

SB

147

<TARGET><BILL>SB 147</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
147</SUBJECT><COMM>SHSS29</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/19/16

FURTHER: Finance

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

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/3/16

Health and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 147

SB 147-SENIOR BENEFITS PROG. ELIGIBILITY

"An Act relating to eligibility requirements of the Alaska senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS SB 147 (HSS) [] Same Title [] New Title
- adopt previous CS _____ (_____) [] Same Title [] New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
EED	MVA
DEC	DNR
DFG	DPS
GOV	REV
DHS	DOT
AJS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
DHS	✓			2

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	ELLIS	✓			
	Stalpe			✓	
	Giessel			✓	
CHAIR:	STEDMAN			✓	

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Governor Bill Walker
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January 18, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Meyer
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Meyer:

Under the authority of Article III, Section 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill amending eligibility requirements for the Alaska senior benefits payment program.

The bill proposes to add an additional qualifying criterion to the eligibility requirements for the senior benefits payment program. An individual must be either a citizen of the United States or a qualified alien under 8 United States Code 1641, in addition to meeting existing age, state residency, financial and program application criteria. This change would align the eligibility requirements of the Alaska senior benefits payment program with other public assistance programs and allow continued assistance to eligible seniors in a fiscally responsible manner.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Walker".

Bill Walker
Governor

Enclosure

SENATE BILL NO. 147

Senate Bill 147 Sectional Analysis

Prepared by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

January 20, 2016

SB 147, "An Act relating to eligibility requirements of the Alaska senior benefits payment program; and providing for an effective date."

Sectional Analysis:

Section 1 Establishes that a beneficiary of the Senior Benefits program be a citizen of the United States or a qualified alien under 8 USC 1641, consistent with other Alaska public assistance programs.

Section 2 Provides that the Act takes effect on July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 147
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	1/19/2016

Identifier: DHSS-SBPP-1-16-16
 Title: SENIOR BENEFITS PROG. ELIGIBILITY
 Sponsor: RLS BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR
 Requester: Governor

Department: Department of Health and Social Services
 Appropriation: Public Assistance
 Allocation: Senior Benefits Payment Program
 OMB Component Number: 2897

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2017 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2017 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits	(3.9)		(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	(3.9)	0.0	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund	(3.9)		(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)
Total	(3.9)	0.0	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)	(3.9)

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 06/30/16

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial Version

Prepared By:	Sean O'Brien, Director	Phone:	(907)465-5847
Division:	Public Assistance	Date:	01/16/2016 04:00 PM
Approved By:	Sana Efird, Asst. Commissioner, Finance and Management Services	Date:	01/16/16
Agency:	Health and Social Services		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**Analysis**

When the Senior Benefits Program was initially designed, it adopted many of the same eligibility criteria as Alaska's Adult Public Assistance Program. As a result, all Adult Public Assistance recipients are also eligible for Senior Benefits. However, when the Senior Benefits Payment Program was designed, the Adult Public Assistance program's United States citizen and/or qualified alien requirement was overlooked.

Addition of this criterion to the Senior Benefits program would more closely align the two programs.

The change would provide for an overall program savings annually of \$3,850. Since the Division of Public Assistance administers both programs, the change would make the Senior Benefits Payment Program easier to administer. Changes to Title 7 Alaska Administrative Code 47.547 will be necessary to amend the language with the corresponding change in statute.



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

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January 20, 2016

The Honorable Bert Stedman
Chair, Senate Health and Social
Services Committee
Room 30
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stedman:

I am writing to request a hearing in the Senate Health and Social Services Committee for Senate Bill 147, Senior Benefits Program Eligibility, at your earliest convenience.

Attached please find:

- The current version of the bill
- A fiscal note
- Governor's transmittal letter
- Sectional Analysis

Our Division of Public Assistance and Legislative Liaison will work with you to answer questions, provide testimony, and generally facilitate the bill's passage through your committee.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie".

Valerie Davidson
Commissioner

cc: Darwin Peterson, Legislative Director, Governor's Office