK 99803**

To: Governor Frank Murkowski

3/24/03

From: Dorathy Tow, 1940 Sutherland Dr., Juneau. AK
99801 (907) 463-2530
healthshare@gci.net

*Fax to 465-3532
465-3517*

Re: Longevity

Dear Governor Murkowski:

I have resisted writing this letter because I did not come to Alaska for give-aways. I brought with me enough money to build a house that would have made me independent of all government, even Social Security.

My project did not go well because of a problem that the Juneau city council had swept under the rug at the time I built (specifically, avalanches). As a consequence I have spent about 16 years, and all the money I could get my hands on, trying to compensate for the errors that occurred. And now, in a masterpiece of bad timing, I am ready to complete the rest of the house.

Should you be successful in canceling Longevity I will have an income of less than \$950 per month, including adult public assistance. I can not run a house and drive a car on that! (The car is necessary because I live out of town and I have a problem walking.) Hence, I will have to sell the house for what I can get out of it unfinished and move south where I would not have such horrendous heat bills. (The \$200+ heating assistance takes care of about one month.) Further, the building project probably will not materialize - no room for optimism - and my proceeds will go south too. Add that up, please. My permanent fund pays for sewer and road LID's which kept people employed.

My point is that senior citizens are not necessarily economic dead-beats. I have tried to be independent and am still trying. But at 77 the idea of moving south seems like a monumental task, especially considering that I am still recovering from a serious illness and have just had my help yanked because I have made some progress. I am not costing anyone thousands of dollars per month for nursing care.

Anyway I would be in serious trouble without Longevity. Isn't there a less regressive way to solve this problem?

Sincerely,

D. Tow

THE
FOLLOWING
DOCUMENT(S)
ARE
POOR
ORIGINAL
COPIES

FAX # (907) 465-3517

To: Senator Gary Stevens, Chairman
State Affairs Committee
From: Barbara C. Lewis Haines Tele: 766-3413

Senator Stevens and Committee Members,

I am forwarding 44 statements regarding the Longevity Bonus Program—28 from Seniors and 16 from concerned citizens who support saving the Longevity Bonus Program. We have Seniors who were born in Alaska; others who were here during the Territorial days. These seniors made sure the community had power plants, cleared the roads themselves if necessary, built safe, secure schools, made sure the school had heat, books, and hired an adequate number of qualified teachers, served on City Councils and School boards without compensation. Built churches, hired ministers, and supported them. They did not have 2 cars, 2 snow mobiles, a pleasure boat and a vacation home. They worked hard and took care of essentials. These seniors need the bonus for essentials. Last but not least, their word was their bond.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 19, 03 date

David Andrews

1. Name: _____
Signature

David Andrews
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 514

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2729

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: meds, food + emergency

I am opposed to cutting the
longevity checks. I need mine for
emergency and non prescription
medicines

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevbruch@legis.state.ak.us

Mar 19, 03 date

1. Name: Charlotte J. Bell
Signature

CHARLOTTE JANE BELL
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99327 P.O. Box No. 742

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2883

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: groceries.

medicine - I am low income - the
bonus program helps me a lot - all of it
is spent right here in Haines.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

3/20/03 date

1. Name: John J. Bielecki
Signature

JOHN J. BIELESKI
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1282

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2527

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES X NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____
To defray expenses

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

Mar 22, 03 date

1. Name: Sally Burattin
Signature

Sally Burattin
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 274

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5425

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: I don't get it yet
I don't believe you should pick on the elderly
they need help at home & pioneers home & medical
you should cut excess amt. for government
unnecessary projects

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-22-03 date

1. Name: Valentino Burattin
Signature

VALENTINO BURATTIN
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 278

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5425

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO ✓

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: I don't get it yet
I don't agree in cutting out
the longevity program.
The majority of the elders they
do not have enough for a moderate
living

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/19/03 date

1. Name: Joan Terry Comerford
Signature

Joan Terry Comerford
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 34

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2421

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: monthly bills

Water, sewer, lights, oil, taxes, insurance,

I'm now 87 yrs. old and I need this
\$1250. to help me with my bills. I will
soon be going to the Pienner home

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-19-2013
date

1. Name:

Clifford E. Froeman
Signature

CLIFFORD E. FROEMAN
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 237

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2796

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Expenses

I use this money to pay bills.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/22/3 date

1. Name: Constance Griffith
Signature

Constance Griffith
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1975

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2408

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: food, and
other necessities.

I could manage w/out the Long-
evity Bonus, and I know seniors
who could not manage without
the \$250.- per month. Consider
making it related to income of
the seniors who receive it and do
not wipe out the Bonus for
seniors who need it.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/19/09 date

1. Name: Mimi G Gregg
Signature

MIMI G. GREGG
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 75

3. Telephone No. (907) -766-2925

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Heating Oil

As a fairly recent widow, I no longer
have my husband's income, so I may have
to move from my home of 50 years, to
live with some relatives. I would
hope I will financially be able to stay
in Alaska and in my own home.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

3-22-03 date

1. Name: Maurice E. Hallman,
Signature

Maurice E. Hallman,
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1405

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3059

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: food

I oppose the bills to stop the
longevity for us seniors- We need
this money every month to help
our family with food-

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 22 03 date

1. Name: Judith L Hallman
Signature

Judith L Hallman
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1405

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3059

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: my husband

uses his check for food & things
he needs during the month - it
would be "cobbed" to take this
small amount of cash from our
seniors - They need to feel like a
viable part of the community by being
able to purchase things they need
& "put back" their monies into their
communities -

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

03/19/03 date

1. Name: Gale Hay
Signature

GALE HAY
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1010

3. Telephone No: (907) 766-3222

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I object to cutting the Longevity Bonus,
I know a lot of senior citizens
that depend on this bonus.
In 16. at this time, & some
later I will also need this bonus
Gale Hay

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-19-03 date

1. Name:

Mildred E. Hopper
Signature

MILDRED E HOPPER

Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 245

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2249

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: HELP WITH

FUEL OIL AND ELECTRICITY

PLEASE DO NOT CUT

I CAME TO ALASKA IN 1954

THE BONUS HAS HELPED

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-18-03 date

1. Name: Merle M. Howser
Signature

MERLE M. HOWSER
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 309

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2161

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: pay bills
like drugs, elec, water rent
I do not want to lose this
longevity check. Its all the
income I have coming in
monthly

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

3-19-03 date

1. Name: Olive E. Jackson
Signature

Olive E. Jackson
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 207

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2598

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: paying for
living expenses such as utilities,
transportation and medical bills.
I strongly object to the Longevity
Bonus program being discontinued

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweybruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/22/03 date

1. Name: Josephine P. Johnson
Signature

Josephine P. Johnson
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 695

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5646

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I support the senior citizens continuing to get
the longevity Bonus checks.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-2-07 date

1. Name: _____

Signature

William Johnson

William Johnson
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 695

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5507

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I support the longevity program
the senior citizens need the
help

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhutch@legis.state.ak.us

3/22/03 date

1. Name: Georgiana Hotch
Signature

Georgiana Hotch
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 857

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 3660

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: na

I support leaving the Senior's
Longevity Bonus "ALONE".

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/22/03 date

1. Name: Joe Hatch
Signature

Joe Hatch
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 857

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3660

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: FURNACE FUEL

Food, other

I Support retaining the longevity
to Alaska seniors

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/18/03 date

1. Name: Carol N Lawrence
Signature

Carol N Lawrence
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 650

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2870

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: our house

budget depends on my husband's
bonus. I oppose this bill. and

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/22/03 date

1. Name: Paul Wilson Jr
Signature

PAUL WILSON JR
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 235

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2947

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I support those who receive Longevity
Bonus

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 22 date

1. Name: Paul Samuel Phillips
Signature

PAUL SAMUEL Phillips
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. P 0165

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2903

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I do not receive Longevity
I was US Army Retired 1955 - 4 July 93
Alaska Veteran Disabled Vet.
I support Longevity to Senior Person

+

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 20, 03 date

1. Name: Mary Ann Price
Signature

Mary Ann Price
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 414

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2203

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: paying bills,
buying groceries, help pay for my hearing aids
and glasses and house repairs when
we need them most.
I support the Bonus program

+

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 20, 2003 date

1. Name: Warren C Price Sr
Signature

WARREN C PRICE SR
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 414

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2203

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

PAY BILLS BUY FOOD PAY INCOME TAX
to support the bonus program with money

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweybruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/18/03 date

1. Name: Roy L. Lawrence,
Signature

Roy L. LAWRENCE,
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 650

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2870

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: living
expenses, and Haines is an expensive
place to live in. I am against the
legislation curtailing the longevity program.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucevevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/18/03 date

Georgiana Hotch

1. Name: Matilda W. Lewis
Signature

Matilda W Lewis
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 183

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2164

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Food

Social Security pays for household bills:

Longevity helps with monthly food expense.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/20/03 date

1. Name: June B. Lynn
Signature

JUNE B. LYNN
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1178

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3808

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I do not receive the longevity bonus. As a Health Care professional in Haines I know the importance of this bonus to many SR's and cannot believe the state is even considering such action. Shame on you.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/20/03 date

1. Name:

Terry M. Lynch
Signature

TERRY M. LYNCH
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1178

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3888

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweybruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-19-03 date

1. Name: Marjorie C. Matthews
Signature

MARJORIE C. MATTHEWS
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 96

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2647

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Travel to Juneau
for medical purposes. Since I am visually
impaired, I use it for extra help to
support local programs like recycling
etc. I object to the termination of the
Longevity Bonus program.

CEQ

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-19-03 date

1. Name: Elsie Mellott
Signature

Elsie Mellott
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 153

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2141

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: food, kills

I oppose HB 158 and Senate
Bill 117.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 27, date 2003

1. Name: Albert D. Morgan
Signature

Albert D. Morgan
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1374

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-3635

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO ✓

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I oppose cancellation of the
Longevity Bonus Program for our
elders.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

3/18/03 date

1. Name: Erma Schnabel
Signature

ERMA SCHNABEL
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 149

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2228

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Bills.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

3/18/03 date

1. Name: John Schnabel
Signature

John Schnabel
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 149

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2228

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: charity - Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 20 - 03 date

1. Name: Erma Slater
Signature

ERMA SLATER
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. Box 714

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-8725

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: to assist me

in my everyday living as I pay 506⁰⁰ a month
for rent and I am in the low income bracket
and I get a social security check of 700⁰⁰ a month.
So without the longevity check I don't know what
I'll do

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/19 date

1. Name: J.S. TANLEY - RETIRED
Signature

J.S. Tanley
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 127 - HAINES AK
99821

3. Telephone No. (907) 0

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: FOOD-LIVING EXPENSE
I - UPGET. TO-LOSING - BONUS -
AT - MY AGE 84 YRS. Y01Y6

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3-20 date

1. Name: Lillian Taylor
Signature

Lillian Taylor
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 1052

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2582

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

Helping with Rent.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhurch@legis.state.ak.us

03/19/03 date

1. Name: Norman F Taylor
Signature

NORMAN F TAYLOR
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 232

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2661

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: I HAVE CAD

AND NEED EXPENSIVE MEDICATION. MY MONTHLY
MED. BILLS AVERAGE \$141.98 OUT OF POCKET
I AM ON THE NEBULIZER 4 TIMES A DAY. I HAVE
OIL, ELCTAIR, GARBAGE, AND OTHER EXPENSES.
AND MORE THINGS I HAVE TO PAY MONTHLY.
I HAVE LIVED IN ALASKA SINCE 1963.
I NEED THE LONGEVITY BONUS, TO LIVE HERE

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

Nov. 19, 2003 date

1. Name: Helen B. Tengs
Signature

Helen B. Tengs
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 148

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2188

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: my expenses
for my monthly groceries, oil, car
insurances. I feel the Longevity was
set up for the seniors and should be
continued. This gives us a feeling of
security and certainly improves our
welfare.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhunch@legis.state.ak.us

19 March 03 date

1. Name: Margie Ward
Signature

MARGIE J. WARD
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 208

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2661

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: Medications

Household expenses including food. The Longevity
Bonus is essential for my being able to stick in
Alaska - which has been my home since 1947.
I am very much in favor of keeping the
Longevity Bonus. We Senior Citizens spend
nearly all our money here in the State and hope
to be able to continue to do so. At least old would
not want to go on welfare and for food stamps!

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

MAR. 25 2003 date

1. Name: *Doris Ward*
Signature

DORIS WARD
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 14

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2206

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

Senior Citizen Center lunch, groceries, other bills

I oppose cutting the Longevity Bonus because it was
intended for Alaskans who have contributed to the
state since early days and continue to volunteer
and give back of their experience

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewvhruch@legis.state.ak.us

3/19/03 date

1. Name: Bruce B. Ward
Signature

Bruce B. Ward
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 549

3. Telephone No. (907) 766-2888

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

paying for some of my medication -
it doesn't cover it all - but certainly
helps my monthly bill - Medication ^{costs}
continued to climb - and as I get older
to take another type of pill along
with the others -

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

MARCH 27 date 2003

1. Name: Edward T. Warren, II
Signature

Edward T. Warren, II
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 255

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5539

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES NO

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: propane heating,
cooking range and water heater.
I appreciate the wisdom to create
and maintain this program.

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebruceweyhruch@legis.state.ak.us

March 22 2003 date

1. Name: Patricia Warren
Signature

Patricia WARREN
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 255

3. Telephone No. (907) 767-5539

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

The people who receive a longevity Bonus check
are our frailest citizens and they are on a fixed income.
They need this income to make it through each month.
Please find another place to make up the budget deficit.
Do not pick on our Senior Citizens, Please !!!

FAX #(907) 465-2273

E MAIL: representativebrucewevhruch@legis.state.ak.us

03/20/03 date

1. Name: Dwayne B. Wilson
Signature

Dwayne B. Wilson
Printed

2. Address: Haines, Alaska 99827 P.O. Box No. 235

3. Telephone No. (907) 766 2947

4. Do you receive the Longevity Bonus? YES ___ NO X

5. I use the Longevity Bonus check for: _____

I support longevity bonus.

REPRESENTATIVE ERIC CROFT

March 27, 2003

To the Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee,

I disagree with the Governor's efforts to balance the budget on the backs of Alaska's seniors.

Eliminating the Longevity Bonus Program will cause real hardship to people in their later years who have made life decisions based on our promise of this small stipend. In some cases the Longevity Bonus is the difference of being able to afford food AND medicine. In other cases it simply allows our elders to live with a little bit more dignity.

I have heard overwhelming opposition to eliminating the Longevity Bonus Program from my constituents. I have promised the people who have called, written, and e-mailed my office that I would add their voices to mine in opposition to this bill. Please consider this testimony with the weight of the 56 names at the bottom.

I believe a deal is a deal. I urge you to vote AGAINST SB 117.

On behalf of:

Ms. Betty A. Bergstrom, 2309 W. Tudor, Anchorage AK 99517

Mr. Rodger Borer, 1307 W. 39th Pl., Anchorage AK 99503

Mr. Alex Calugan, 1001 Boniface #22N, Anchorage AK 99504

Mr. James Carrol, PO Box 90070, Anchorage AK, 99509

E. M. Casey, 8480 Jewel Lake Rd. #2, Anchorage AK 99502

Ms. Jane Cason, 2110 W. 46th Ave., Anchorage AK 99517

Mr. Robert P. Clark Jr., 200 W. 34th Ave. #344, Anchorage AK 99503

Ms. Marianne Clock, 3302 Montpelier Ct., Anchorage AK 99503

Ms. Elizabeth El Isreal, 1101 W. 23rd Ave., Anchorage AK, 99503

Mr. Howard Flynn, 4203 Minnesota Dr., Anchorage AK 99503

Mrs. Mary Flynn, 4203 Minnesota Dr., Anchorage AK 99503

Ms. Victoria Garcia, 2700 W. 67th Ave, Anchorage AK 99502

Ms. Maybelle German, 3318 Monticello, Anchorage AK 99503

Ms. Marion Gregory, PO Box 190183, Anchorage AK 99519

Ms. Lillian Groothuis, 1408 W. 23rd Ave., Anchorage AK 99503

Mrs. Ellen Helgason, 4103 North Star St., Anchorage AK 99503

Mr. Leonard Helgason, 4103 North Star St., Anchorage AK 99503

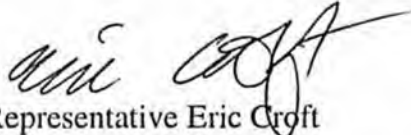
Ms. Shirley Helmholtz, 1003 Chugach Way, Anchorage AK 99503

Mr. Carl N. Jensen Sr., PO Box 47027, Pedro Bay AK 99647



Mr. Gus Jensen, 1711 Adonis Dr., Anchorage AK 99515
Mrs. Mary Jensen, 1711 Adonis Dr., Anchorage AK 99515
Martin Johansen, 2040 Muldoon Rd., Unit 110, Anchorage AK 99504
Mrs. Anne Johnson, 4600 Early Spring, Homer AK 99603
Mr. Walter Johnson, 4600 Early Spring, Homer AK 99603
Mr. Herbert Kinworthy, 2201 Culver Pl., Anchorage AK 99503
Mrs. Ann Kinworthy, 2201 Culver Pl., Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Charles Lippitt, 3900 Taft, Anchorage AK 99517
Mr. John Louholz, 701 W. 30th Ave., Anchorage AK 99503
Ms. Regina Levy, 915 W. 22nd Ave., Anchorage AK 99503
Mrs. Clarita Malone, Anchorage AK
Mr. Francisco Malone, Anchorage AK
Mrs. Evelyn Mamaloff, 8761 Midland Pl., Anchorage AK 99515
Mr. Fred Mamaloff, 8761 Midland Pl., Anchorage AK 99515
Ms. Aurelie McCain, 7600 Evander Dr., Anchorage AK 99518
Mrs. Maxine McDaniel, 5514 Cope St., Anchorage AK 99518
Mr. Scott McDaniel, 5514 Cope St., Anchorage AK, 99518
Ms. Unice McCurdy, PO Box 91112, Anchorage AK 99509
Ms. Louise Miller, 3360 Monticello Ct., Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Bud Mommsen, 3906 Lois Dr., Anchorage AK 99517
Mrs. Estell Mommsen, 3906 Lois Dr., Anchorage AK 99517
Mr. Frank Neeley, 1604 E St., Anchorage AK 99501
Mrs. Beverly Neeley, 1604 E St., Anchorage AK 99501
Ms. Josephine Ollman, 901 W. 23rd Ave., #H, Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Frank Pagano, 2247 W. 46th Ave., Anchorage AK 99517
Ms. Ethel Peyton, 1640 Oxford, Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Joseph Poletti, 1508 W. 43rd, #30, Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. James Rickteroff, 8800 Centennial Cir, #305, Anchorage AK 99504
Mr. Joe Russo, 1505 W. 35th Ave., Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Joe Russo Jr., 1505 W. 35th Ave., Anchorage AK 99503
Mrs. Lorraine Russo, 1505 W. 35th Ave., Anchorage AK 99503
Mr. Robert Sauer, 1001 W. 30th Ave. #4, Anchorage AK 99503
Ms. Rowene Sewell, PO Box 100347, Anchorage AK 99510
Ms. Evelyn Stevens, 1310 G St., Anchorage AK 99501
Ms. Ellen Thomas, 18550 Walrus Cir., Eagle River AK 99577
Mr. Frank Tomlinson, 1305 Oxford Dr., Anchorage AK, 99503
Mr. Glenn Warnke, 3311 Eureka St., #2, Anchorage AK 99503
Ms. Delores Yribar, 1801 Cleveland Ave, Anchorage AK 99517

Sincerely,


Representative Eric Croft

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus-Support Proposed

Date: 3/20/2003

Name: Chapman, Darlene

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 770165

Eagle River AK 99577-

Email address:

Message:

Record Number: 288 **GB** **Entered By:** m

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken _____

Date: _____

By whom _____

Comments _____

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus-Support Proposed

Date: 3/21/2003

Name: Moore, Ruby

Mailing Address:

AK

Email address:

Message:

Record Number: 302 **GB** **Entered By:** jm

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken _____

Date: _____

By whom _____

Comments _____

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus-Support Proposed

Date: 3/21/2003

Name: Thompson, Margaret

Mailing Address: 7433 Peck Avenue

Anchorage AK 99504-

Email address:

Message:

Record Number: 314 GB **Entered By:** jm

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken _____

Date: _____

By whom _____

Comments _____

MAR 19 2002

Roy E. Hoyt Jr.
P.O. Box 2121
Homer, AK 99603-2121

March 13, 2003

Hon. Gary Stevens
State Capitol, Room 417
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Sen. Stevens:

Govenor Murkowski made a bold but proper move requesting elimination of the longevity bonus.

Initally this program was very good as it was intended for those that had been residents of Alaska prior to statehood, had lived here 25 years and were 65 years old. The program got out of hand when some liberal organizations and their lawyers searched out and found an individual that had arrived in the state just after statehood, then sued the state on his behalf. The state made a most feeble attempt to defend the program and lost the case. In other words the state just rolled over. When we lost the Rodney Vest case the program should have been terminated at that time.

When the program was allowed to continue it precipitated a migration of elderly to the state for the "free Money" which got out of hand. Means testing of the program was suggested by Governor Knowles which is the wrong way to go about reducing the cost due to assurance of another law suit and the administrative costs involved to administer that program plus fraud. There was another chance to terminate the program entirely in 1993 when elimination was stairstepped as it is now. There are adequate welfare programs in the state to take care of the needy elderly or some could be expanded to do so.

In the past few years the program has been liberalized to allow recipients to remain out of state for longer periods of time and even re-enter it.

I heard Steve McDonald an anchor on KTUU Channel 2 state on Anchorage Edition KAKM Channel 7 that the program enabled many grandparents to come up here and be near their grandchildren. Since when is it a responsibility of the state to bring and keep grandparents and grandchildren together at the expense of everyone else

\$48,000,000.00 is a lot of money to save. Means testing is the wrong answer. The program should be eliminated.

There are 38,000 residents over the age of 65 in the state and only 13,000 are receiving the bonus. More elderly residents are not receiving the bonus than are and they seem to be making out

alright without it.

Incidentally I am a recipient of the program and feel that it should be entirely eliminated.

Roy E Hoyt Jr.

Roy E. Hoyt Jr.

Governor Murkowski's Public Opinion Message

Retrieve the message from the 3982 message line and fill in the following information, then delete the message from the system. Print the form and submit to Gail Phillips, Director of Constituent Relations for further action.

Date: 3-7-03
Name: Unice McCurdy
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9112
A.A. 99509-1112

Message: Would like to know why it
costs 44 mill. to give 4 mill. to
long. funds?
payments should be 4 mill.
not 47 mill. March 7, ADAL.

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken: _____
Date: _____
By whom: _____
Comments: _____

Subject: Longevity Bonus Program

Date: Sat, 8 Mar 2003 11:03:25 -0900 (AKST)

From: filletrelease@webtv.net (Jacqui & Lane Anderson, Alaska)

To: Gov_Budget@gov.state.ak.us

Ya did good getting rid of this program, ya might also think about a RIP for State employees to save a few bucks too. Keep up the good work!!!

Lane Anderson

longevity
^

Subject: longevity

Date: Fri, 07 Mar 2003 23:02:07 -0900

From: joantower <jetower@gci.net>

To: Gov_Budget@gov.state.ak.us

I am 61 and I feel that you are doing the right thing in eliminating the longevity bonus. Also I have worked for private non profits for 13 years and feel that if they would use the money that they receive wisely there would be no need for wait lists
Joan Tower

Subject: HB 158 Concerning the Longevity Bonus

Date: Tue, 11 Mar 2003 16:43:09 EST

From: Beclifford@aol.com

To: Gov_Budget@gov.state.ak.us

- Support - LB cut

AAUP has sent an alert concerning the above and is seeking support. I am a senior Alaska citizen. I have been happy for those who have benefited from the bonus over the years. I also understand the problems Alaska is having and fully support necessary efforts to balance our State budget. I believe that State Government must be made smaller in the coming years. More can be said and while I am happy for those who continue to receive the bonus, I SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF HB 158 which I understand is to stop the bonus program effective June 30 this year.

Considerations I have in this decision:

The bonus program is not an entitlement.

The Zobel ruling in my mind said that if any share, all share. This is no longer the case for the bonus program.

I believe that when the 1996 bill was passed and new applications were no longer being taken, the program should have been reduced \$50.00 a month, for those who were in the program at that time, to zero rather than the way the program was formatted.

I know of families who brought parents and other family members to Alaska because of the bonus program. This was not the intent of this program and I consider it a major abuse of the bonus.

Thank you for considering my voice.

Burton L. Clifford
9500 Victor Road
Anchorage, AK

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus
References

Date: 3/11/2003

Name: Shattuck, Roger

Mailing Address: 1714 Willow Drive

Juneau AK 99801-

Email address:

Message: In favor of cutting longevity bonus and the budget

*2-B
Supports
cut.*

Record Number: 70

Entered By: m

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken: _____

Date: _____

By whom: _____

Comments: _____

LB-SP

Subject: Proposed Longevity Cut

Date: Wed, 12 Mar 2003 13:06:37 -0800

From: Gloria Kent <glo@alaskalife.net>

To: gov_budget@gov.state.ak.us

A great place to cut an inequity! A supplemental rent or medicate payment has never been the intent of this payout and is not an appropriate justification to continue to help some, but not all seniors who helped to make this a great state.

LB-SP

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus -

Date: 3/12/2003

Name: Roland, Ken

Mailing Addr HC 04 Box 9194

Palmer AK

Email address

Message: longevity bonus is discriminatory, get rid of it.

Record Number: 38 **GB** **Entered By:** m

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken _____
Date: _____
By whom _____
Comments _____

LB-SP

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus -

Date: 3/12/2003

Name: Laykep, Denny

Mailing Addr 8913 Duran Street

Juneau AK 99801-

Email address

Message: ABOLISH the longevity bonus. I fully support the Governor

Record Number: 42 GB **Entered By:** ly

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use
Action taken _____
Date: _____
By whom _____
Comments _____

LB - SP

Subject Code: Longevity Bonus -

Date: 3/12/2003

Name: Kleine, Jerald

Mailing Addr 12311 Tracy Road

Anchorage AK 99516

Email address

Message: SUPPORT THE LONGEVITY REMOVAL

Record Number: 39 GB Entered By: ly

Office of Constituent Relations For Internal Use

Action taken _____

Date: _____

By whom _____

Comments _____

Subject: Longevity Payments

Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2003 18:07:28 +0000

From: "Josef Ressel" <inajeam@hotmail.com>

To: Gov_Budget@gov.state.ak.us

LB - SP

Dear Governor Murkowski,

The name longevity bonus is a big misnomer and has nothing to do how long a person lived in Alaska. This program should have never been started in the first place, but at least totally eliminated a long time ago. You are correct to do it now!

Sincerely,
The Ressel Family,
Joe and Ina
4043 North Point Dr.
Anchorage

MSN 8 helps eliminate e-mail viruses. Get 2 months FREE*.
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/virus>

HOUSE OK'S OLD-TIMER PAY

'Annuity' To Benefit Over 65s

Retirement Aid
Bill Approved
On 25-12 Vote

Times Juneau Bureau
JUNEAU — The House passed 25-12 today a bill to pay Alaskans 65 years of age who have lived in the state for 25 years a \$250 a month supplementary retirement.

Rep. Tom Flink, R-Anchorage, one of the leading opponents of the bill, called it a "cruel hoax" and pointed out that the funding provided would not permit full payment of \$250 allowed if as many as 3,000 were eligible.

The House first tabled, 22-16, a motion which would have changed the philosophy of the program of one of an incentive for old-timers to stay in the state to one that would have been based on need.

Rep. Chancy Croft, D-Anchorage, said the amendment would raise the level of those on old age assistance and would have benefited a greater number by including all those 65 years of age regardless of whether they had lived in the state 25 years.

House Speaker Jalmar Kerttula, D-Palmer, who relinquished his chair to participate in the debate said the bill was an effort to make a direct contribution to the old-timers who have tolled in the state and may "have a very few more years to participate in the wealth of the state." He said the money would be paid on an "annuity basis" with the interest derived from a \$100 million fund.

Kerttula said he resented the bill being called a bribe or a cruel hoax and he added that if in 15 or 20 years it becomes too expensive, like any other law it can be repealed.

Sen. Jay Hammond, who listened to the House debate, said this is an issue which may tie up the legislature for some time. He said, "I'm just very fearful. You don't have the type of support and nobody will bust loose and break the committee system to get it out of the Senate."

Rep. John Sackett, R-Galena, was successful in changing the requirement for an application to be submitted by those receiving benefits every six months rather than monthly. He said it would create a tremendous burden on persons from bush communities to have to complete an application every month when mail service may be more than a month behind.

The amendment was the only amendment adopted to the finance committee substitute for Rep. Clem Tillion's bill.

The Halibut Cove Republican told the House that two-thirds of those who would be eligible to receive the payments are natives. In response to questions, Tillion said that between 2,200 and 3,200 persons over 65 could be eligible for the program, and of that number 1,180 are natives.

**Office of the Governor
550 West 7th Ave, Ste 1700
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907-269-7450)**

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

Date: March 17, 2003

From: Renee Reenstra
5600 Craig Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504
333-1492

To: Governor Murkowski

Subject: Longevity Bonus

Operator: Susan Fischetti

Received letter from Senator Davis and Rep. Crawford and Cissna. Agree with phasing out the longevity bonus but should be based on those that need it and not given to those that don't qualify. It has saved my back but should be used to help those who need it.

To <i>Phil Phillips</i>	From <i>Jim Harrower</i>
Co./Dept.	Co.
Phone # <i>405-3147</i>	Phone #
Fax #	Fax #

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Governor
Frank Murkowski

DATE: 3/17/03

FROM JIM HARROWER

SENDING TO FAX NUMBER:
269-7461

MESSAGE: Governor Frank;

Stand your ground and don't flinch or blink. You are doing the right thing!

I will be 70 in Nov and don't care about a bonus - my concern is to cut the state bureaucracy - reduce the state's effect on small business and encourage capitalism, private ownership and profits.

Jim Harrower

PAGE 1 OF 1

NORTHWARD BOUND

1200 East 76th St.
P.O. Box 92249
Anchorage, AK. 99509

Office: 907-243-3007
Fax: 907-243-9559

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: SB 117
 (S) Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): 3/27/04 (correction) Dept. Affected: Administration
 Title: _____ BRU: Longevity Bonus
 Component: Longevity Bonus Grants
 Sponsor: Governor
 Requester: _____ Component No.: 26

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	(44,777.9)	(41,543.3)	(38,344.2)	(35,203.3)	(32,130.4)	(29,080.8)
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	(44,777.9)	(41,543.3)	(38,344.2)	(35,203.3)	(32,130.4)	(29,080.8)

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	(44,777.9)	(41,543.3)	(38,344.2)	(35,203.3)	(32,130.4)	(29,080.8)
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	(44,777.9)	(41,543.3)	(38,344.2)	(35,203.3)	(32,130.4)	(29,080.8)

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This reduction reflects the FY2004 savings from eliminating the Longevity Bonus program. The reduction is included in the FY2004 budget. This fiscal note is for information purposes only.

This corrected fiscal note shows expected savings in each fiscal year when compared to forecast expenditures under the existing program.

Prepared by: Dan Spencer Phone 465-5655
 Division: Administrative Services Date/Time 3/27/03 10:30 AM
 Approved by: Mike Miller Date 3/27/2003
 Agency: Commissioner

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR@GOV.STATE.AK.US



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

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231174
P.O. Box 110001
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0001
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March 5, 2003

The Honorable Gene Therriault
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 107
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Therriault:

Under the authority of art. III, sec 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill that would eliminate the Alaska Longevity Bonus Program.

In 1972 Alaska initiated a program to reward our long-term residents (seniors) for their contributions and provide them with an incentive to remain in Alaska for their retirement years. It was originally intended to help those Alaskans who had been residents for 25 years and as stated in its original passage, was intended for those seniors who had "molded Alaska as we know it through skillful application of their talents."

Since that time, the Courts ruled that the 25 year residency requirement was unconstitutional. The new program instituted was expanded to all seniors residing in the state for one year. By 1993, the cost to the state was up to \$65 million a year. The legislature, recognizing that the cost would continue to escalate with the rapid growth of Alaska's senior population, implemented a phase out of the program.

The judiciary eliminated the longevity program for Alaska's pioneers. The bill I transmit today ends its successor, eliminating a program that has outlived its original purpose and no longer offers special consideration to those pioneers so deserving of our thanks.

The Honorable Gene Therriault

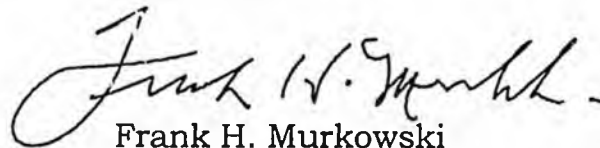
March 5, 2003

Page 2

Alaska will continue to provide assistance and "safety net" programs for senior citizens. Some are directed toward all seniors such as an exemption from Hunting and fishing fees, the senior citizen property tax exemption and Pioneers' Homes. Many are targeted at seniors with limited means, including, adult public assistance, Medicaid assistance, personal care attendant services, nursing home services, home and community based waiver services, senior housing assistance, nutrition programs, and senior training and employment programs.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank H. Murkowski".

Frank H. Murkowski
Governor



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the

SSTA
committee name

Committee on

SB117

, dated

3-27-03

bill # / subject

public hearing date

To: Senate Hearing on Longivity Bonus

March 25, 2003

Please regard this issue as a disaster to many seniors if this bonus check is taken away from them. There are many of us in the same category older seniors with more health issues, higher medical and prescription drug bills, higher gas, heating oil and electrical prices and at a point in our lives with no chance of earning money to keep up with monthly bills. Also consider that we all spend this money here at home, the money circulates here in Alaska. If cuts need to be made consider cutting from those on the highest scale of incomes and benefits, not those on the lowest income level.

Thanks for your time and support the seniors longivity program as we depend on it.

Fern Chamberlin

Box 109
Sterling, AK 99672

Phone 907-262-4193

Signed:

Fern Chamberlin

Testifier

Representing (optional)

Address

Phone number

Room 417
Dear Senator or Representative:

Stevens
SUBJECT: LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM

9450 Herbert Pl.
Juneau, Alaska 99801
799-7516

Please leave this program alone, it is working well. The State of Alaska made a PROMISE to the people who helped get us Statehood, built up Alaska in Territorial days and took pride in doing so. Fourth Avenue was the only paved road in Anchorage, the fishermen trappers and miners ran the Territory they loved. They were all hard working people. When they aged, they wanted to stay in Alaska. The Sitka Pioneer Home, the only one at the time, helped a lot. Others had to leave Alaska due to our high cost of living.

The PROMISE was the Longevity Bonus Program to help these Pioneers stay here. They were the people who had lived and worked here, even though it was hard at times. Governor Murkowski says we can use other available programs to offset the loss of the monthly check. NOT TRUE.

1. Medicare pays less and less. More medical no longer covered. Some needed blood tests not covered, hospital charges \$91.00 for this one alone.
2. Some doctors will not take new Medicare patients.
3. Costs of prescriptions are out of sight. Some people have to decide whether to eat or get needed medicine to help their condition.
4. Meals on Wheels cannot bring a meal to your home if you can drive a short distance or a family member can. Or if you walk your dog in your own yard. I can't get respite for even 2 hours a week for the same reason.
5. The Pioneer Homes have long waiting lists, lots of empty beds due to the lack of help. I also know some people are paying over \$4,000 a month there even though they are not bed ridden. I don't understand this charge. Suppose the Governor closes these Pioneer Homes? At \$4,000 per month, how much of your savings could be left to go elsewhere? I realize the "have nots" stay there, too, but how is the amount charged the "haves" decided? A percentage of the remaining balance in savings?

Fewer of us to receive these checks because we are a dying breed. I figure the youngest person receiving a check of \$100 per month was 72 years old this year. I was 74 on 12/23/2002, which makes me one of the last people to qualify for \$250.00 per month. I have been in Alaska 55 years. This means a lot of people who receive \$250 are older than I am, but may not have been in Alaska as long due to the program rule of residency was declared to be unconstitutional and opened it up to anyone of a certain age, no matter how recently they had come to Alaska. Lots of people we know brought up Mom & Pop to live here and get the \$250 a month, turned the garage into an apartment. This made the list of those getting checks go out of sight.

Three generations of our family born in Alaska, children, grandchildren and great children. We do own our home. I receive \$250, date of birth 12/23/28, my husband gets \$200 even though he's been here longer, dob 2/22/29, 2 months younger than me. Every penny we spend for anything is spent here. We contribute to local charities, and quietly help individuals needing it, taught remedial reading without salary, helped deaf 13 year old to speak and other personal help to make life better here. That's what the pioneer Alaskans always did, help each other because we cared and not for money.

We need this program to continue as it is, it's working well. As I said in the beginning, leave the program alone, we're dying off and the Governor is wrong, most of us don't qualify for the programs he thinks are there and we don't want charity. Also, if we lose this program I can think of other ways to save money, but then a lot of people wouldn't like it because it would be their money being given up.

I cannot believe the Governor and our Senators and Representative would even consider touching this program. At the same time the Tourist Industry, which is private industry, is again asking for a government FREE subsidy to offset its advertising costs. Tourists have always come to see our different, beautiful State. Let this private industry finally stand on its own. I would think the elderly are more important, remember, we live here.

Thank you for your time, Sincerely

Marilyn O'Brien

2.

My husband and I worked hard for Statehood, at our own expense, working with Delegate E. Bob Bartlett. My husband's letter to Congress regarding our Fisheries, was so impressive it became a part of the Congressional Record.

I'm sorry this is so long, but it is a very important to our age group and it seems as though the needy, the handicapped and the elderly are often targets of cutting costs of government down and more funds are asked for and given to businesses which should always stand on their own two feet. I consider this a form of welfare, meaning the business handouts, because it is their problem how they advertise. Saying they are bringing business to Alaska, they are doing this advertising for their business, Alaska itself does not need advertising. They choose to do big time advertising, fine, they can pay for it like the rest of us do. We pay for an ad in the newspapers. The State should not pay for anyone's advertising and these funds are not repaid to us, the people of Alaska. The industry is quick to say how much they do for Alaska, it looks to me like they want to be paid twice, one when they charge the customer and once when they ask the State for money for free.

Sorry if I sound cynical, these two subjects are related. One, the government wants to take away from people who can no longer work except for charitable organizations due to health and age restrictions and continue to give to private industry every single year. If they were a charity that would be different and would be considered however, maybe these people have over extended their business for the all mighty dollar and feel the State owes them something. Not true, as Harry S. Truman said, if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. Businesses come and go, I know this to be true, I feel very strongly about this, we should not subsidize tourist industry.

ROSALEE T. WALKER

1220 Glacier Ave., #208

Juneau, AK 99801

(907) 586-2873

TESTIMONY REGARDING THE LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM

My name is Rosalee T. Walker, and I have been a resident of Juneau, Alaska for 37 years. I come before you as a member of the Board of Directors for the Older Persons Action Group (OPAG), and as the president of the AARP Mount Juneau Chapter #865. Both of these organizations oppose the elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program.

It is well documented that for many years Alaskan seniors have voluntarily worked with elected officials at all levels of government to help to seek solutions to a variety of problems. We are proud of the quality and extent of our volunteer involvement. As Alaskans, we do not restrict our activities to issues that are related to seniors only, but we work cooperatively to seek responsible, reasonable, and fair solutions that will benefit our nation, our state, and our local communities. We are, indeed, sensitive to the growing

concerns about Alaska's budget situation and we participate with the decision makers during their deliberations on budgetary matters.

When the Governor stated that he wanted to eliminate budgetary waste as a part of his plan to address Alaska's budget dilemma, we applauded this effort. Needless to say, it came as a great shock to us to find out that we had been targeted as budgetary waste in the proposal to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program. The gross simplified justification that has been offered by the Administration to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program is based upon an uninformed decision. Ending this program in such a sudden and deliberate manner will open a Pandora's box the results of which cannot be imagined. Instead of helping to solve our budget problems, the elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program has the potential to exacerbate Alaska's budgetary problems. Additionally, the negative impacts that will be imposed upon some of Alaska's most vulnerable citizens will be devastating.

There is nothing new about attempts to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program, and seniors have been zealous in their efforts to maintain at least some portion of its benefits. In a sincere effort to salvage the program in 1993
~~1994~~, the Legislature made a commitment to continue the Longevity Bonus

Program on a limited basis and to allow the program to “sunset” itself as the participants left the state or died. For many of us who were involved at that time, the agreement that was made was considered to be closure as far as this particular issue was concerned. The Legislature made a commitment in good faith and we seniors were satisfied that this would be the end of the matter.

State policy decisions concerning the Longevity Bonus Program should be viewed in the context of current economic and social benefits to the recipients as well as economic and social benefits to the state. Seeking waste in government does not mean that it is necessary to “rip and run” with any funds that may seem available without serious examination of impacts upon the recipients, agencies, families, and communities. We all realize that the devil is in the details, but the Administration has not taken the time to analyze the Longevity Bonus Program to find out where the devil may be hiding.

The proposal to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program has been presented to the Legislature in haste with no concern about anything except the confiscation of funds for the Administration’s purposes. We seniors feel that

we were deliberately ignored during the development of this proposal, and we feel a sense of betrayal regarding the ¹⁹⁹³~~1994~~ legislative commitment.

We respectfully ask that you vote against the Administration's proposal to eliminate the Longevity Bonus Program. If any of you have nagging and persistent concerns, vote "NO" anyway. Give us at least one year to have an opportunity to work with the Legislature, the Administration, and the recipients to seek a solution that is responsible, reasonable, and fair. We are ready, willing and able to volunteer the time and effort that will be necessary to reach that goal.

**PLEASE DO NOT ACCEPT THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL TO
ELIMINATE THE LONGEVITY BONUS PROGRAM! VOTE "NO"!**

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

State's safety net may not help more seniors than currently

By **CATHY BROWN**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The state's safety nets for older Alaskans may not catch any more needy people than it does now if the longevity bonus program is eliminated.

That's because the state has never counted the \$100-\$250 monthly bonuses in deciding whether someone is eligible for many programs that help low-income seniors.

However, some older Alaskans who were eligible for public assistance but never asked for it may apply if they lose the longevity bonus, said Elmer Lindstrom, a special assistant in the Department of Health and Social Services.

"Intuitively, we would assume there would be some people in that category," Lindstrom said. "But we are scratching our heads and puzzling over how in the world to figure out what the actual population might be."

When Gov. Frank Murkowski proposed eliminating the monthly longevity bonuses that go to some senior citizens, he said the state had sufficient safety nets, such as adult public assistance, to protect needy Alaskans.

Adult public assistance is a program that provided cash to more than 4,700 low-income Alaskans

over age 65 last year.

The Pioneers of Alaska - a group representing about 7,000 seniors who have lived in the state at least 30 years - opposes eliminating the longevity bonus.

Bob Huffman, who heads the group's government affairs committee, said he could not estimate how many elderly Alaskans will turn to public assistance for help without their bonuses.

"Some of the Pioneer seniors that I've talked with, you know, just can't stand the thought of going on welfare," Huffman said.

The longevity bonus program at one time provided all Alaskans over age 65 with a \$250 monthly stipend, regardless of income. In the early 1990s the Legislature passed a law phasing out the program, so that only Alaskans who were at least 65 and living in the state in 1996 continue receiving checks.

Some 20,000 older Alaskans still receive some level of bonus, at a cost of \$47.5 million a year.

In a letter accompanying the bill to eliminate the program, Murkowski said Alaska will continue to offer help to older Alaskans through other programs.

He noted seniors are eligible for free hunting and fishing licenses, property-tax exemptions, nutrition programs such as meals-on-wheels and access to pioneers' homes,

which are state-run assisted-living facilities.

In his letter to the Legislature, the governor said low-income seniors also can receive adult public assistance, Medicaid, nursing home and home-based health care, and senior training and employment services.

The governor's proposed fiscal 2004 budget does not include estimates on the added cost to the state if seniors turn to other state programs if longevity bonuses are eliminated, said Ross Soboleff, a spokesman for the Department of Health and Social Services.

Soboleff said the department is still trying to calculate that.

To be eligible for adult public assistance, a senior citizen must have income of less than \$12,300 a year and can't have more than \$2,000 in savings. Those on adult public assistance are eligible for other programs, including Medicaid, which pays for prescription drugs.

Seniors with medical needs significant enough to qualify for nursing-home care can receive Medicaid even if their income is close to \$20,000 a year.

A hearing on the bill to eliminate the longevity bonuses is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the Senate State Affairs Committee.

FAX TO: 907 465 3532

OPEN LETTER TO:

E. M. Casey
8480 Jewel Lake Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99502
907 243 8530

March 24, 2003

The Honorable Frank Murkowski
Governor of the State of Alaska
Juneau, AlaskaHB 158
SB 117

Dear Governor Murkowski:

You puzzle me. Are you so astute that you have maneuvered the Legislative Branch as a whole into a position where they need to find ways to redress the inequities inherent in your budgetary proposals? One or I hope more of the bravest among the Legislators is asked most urgently and sincerely to introduce a measure to restore funding to the Longevity payment program for 2004 to continue in existence this law that is of vital importance, in addition to defeating the above bad bills.

Or, are you merely very ill-advised by your newly appointed and close associates who display little understanding of the realities of life in Alaska? I would like to think that you just are not fully aware of the stress, distress and fear you are causing many elderly to endure. We certainly do not "step up to the plate" to wordlessly give up our one and only "safety net." You are harming us even before June 30th D day.

The only "class clash" among us is the divide between the well-paid or pensioned employees of big corporations and government and the rest of us. We may have far less to live on but our votes count just as heavily, old or not.

You may not realize, surely your your younger number crunchers do not that those now in their 70's, 80's, 90's and more spent most of our working lives in years when the dollar amount taxed into the Social Security system was much lower than that accumulated by later generations, including those now 65 to 70; Not only were those that followed us earning higher salaries their FICA taxes were much higher. They can or do look forward to higher monthly benefits than we will ever receive. I worked for 50 years but most of that was under the years of low wages and low FICA contributions. My monthly income could never match that of someone even just 10 years younger.

However, in Alaska there are many seniors and elders who worked hard all their lives with little or no opportunity to accumulate quarters of Social Security coverage nor the opportunity to accumulate a million or two, much less nest eggs sufficient to support them in a world of constantly

Page 2

Open Letter to Governor Murkowski

E. M. Casey

March 24, 2003

rising prices in a state where the substantial difference in the cost of necessities like food and fuel exist. Check your own statistic gathering assistants on the differences for a gallon of milk and a gallon of fuel, or a cartload of groceries between Railbelt cities with Juneau and towns and villages in other parts of Alaska. (Part of the reason that a state-wide sales tax does not fit in a state where there are many communities with no property tax base and which rely on a local sales tax to fund essential local services.)

There may be a few seniors who fill out the form and mail it back to Juneau each month attesting to eligibility for the next month's check who do not need it to maintain themselves. I suspect that those able to travel freely, those for whom money is not a constant problem, already have opted out of the program even though out-of-state regulations were eased a year or two ago,

I hope you do realize that is a program that is far more efficient and inexpensive in administration costs than most government funded programs. Its expenses are largely clerical. The money goes into the hands of those that need it and it is spent locally. Local merchants and grocers would miss our checks when we are left without the money to spend for food to keep up the nutrition important to health.

Of course, there are still many who spend most of the monthly check defraying such frills as paying for Part B of Medicare and Medicare Supplemental Insurance. If we can no longer manage to pay our way and have to seek charitable help from the Medicaid program, in addition to enduring personal investigation and trying to secure the support of physicians for the change if we can still obtain the services of physicians who no longer welcome Medicare-Medigap patients because their reimbursement schedules from Medicare were cut drastically during the former administration (the same administration who dumped military veterans into Medicare at the same time as part of creating a surplus!) then we can wait months to find out if Medicaid will accept us--is that your idea of a "safety net?"

I am forcibly reminded of the words of the unregenerate Ebenezer Scrooge who said when asked to help the at Christmas and refusing, "then let them die and decrease the surplus population." Are we not dying off fast enough 1?

I believe all of the reasons stated to this point in this letter were factors in the deal struck between the Legislature and the senior Alaskans when the phase-out law and promises were made. That law gave time for those who would be

Page 3

Open Letter to Governor Murkowski

E. M. Casey

March 24, 2003

effected protection if they were relying on the program or time to anticipate the phase-out if they were near retirement.. This proposed abrupt, harsh and unreasonable ending of the promised support does none of those things. Most of us can no longer just go out and get another job to offset the loss of the funds that enable us to maintain ourselves.

To many voters talk of reducing the size, expense and waste of government meant cutting the number, size, duplication, and complexity of offices, bureaus, and departments which make this one of the most regulated states and complicate our lives. Now we are told that instead every expenditure on the people, the actual "state," will be funded if it is of dollar value bottom line to the state--meaning the bureaucracy of government! How many positions and expenditures have been eliminated in the Executive Branch and it's tentacles?

In private business the owner can govern by edict solely concerned with protecting his monetary interest if he so chooses. In a representative government focusing solely on a dollar value bottom line is at the least inappropriate. Government, including Republican government, exists to serve the people of the state. Contending otherwise is a false premise.

Suddenly producing proposed budgetary decisions and changes of policy as surprises, especially one like this which can only have a major detrimental effect on the lives of the oldest and most infirm citizens is akin to the game of uproar played by children in classrooms to distract attention from something they have done, or more likely something they intend to do.

Have you considered folding the duties of Management and Budget into a department with some connection and duty to your constituents. It might help you put a human face on future proposals.

The present budget proposals are pregnant with many unintended consequences--to give you a generous benefit of the doubt.

There are other means of preventing passing along to later generations a fiscal problem 20 years or more in the making.

Any flat tax (user's fee) would be inherently inequitable in Alaska whatever it is called. Of course we should all pay a user's fee for benefitting from state provided services but that user's fee must be in proportion to individual ability to pay. After all we report income such as

Page 4

Open Letter to Governor Murkowski

E. M. Casey

March 24, 2003

the dividends we receive from the Permanent Fund as well as the Longevity payments on form 1040 as part of the process of determining the amount of federal users liability we may owe the federal government. There is no rational reason reason not to begin gathering data and considering during fiscal 2004 what a state services user's fee based on a small percentage of the federal fee should be.

No one means of raising new revenue can instantly cure 20 years or more of fiscal gap creation. Before Prudhoe Bay began to provide it's largesse, state citizens supported state services by paying such a progressive tax which ^{into the} ability to pay. Such a user's fee would provide all the traditional exemptions and deductions that apply to the federal tax on personal income tax, ^{aka} ~~the~~ user's fee. *took into account*

For 2004, after adjusting various fees attached to businesses to make them relevant to the size and economy of the businesses, a better reasoned decision about the amount of the CBR draw for 2004 is needed in order to buy time for you and the Legislature to work together in a cooperative and bipartisan way to begin giving some stability to the finances of the state beginning in 2005.

While we wait to see if there is any new source of revenue in oil and gas, government does have less draconian means of alleviating problems of the Operating Budget than discarding it's oldest and most infirm, and generally most in need of promises kept, as if their contributions to society are worthless. Their knowledge, wisdom and skills supply many of the volunteer services which help to keep the fabric of our economy and social services functioning.

Will you work with the committees and members of the Legislative Branch, the source of approval for both appropriations and expenditures, to craft a workable operating budget, including funding 2004 for the Longevity payments while you and the Legislators survey to find out why this most efficiently run form of assistance is important?

Please excuse me for this form of submitting public testimony to hearings in the aforesaid two bills. I am too infirm and immobile to travel to Legislative Offices for teleconference much less go to Juneau. I cannot afford the means to use E-mail nor toner cartridges for hard copies. My arthritic hands and archaic typewriter and a bottle of White-Out are my means of communication by an old FAX--as long as I can pay the phone bill,

Very sincerely

E. M. Casey
Eva Lyn M. Casey
An Old Voter



Honorable Gary Stevens, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 417
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

March 24, 2003

SB 117 (Governor Murkowski) – Oppose

Dear Chair Stevens:

On behalf of the AARP members in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the Senate State Affairs Committee to oppose SB 117, submitted by the Senate Rules Committee on behalf of Governor Murkowski. SB 117 would eliminate the Alaska Longevity Bonus Program.

In 1972, the State of Alaska initiated the Longevity Bonus Program as a way of rewarding those older Alaskans who contributed to the State's growth when Alaska was a territory, then eventually a state.

As the program is no longer accepting new applicants, there are Alaskans, who because they applied prior to the program's discontinuation, are grandfathered into the program. These individuals are aging. Every year, the number of those who are grandfathered into the program diminishes, as individuals pass away. Those who are currently in the program have depended on that monthly income, often for rent in an assisted living facility or prescription drug costs. We question whether it is advisable for the Governor to suddenly stop the program, when 18,000 older Alaskans depend on the \$100, \$150, \$200, or \$250 check every month.

We're concerned that, as the bonus goes to the oldest of older Alaskans, these are the same ones who are likely to use the most pharmaceutical drugs. These are the same ones who are most likely to be widowed older women trying to "age in place" and stay independent.

It would be difficult for people to go back to work at their ages. The youngest Longevity Bonus recipients are in their early 70's. The longevity bonus recipients have received these checks for years and have built it into their monthly budgets.

Anyone of any age would have trouble accepting a salary cut of \$250 a month.

Older Alaskans are willing to do their fair share of belt-tightening to help the State get its fiscal house in order. Although our members don't like taxes any more than their younger counterparts, AARP has indicated we would support fiscal plans that would make sense and were fair. If taxes must be levied, we believe a graduated income tax is the most equitable method to use. However, for most of the Longevity Bonus recipients, the worst case scenario of an income tax and a sales tax combined would not take as much money from their monthly budgets as the Governor's proposed elimination of the Bonus. It may not be a tax, but it certainly has the same fiscal impact in the end.

Without a prescription drug benefit under Medicare and with no Alaska state pharmaceutical benefit, we need to recognize that many of the bonus recipients are not going to be able to pay for their prescriptions and undoubtedly will suffer health problems. Pharmaceutical prices in Alaska rose over 25% in 2001 -- 25% in just one year -- this was the highest increase in the entire United States.

If the Governor wants to take away the Longevity Bonus, then he should help older Alaskans get some assistance with pharmaceutical costs. The Governor indicated that programs like adult public assistance would help those Longevity Bonus recipients who are harmed the most by the loss of the Bonus. AARP recognizes that "public assistance" has an entirely different meaning for older Alaskans than a "Longevity Bonus" that honors their contributions to building our State.

AARP supports the Governor in addressing our state's budget situation; however, these 18,000 older Alaskans, who receive the Longevity Bonus are not just statistics. They are individuals who will have to leave assisted living facilities or forego needed prescription drug medication. The impact will be felt by these individuals and their families.

Undoubtedly, some of these recipients might be able to stay independent, even if they lose the Bonus; but, we know that many of them cannot. Surely Alaskans can address the State's budget shortfalls with plans that make sense and are fair to our oldest citizens.

AARP recommends a "NAY" vote on SB 117..

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact Marie Darlin (907-586-3637), Coordinator of the AARP Capital City Task Force; Patrick Luby (907-762-3314), AARP Legislative Representative; or me (907-245-5259).

Sincerely,

Marguerite Stetson

Marguerite Stetson
AARP Alaska Executive Council Member for Advocacy
3009 Northwood Street
Anchorage, AK 99517-1871
907-245-5259
Fax 907-245-5279
ffmas@aurora.uaf.edu

CC: Vice-Chair John Cowdery
Senator Fred Dyson
Senator Gretchen Guess
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Governor Frank Murkowski

MAR 25 2002

March 17, 2003

Senator Gary Stevens
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska, 99801

Dear Gary:

As a 50 year resident of Alaska, retired, and living on a fixed income, the \$200.00 longevity check I receive each month is vital to my budget and helps me meet the high cost of my expenses and allows me to remain here. Terminating this program will have a major impact on all of us who have factored it into our budget for these several years.

Please ask the Governor to reconsider his proposal to terminate this program. He should also be aware that the cost of this program is being reduced almost daily as we oldtimers reach the "end of our trail".

Sincerely,

Delmore Schmidt

Box 2549

Homer, Alaska 99603

March 17, 2003

Senator Gary Stevens
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Ak. 99801-1182

Senator Stevens,

As a 45 year resident of Alaska, and retired on a small fixed income, the \$150.00 longevity check helps me pay the high cost of maintaining my residence in Alaska. The number of persons receiving benefits are declining due to death. I believe this program must continue to enable us seniors to stay in our beloved Alaska. It would be a real shame to discontinue this very necessary aid to seniors, many of whom cannot this amount in their budget, as I do, for the daily living expenses, taxes and so forth.

I would appreciate your consideration of this important situation.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Sue Jane Myers

PO Box 777

Homer Ak. 99603-0777

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
Bill Version: SB 117
(S) Publish Date: 3/6/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Administration
Title: _____ BRU: Longevity Bonus
Sponsor: Governor Component: Longevity Bonus Grants
Requester: _____ Component No.: 26

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)	(47,519.3)

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This reduction reflects the FY2004 savings from eliminating the Longevity Bonus program. The reduction is included in the FY2004 budget. This fiscal note is for information purposes only.

Prepared by: Dan Spencer Phone 465-5655
Division: Administrative Services Date/Time 3/5/03 9:13 AM
Approved by: Mike Miller Date 3/5/2003
Agency: Commissioner

APR 30 2002

April 25, 2003


Dear Alaska State Legislators
and Governor Murkowski :

Enclosed herewith are sixteen pages containing 158 signatures of Alaska residents who are strongly opposed to any changes in the Longevity Bonus Program.

So strongly are Fairbanksans opposed to Governor Murkowski's proposed elimination of the Longevity Bonus Program that Republicans are likely to suffer in future elections should any changes be made.

The comment, "Governor Murkowski made me a Democrat," was frequently expressed by those signing the enclosed petition.

Sincerely yours,


Ruth B. Bohms
Longtime Alaskan
P O Box 80155
Fairbanks, AK 99708
(907) 479-6970

Encls.

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

Before you vote to alter the Longevity Bonus Program please consider the following:

①

- The Alaska Longevity Bonus Statistical Summary for the month of January, 2003 shows 17,340 active participants receiving warrants. With each passing week, this number decreases and the cost to the State shrinks considerably. In FY2004, just 8 months from now, the number of recipients is projected to be 17,252 (88 fewer). Source: State's White Paper, page 4, dated March 14, 2003.
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- A timely notice of any changes to the program should be given to the Longevity Bonus recipients as a matter of law.

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Marian Thomas	Marian Thomas	1606 Marika Rd. #9	Fairbanks, AK	99709	474-4561	
Ruth Bohms	Ruth Bohms	P.O. Box 80155	Fairbanks, AK	99708	479-6970	
Dennis Giltzer	Dennis Giltzer	15 FARWELL #203	FBKS AK	99701	456-7370	
Arlene Spurgin	Arlene Spurgin	246 Charles St	Fbks AK	99701	452-4069	
ALBERT HINES	Albert Hines	3071 Riverview Dr	FBKS AK	99709	474-0865	
ESTHER HACKNEY	Esther Hackney	1136 Sunset Dr.	Fbks AK	99709	474-0610	
BRONCKAN BARR	Bronckan Barr	820 6th Ave	FBKS AK	99701	474-3712	
Larry K. Wike	Larry K. Wike	611 Change Lane Fairbanks AK				
Bruce Newman	Bruce Newman	1 Block N. of Aurora	VENETIE, AK	99781	849-8113	
Russ Ensign	Russ Ensign	2156 Peede Rd	PO Box 56556 North Pole, AK 99705	99705	488-2148	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Becky L. Spear	<i>Becky Spear</i>	787 High Road Way	same Fairbanks	Fairbanks, ak 99712	451-7017	
Hope Helms	<i>Hope Helms</i>	1452 Noble St	Fairbanks Alaska	Fairbanks Alaska 99701	452-3474	
Roy Helms	ROY HELMS	1452 Noble St	Fairbanks AK	99701	452-3474	
VEVA BECKER	<i>Veva Becker</i>	4137 Rosebud Lane	Fairbanks	99709	479-6968	
JUDITH STELLA	<i>Judith Stella</i>	235 Skelton Dr	Fairbanks AK	99701	456-1454	
ALICE OATES	<i>Alice Oates</i>	3252 Adams ^{1014 1/2}	Fairbanks	99709	452-8966	
GLENN HACKNEY	<i>Glenn Hackney</i>	1136 SUNSET DR.	SAME	FAIRBANKS 99709	474-2610	
FRANK MCGILVARY	<i>Frank McGilvary</i>	112 FAREWELL	SAME	FBKS 99701	452-6929	
R.A. O'Grady	<i>R.A. O'Grady</i>	201 ELLINGSON	son N F Fx	Fbks, 99701	456-5740	
Rachel Thomas	<i>Rachel Thomas</i>	3070 Totem	same	Fbks 99709	479-2004	

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3

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Niilo E. Koponen	<i>Niilo E. Koponen</i>	710 Chena Ridge Pl	710 Chena Ridge Fairbanks AK 99709	FAIRBANKS 99709	907-479-6782	niilosac@wasguitonet.com
Ron Braum			Po Box 877911	Wasilla 99687	3571020	
Justin Billi		864 Sirdin Dr		North Pole	488-0410	
BRENDA Reichenberg	<i>Brenda Reichenberg</i>	113 Duwikel	PO Box 73694	Fbks, AK-	479-9296	
Marion Brand	<i>Marion Brand</i>	500 10 th Ave	Same	" "	452-6952	
Evelyn Sites	<i>Evelyn Sites</i>	1601 Marika #1	Fbks. AK	99709	456-5257	
JANICE HAMMAN	<i>Janice Hamman</i>	1605 Mareike	Helel Ak	99709	456-5431	
Malie C. Gray	<i>M. Carolyn Gray</i>	399 Hillside Dr	Fbks. AK	99712	457-5737	
THOMAS LINCOLN	<i>Thomas Lincoln</i>	2509 ALSTON RD	Fairbanks AK	99709	479-6716	
Harm De Boer	<i>Harm De Boer</i>	3205 N. Van Horn Rd	P.O. Box 60499 Fairbanks, AK	99706	452-2583	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

4

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
DIANA CRAWFORD	<i>Diana Crawford</i>	3390 HOWDEN RD	P.O. BOX 7004	FBKS	457-7771	
JAY HAWLEY	<i>Jay Hawley</i>	1630 DULCIMER	PO BOX 83215	FBKS 99708		
Robert W Upright	<i>Robert W Upright</i>	1591 Fools Gold	POB 10764	Fbks 99712	457-5424	
Bettie H. Upright	<i>Bettie H. Upright</i>	1591 Fools Gold Rd	PO BOX 10764	Fbks 99712	457-5424	
Carol Callahan	<i>Carol M. Callahan</i>	606 Bennington	Same	FBKS 99709	479-2078	
Anita Hines	<i>Anita M. Hines</i>	3071 Riverview W	Same	FBKS 99709	474-0865	
Nancy Plante	<i>Nancy Plante</i>	1616 Dredgerview Dr.	Attn: Dr. Same	Fbks 99712	456-1971	nancy.pla.eagle.pt@alaska.net
Ruth Knapman	<i>Ruth Knapman</i>	1280 Gilmore Tr	same	99712	457-6380	
CATHERINE R. JONES	<i>Catherine R. Jones</i>	3690 Widener Lane	P.O. Box 80023	Fbks 99708	479-6955	
Becki Phypis	<i>Becki Phypis</i>	522A Farmers Sp	POB 70143	Fbks 99707	451-6821	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
HILDA P. MELCHIOR	Hilda P. Melchior	2721 Horsetail Trail	2721 Horsetail Trail	Fbks. 99709	907-455-1615	hpm@mosquitonet.com
D.A. MCGILVARY	D.A. McGilvary	112 Farewell Ave	112 Farewell Ave	Fbks, 99701	907 452-6929	grammy@gci.net
ROY E. TRAXLER	Roy E. Traxler	950 TOK ST.	950 TOK ST.	Fbks 99709	907 474-0513	
LOIS E. VAN HYNING	Lois E. Van Hyning	2844 Gold Hill Rd.	P.O. Box 80165	Fbks, AK 99708	907-479-2476	
PRISCILLA PHARR	Priscilla G. Pharr	3343 HIMALAYA RD.	P.O. Box 10012	Fbks. AK 99710	907-458-7831	PHARRAKSI@yakoo.net
GEORGE PHARR	George W Pharr	3343 Himalaya Rd	P.O. Box 10012	Fbx AK 99710	907 458 7831	Woody@Alaska.net
NORA DIERINGER	Nora G. Dieringer	666 11 th Ave #305	Fairbanks Alaska	Fairbanks, Ak 99701	(907) 452-3902	
GLADYS MAIN	Gladys Main	1728 Farmers Lp	810605 Fbks 99708		479-2465	
JAMES A. GRAB	James A. Grab	1118 128 th St	P.O. Box 30109	Central	907 5205322	James A. Grab
JEANNETTE GRAB	Jeanette Grab	1369 Beldaine Rd	same	Fairbanks	455-6263	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Janette Hanneman	Janette Hanneman	3370 Davis Rd	3370 Davis Rd	Fairbanks 99709-5303	479-6686	
Colette Buchholtz	Colette Buchholtz		PO Box 85185	Fairbanks 99708	455-4860	
Mark Olson	DICK OLSON	2501 Mission Rd	P.O. Box 56359	North Pole 99705	488-3977	
Mary Hastings	Mary E. Hastings	2225 Indep. Cir E		North Pole	488-1416	
Don Bates	Don Bates	1145 Broadway		North Pole	488-7763	
DEBBIE REED	Debbie Reed	805 Astin St.		FAIRBANKS	452-2491	
Lucille Reese	Lucille Reese	2701 Perimeter Dr		North Pole AK	488-9246	
Leslie Callanway	Leslie Callanway	1892 Agate Ave		Box 99709		
CATHLEENE ALDEN	Cathlene Alden	1117 Galena St	1117 Galena St	Fbks 99709	474-0611	
MARIA BILLINGS	Maria Billings	4018 TEAL AVE	same	Fbks 99709	479-2479	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
PATRICIA FRANKLIN	<i>Patricia Franklin</i>	1213 Coppit	1213 Coppit	Fairbanks, AK 99709	474-9475	
John GRANDFIELD	<i>John Grandfield</i>	3451 Buffalo Ln	PO Box 10509	Prudhoe Bay, AK 99709	485-9305	
KEN BREWER	<i>Kenneth Brewer</i>	1701 TAMARACK ST	Same	FBKS AK	452-2919	
Peter Smith	<i>Peter Smith</i>	3277 Helen Plce	Same	"	479-4521	
Rachel Phillips	<i>Rachel Phillips</i>	3512 Briathalon	same	N Pole	490-0099	
Gandy Setzer	<i>Gandy Setzer</i>	244 ana	Same	Fairbanks	474-8775	
David Czech	<i>David Czech</i>	1225 Susie A	P.O. Box 10242	Fairbanks 99710	452-3696	
Diann Darnall	<i>Diann Darnall</i>	2030 Jack St.	P.O. Box 8489	FAIRBANKS	719-0952	
Aaron Soland	<i>Aaron Soland</i>	4861 Glasgow	4861 Glasgow	Fairbanks 99709	479-8855	
Karen Estrada	KAREN ESTRADA	1903 Bridgewater Dr.	Same	Fbks 99709	452-3143	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

Before you vote to alter the Longevity Bonus Program please consider the following:

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Grace Chang	Grace Chang		1500 Carline	FBKS 99709 AK	456-7466	
DELORES LINZNER	Delores Linzner	1235 Noble # 6	same	Fbks 99701 AK	452-5658	
LOIS FRANZ	Lois Franz	3624 HOLDEN RD	same	Fai 99709	479-6692	
ROBERT E. FRANZ	Robert E. Franz	3624 Holden Rd	"	FBKS 99709	479-6692	
Sharm Bullock	Sharm Bullock	3030 Davis Rd C-44	same	Fbks 99709	456-7350	
Virginia K. L. McDowell	Virginia K. L. McDowell	2077 Kathleen Rd	99712	FBX 99712	488-6068	
Cliff Brenner	Cliff Brenner	1314 Viewpointe	99709	Fairbanks 99709	479-6742	
Harlan Luce	Harlan Luce	1033 Pedro St		Fairbanks 99709	458-7614	
MACK RIFE	Mack Rife	803 John Cole Road	same	Fairbanks 99709	488-2957	
Mildred E. Wheat	Mildred E. Wheat	666 11 th Ave	same	" 99701	452-8636	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

9

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
LORI CANNON	<i>Lori Cannon</i>	3063 Hillary		Fairbanks 99709	451-4391	LOECANNON@mosquitonet.com
Helen Burnell	<i>Helen Burnell</i>	1005 Gilmore St		✓ 99701	456-1056	-
Floyd Dangler	<i>Floyd Dangler</i>	591 Funk Rd.		Fbks 99712	378-7509	
JOYCE C. TAPPER	<i>Joyce C. Tapper</i>	PO Box 55352		NORTH POLE 99705		
BONITA POST	<i>Bonita Post</i>	Pu Box 72962		99707 FBKS AK	907 455-6583	
M. Chapman	<i>Mary Anne Chapman</i>	576 Hilltop		Fair AK	(907) 479-2332	
PATRICK SWEENEY	<i>Patrick Sweeney</i>	1428 Stacey St		Fairbanks AK	99701	
Eleanor Chinn	<i>Eleanor Chinn</i>	880 Fairweather Rd		Fairbanks	99712 457-3277	
Randy Stowell	<i>Randy Stowell</i>	880 Fairweather Rd		Fairbanks	99712 457-3277	
Judy Schoenewald	<i>Judy Schoenewald</i>	POB 82272		Fairbanks	99708 455-6586	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

10

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
John E Gaston	John E Gaston	1825 Sheldon Ave	Same	Falke AK 99701	456-2754	
Frank Worcester	Frank Worcester	3135 Foster Dr	Same	Falke AK 99709	—	
LAVELLE M. MONTGOMERY	Lavell M. Montgomery	15 FAREWELL	PO Box 83593	Fai. AK	—	—
JANET CENKER	Janet Cenker	647 11 th	PO Box 75406	FRK AK	—	—
Mercia Kolloch	Mercia Kolloch	3293 Laurance Rd	PO Box 56091	No. Pole	—	—
Judith K Shiffler	Judith K Shiffler	929 Reindeer Dr.	Same	Fairbanks 99709	479-6104	
Wendy Shiffler	Wendy Shiffler	929 Reindeer Dr.	11	11	11	
SHIRLEY HEATWOLE	Shirley Heatwole	PO Box 72275	Same		452-2084	
Solena Brotherton	Solena Brotherton	POB 82892	—	FBKS 99708	388-5484	
Marilyn Stowell	Marilyn Stowell	880 Fairweather #1 Fairbank	PO Box 72041	FbKs 99707	457-3277	

TO: Our Alaska State Legislators

April 25, 2003

(11)

Before you vote to alter the Longevity Bonus Program please consider the following:

- The Alaska Longevity Bonus Statistical Summary for the month of January, 2003 shows 17,340 active participants receiving warrants. With each passing week, this number decreases and the cost to the State shrinks considerably. In FY2004, just 8 months from now, the number of recipients is projected to be 17,252 (88 fewer). Source: State's White Paper, page 4, dated March 14, 2003.
- Implementation of means testing into the Longevity Program will not only be expensive and burdensome for the state but will be an intrusion into the personal finances of recipients, an invasion of their privacy.
- In the best interests of the State and the recipients, we ask that any changes to the current program be postponed for a minimum of one year pending an in-depth study to determine the impact on participants, on the State, on the families of seniors, and on the economics of their communities.
- A timely notice of any changes to the program should be given to the Longevity Bonus recipients as a matter of law.

NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Nancy D. Williams	Nancy D. Williams	1119 2nd Ave ^{Fairbanks}		Fairbanks, AK 99701	452-4628	nancydwilliams@netscape.net
Walter D. Williams	Walter D. Williams	1119 2nd Ave.		Fairbanks AK	452-4628	jwalaska50@qci.com
Larry N. Knappman	Larry N. Knappman	1280 Gilmore Trl.		Fairbanks AK	457-6380	
Donald A. Callahan	Donald A. Callahan	606 Bennington Dr		Fairbanks 99709	479-2678	
Mike D Thurman	Mike D. Thurman	2874 Nelson rd	same	North Pole AK	488-2031	
Vic Salburg JR	Vic Salburg Jr	2727 PARKWAY	Box 23485	Fairbanks AK	488-0430	
HERB MELCHOR	Herb Melchor	2721 Husetar Trl		Fairbanks, AK	455-6615	
Jack VanHuyne	Jack VanHuyne	2844 Goldhill Rd.	PO Box 80163	Fairbanks AK	479-2476	
Marlys Henderson	Marlys Henderson	572 Line Dr Fairbanks AK	same	Fairbanks AK	479-6698	
Sally Ponten	Sally Ponten	3206 Rinnweir 99709	same	Fairbanks AK	479-8838	

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
PLuff	Mary	same	1458 Lacey	Fairbanks	452-3457	
Margaret Mowery	Margaret Mowery	545 Wild Horse Ln	Same	Fairbanks	479-2446	
Sandra Crabb	Sandra Crabb	mi 128 Steese	PO Box 30109	Central	520-5322	
Michelle Joseph	Michelle Joseph	424 McKinley View	PO B 83502	Fairbanks 99730	474-8865	
Glen L Hanneman	GLEN L HANNEMAN	3370 Davis Rd	SAME	FAIRBANKS AK 99709	479-6686	NA
Jon Ewig	Jon Ewig	2325 30th Ave	Same	Fbks 99701	452-5538	
Shirley Grandfield	Shirley Grandfield	3421 Buffalo Lane	PO Box 10509	Fbks 99710	488-9508	
LeRoy Zimmerman	LeRoy Zimmerman	477 Lost Lane #2	PO Box 252 Ester, AK 99725	Fbx 99709	479-8097	
Craig Hausler	Craig Hausler	3161 John Cole Rd	PO Box 10033 Fairbanks AK 99710	Fbx 99710	488-3254	
Leila R Peterman	Leila R Peterman	2465 Old Steese Hwy	same	Fairbanks 99712	457-6969	

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
MARtha Markey	martha markey	1855 Holmes Rd	Same	N. Palak 99705	907 488 6458	
Lilly Czech	Lilly Czech	1225 Susie @	P.O. Box 10242	Fbks, 99710	907-452-3696	
DON GRAY	Don J. Gray	399 Hillside Dr.	same	Fbks. 99702	907 457-5137	
Karen Heimer	Karen Heimer	1098 Chona Pumpkin	"	Fbks 99709	907-479-4313	
L. Ford Batey	Rebecca Batey	1212 29th Ave #2	Same	Fb 99701	907-456-7521	
Manci Jones	Manci Jones	2454 Coombs Dr	PO Box 55314	NP AK 99705	907-488-6290	rhock.jones@worldnet.net
Authy Lindoff	Authy Lindoff	710 East Dr.	Bx 371	99729 Hoonah, AK	907 945 3106	
GEORGEY OULTON	Georgey Oulton	171 Pebble Dr.	Bx 22	99725 Estla AK	907 479-0578	
CONNIE MERRILL	Connie Merrill	288 Sunblinn Rd FAIRBANKS	SAME	Fbks 99712	457-6174	
Rosalyn Stowell	Rosalyn Stowell	51.3 mile Elliott Hwy	177 Simpson Way	Fbks, 99712		akwmnres@starband.net

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April 25, 2003

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Coral Cook	Coral Cook	Junkerich Rd	Box 80093	WAS 99708	479-3457	
MARYLON TEEL	Marylon Teel	1846 Esquimaux Ln	Same	FBKS 99709	452-2248	
HELEN WOMACK	Helen Womack	1154 Park Dr ^{Hanks}	P.O. Box 70773	.. 99707	452-7878	
Rebecca Angell	Rebecca R Angell	147 Glacier Ave	same	Fbx 99701	457-7043	wrangell@gci.net
Elizabeth Cogan	Elizabeth Cogan	169 Leuthold Dr	Box 75133	FBKS, 99707	389-2746	elizabethcogan@yahoo.com
VIRGIL SEVERNS	Virgil D Severns	2292 Severns Rd	same	FBK 99712	490-5912	
MURRAY HOWK	Murray Howk	328 Parker Hwy	HC33 Box 32801	WENONA	388 7357	
Violet Robinson	Violet Robinson	5270 Cherokee	Same	Fairbanks	479-2470	-
Roger Post	Roger A. Post	1525 Golden View Dr.	P.O.B 72962	Fairbanks 99707	455-6583	
WALT GOZY	Walt Gozy	3307 Baker Ln	N.P.	AK 99705	488-2781	

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Jorlyn Tiemeszen	Jorlyn Tiemeszen	15 Farewell	15 Farewell	Fbk	456 7584	JORLYN@webTV.net
LINDA PEARSON	Linda Pearson	3252 Helen Pl.	Fairbanks, Ak	99709	479-3447	lpearson18@yahoo.com
WILLIAM L. LARPARI	William L. Larpari	1526 Name TRAIL	PO BOX 45 DELTA Jct AK	99737	895-5266	—
Claude E Klaver	Claude E Klaver	4811 Ambient Dr	rome	Fbks 99709	479-7633	
Jane N. Williams	JANE WMS	1048 NORRIS Ln	"	" 99712	457-4979	
Georgiana Brenner	Georgiana Brenner	1314 Viewpoint Dr	"	Pbx 99709	479-6742	
Adrian Marandon	Adrian Marandon	709 WAVES Rd	"	FBX	455-7093	
Leslie Correll	Leslie Correll	320 Pleasant Valley	P.O. B. 61132	FBX 99706	488-5254	
Robert Burgess	Robert M. Burgess	1001 MIA	PO Box 2799	FBX 99708	452-8980	
Chelsea Walker	Chelsea Walker	509 9 th Ave	"	Fbks 99701	452-4259	

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NAME (PRINT)	NAME (SIGNATURE)	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
Adrienne Brownell	<i>Adrienne Brownell</i>	709 Wades Rd	← same	Fairbanks 99709	455-7093	AHBA03@aol.com
Charles Henry	<i>Charles Henry</i>	Alfaia		Healy AK 99743	683 4504	
Bob Ayer	<i>Bob Ayer</i>	717 FARMERS LOOP	POB 8006	FBKS		
Tim Stallard	<i>Tim Stallard</i>	1001 Mia st.	POBox 82096	Fairbanks AK	474-6027	
June Hernandez	<i>JUNE HERNANDEZ</i>	4781 PALO VERDE	SAME	FBKS 99709	474-8477	
Mary Synoground	<i>MARY SYNOGROUND</i>	1515 2nd ave	SAME	FBKS 99701	451 4428	
John Pritchard	<i>John M. Pritchard</i>	2 mile M-6 ROAD	P.O. Box 61419 Fairbanks	FBKS 99701	457-3565	
Steven YSAIS	<i>Steve Ysaais</i>	2032 Larkspur	same	FBKS 99701	452-2003	