

**SB**

**201**

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT  
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 1/16/08

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: \_\_\_\_\_  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: 02/12/08

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 201

**SB 201 PUBLIC FINANCE WEBSITE**

"An Act relating to the establishment and maintenance of an Internet website providing public finance information; and identifying the information to be available on the Internet website."

and recommends:

- be replaced with  SCS or  CS SB 201 (STA)
- adopt previous  SCS or  CS \_\_\_\_\_
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

<b>SENATE BILL:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/> New Title
<b>HOUSE BILL:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/> New Title w/ SCR # _____

**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet	Zero	FN#
Admin	2/12/08			✓	

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LASTNAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	French	✓			
	Strick	✗			
	Burde			✓	
				✓	
CHAIR:	McQuire	✓			

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Co-chair  
Joint Armed Services Committee

Member  
Resources Committee  
Judiciary Committee  
Transportation Committee

Sen Bill.Wielechowski@legis.state.ak.us

## SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

### **Sponsor Statement: SB 201 The Alaska Open Government Act**

The intent of S.B. 201, the Alaska Open Government Act, is to create a free, searchable website that provides Alaskans with easy access to detailed and comprehensive information on state spending. This will encourage better understanding of state operations and, ultimately, reduce waste and ensure that funding is directed to the state's most important needs.

Across the country, taxpayers are clamoring for better information and greater accountability from government. The federal government recently posted its expenditures online at [www.federalspending.gov](http://www.federalspending.gov), following passage of the bipartisan Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act. In 2007, five states (Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Minnesota and Hawaii) passed similar legislation calling for the creation of on-line databases with their state's expenditures. Thirteen other states are currently considering "taxpayer transparency acts," including Washington, New Mexico, Kentucky, Michigan, Illinois, Georgia, and Colorado.

SB 201 will give Alaskans easy access to detailed information on state expenditures and revenue, empowering them to become fiscal watchdogs. It will lead to greater government accountability and a public better able to assist in making difficult government decisions.

Please join me in supporting this much needed legislation.

# LEGAL SERVICES

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

(907) 465-3887 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
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State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

January 4, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Sectional summary for SB 201, relating to creating an Internet website for state revenue and expenditures (Work Order No. 25-LS1135\M)

**TO:** Senator Bill Wielechowski  
Attn: Michelle Sydeman

**FROM:** Dennis C. Bailey *DCB*  
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.

**Section 1.** Names the Act the Alaska Open Government Act.

**Section 2.** Requires the Department of Administration to operate a searchable database available to the public using an Internet website that includes financial information describing certain state revenues and expenditures, requires the Department of Revenue to provide information for the database to the Department of Administration, disclaims an effect on otherwise confidential information, and defines "expenditure" and "searchable Internet website."

**Section 3.** Requires the data base to be available on or before October 1, 2009.

**Section 4.** For transitional purposes, requires that the first version of the website provide financial information for the previous fiscal year; subsequently, information shall be updated quarterly.

DCB:ljw  
08-002.ljw

# **Benefits of the Alaska Open Government Act**

*Thomas Jefferson's thoughts on government transparency (from 1802):*

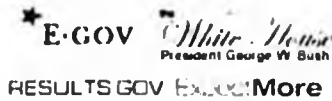
"We might hope to see the finances of the Union as clear and intelligible as a merchant's books, so that every member of Congress and every man of any mind in the Union should be able to comprehend them, to investigate abuses, and consequently to control them."



CONTRACTS

INTRODUCTION

The contracts database is compiled from government data last retrieved on 10/10/2007



Contracts Performed in Alaska At Large (Don Young) (FY 2007)

Summary

Fiscal Year: 2007  
 Total dollars: \$1,578,493,508  
 The amount for this search is 0.5% of all awarded dollars for the fiscal year.  
 This Congressional District is ranked 48 among districts for this year.  
 Total number of contractors: 16,341  
 Total number of transactions: 3,273  
[Get list of contractors](#)  
[Get list of transactions](#)

Extent of Competition



Full and open competition	\$163,106,142
Full and open competition, but only one bid	\$583,486,381
Competition after exclusion of sources	\$274,613,943
Follow-on contract	\$4,613,717
Not available for competition	\$297,340,573
Not competed	\$104,955,759
Unknown	\$149,212,382

Top 5 Known Congressional Districts where Work is Performed

Alaska At Large (Don Young)	\$1,578,493,508
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Federal Fiscal Year:  
  
 Level of Detail:  
  
 Output:

Top 5 Products or Services Sold

Construction of Structures and Facilities -- Family Housing Facilities	\$192,180,636
Fuels, Solid	\$138,638,850
Construction of Structures and Facilities -- Hospitals and Infirmaries	\$66,683,337
Air Charter for Things	\$62,634,772
Construction of Structures and Facilities -- Other Airfield Structures	\$58,134,726

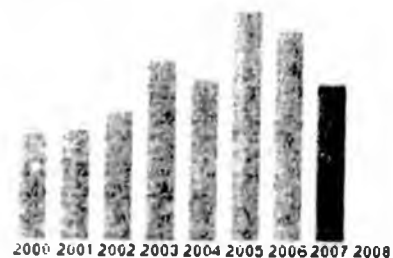
Top 5 Contracting Agencies Purchasing from Contractor(s)

ARMY, Department of the (except Corps of Engineers Civil Program Financing)	\$681,796,833
AIR FORCE, Department of the (Headquarters, USAF)	\$284,971,547
Defense Logistics Agency	\$144,357,235
VETERANS AFFAIRS, Department of	\$82,510,063
NAVY, Department of the	\$47,515,926

Top 10 Contractors

Ustelli Coal Mine, Inc	\$138,628,300
Osborne Construction Co	\$118,334,721
Davis Watterson JV	\$68,787,554
Kiewit/Cornerstone J/V	\$66,290,000
Alognak Native Corporation	\$65,182,710
Lynden Incorporated	\$63,044,054
Chugach Alaska Corp	\$42,173,652
Bristol Bay Native Corporation	\$41,315,291
Bristol Design Build Services LLC	\$40,853,333
Davis Constructors & Engineers Inc	\$39,917,069

Trend



2000	\$1,061,859,532
2001	\$1,110,035,851
2002	\$1,293,655,773
2003	\$1,812,665,975
2004	\$1,624,944,977
2005	\$2,338,333,129
2006	\$2,120,957,692
2007	\$1,578,493,508
20081Q*	\$3,028,596

\*Note: FY 2008 only includes data up to first quarter

END OF REPORT

This search was done on January 2, 2008

Federal Fiscal Year:  
  
 Place of Performance Cong District:

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: SB 201a  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name): SB201-DOA-DOF-1-28-08 Dept. Affected: Administration  
 Title: "An act relating to establishment and maintenance of an RDU Centralized Admin Services  
Internet website providing public finance information..." Component Finance  
 Sponsor: Senators Wielechowski and Ellis  
 Requester: \_\_\_\_\_ Component Number 59

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

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

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

The Division of Finance is currently building such a website at the direction of Governor Palin. The source of the financial information will be the State's new Alaska Data Enterprise Reporting System (ALDER), which is currently in field testing by State departments.

This project has been incorporated into the Division of Finance ongoing workload. Therefore, no additional funding needs are anticipated.

Prepared by: Kim Garnero, Director  
 Division: Finance  
 Approved by: Kevin Brooks, Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Administration

Phone 465-3435  
 Date/Time 1/28/08 10:00 AM  
 Date 1/28/2008



# AKPIRG

A ALASKA LASKA PUBLIC INTEREST RES ALASKA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH  
PO Box 101093 ♦ Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1093 ♦ Ph: (907) 278-3661 ♦ Fax: (907) 278-9300 ♦ email: akpirg@akpirg.org

To: Senate State Affairs Committee

Re: AkPIRG Supports Senate Bill 201 - PUBLIC FINANCE WEBSITE

On behalf of the 1,500 members of the Alaska Public Interest Research Group (AkPIRG), I am writing to urge your support of SB 201. SB 201 will create a searchable website that will provide Alaskans with critical information on state spending. As a group that endeavors to get people involved in civic affairs, we realize that the pocketbook is an efficient place for that to start. This free database will allow Alaskans to better track where their government dollars are going, providing the opportunity to better assess how their needs are being met. We believe it will lead to better, more efficient and responsive government.

That is born out in the experiences in other states. Last year, five states passed legislation to create on-line databases for their states. At [www.federalspending.gov](http://www.federalspending.gov)

Across the country, taxpayers are clamoring for better information and greater accountability from government. The federal government recently posted its expenditures online at [www.federalspending.gov](http://www.federalspending.gov). Indeed, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Transparency Act) requires a single searchable website, accessible by the public for free that includes for each Federal award:

1. The name of the entity receiving the award;
2. The amount of the award;
3. Information on the award including transaction type, funding agency, etc;
4. The location of the entity receiving the award;
5. A unique identifier of the entity receiving the award.

SB 201 will give Alaskans detailed financial information on state expenditures, enabling them to cheer or critique as they see fit. We believe it will lead to great accountability, more efficient use of resources and a more engaged citizenry.

Thank you for your support of Senate Bill 201.

Sincerely,

Steve Cleary  
AkPIRG Director