

**SB**

**224**



**SESSION ADDRESS:**  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-4925  
Fax: (907) 465-3517  
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**Senator Gary Stevens**  
**Alaska State Legislature**

**INTERIM ADDRESS:**  
112 Mill Bay Road  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
(907) 486-4975  
Fax: (907) 486-5264

**Sponsor Statement SB 224**  
**An Act establishing Older Alaskans' Day**  
(Updated February 3, 2006)

Alaska's seniors are one of the nation's fastest growing senior populations, comprising 20% of the state's population. Each year, Alaskans 60 years of age and older contribute millions of dollars to Alaska's economy. Through their involvement with various organizations, service clubs and the like, they also provide thousands of hours of volunteer work through various organizations for the betterment of their communities and state. Given the numerous and important contributions Alaska's Seniors make to our state, it is a fitting honor that a day be set aside to recognize these accomplishments.

If passed into law, SB 224 will designate the second Wednesday of September as "Older Alaskans' Day". Older Alaskans' Day will be an appropriate addition to National Senior Center Week celebrations, which will fall during the second full week of September starting in 2007, and will be close to Grandparents' Day.

SB 224 is supported by the Alaska Commission on Aging and AARP Alaska. I ask for your support of this legislation.

# LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101

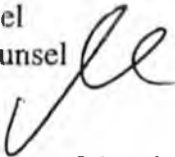
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

January 10, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Older Alaskans' Day (SB 224 (Work Order No. 24-LS1445A))

**TO:** Senator Gary Stevens  
Attn: Doug Letch

**FROM:** Jean M. Mischel  
Legislative Counsel 

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1. Establishes the second Wednesday of September of each year as Older Alaskans' Day.

JMM:med  
06-015.med



## Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: [www.akrepublicans.org](http://www.akrepublicans.org)

Sponsor: Senator Gary Stevens

Current Version: SB 224

Contact: Doug Letch, 465-4925

### Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 224

**Short Title:** OLDER ALASKANS' DAY

**Summary:**

- Establishes the second Wednesday of September as Older Alaskan's Day to honor residents 60 years or older.

**Benefits:**

- Honors Alaska's seniors and complements National Senior Center Week celebrations, which fall during the second full week of September starting in 2007.

**Background:**

- Alaska's seniors are one of the nation's fastest growing senior populations, comprising 20% of the state's population. Each year, Alaskans 60 years of age and older contribute millions of dollars to Alaska's economy. Through their involvement with various organizations, service clubs and the like, they also provide thousands of hours of volunteer work through various organizations for the betterment of their communities and state. Given the numerous and important contributions Alaska's Seniors make to our state, it is a fitting honor that a day be set aside to recognize these accomplishments.



February 3, 2006

The Honorable Gene Therriault, Chair  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Alaska Capitol, Room 119  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SB 224 (G. Stevens)—Support

Dear Chair Therriault:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we urge you and your colleagues on the Senate State Affairs Committee to support Majority Leader Gary Stevens bill SB 224 which would establish Older Alaskans Day.

As you are well aware, many older Alaskans truly were pioneers, settling in territorial Alaska and then remaining here to build our State. Recognition of their efforts by establishing an Older Alaskans Day is a nice tribute to the time and talent they have given and continue to give to Alaska.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on SB 224.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie Darlin".

Marie Darlin, Coordinator  
AARP Capital City Task Force  
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506  
Juneau, AK 99801  
586-3637 (voice)  
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Tom Wagoner  
Senator Charlie Huggins  
Senator Bettye Davis

Senator Kim Elton  
Majority Leader Gary Stevens

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### *Alaska Commission on Aging*

**FRANK H. MURKOWSKI**  
**GOVERNOR**

P.O. BOX 110693

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0693  
PHONE: (907) 465-3250  
FAX: (907) 465-1398

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 1, 2006

**TO:** Senator Gene Therriault, Chair  
Senate State Affairs Committee

**FROM:** Linda Gohl  
Executive Director  
Alaska Commission on Aging

**SUBJ:** SB 224 – Older Alaskans' Day

The Alaska Commission on Aging wholeheartedly supports the adoption of Senate Bill 224, which would establish an Older Alaskans' Day to be celebrated annually on the second Wednesday of September.

Alaskans age 60 and older form the backbone of our state. Seniors contribute to Alaska's economy and to their communities' well-being as they offer their wisdom and experience as employees, mentors, community volunteers, and family caregivers. Most importantly, they serve to remind all our citizens of the remarkable spirit of those who helped build Alaska.

The Alaska Commission on Aging endorses the timing of this celebration in early September. We note that Older Alaskans' Day, as designated by SB 224, would take place during National Senior Center Week (which is moving to September in 2007), and close to Grandparents' Day.

We would do well to set aside a special day of honor each year to bring attention to the lives of older Alaskans and the contributions they have made and continue to make to our great state.

Amendment to SB 224 By Ernstberg

#1 l 7 delete "quiet" and insert "vacuous"



February 20, 2006

The Honorable Paul Seaton, Chair  
House State Affairs Committee  
Alaska Capitol, Room 102  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SB 224 (G. Stevens)—Support

Dear Chair Seaton:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we urge you and your colleagues on the House State Affairs Committee to support Senate Majority Leader Gary Stevens bill SB 224 which would establish Older Alaskans Day.

As you are well aware, many older Alaskans truly were pioneers, settling in territorial Alaska and then remaining here to build our State. Recognition of their efforts by establishing an Older Alaskans Day is a nice tribute to the time and talent they have given and continue to give to Alaska.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on SB 224.

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Marie Darlin, Coordinator  
AARP Capital City Task Force  
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506  
Juneau, AK 99801  
586-3637 (voice)  
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Carl Gatto  
Representative Jim Elkins  
Representative Bob Lynn  
Representative Jay Ramras

Representative Berta Gardner  
Representative Max Gruenberg  
Majority Leader Gary Stevens