

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2007-2008 SCRA 1242

FISCAL NOTE # 5 ATTACHMENT

BILL NO. CSSB 4(FIN) am

<b>CS SB 4 (FIN) am</b>						
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b><u>SENIOR BENEFIT PROGRAM</u></b>						
Caseload	8,800	8,914	9,030	9,148		
Annual Benefit Cost	\$16,645.8	\$16,862.2	\$17,081.4	\$17,305.5		
Estimated Administration Costs	\$753.1	\$683.1	\$683.1	\$683.1		
<b>Total Cost Senior Benefit Prgm</b>	<b>\$17,398.9</b>	<b>\$17,545.3</b>	<b>\$17,764.5</b>	<b>\$17,988.6</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>
<b><u>DENALI KID CARE</u></b>						
Additional Children Served	1277	1302	1328	1355	1382	1410
Additional Pregnant Women Served	218	223	227	232	236	241
	1495	1525	1555	1587	1618	1651
Annual Medicaid program costs	2651.3	2879.3	3126.9	3395.9	3687.9	4005
Annual Administrative Costs	\$40.2	\$76.0	\$76.0	\$76.0	\$76.0	\$76.0
<b>Total Denali Kid Care Costs</b>	<b>\$2,691.5</b>	<b>\$2,955.3</b>	<b>\$3,202.9</b>	<b>\$3,471.9</b>	<b>\$3,763.9</b>	<b>\$4,081.0</b>
Federal Share	\$1,907.4	\$2,030.4	\$2,189.9	\$2,375.2	\$2,576.4	\$2,795.0
General Fund Share	\$783.5	\$923.8	\$1,011.9	\$1,095.6	\$1,186.4	\$1,284.9
Inter/Agency Funds	0.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
<b>TOTAL COSTS OF CS SB 4 am</b>	<b>\$20,090.4</b>	<b>\$20,500.6</b>	<b>\$20,967.4</b>	<b>\$21,460.5</b>	<b>\$3,763.9</b>	<b>\$4,081.0</b>
<b>Gen Fund costs of CS SB 4 am</b>	<b>\$18,182.4</b>	<b>\$18,469.1</b>	<b>\$18,776.4</b>	<b>\$19,084.2</b>	<b>\$1,186.4</b>	<b>\$1,284.9</b>

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 6  
 Bill Version: CSSB 4(FIN) am  
 (\$ ) Publish Date: 4/5/07  
 Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services  
 RDU Public Assistance  
 Component SeniorCare

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):  
 Title RELATING TO SENIOR CARE

Sponsor OLSON

Requester SENATE (FIN)

Component No. 2760

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

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services	460.2	460.2	460.2	460.2		
Travel	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7		
Contractual	229.7	169.7	169.7	169.7		
Supplies	53.5	43.5	43.5	43.5		
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	16,645.8	16,862.2	17,081.4	17,305.5		
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>17,398.9</b>	<b>17,545.3</b>	<b>17,764.5</b>	<b>17,988.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	17,398.9	17,545.3	17,764.5	17,988.6		
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
Other (Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,398.9</b>	<b>17,545.3</b>	<b>17,764.5</b>	<b>17,988.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time	6	6	6	6		
Part-time						
Temporary						

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

The current Senior Care program helps low-income seniors over age 65 remain independent in the community by providing an income supplement of \$120 per month to help meet their basic needs, such as food and housing. Nearly 7,000 seniors are currently receiving financial help from the Senior Care program and about 140 are receiving help in paying for the premium and deductibles of prescription drug insurance through the prescription drug program.

This amendment:

- Provides for continuation of the SeniorCare cash benefit until June 30, 2011.

Prepared by: Sherry Hill, Special Assistant  
 Division Office of the Commissioner  
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner  
 Agency Department of Health and Social Services

Phone 465-1618  
 Date/Time 04/04/2007  
 Date 04/04/2007

STATE OF ALASKA  
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

(cont. from page 1)

- Sets the maximum income eligibility level to 150% of the federal poverty guideline for Alaska (adjusted annually).
- Sets the payment at one of three amounts that depend on the person or couple's income level:
  - \* \$175 if household income is less than 100% of poverty
  - \* \$150 if household income is between 100% and 135% of poverty, and
  - \* \$100 if household income is between 135% and 150% of poverty.

**Benefit Costs**

Assumptions:

The fiscal note assumes reauthorization of the Senior Care cash benefit and elimination of the drug benefit. It also assumes:

- The sponsor's intent that there is no asset test.
- If the ALB funded, seniors will choose either ALB or Senior Care.
- Seniors who qualify for the ALB will not qualify for Senior Care.
- We assume that the payment amount will vary depending on the household's income level.
- In FY08, the department estimates an average of 7,043 seniors who currently qualify for the Senior Care cash benefit will continue to qualify for Senior Care.
- \* The department estimates an additional 300 seniors will qualify with the higher income limits. This represents the number of seniors who became ineligible for the Senior Care program due to the income limits frozen at 2005 levels.
- The department estimates an additional 300 seniors will qualify for the new program due to the elimination of the asset test. Currently approximately 4% of SeniorCare applicants are denied due to assets. Note: Information about senior assets is not available to the department. Costs associated with this provision will need to be reevaluated as we gain experience with the new program.
- The department estimates an additional 380 seniors will be served annually for every 5% increment increase above 100% of poverty.

STATE OF ALASKA  
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION  
(cont. from page 2)

The tables below display the 2007 poverty guidelines for Alaska for a single person or a couple, the projected caseload size at each level of poverty in FY 2008, and the estimated cost of benefits (benefits only) at an estimated annual caseload growth of 1.3%.

Household	2007 AK Guidelines	135%	150%
1	\$12,770	\$17,240	\$19,155
2	\$17,120	\$23,112	\$ 25,680

Poverty Level	FY08 Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Benefit Cost
< 100%	5,000	\$175	\$10,500.0
100 - 135%	2,643	\$150	\$4,757.4
135 - 150%	1,157	\$100	\$1,388.4
Total Caseload	8,800	Total Cost	\$16,645.8

Fiscal Year	Total Estimated Caseload	Total Estimated Benefit
FY08	8,800	\$ 16,645.8
FY09	8,914	\$ 16,862.2
FY10	9,030	\$ 17,081.4
FY11	9,148	\$ 17,303.5

**Administrative Costs**

**Assumptions:**

- \* The four positions currently administering the Senior Care program will continue to administer the program: 1 Administrative Clerk II (Range 8); 4 Eligibility Technician I's (Range 14), and 1 Eligibility Technician III Lead Worker (Range 15). An additional two positions will be necessary to manage the increased caseload. These positions are responsible for the initial and ongoing determination of eligibility, processing claims, and serving as a liaison with the Social Security Administration to facilitate recipient enrollment in Medicare Part D.

STATE OF ALASKA  
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

(cont. from page 3)

- \* In May 2007, DPA will begin notifying seniors about the new program. Current SeniorCare recipients will be mailed an abbreviated form for completion and informed of the need to apply for the new program. DPA will begin accepting applications in May; however, higher payment levels may be delayed until system modifications are completed, which may be October 2007.
- \* Modifications to DPA's Eligibility Information System (EIS) are necessary to facilitate the issuance of three different payments depending on household income. These changes are estimated to take three months of programming and testing.

Total FY08 Administrative Costs: \$753.1

- Personal Services (6 positions): \$460.2
- Travel (to support employee training, marketing, outreach): 9.7
- Contractual (for information technology, telecommunication, postage, printing, & building lease costs): \$129.7
  - Outreach to inform seniors of the program's availability and benefits, and to make referrals to other programs as appropriate: \$40.0
  - EIS Computer Programming Modifications \$60.0 (one time cost for FY08)
- Supplies (training materials and office supplies): \$43.5
- Additional Equipment/Supply: Desktop computer, printer and station for two new positions: \$10.0 (one time cost for FY08)

All costs are eliminated in FY2012 to reflect the sunset of the program.

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# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPT. OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

*Alaska Commission on Aging*

**SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR**

P.O. BOX 110693  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0693  
PHONE: (907) 465-3250  
FAX: (907) 465-1398

January 31, 2007

Senator Donald Olson  
State Capital, Room 514  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

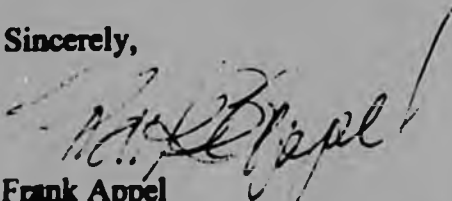
Dear Senator Olson,

The Alaska Commission on Aging supports Senate Bill No. 4 for the extension of the senior care program and the increasing of the benefit amount. We believe the senior care program provides an important and needed financial safety net for low income seniors. It helps over 7,000 seniors meet the costs of basic necessities such as housing, food and medication.

During our recent Legislative Advocacy Teleconference, two amendments were suggested. Participants felt that the asset levels were too low, especially for the cash benefit qualification criteria. Many seniors above the current level are still living in meager circumstances and at significant risk to exhaust their savings if financial emergencies occur. Secondly, participants recommended that if the program does not have a near-term sunset date, inflation proofing be added to the legislation.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation and your consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,

  
Frank Appel  
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

  
Denise Daniello  
Executive Director, ACoA

HOME

SENIOR ASSISTANCE CLEARS SENATE, STALLS IN HOUSE

ALASKA NEWS

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- Health
- Entertainment



**JUNEAU, Alaska (AP)** - A measure to provide monthly cash payments to needy seniors was yanked from the floor of the Alaska House Tuesday while a similar bill breezed through the Senate.

The biggest difference between the two is that House Bill 188 would eliminate the long-standing senior longevity bonus for good by erasing it from state statutes.

Senate Bill 4 did not address the longevity bonus.

Both the House and Senate measures would create a beefed-up cash assistance program for Alaska's low income elderly.

The more generous of the two, the Alaska Senior Assistance Program as proposed in the House, would provide monthly cash payments ranging from \$125 to \$250.

But the bill was pulled from the floor after supporters of the longevity bonus successfully amended the bill to keep it on the books.

The Senate bill passed 14-2.

Both the House and Senate measures also contain provisions to raise the level of funding for the Denali KidCare program, a Medicaid program run by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.

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Story Created: Apr 11, 2007 at 3:37 AM AKDT

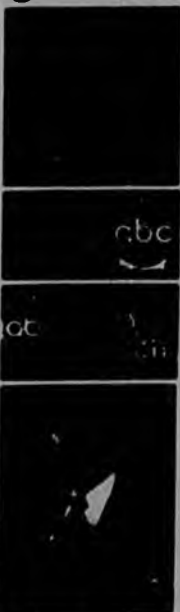
Story Updated: Apr 11, 2007 at 3:40 AM AKDT

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WMAQ-TV Channel 3  
4.7.07



VIEWER POLL

If the election were today, who would have your vote for President of the United States?

- Joe Biden (D)
- Hillary Clinton (D)
- John Edwards (D)
- Rudy Giuliani (R)
- Mitt Romney (D)
- John McCain (R)
- Barack Obama (D)
- Bill Romney (R)
- Tom Tanenbach (R)
- Tommy Thompson (R)

Submit

TONIGHT ON ABC



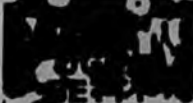
GEORGE LOPEZ 7.00



ACCORDING TO JIM 8.00



LOST 9.00





February 19, 2007

The Honorable Bettye Davis, Chair  
Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol, Room 30  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: SB 4 (Olson)—Support

Dear Chair Davis:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the Senate Health, Education and Social Services Committee to support SB 4, authored by Senator Donald Olson.

SB 4 will extend the SeniorCare Program beyond the sunset date of June 30, 2007 and will increase the monthly cash benefit from \$120 to \$150.

Approximately 7,000 older Alaskans participate in the SeniorCare program. The majority of them were too young to be eligible for the former Longevity Bonus. The majority of new enrollees to SeniorCare have just turned 65. They were low income when they were 64 and are now eligible for SeniorCare to help them cope with the daily costs of living in Alaska and help them remain in our state as they get older. These are not wealthy individuals. The assets test for SeniorCare is \$6,000 for an individual and \$9,000 for a couple. In order to receive the monthly stipend an individual's income must be below \$16,133 annually or \$21,641 for a couple. These income limits were set at 135% of the federal poverty level for 2005. They have not increased since SeniorCare was inaugurated. Because of the flat dollar amount, some eligible seniors are knocked off SeniorCare each year when they receive their Social Security COLA.

We applaud Senator Olson's leadership on this bill, particularly his recommendation of an increase from \$120 to \$150. We hope you and your Committee colleagues would also consider working with Senator Olson to bring the eligibility cap to include increases in

the federal poverty level. This would move the eligibility level from \$16,133 for a single to \$17,240 and for a couple from \$21,641 to \$23,112.

AARP also recommends consideration of lifting the assets cap beyond the \$6,000 single/\$9,000 couple levels. Older persons tend to save for retirement, including burial expenses. Research tells us that even very low income older persons try to save something each month and many older Alaskans, although we would consider them low income, will try to save enough that they pass the assets cap.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on SB 4.

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,



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

CC: Senator Joe Thomas  
Senator John Cowdery  
Senator Kim Elton  
Senator Fred Dyson  
Senator Donald Olson

**Senior Care Recipients  
Count By City/Zipcode  
6-Feb-2007**

<b>Residence City</b>	<b>Zipcode</b>	<b>Senior Care Recipients Count</b>	<b>Census Area</b>
AKHIOK	99615	1	KODIAK
AKIACHAK	99551	19	BETHEL
AKIAK	99552	20	BETHEL
AKUTAN	99553	3	ALEUTIANS EAST
ALAKANUK	99534	1	WADE HAMPTON
ALAKANUK	99554	29	WADE HAMPTON
ALEKNAGIK	99555	4	DILLINGHAM
ALLAKAKET	99720	11	YUKON/KOYUKUK
AMBLER	99786	6	NW ARCTIC
ANAKTUVUK PASS	99721	6	NORTH SLOPE
ANCHOR POINT	99556	30	KENAI
ANCHORAGE	99500	1	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99501	398	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99502	181	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99503	186	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99504	397	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99506	1	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99507	294	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99508	416	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99509	19	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99510	19	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99511	9	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99514	29	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99515	159	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99516	47	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99517	114	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99518	59	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99519	3	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99520	24	ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE	99521	4	ANCHORAGE

ANCHORAGE	99522	3
ANCHORAGE	99523	6
ANCHORAGE	99524	12
ANCHORAGE	99528	1
ANCHORAGE	99550	1
ANCHORAGE	99604	1
ANCHORAGE	99695	2
ANDERSON	99744	2
ANGOON	99801	1
ANGOON	99820	25
ANIAK	99557	8
ANVIK	99558	3
ARCTIC VILLAGE	99722	4
ATKA	99547	4
ATMAUTLUAK	99559	9
ATQASUK	99791	2
BARROW	99723	26
BEAVER	99724	5
BETHEL	99559	50
BETTLES	99726	2
BIG LAKE	99652	33
BREVIK MISSION	99785	11
BUCKLAND	99727	7
CANTWELL	99729	3
CENTRAL	99730	1
CHALKYITSIK	99788	6
CHEFORNAK	99561	10
CHEVAK	99563	21
CHICKALOOON	99674	1
CHIGNIK	99548	1
CHIGNIK	99564	2
CHIGNIK LAKE	99548	4
CHISTOCHINA	99586	1
CHITINA	99566	1
CHUATHBALUK	99557	1
CHUGIAK	99567	44
CHUGIAK	99577	1

ANCHORAGE
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ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE
DENALI
SKA/HOO/ANG
SKA/HOO/ANG
BETHEL
YUKON/KOYUKUK
YUKON/KOYUKUK
ALEUTIANS WEST
BETHEL
NORTH SLOPE
YUKON/KOYUKUK
BETHEL
YUKON/KOYUKUK
MAT-SU
NOME
NW ARCTIC
DENALI
YUKON/KOYUKUK
YUKON/KOYUKUK
BETHEL
WADE HAMPTON
MAT-SU
LAKE AND PENINSULA
LAKE AND PENINSULA
LAKE AND PENINSULA
VALDEZ/CORDOVA
VALDEZ/CORDOVA
BETHEL
ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE



FAIRBANKS	99710	2
FAIRBANKS	99711	4
FAIRBANKS	99712	36
FAIRBANKS	99724	1
FAIRBANKS	99760	1
FORT RICHARDSON	99505	1
FORT YUKON	99740	19
FORTUNA LEDGE	99585	11
FRITZ CREEK	99603	2
GAKONA	99586	11
GALENA	99741	15
GAMBELL	99742	20
GIRDWOOD	99587	1
GLENNALLEN	99588	9
GOLOVIN	99762	2
GOODNEWS BAY	99589	14
GRAYLING	99590	8
HAINES	99827	39
HEALY	99743	2
HOLLIS	99950	3
HOLY CROSS	99602	5
HOMER	99603	82
HOONAH	99729	1
HOONAH	99829	26
HOOPER BAY	99604	35
HOPE	99605	2
HOUSTON	99654	1
HOUSTON	99684	1
HOUSTON	99694	16
HUGHES	99745	6
HUSLIA	99746	15
HYDABURG	99922	15
HYDER	99523	1
HYDER	99923	2
IGIUGIG	99613	1
ILIAMNA	99606	8
INDIAN	99540	1

FAIRBANKS N STAR
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ANCHORAGE
YUKON/KOYUKUK
WADE HAMPTON
KENAI
VALDEZ/CORDOVA
YUKON/KOYUKUK
NOME
ANCHORAGE
VALDEZ/CORDOVA
NOME
BETHEL
YUKON/KOYUKUK
HAINES
DENALI
PRINCE OF WALES
YUKON/KOYUKUK
KENAI
SKA/HOO/ANG
SKA/HOO/ANG
WADE HAMPTON
KENAI
MAT-SU
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YUKON/KOYUKUK
YUKON/KOYUKUK
PRINCE OF WALES
PRINCE OF WALES
PRINCE OF WALES
LAKE AND PENINSULA
LAKE AND PENINSULA
ANCHORAGE

JUNEAU	99801	231
JUNEAU	99802	15
JUNEAU	99803	6
JUNEAU	99811	3
KAKE	99830	19
KALSKAG	99607	1
KALSKAG	99826	2
KALSKAG (LOWER)	99607	1
KALSKAG (LOWER)	99826	3
KALSKAG (UPPER)	99607	6
KALTAG	99748	6
KASIGLUK	99609	18
KASILOF	99810	16
KENAI	99811	123
KENAI	99881	1
KENAI	99872	1
KETCHIKAN	99901	153
KETCHIKAN	99950	8
KIANA	99749	11
KING COVE	99812	12
KING SALMON	99813	1
KIPNUK	99814	17
KIVALINA	99750	14
KLAWOCK	99925	28
KOBUK	99751	5
KODIAK	99615	152
KODIAK	99645	1
KOKHANOK	99606	5
KOLIGANEK	99576	9
KONGIGANAK	99559	11
KOTLIK	99620	14
KOTZEBUE	99752	59
KOYUK	99753	15
KOYUKUK	99754	3
KWETHLUK	99121	1
KWETHLUK	99621	24
KWIGILLINGOK	99822	11

JUNEAU
JUNEAU
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WRANG/PETERS
BETHEL
BETHEL
BETHEL
BETHEL
BETHEL
YUKON/KOYUKUK
BETHEL
KENAI
KENAI
KENAI
KENAI
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY
NW ARCTIC
ALEUTIANS EAST
BRISTOL BAY
BETHEL
NW ARCTIC
PRINCE OF WALES
NW ARCTIC
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LARSEN BAY	99624	6
LEVELOCK	99625	3
MANLEY HOT SPRINGS	99756	1
MANOKOTAK	99628	16
MCGRATH	99627	9
MCGRATH	99672	1
MEKORYUK	99630	10
MENTASTA LAKE	99780	6
METLAKATLA	99626	1
METLAKATLA	99926	37
MINTO	99758	18
MOOSE PASS	99631	3
MT VILLAGE	99632	33
NAKNEK	99633	5
NANWALEK	99603	1
NAPAKIAK	99634	17
NAPASKIAK	99559	25
NAUKATI BAY	99950	2
NELSON LAGOON	99571	1
NENANA	99760	18
NEW STUYAHOK	99636	19
NEWTOK	99559	15
NIGHTMUTE	99690	8
NIKISKI	99635	12
NIKOLAEVSK	99556	1
NIKOLAI	99691	11
NIKOLSKI	99638	1
NINILCHIK	99639	12
NOATAK	99761	23
NOME	99762	50
NONDALTON	99640	6
NOORVIK	99763	25
NORTH POLE	99701	1
NORTH POLE	99705	62
NORTH POLE	99775	1
NORTHWAY	99764	12
NUIQSUT	99789	2

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NUNAM IQUA	99666	6
NUNAPITCHUK	99641	17
OLD HARBOR	99643	8
OUZINKIE	99644	5
PALMER	99645	184
PALMER	99654	2
PALMER	99745	1
PEDRO BAY	99647	1
PERRYVILLE	99648	3
PETERSBURG	99833	19
PILOT STATION	99650	31
PLATINUM	99651	3
POINT BAKER	99927	2
POINT HOPE	99766	17
PORT ALEXANDER	99836	1
PORT GRAHAM	99603	10
PORT HEIDEN	99549	1
PORT LIONS	99550	2
QUINHAGAK	99655	31
RAMPART	99787	4
RED DEVIL	99656	4
RUBY	99768	8
RUSSIAN MISSION	99657	5
SAINT GEORGE	99591	1
SAINT MARYS	99658	25
SALCHA	99714	7
SAND POINT	99661	2
SAVOONGA	99769	39
SCAMMON BAY	99662	17
SELAWIK	99770	18
SELDOVIA	99663	7
SEWARD	99664	37
SHAGELUK	99665	8
SHAKTOOLIK	99771	10
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SLANA	99586	4
SLEETMUTE	99668	8
SOLDOTNA	99669	123
ST MICHAEL	99659	7
ST PAUL ISLAND	99660	5
STEBBINS	99671	11
STERLING	99672	30
STEVENS VILLAGE	99774	3
STONY RIVER	99557	2
SUTTON	99674	12
TALKEETNA	99676	15
TALKEETNA	99688	1
TANACROSS	99776	7
TANANA	99777	9
TATITLEK	99677	2
TELLER	99762	1
TELLER	99778	11
TENAKEE	99841	1
THORNE BAY	99919	3
TOGIAK	99678	43
TOK	99780	38
TOKSOOK BAY	99637	21
TRAPPER CREEK	99683	6
TULUKSAK	99679	14
TUNTUTULIAK	99680	14
TUNUNAK	99681	13
TWIN HILLS	99576	8
TYONEK	99682	4
UNALAKLEET	99684	21
UNALASKA	99685	7
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WASILLA	99845	2
WASILLA	99854	298
WASILLA	99887	66
WHITE MOUNTAIN	99784	8
WHITTIER	99893	5
WILLOW	99509	1
WILLOW	99688	39
WRANGELL	99929	48
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YAKUTAT

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPT. OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

*Alaska Commission on Aging*

**SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR**

P.O. BOX 110693  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0693  
PHONE: (907) 485-3250  
FAX: (907) 485-1398

January 31, 2007

Senator Donald Olson  
State Capital, Room 514  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Olson,

The Alaska Commission on Aging supports Senate Bill No. 4 for the extension of the senior care program and the increasing of the benefit amount. We believe the senior care program provides an important and needed financial safety net for low income seniors. It helps over 7,000 seniors meet the costs of basic necessities such as housing, food and medication.

During our recent Legislative Advocacy Teleconference, two amendments were suggested. Participants felt that the asset levels were too low, especially for the cash benefit qualification criteria. Many seniors above the current level are still living in meager circumstances and at significant risk to exhaust their savings if financial emergencies occur. Secondly, participants recommended that if the program does not have a near-term sunset date, inflation proofing be added to the legislation.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation and your consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,

  
Frank Appel  
Chair, Alaska Commission on Aging

  
Denise Daniello  
Executive Director, ACoA

# STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF LAW

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

P.O. BOX 110300  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0300  
PHONE: (907) 465-3600  
FAX: (907) 465-2075

February 15, 2007

### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Sarah Palin  
Governor

FROM: *TJC* *EMB* *ebc*  
Talis J. Colberg  
Attorney General

RE: Attached draft bill relating to the senior care program  
Our file: 773-07-0049

At the request of your legislative director, attached is a draft bill relating to the senior care program. The bill would extend the existing program to June 30, 2012, would make several changes to the eligibility criteria, and would eliminate the prescription drug benefit from the program.

A draft transmittal letter to the legislature, describing the bill in more detail, is also attached for your review.

If you approve the bill for introduction, we will prepare it in final form. Into which house do you wish the bill introduced?

TJC:EMB:ebc

Suggested Distribution by Governor's Legislative Office:  
Hon. Karleen Jackson, Comm'r, Dept. of Health and Social Services  
Karen Rehfeld, Dir., OMB, Office of the Governor

## DRAFT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill relating to the senior care program.

The bill would extend the sunset date of the existing senior care program from June 30, 2007 to June 30, 2012, to allow continuation of program benefits to needy seniors.

This bill also would make two changes to the eligibility requirements for the program. First, the income limitation would be changed. The current income standards are "frozen" at 135 percent of the 2005 federal poverty income guidelines. The 2005 limits have caused some seniors to become ineligible for the program because of cost-of-living adjustments that are made to retirement and pension income, such as Social Security benefits, which are not automatically adjusted under the current statutory language. The change made by the bill would result in income standards that are flexible enough to correspond to changing federal poverty guidelines. Second, the bill would provide that an individual who is receiving a longevity bonus payment would not be eligible for benefits under the senior care program.

The bill also would eliminate the prescription drug benefit portion of the program. The Department of Health and Social Services has found that there is only low-level usage of the prescription drug option, despite extensive outreach efforts encouraging seniors to enroll. Additionally, survey information indicates that many seniors have other health insurance coverage available.

The senior care program finances important benefits for needy older Alaskans, to help them meet basic necessities, including food and housing. I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

Sarah Palin  
Governor

**BILL NO.**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

Introduced:

Referred:

**A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the senior care program; and providing for an effective date."

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

3 \* Section. 1. AS 47.45.300(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) The senior care program is established in the Department of Health and  
5 Social Services to provide cash assistance benefits [AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
6 BENEFITS] as far as practicable under appropriations provided by law.

7 \* Sec. 2. AS 47.45.300(c) is amended to read:

8 (c) If the department estimates that appropriations for the program are  
9 insufficient to meet the demands of the program in a fiscal year, the department may  
10 reduce or eliminate the cash assistance benefit [BENEFITS] available to recipients.  
11 [BENEFITS SHALL BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED IN THE FOLLOWING  
12 ORDER:

13 (1) DEDUCTIBLE COVERAGE UNDER AS 47.45.320(c);

14 (2) PREMIUM COVERAGE UNDER AS 47.45.320(c);

15 (3) CASH ASSISTANCE UNDER AS 47.45.310(b).]

1 \* Sec. 3. AS 47.45.310(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) To be eligible for a cash assistance benefit under the program, an  
3 individual [SHALL]

4 (1) must be 65 years of age or older;

5 (2) must be a resident of the state;

6 (3) must have household income that does not exceed 135 percent of  
7 the annual federal poverty guidelines for Alaska, as determined by the federal  
8 Office of Management and Budget and revised under 42 U.S.C. 9902(2)

9 [(A) \$16,133 A YEAR IF THE HOUSEHOLD CONSISTS OF  
10 ONE PERSON; OR

11 (B) \$21,641 A YEAR IF THE HOUSEHOLD CONSISTS OF  
12 TWO PEOPLE];

13 (4) may not be receiving a longevity bonus payment under  
14 AS 45.45.010 - 47.45.150;

15 (5) must meet other eligibility requirements specified in this  
16 subsection and in regulations adopted under this subsection; and

17 (6) must [(5)] apply on a form provided by the department; the  
18 department may use an abbreviated form for an individual who received a payment  
19 under an assistance program for seniors that paid \$120 a month and was administered  
20 by the department on or before the effective date of this section.

21 \* Sec. 4. AS 47.45.330 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 47.45.330. **Continuation of benefits.** An eligible individual who leaves  
23 the state may not receive a cash assistance benefit under AS 47.45.310 [OR  
24 PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT UNDER AS 47.45.320] during the absence unless  
25 the individual's absence is temporary and is for one of the following reasons:

26 (1) to receive medical treatment for the individual;

27 (2) to accompany the individual's family member who is receiving  
28 medical treatment outside the state; or

29 (3) for a vacation, business trip, or other absence of less than 30  
30 consecutive days, unless the individual has applied for and received a time extension  
31 from the department for special circumstances.

1 \* Sec. 5. AS 47.45.340 is amended to read:

2           **Sec. 47.45.340. Appeal rights.** An individual who receives a determination  
3 from the department that denies, limits, or modifies a cash assistance benefit [OR  
4 PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT] under AS 47.45.300 - 47.45.390, other than a  
5 determination under AS 47.45.300(c) to reduce or eliminate benefits, may request a  
6 hearing before the department under regulations adopted by the department.

7 \* Sec. 6. AS 47.45.350 is amended to read:

8           **Sec. 47.45.350. Ability to recover or recoup improper assistance benefits.**  
9 An individual is liable to the department for the value of assistance or benefits  
10 improperly paid to the person under AS 47.45.310 [OR 47.45.320] if the improper  
11 payment was based on inaccurate or incomplete information provided by the  
12 individual. In a civil action brought by the state to recover from the individual the  
13 value of assistance or benefits improperly paid under AS 47.45.310 [OR 47.45.320],  
14 the state may recover from the individual the costs of investigation and prosecution of  
15 the civil action, including attorney fees as determined under court rules.

16 \* Sec. 7. AS 47.45.390(2) is amended to read:

17           (2) "eligible individual" means an individual who meets the  
18 requirements of AS 47.45.310 [OR 47.45.320] and regulations adopted under that  
19 statute [THOSE STATUTES] for eligibility for the program;

20 \* Sec. 8. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska enacted in sec. 4, ch. 89, SLA 2005, is  
21 amended to read:

22           Sec. 4. AS 09.38.015(a)(10); AS 37.05.146(c)(80) [AS 37.05.146(c)(78)];  
23 AS 47.45.300, 47.45.310, [47.45.320,] 47.45.330, 47.45.340, 47.45.350, 47.45.360,  
24 and 47.45.390 [; AND SECS. 5 - 7 OF THIS ACT] are repealed [ON THE LATER  
25 OF] June 30, 2012 [2007, OR THE EFFECTIVE DATE UNDER SEC. 11 OF THIS  
26 ACT].

27 \* Sec. 9. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska enacted in sec. 9, ch. 89, SLA 2005, is  
28 amended to read:

29           Sec. 9. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new  
30 section to read:

31           **FUND REVERSION.** The unobligated, unencumbered, and unappropriated

1 balance of the Alaska senior care fund established in AS 47.45.360, added by sec. 2 of  
2 this Act, reverts to the unreserved general fund on June 30, 2012 [2007].

3 \* Sec. 10. AS 47.45.320 is repealed.

4 \* Sec. 11. Sections 8 and 9 of this Act take effect June 29, 2007.

5 \* Sec. 12. Section 10 of this Act takes effect June 30, 2007.

6 \* Sec. 13. Except as provided in secs. 11 and 12 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1,  
7 2007.



**Sponsor Statement: House Bill 198**

# Senior Payment Program

Sponsored by **Rep. Mike Hawker**

Co-Sponsors: [Rep. Harris](#), [Rep. Coghill](#), [Rep. Samuels](#), [Rep. Chenault](#), [Rep. Meyer](#), [Rep. Foster](#), [Rep. Doogan](#), [Rep. Fairclough](#), [Rep. Thomas](#), [Rep. Wilson](#), [Rep. Nelson](#), [Rep. LeDoux](#)

*"An Act establishing the Alaska senior assistance payment program; repealing the senior care and longevity bonus payment programs; and providing for an effective date."*

Posted: March 19, 2007

Status: (H) HES » (H) FIN : 2007-03-26

Next Hearing: (H) FIN : 2007-04-02 1:30 pm, Room 519

Contact: [Juli Lucky](#), 465-4949, [W & M Committee Aide](#)

HB 198 establishes the Alaska Senior Assistance Program to provide cash assistance payments to low-income Alaska seniors.

The existing Senior Care Program, which is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2007, is amended to remove the little used prescription drug benefits and increase monthly cash payments to Alaskans, age 65 and older, based on their incomes related to federal poverty level guidelines adjusted for Alaska (FPL-A). Monthly payments are:

- \$250 per month to individuals with income less than 75% of FPL-A
- \$175 per month to individuals with income from 75% to less than 100% of FPL-A
- \$125 per month to individuals with income from 100% to less than 84.5% of FPL-A

The Alaska Senior Assistance Program combines desirable features of both the Longevity Bonus and Senior Care programs into a single needs based structure that delivers real help to low-income seniors across Alaska. Program enrollment is open to all qualifying seniors.

The new Alaska Senior Assistance Program sunsets June 30, 2011 if not reauthorized.

\*\*\*



**Rep. Mike Hawker (R-32)**  
Chair, (H) W&M Com.

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Rep. John Harris

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Rep. Ralph Samuels

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The 25th Alaska State Legislature, 1st Session

**Sectional Analysis: House Bill 198**

**Senior Benefits/Med. Assistance Elig.**

**Sponsored by Rep. Mike Hawker**

Co-Sponsors: Rep. Harris, Rep. Coghill, Rep. Samuels, Rep. Chenault, Rep. Meyer, Rep. Foster, Rep. Doogan, Rep. Fairclough, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Wilson, Rep. Nelson, Rep. Joule, Rep. Roses, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Seaton, Rep. Clisna

*"An Act establishing the Alaska senior benefits payment program; repealing the senior care and longevity bonus payment programs; amending medical assistance income eligibility provisions for persons under 14 years of age, for pregnant women, and for disabled persons; and providing for an effective date."*

Posted: March 20, 2007  
 Bill Version: CSHB 198(FIN) AM  
 Status: FIN CS ADOPTED (H) • RETURNED TO (H) RLS : 2007-04-10  
 Contact: Julie Lucky, 465-4949, W & M Committee Aide



Rep. Mike Hawker (R-32)  
 Chair, (H) W&M Com.

**Sections 1-5:** These sections correct references to the senior care and longevity bonus programs to reflect the new senior assistance program.

**Section 6:** Establishes the senior assistance payment program and specifies the duties for the Department of Health and Social Services with respect to the program.

**Section 7:** Specifies the qualifications for entrants to the senior assistance program, the process for application, and the amount of payment.

**Section 8:** Specifies the residency requirements for program participants and removes a reference to the senior care prescription drug program, which is repealed in this bill.

**Sections 9, 10, 12:** Remove or correct references to the senior care prescription drug program, which is repealed in this bill.

**Section 11:** Establishes the Alaska senior assistance fund, which is used by the Department of Health and Social Services to make senior assistance payments.

**Sections 13-14:** Provide a sunset date for the Alaska senior assistance program in 2011 and make technical corrections to the uncodified law of the State of Alaska enacted by Ch. 89, S.L.A 2005 (HB 106).

**Section 15:** Repeals the longevity bonus program (44.64.030; 47.08.060(c)(8); 47.45.010 - 47.45.160) and the previous senior care prescription drug benefit (47.45.320).

**Section 16:** Transfers any remaining assets from the senior care program to the senior assistance program.

**Section 17:** Provides authority for the Department of Health and Social Services to adopt regulations and specifies that the current regulations stay in effect until the new regulations are effective.

**Section 18-20:** Effective date provisions to make the senior assistance program take effect June 30, 2007.

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March 8, 2007

Per Carolyn Spalding (465-2340) and Jim Steele – Adult Public Assistance program – Resource test (referred to as Assets Test, also) (conference call 11:30 a.m. today)

The test for both Adult Public Assistance and SSI (Social Security) is \$2,000 single and \$3,000 per couple (monthly). These amounts include both liquid and non-liquid assets.

There is also a program under Adult Public Assistance that covers Medicare premiums. The Asset Test is \$4,000 single, \$6,000 couple (75 – 80 people are currently in the program).

The current prescription drug program in SeniorCare has an Assets Test of \$50,000 single, \$100,00 couple (liquid assets)

It is not known whether the 75 – 80 overlap into the SeniorCare Drug program.

*Asset Test*

Your welcome. It was our Public Assistance staff that pulled it together.

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2007 10:15 AM  
**To:** Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation

Laura,

Thank you for being so fast with this info. I really appreciate it.

Ginny

**From:** Baker, Laura [mailto:Laura\_Baker@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 5:53 PM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation  
**Importance:** High

Ginny - below is the information you requested.

Laura

**Senior Care Scenario Request Senator Olson/G. Austerman 3/27/07**

Criteria: Current asset test retained and applied, poverty level at Alaska federal guidelines, no program sunset date, no prescription drug program, no ALB  
Note: Admin costs not included in these calculations



Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 75%	400	\$ 200	\$ 980.0
75 - 100%	4,600	\$ 175	\$ 9,680.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,343</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 14,837.4</b>

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 100%	5,000	\$ 175	\$ 10,500.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
135 - 150%	510	\$ 100	\$ 612.0
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,853</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 15,329.4</b>

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 10:21 AM  
**To:** laura\_baker@health.state.ak.us  
**Cc:** Sherry\_Hill@health.state.ak.us

## Ginny Austerman

---

**From:** Ginny Austerman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2007 12:56 PM  
**To:** 'Craig, Deborah'  
**Subject:** RE: Leg Inquiry Senate C&RA Comm G Austerman SC~ALB.doc

Deborah:

Today, Sen Olson received a side by side comparison of the Current SeniorCare Program, the Gov's Proposal and SB 4. In the column for SB 4, I see that the department is not clear as to whether and ALB and SeniorCare are allowed. It is not allowed, I spoke with the bill drafter and she agrees that the bill allows for the programs to run concurrently, but not combined. Would you please pass this information on to the correct person and ask them to redraft the side by side with the new information.

Thanks,

Ginny

---

**From:** Craig, Deborah [mailto:Deborah\_Craig@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2007 9:38 AM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Subject:** RE: Leg Inquiry Senate C&RA Comm G Austerman SC~ALB.doc

Ginny,

I thought I should also mention that the Governor will be introducing SeniorCare legislation - our Leg Liaison Sherry Hill indicated that if you have questions, you could talk with John Bitney.

Again, don't hesitate if I can be of further assistance.

*Deborah Craig*

907-465-8259

Director's Office, DPA, DHSS

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**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2007 8:57 AM  
**To:** Craig, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: Leg Inquiry Senate C&RA Comm G Austerman SC~ALB.doc

Thanks, Deborah. I'll look them over and call you if I have questions.

Ginny

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**From:** Craig, Deborah [mailto:Deborah\_Craig@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2007 8:44 AM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Lindstrom, Elmer A.; Fitzjarrald, Ellie  
**Subject:** Leg Inquiry Senate C&RA Comm G Austerman SC~ALB.doc

2/21/2007

Ginny,

Attached is the information you requested. As we discussed yesterday, I think the charts will help in understanding the federal poverty level issue but don't hesitate to call if I can be of assistance.

*Deborah Craig*

907-465-8259

Director's Office, DPA, DHSS

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**From:** Lindstrom, Elmer A.  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2007 8:51 AM  
**To:** 'Ginny Austerman'  
**Cc:** Craig, Deborah; Hill, Sherry  
**Subject:** RE: Dave Gray suggested I contact you....

A pleasure talking to you this morning, Ginny. Please contact Deborah Craig directly...she'll be happy to work through these questions with you.

We understand your bill will be up on 2/19.

Elmo

---

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 01, 2007 5:02 PM  
**To:** elmer\_lindstrom@health.state.ak.us  
**Subject:** Dave Gray suggested I contact you....

Hello Elmer:

I have been waiting for Sherry Hill to return my call for a couple of days, I'm sure she is pretty swamped with the Overview for Ways and means. Maybe you can help me out.

I am gathering information for the Sponsor Statement for SB 4 and need some data from your department:

I am unable to tell from the longevity bonus bills, whether they are set up to continue with the phase out of the original program, do you know if they are?

How many people will qualify for the Longevity Bonus Program (assuming it is still in phase out mode)?

What, if any, is the change in the federal poverty guidelines? One person? Two people?

Do you know the \$\$ amount the Senior Assistance Program costs today? What is the number of people being served by the program? Is this data readily available by district?

I have a couple of other questions that I can ask you if you can call me tomorrow with answers for the questions above.

Ginny Austerman  
Senate C & RA Committee Aide  
465-4956

2/21/2007

**Ginny Austerman**

**From:** Baker, Laura [Laura\_Baker@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2007 1:02 PM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Clarke, Janet E.; Baker, Laura; Fitzjarrald, Ellie; Lindstrom, Elmer A.  
**Subject:** FW: Senior Care Scenario Request SB 4 Senator Olson/G. Austerman  
**Importance:** High

Ginny - Below is the additional information you requested on SB4.

Have a good weekend.

Laura

**Senior Care Scenario Request SB 4 Senator Olson/G. Austerman**  
**3/29/07**

Criteria: **NO ASSET TEST**, poverty level at Alaska federal guidelines, *Sunset 6/30/11* no program sunset date, no prescription drug program, no ALB

Note: Admin costs not included in these calculations

**No Asset Test**

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY 08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 100%	5,000	\$ 175	\$ 10,500.0
100 - 135%	2,643	\$ 150	\$ 4,757.4
135 - 150%	1,157	\$ 100	\$ 1,388.4
Total Caseload	8,800	Total Cost	\$ 16,645.8

*Model # 3*  
*Version C*

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2007 1:49 PM  
**To:** Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation

Hi Laura:

Would you do one more model, please. Using scenario #2, delete the asset test criteria, -0- it out and recalculate .

As we understand it, there are about 30,000 seniors in Alaska. Even with the asset test still in, we were not expecting the total number of seniors to be so low.

Thanks, Ginny

**From:** Baker, Laura [mailto:Laura\_Baker@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2007 10:21 AM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation

3/30/2007

Your welcome. It was our Public Assistance staff that pulled it together.

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2007 10:15 AM  
**To:** Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation

Laura,

Thank you for being so fast with this info. I really appreciate it.

Ginny

**From:** Baker, Laura [mailto:Laura\_Baker@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 5:53 PM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation  
**Importance:** High

Ginny - below is the information you requested.

Laura

**Senior Care Scenario Request Senator Olson/G. Austerman 3/27/07**

Criteria: Current asset test retained and applied, poverty level at Alaska federal guidelines, no program sunset date, no prescription drug program, no ALB

Note: Admin costs not included in these calculations

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 75%	400	\$ 200	\$ 960.0
75 - 100%	4,600	\$ 175	\$ 9,660.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,343</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 14,837.4</b>

V. Olson  
E

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 100%	5,000	\$ 175	\$ 10,500.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
135 - 150%	510	\$ 100	\$ 612.0
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,853</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 15,329.4</b>

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 10:21 AM  
**To:** laura\_baker@health.state.ak.us  
**Cc:** Sherry\_Hill@health.state.ak.us

3/30/2007

**Subject: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation**

Hi Laura and Sherry:

Laura, would you please run the following models for Sen. Olson's SB 4:

1)

\$150/mo. @ 135% - 100% of current Fed Pov Lev  
\$175/mo. @ 100% - 75% of current Fed Pov Lev  
\$200/mo. @ 75% - -0% of current Fed Pov Lev

Projected Monthly Caseload \_\_\_\_\_

2)

\$100/mo. @ 150% - 135% of current Fed Pov Lev (approximate # of new people this would  
add \_\_\_\_\_)  
\$150/mo. @ 135% - 100% of current Fed Pov Lev  
\$175/mo. @ 100% - -0% of current Fed Pov Lev

Projected Monthly Caseload \_\_\_\_\_

Both models assuming all of the following:  
current asset test of \$6,000 - Individual, \$9,000 - couple  
poverty level floats as federal level changes,  
no program Sunset Date  
no prescription drug option  
no LB

We would like this information as soon as you are able to get to it.

Thank you. If you have questions please call me at 4989.

Ginny Austerman  
Committee Aide  
Community and Regional Affairs Committee  
Senator Donald C. Olson

3/30/2007

**Ginny Austerman**

**From:** Baker, Laura [Laura\_Baker@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 5:53 PM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Baker, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation  
**Importance:** High

Ginny - below is the information you requested.

Laura

**Senior Care Scenario Request Senator Olson/G. Austerman 3/27/07**

Criteria: Current asset test retained and applied, poverty level at Alaska federal guidelines, no program sunset date, no prescription drug program, no ALB

Note: Admin costs not included in these calculations

*June 30, 2011*

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 75%	400	\$ 200	\$ 960.0
75 - 100%	4,600	\$ 175	\$ 9,660.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,343</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 14,837.4</b>

*Version E*

Poverty Level	Estimated Caseload	Benefit	FY08 Estimated Cost Benefits Only/No Admin
< 100%	5,000	\$ 175	\$ 10,500.0
100 - 135%	2,343	\$ 150	\$ 4,217.4
135 - 150%	510	\$ 100	\$ 612.0
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>7,853</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$ 15,329.4</b>

~~VERSION E~~

**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2007 10:21 AM  
**To:** laura\_baker@health.state.ak.us  
**Cc:** Sherry\_Hill@health.state.ak.us  
**Subject:** Calculations for two scenarios on SeniorCare legislation

Hi Laura and Sherry:

Laura, would you please run the following models for Sen. Olson's SB 4:

- 1) \$150/mo. @ 135% - 100% of current Fed Pov Lev  
 \$175/mo. @ 100% - 75% of current Fed Pov Lev  
 \$200/mo. @ 75% - 0% of current Fed Pov Lev

*155-1-11  
 Sherry  
 2/11*

3/28/2007

Projected Monthly Caseload \_\_\_\_\_

2)  
\$100/mo. @ 150% - 135% of current Fed Pov Lev (approximate # of new people this would add \_\_\_\_\_)  
\$150/mo. @ 135% - 100% of current Fed Pov Lev  
\$175/mo. @ 100% - 0% of current Fed Pov Lev

Projected Monthly Caseload \_\_\_\_\_

Both models assuming all of the following:  
current asset test of \$6,000 - Individual, \$9,000 - couple  
poverty level floats as federal level changes,  
no program Sunset Date  
no prescription drug option  
no LB

We would like this information as soon as you are able to get to it.

Thank you. If you have questions please call me at 4989.

Ginny Austerman  
Committee Aide  
Community and Regional Affairs Committee  
Senator Donald C. Olson

3/28/2007

**Ginny Austerman**

**From:** Craig, Deborah [Deborah\_Craig@health.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2007 9:45 AM  
**To:** Ginny Austerman  
**Cc:** Hill, Sherry; Lindstrom, Elmer A.; Clarke, Janet E.; Fitzjarrald, Ellie  
**Subject:** RE: Questions on SB 4  
**Attachments:** Craig, Deborah.vcf

Ginny,

I'm sorry this took so long to get back to you. Thanks for your patience. Carolyn Spalding, Chief of Policy, will be calling you for more clarification about the asset test questions, as well.

**Question #1.** If the income limit in SB 4 is changed to 135% of the 2007 Federal Poverty Level Guideline, and all else in the bill remains the same, what will be fiscal impact be?

Changing the income limit to 135% of the 2007 poverty level is estimated to allow 300 additional individuals to qualify for the program, for a total of 7,343 in FY 2008. The estimated cost of SeniorCare payments for these individuals will depend on whether the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is reinstated and, if it is, whether individuals will be allowed to receive payments from both SeniorCare and the Longevity Bonus. Estimates for both options are provided below.

Estimate if the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is reinstated and individuals cannot receive payments from both the SeniorCare and Longevity Bonus programs:

Caseload at 135% of 2007 poverty level	Number potentially eligible for ALB	Revised caseload without ALB eligibles	SeniorCare Cost Total x 150 x 12
7343	2303	5040	\$9,072.0

Estimate if the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is not reinstated or individuals are able to receive payments from both the SeniorCare and Longevity Bonus programs:

Caseload at 135% of 2007 poverty level	Number potentially eligible for ALB	Revised caseload without ALB eligibles	SeniorCare Cost Total x 150 x 12
7343	0	7343	\$13,217.4

**Question #2.** If the income limit in SB 4 is changed to 150% of the 2007 Federal Poverty Level Guideline, and all else in the bill remains the same, what would the estimated number of people in the program be, and what would the estimated fiscal impact be?

In addition to the caseload increase described in question #1, increasing the income limits to 150% of the 2007 poverty level is estimated to allow 510 additional individuals to qualify for the program. The estimated total would then be 7,853 in FY 2008. The estimated cost of SeniorCare payments for these individuals will depend on whether the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is reinstated and, if it is, whether individuals will be allowed to receive payments from both SeniorCare and the Longevity Bonus. Estimates for both options are provided below.

Estimate if the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is reinstated and individuals cannot receive payments from both the SeniorCare and Longevity Bonus programs:

Caseload at 150% of	Number potentially	Revised caseload	Senior Care Cost
---------------------	--------------------	------------------	------------------

2007 poverty level	eligible for ALB	without ALB eligibles	Total x 150 x 12
7853	2464	5389	\$9,700.2

Estimate if the Alaska Longevity Bonus program is not reinstated or individuals are able to receive payments from both the SeniorCare and Longevity Bonus programs:

Caseload at 150% of 2007 poverty level	Number potentially eligible for ALB	Revised caseload without ALB eligibles	Senior Care Cost Total x 150 x 12
7853	0	7853	\$14,135.4

*Deborah Craig*

907-465-8259

Director's Office, DPA, DHSS

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**From:** Ginny Austerman [mailto:Ginny\_Austerman@legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2007 3:31 PM  
**To:** Craig, Deborah L (HSS)  
**Subject:** FW: Questions on SB 4

Deborah:

I was wondering if the below information request has been processed yet. I haven't seen anything come back to me.

Thanks,  
Ginny

---

**From:** Ginny Austerman  
**Sent:** Friday, March 02, 2007 4:56 PM  
**To:** Clarke, Janet (HSS); Hill, Sherry (HSS); Craig, Deborah L (HSS)  
**Subject:** Questions on SB 4

Janet, Sherry and Deborah:

If the income limit in SB 4 is changed to 135% of the 2007 Federal Poverty Level Guideline, and all else in the bill remains the same, what will the fiscal impact be?

If the income limit in SB 4 is changed to 150% of the 2007 Federal Poverty Level Guideline, and all else in the bill remains the same, what would the estimated # of people in the program be, and what would the estimated fiscal impact be?

Dual eligibility (ALB and Senior Care) is not part of SB4, so please make calculations relative only to Senior Care.

If I could have that info by Tuesday, March 6, that would be very nice.

Thanks,

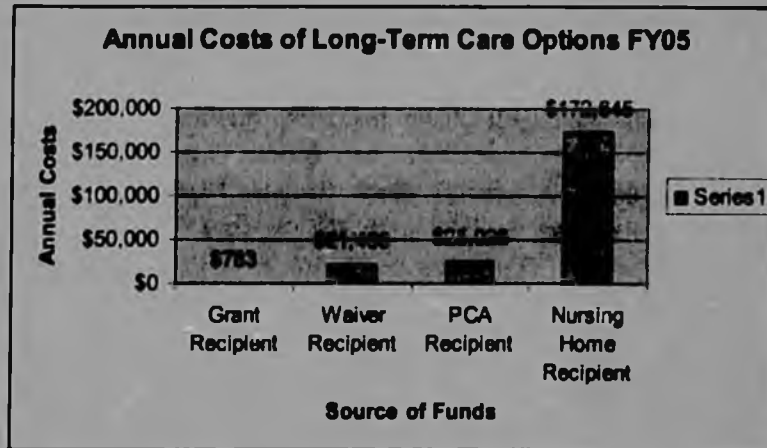
Ginny Austerman

**Alaska Commission on Aging  
Keep the Elders at Home Initiative  
A Proposed Increment for the Division of Senior & Disabilities Services:  
Senior Community Based Grants, Component AR 23575  
March 2007 Position Paper**

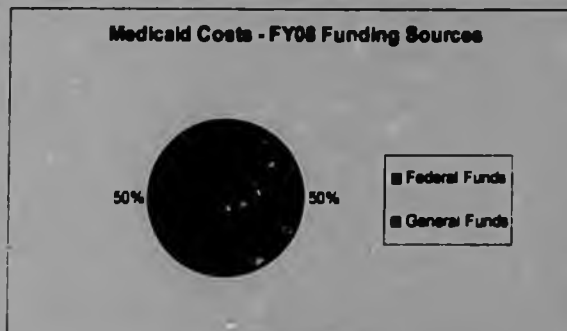
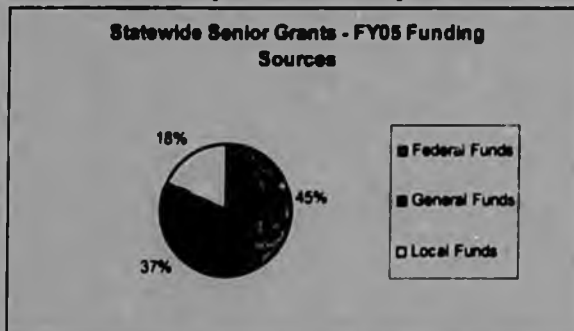
**Statement of Need**

The Alaska Commission on Aging is concerned about the impact the growth of high health care and Medicaid costs will have on Alaska's future and the health and well-being of older Alaskans. The Lewin Report (2006) projects approximately a one billion dollar expansion in General Fund Medicaid spending in the next twenty years, primarily driven by the growth rate of Alaska's senior population. The Pacific Health Policy Group (2007) affirmed that preventive health care services, such as those provided by home- and community-based services (HCBS), are a sound investment that supports seniors in their homes, where they want to be, delaying and preventing the need for expensive institutional long term care services. The Commission wants to ensure the funding of fiscally sound alternatives to mitigate high medical costs and provide quality care for the elders in our state.

Currently Alaska has a program to delay and prevent the use of expensive Medicaid long-term care services by funding grants to local senior centers and other non-profit/faith-based providers for core home- and community-based services. These agencies provide services which maximize independence and provide community activities that can facilitate physical and mental health of older adults. They are uniquely qualified to strengthen an elder's natural family supports and are extremely cost-effective. According to the Division of Senior & Disabilities Services, the average annual cost per older adult receiving senior grant services is \$783. In comparison, the average cost for a senior on the Medicaid Waiver is \$21,436, Medicaid Personal Care Attendant (PCA) \$25,026, and Medicaid nursing home \$172,685.



Home-and Community-Based Services senior grants used \$4.3 million in General Funds combined with \$5.3 million in federal funds (Older Americans Act) and another \$2.1 million in locally raised funds to serve approximately 15,000 seniors in Alaska in FY05. The programs provide Home-Delivered & Congregate Meals, Transportation, Adult Day Services, Respite, Chore, Care Coordination, and Information and Assistance services.



Findings from the Public Consulting Group (2006) identified the limited availability of community service programs to support seniors in their homes as a cause for many individuals being placed prematurely in long-term care facilities even though they do not need or desire nursing home settings. Senior home and community grant-funded services allow adult children to care for their elders while maintaining their jobs and other responsibilities, and allow for seniors with a spouse or living alone to stay healthy and independent longer, avoiding higher cost medical services.

According to a recent informal survey conducted by ACoA, senior care providers reported that in lieu of maintaining "wait lists", they provide "partial service" as a strategy to maximize their resources, and serve the most people with the fewest dollars, to meet the demands of a growing number of seniors and their family caregivers. This means that some agencies are opting to provide one to three meals a week for seniors, when five to seven meals are preferred, or one ride to the doctor but not another to the store to buy groceries. Many seniors who need services are receiving none. To save money, some senior agencies operate on a reduced schedule in order to serve more seniors with the same amount of limited funds. The Report on the Economic Well-Being of Alaska Seniors (2007) confirms that the need for home- and community-based services exceeds the availability of funding in all regions of the state.

There is also a significant need for upgrade of senior facilities, including roof repairs, building renovations, sewage system retrofits, paved walkways and purchase of commercial kitchen equipment, vans, furniture, new flooring, and more, according to reports from senior providers. In FY06, for example, the RFP for the one-time "Senior Centers Deferred Maintenance, Construction, Renovation, Expansion, and Equipment Capital Grants Program" made available \$470,000, however, the total requests from senior providers that year added up to \$1,145,766.02, according to the Department's Facilities and Planning Section. We request \$1.0 million capital funds for senior facility improvements to meet these growing needs.

We believe that promotion of prevention strategies is the most cost-effective and appropriate approach towards caring for Alaska's aging population. A cost-effective long-term care strategy incorporates a mix of grant funds with Medicaid and the Medicaid Waiver program for home- and community-based services offered to all older persons in need, including those at risk but not currently Medicaid-eligible. Such an approach preserves individuals' health status, thereby reducing the number of new enrollees to the Medicaid system, or allows for continuation of services as their health improves, unlike the Medicaid waiver.

### **The Plan**

*The Keep the Elders at Home Initiative* proposes to build on already successful senior programs as outlined above. It is not a request for new services. The program targets vulnerable seniors – those living in poverty with disabilities and having special health care needs including Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders - but will be available to all older Alaskans on a sliding fee-scale basis.

The Alaska Commission on Aging, with support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, is requesting a \$2.5 million increment for program support (to be added to the Division of Senior and Disabilities Services, Senior Community Based Grants, AR 23575) and \$1.0 million increment for capital improvements (to be added to DHSS Mental Health Capital of the Facilities and Planning Section), supported by equal amounts of GF/MH and GF funds, to expand the impact of these important programs. The funding for senior I/CBS programs has remained flat for the last ten years as the senior population has increased more than 50%. The Alaska Commission on Aging believes it is critical that we provide sufficient services to help individuals remain healthy and living independently now in order to avoid premature high costs for potential hospital stays and nursing home care. A recommended funding plan is attached. We thank you for your consideration and support of this important project.

**Alaska Commission on Aging  
 Keep the Elders at Home Initiative  
 FY 2008 Recommended Funding Plan Using \$2,500.0 Operating Increment**

<b>Service Category *</b>	<b>FY05</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY2008 Projected Estimated Increase in Clients &amp; Services with Increment **</b>
<b><u>Home Delivered Meals (\$13 meal)</u></b>			
# of Clients Served	2,821	3,002	156
# of Meals Served	280,090	270,357	21,060
Average # of Meals/Senior	99.29	90.06	135
Projected FY2008 Increment			<b>\$315,900</b>
<b><u>Congregate Meals (\$14/Meal)</u></b>			
# of Clients Served	7,306	8,029	417
# of Meals Served	257,879	259,335	20,433
Average # of Meals/Senior	35.3	32.3	49
Projected FY2008 Increment			<b>\$306,495</b>
<b><u>Assisted Transportation (\$17/Ride)</u></b>			
# of Clients Served	1,469	1,598	83
# of One-Way Rides	81,268	83,199	5,810
Average # of Rides/Senior	55.32	52.06	70
Projected FY2008 Increment			<b>\$96,770</b>
<b><u>Unassisted Transportation (\$10/Ride)</u></b>			
# of Clients Served	2,783	2,392	144
# of One-Way Rides	168,309	142,506	9,504
Average # of Rides/Senior	60.48	59.58	66
Projected FY2008 Increment			<b>\$95,040</b>
<b><u>Information &amp; Assistance (\$3/Contact)</u></b>			
# of Clients Served	13,673	21,362	1,109
# of Contacts Provided	67,163	96,460	6,654
Average # of Contacts/Client	4.91	4.52	6
Projected FY 2008 Increment			<b>\$19,962</b>
<b><u>Chore (\$18/hour or \$4.50 per 15 minute service unit)</u></b>			
# of Seniors Served	29	225	20
# of Hours of Service	430	12783	1,400
Average # of Hours/Senior	14.83	56.81	70
Projected FY 2008 Increment			<b>\$25,200</b>
<b><u>Adult Day Care (\$43.48 per half day or \$10.87/hour)</u></b>			
# of Seniors Served	502	520	135
# of Hours Provided	244,016	234,759	140,400
Average # Hours/Senior	486.09	451.46	1040
Projected FY 2008 Increment			<b>1,526,148</b>
<b><u>Respite Care (\$24/hour or \$6 for 15 minute service unit)</u></b>			
# of Seniors Served	424	251	22
# of Hours Provided	48,683	41,486	3,850
Average # Hours/Senior	114.82	165.28	175
Projected FY 2008 Increment			<b>\$92,400</b>

<u>Service Category</u>	<u>FY05</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY2008 Projected Estimated Increase in Clients &amp; Services with Increment</u>
<u>Care Coordination (\$320 per Annual Plan of Care/Recipient</u>			
# of Seniors Served	1,195	963	62
# of Contacts	19,250	18,726	1,302
Average # of Contacts/Senior	16.11	19.45	21
Projected FY 2008 Increment			\$20,832
<b>Projected Operating Increment Grand Total</b>			<b>\$2,500,747</b>

**Definitions of Senior Services Provided (\*)**

Home-Delivered Meals – Nourishing hot meals delivered to a person's home and a welfare check for those who are in need and too ill to leave their homes or cook. Meals are delivered to older vulnerable adults recovering from surgery.

Congregate Meals – Nourishing hot meals provided at senior centers where elders can congregate and participate in social and health promotion activities.

Assisted Transportation – Door to door transportation provided for medical appointments, shopping, and social events for those with mobility challenges.

Unassisted Transportation – Door to door transportation provided to medical appointments, shopping, and social activities for seniors needing a little extra help.

Information and Assistance – Information and referrals provided to seniors needing to locate various services, senior housing, or to gain entry to the continuum of care.

Chore – Help provided with in-home and outdoor tasks for seniors with disabilities or those recovering from surgery or illness. Services can include meal preparation, household cleaning, shopping, snow shoveling, and other services.

Adult Day Care – On-site care provided for seniors with Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders and other disabilities to support family caregivers during the work day.

Respite Care – Provides temporary relief to non-paid caregivers and family members in or outside of the home.

Care Coordination – Development of a plan of care based on assessing needs, service coordination, and monitoring services for seniors with disabilities or long-term health care needs.

\*\* Method for Calculating FY 2008 Projections Increment Increase in Clients & Service – The Alaska older adult population is increasing at an accelerated rate annually. In 2005, the Alaska 60+ population was 68,003. In 2006, the 60+ population was 71,534. The annual rate of population increase is 5.19%.

- Number of Clients to be Served – Multiplied the rate of increase (5.19%) by the highest number of seniors reported (FY05 and FY06) for each service category.
- Average Number of Service Units (i.e. meals, rides, etc.)/Senior – Increased the number of service units per service category to fill the "partial service" strategy used by providers
- Total Number of Service Units – Calculated by multiplying the projected number of service units by number of seniors for each category.
- Projected FY2008 Increment – Calculated by multiplying the projected total number of service units by the unit cost of service.

**SB**

**16**

# SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

## First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/07

FURTHER: State Affairs  
Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: Feb. 9, 2007  
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: March 22, 2007

Community and Regional Affairs Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 16

### SB 16 EXTEND REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

"An Act extending the termination date for the Regulatory Commission of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with  SCS or  CS SB 16 (CRA)
- 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Title	
<hr/>	
<b>HOUSE BILL:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Same Title	
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Title Change	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Title w/ SCR # _____	

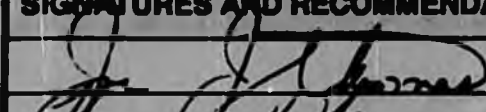
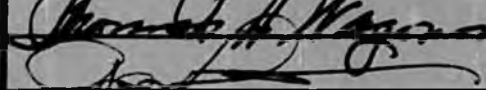
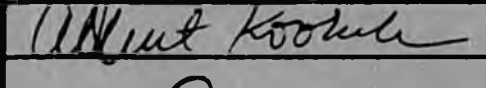


**NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
<u>CCED</u>	<u>2/14/07</u>	<u>✓</u>			

**PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):**

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Thomas	✓			
	WAGONER	✓			
	STEVENS	✓			
	KIVIKARI	✓			
	OLSON	✓			
CHAIR:					

*adopted*  
*3/1/07 4:14pm*

25-LS0148VE  
Kane  
3/1/07

*no objection*  
*not certified*  
*moved from*  
*C:RA w/ind*  
*rec*  
*Wagoner*  
*2nd Stevens*

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 16(CRA)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Offered:**

**Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): SENATOR THERRIAULT**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act amending the powers and duties of the legislative audit division regarding the**  
2 **Regulatory Commission of Alaska; amending annual report requirements for the**  
3 **Regulatory Commission of Alaska; extending the termination date for the Regulatory**  
4 **Commission of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."**

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

6 **\* Section 1. AS 24.20.271 is amended to read:**

7 **Sec. 24.20.271. Powers and duties.** The legislative audit division shall

8 (1) conduct a performance post-audit of boards and commissions  
9 designated in AS 44.66.010 and of those programs and activities of agencies subject to  
10 termination as determined in the manner set out in AS 44.66.020 and 44.66.030, and  
11 make the audit, together with a written report, available to the legislature not later than  
12 the first day of the regular session of the legislature convening in each year set out  
13 with reference to boards, commissions, or agency programs whose activities are  
14 subject to termination as prescribed in AS 44.66; the division shall notify the

1 legislature that the audit and report are available;

2 (2) audit at least once every three years the books and accounts of all  
3 custodians of public funds and all disbursing officers of the state;

4 (3) at the direction of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee,  
5 conduct performance post-audits on any agency of state government;

6 (4) cooperate with state agencies by offering advice and assistance as  
7 requested in establishing or improving the accounting systems used by state agencies;

8 (5) require the assistance and cooperation of all state officials and  
9 other state employees in the inspection, examination, and audit of state agency books  
10 and accounts;

11 (6) have access at all times to the books, accounts, reports, or other  
12 records, whether confidential or not, of every state agency;

13 (7) ascertain, as necessary for audit verification, the amount of agency  
14 funds on deposit in any bank as shown on the books of the bank; no bank may be held  
15 liable for making information required under this paragraph available to the legislative  
16 audit division;

17 (8) complete studies and prepare reports, memoranda, or other  
18 materials as directed by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee;

19 (9) have direct access to any information related to the management of  
20 the University of Alaska and have the same right of access as exists with respect to  
21 every other state agency;

22 (10) conduct an audit every two years of information found in the  
23 annual reports required under AS 42.05.211 and AS 42.06.220 regarding  
24 compliance by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska with the requirements of  
25 AS 42.05.175(a) - (e) and of the timeline extensions made by the commission  
26 under AS 42.05.175(f), and of other performance measures adopted by the  
27 commission.

28 \* Sec. 2. AS 42.05 211 is repealed and reenacted to read:

29 **Sec. 42.05.211. Annual report.** The commission shall, by November 15 of  
30 each year, publish an annual report reviewing its activities during the previous fiscal  
31 year and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must address the

1 regulation of public utility service in the state as of June 30 and must contain details  
2 about the commission's compliance with the requirements of AS 42.05.175(a) - (e),  
3 with the timeline extensions made by the commission under AS 42.05.175(f), and with  
4 other performance measures established by the commission.

5 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 42.06.220 is repealed and reenacted to read:

6 **Sec. 42.06.220. Annual report.** The commission shall, by November 15 of  
7 each year, publish an annual report reviewing its activities during the previous fiscal  
8 year and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must address the  
9 regulation of oil and gas pipeline facilities in the state as of June 30 and must contain  
10 details about the commission's compliance with performance measures reported by the  
11 commission.

12 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 44.66.010(a)(3) is amended to read:

13 (3) Regulatory Commission of Alaska (AS 42.04.010) - June 30, **2013**  
14 [2007];

15 \* **Sec. 5.** Section 1 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2009.

16 \* **Sec. 6.** Sections 2 and 3 of this Act take effect January 1, 2008.

17 \* **Sec. 7.** Section 4 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

25-LS0148C  
Kanc  
2/13/07

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 16(CRA)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): SENATOR THERRIAULT**

**A BILL**

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9 **designated in AS 44.66.010 and of those programs and activities of agencies subject to**  
10 **termination as determined in the manner set out in AS 44.66.020 and 44.66.030, and**  
11 **make the audit, together with a written report, available to the legislature not later than**  
12 **the first day of the regular session of the legislature convening in each year set out**  
13 **with reference to boards, commissions, or agency programs whose activities are**  
14 **subject to termination as prescribed in AS 44.66; the division shall notify the**

1 legislature that the audit and report are available;

2 (2) audit at least once every three years the books and accounts of all  
3 custodians of public funds and all disbursing officers of the state;

4 (3) at the direction of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee,  
5 conduct performance post-audits on any agency of state government;

6 (4) cooperate with state agencies by offering advice and assistance as  
7 requested in establishing or improving the accounting systems used by state agencies;

8 (5) require the assistance and cooperation of all state officials and  
9 other state employees in the inspection, examination, and audit of state agency books  
10 and accounts;

11 (6) have access at all times to the books, accounts, reports, or other  
12 records, whether confidential or not, of every state agency;

13 (7) ascertain, as necessary for audit verification, the amount of agency  
14 funds on deposit in any bank as shown on the books of the bank; no bank may be held  
15 liable for making information required under this paragraph available to the legislative  
16 audit division;

17 (8) complete studies and prepare reports, memoranda, or other  
18 materials as directed by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee;

19 (9) have direct access to any information related to the management of  
20 the University of Alaska and have the same right of access as exists with respect to  
21 every other state agency;

22 (10) conduct an audit every two years of compliance by the  
23 Regulatory Commission of Alaska with the requirements of AS 42.05.175(a) - (e)  
24 and of the timeline extensions made by the commission under AS 42.05.175(f),  
25 and of other performance measures adopted by the commission.

26 \* Sec. 2. AS 42.05.211 is repealed and reenacted to read:

27 **Sec. 42.05.211. Annual report.** The commission shall, by November 15 of  
28 each year, publish an annual report reviewing its activities during the previous fiscal  
29 year and notify the legislature that the report is available. The report must address the  
30 regulation of public utility service in the state as of June 30 and must contain details  
31 about the commission's compliance with the requirements of AS 42.05.175(a) - (e),