

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES

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12

Salvia User's Vocabulary, *Partial List*

- accepting
- afterglow
- besaged
- dissociadelic
- dream people
- endoreality
- iantasia
- floating
- goofy
- healing
- magic casements
- mind tunnels
- sound of silence
- strange attractor
- teacher
- tranSalviaimensional
- visions
- weird
- wiSalviaom

For More information on Salvia:

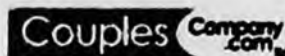
- [DEA](#)
- [Sage Group FAO](#)
- [Trip Reports](#)
- [Group for Cognitive Liberty and Ethics](#)

Many of these words are not common in the English language or have been created specifically for this drug's culture. The use of such vocabulary may be your only clue as a parent that your child is involved in the Salvia culture. Symptoms of use are vague appear like those experienced under LSD, mushrooms and PCP.

The reason Salvia is not illegal is that scientist can't figure out how it works. This also means there is no documentation on the long-term ramifications of this drug, good or bad. The only professional consensus on Salvia at this time is that it is a hallucinogen. Unlike other hallucinogens, the active ingredient in Salvia, *Salvinorin A* does not attach itself to the neurotransmitters, a requirement for illegal classification. Unless the definitions for controlled substances are changed or process of intoxication is discovered, the drug can and will remain legal.

A group called the [Group for Cognitive Liberty and Ethics](#) is currently working a grassroots effort to keep Salvia Divinorum legal and easily accessible to the masses. Their stance is that drug use enhances creativity and brainpower and should be encouraged rather than prohibited.

This article was inspired by the October 20, 2002 [Portland Oregonian Article](#) by staff reporter Margie Boulé entitled: [Meet the most potent natural hallucinogen—And it's legal!](#)



**Drug Enforcement Administration
Newark Division**

**Michael Pasterchick, Jr.
Special Agent in Charge**



**Salvia Divinorum, aka Maria Pastora, Salvia
(Salvinorin A, Divinorin A)**

Introduction

Salvia Divinorum is a perennial herb in the mint family native to certain areas of the Sierra Mazateca region of Oaxaca, Mexico. It is one of 500 species of *Salvia* in the New World is similar to the sage plant. The plant grows in large groupings to well over 3 feet in height. Its large green leaves, hollow square stems and flowers are its characteristic features. *S. Divinorum* is one of several vision-inducing plants employed by the Mazatec Indians

There has been a recent interest among young adults and adolescents to re-discover ethnobotanical plants that can induce changes in perception, hallucinations, or other psychologically-induced changes. Since *S. Divinorum*, or any of its active ingredients are not specifically listed in the Controlled Substances Act, some on-line botanical companies and drug promotional sites have advertised *Salvia* as a legal alternative to other plant hallucinogens like mescaline. The plant material is smoked for the induction of "mystical" or hallucinogenic experiences.

Chemistry/Pharmacology

"Salvinorin A" the active component of *S. Divinorum*, is most effective when vaporized and inhaled. Chemically, Salvinorin A is a neoclerodane diterpene, a psychotropic terpenoid. The grouping of psychoactive plants containing terpenoid essential oils includes *Salvia Divinorum*, Wormwood (Absinth), and *Cannabis Sativa* (tetrahydrocannabinols, THC). Divinorin A was chemically characterized by Valdes et al., in 1984, however Ortega et al., (1982) had previously characterized the same substance and called it Salvinorin A and thus, out of convention, the psychoactive substance should be called Salvinorin A. A dose of 200 to 500 micrograms produces profound hallucinations when smoked. Its' effects in the open field test in mice and locomotor activity tests in rats are similar to mescaline. Salvinorin A's action in the brain are not

well elucidated. However, recent tissue testing (in vitro assays) have suggested that Salvinorin A may act at the kappa opiate receptor site, but functional assays are lacking to determine the exact mechanism of action of this drug substance.

Illicit Uses

Salvia is being smoked to induce hallucinations, the diversity of which are described by its users to be similar to those induced by ketamine, mescaline, or psilocybin. It is being widely touted on internet sites aimed at young adults and adolescents eager to experiment with these types of substances.

User Population

The user populations, thus far, seems limited to younger adults and adolescents influenced by the promotion of the drug on internet sites

Illicit distributed

Salvia Divinorum is grown domestically and imported from Mexico, and Central and South America.

Control status

Salvia Divinorum, Salvinorin A, and Divinorin A are not listed in the Controlled Substances Act.

Comments and additional information are welcomed by the Drug and Chemical Evaluation Section, FAX 202-307-8570 or telephone 202-307-7183.

September, 2002

Salvia divinorum

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Salvia divinorum (also known as **Diviner's sage**, *María Pastora* or simply **Salvia**, although the genus name is shared among many plants) is a psychoactive plant, a member of the sage genus and the Lamiaceae (mint) family. The plant is grown by the Mazatec indigenous people of the Oaxaca mountains of southern Mexico in isolated, moist, and secret plots. It has been used as an entheogen by their shamans for centuries for healing during spirit journeys. It is thought to be a cultigen. No definitively wild populations have been found. The Latin name *Salvia divinorum* literally translates to "sage of the diviners".

The primary psychoactive constituent is trans-neoclerodane diterpenoid known as *salvinorin A*. Salvia also contains the closely related compounds salvinorins B-G, divinatorins A-E, salvicicins A and B, and hardwickiic acid. Salvinorin A is the most potent naturally-occurring hallucinogen known. It is active at doses as low as 100 µg [1]

(http://www.erowid.org/plants/salvia/salvia_faq.shtml). Recent research has shown that salvinorin A is a remarkably potent and selective kappa opioid receptor agonist. It has been demonstrated that the effects of salvinorin A are blocked by kappa opioid receptor antagonists. This indicates that the effects of *S. divinorum* can be largely, if not entirely, attributed to kappa agonism. Salvinorin A is unique in that it is the only naturally occurring substance known to induce a visionary state *via* this mechanism of action.

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History

In 1939 Salvia was first recorded in print by Jean Basset Johnston. He was studying the psilocybin mushroom use

Diviner's sage ?

A healthy Salvia Divinorum.
Scientific classification
Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Lamiales
Family: Lamiaceae
Genus: <i>Salvia</i>
Species: <i>S. divinorum</i>
Binomial name
<i>Salvia divinorum</i>

of the Mazatecs in Mexico when he encountered this entheogen. R. Gordon Wasson documented its use a decade later and reported its effects through his own testimonials. Historical data at this point is largely unresearched, but it is likely to date back into the early history of Central America. It was not until the 1990s that it become more widely known through the experiments of Daniel Siebert.

As is often the case with cultigens, it is likely that the history of this plant dates back a number of generations. Cultigens require a long historical relationship with human cultures, and salvia is no exception. Perhaps the decline of its widespread use began with the Spanish Conquest, or this phenomenon may have been already underway, either due to religious or political reasons.

Gordon Wasson theorized that this plant was the mythological *pipilzintzintli*, the "Noble Prince" of the Aztec codices. This theory would explain why a cultigen of such extraordinary power was not otherwise known to the Aztecs, but this theory is not without dispute. The Aztecs were extremely knowledgeable in plant identification, and in their records report that *pipilzintzintli* has both male and female varieties. *Salvia divinorum* is lacking sexes, meaning there are no male or female flowers, as its flowers contain both sexes. The skeptics of this theory report that the Aztecs would have known the difference between male flowers and female flowers. Wasson, still, may have been correct in his hypothesis, in that there are a number of historical accounts of gendered properties being assigned to plants in a metaphorical manner, not in a botanically anatomical one.

Usage and effects

Methods of ingestion

Traditional Methods

Mazatec shamans use two methods of ingestion. Often, they simply eat the fresh leaves by chewing and swallowing them. Sometimes, they crush the leaves to extract the leaf juices, which they then drink (usually mixed with water). Reportedly, dosages vary from as few as 6 leaves to as many as 120, when using these methods.

Nontraditional Methods

Dry leaves can be smoked in a pipe but most users prefer the use of a bong to cool the smoke. The temperature required to release salvinorin-A from the plant material is quite high (about 240°C). A regular flame will work, but the direct application of something more intense, such as the flame produced from a butane torch lighter, is often preferred.

Many people find that smoking the unprocessed dried salvia leaf produces only light or unnoticeable effects, perhaps due to the large volume of plant material that must be smoked to produce psychoactive effects. However, responses vary widely. A concentrated preparation of salvia leaf called salvia extract, with relative strength suggested by terms such as 5x, 10x, and 20x, may be smoked in place of natural strength leaves; this reduces the total amount of smoke inhaled for a given dosage of salvinorin overall, and facilitates more powerful experiences. One cone of 5X strength extract should be enough to produce the desired effect.

Sublingually ingested tinctures constitute another form of prepared salvia. A tincture is made from salvia leaf that has had the psychoactive components extracted, often using high-proof ethanol. Once produced, the liquid can either be used as a tincture or infused into salvia leaf, creating smokable salvia extract.

The traditional Mazatec method can also be employed; however, Salvinorin-A is generally considered to be inactive when ingested, because the chemical is inefficiently absorbed in the gastrointestinal tract unless

thoroughly emulsified; therefore, emphasis is often placed on holding the leaves (and also the saliva secreted during chewing) in the mouth as long as possible, to facilitate absorption through the oral mucosa. This consumes much more of the drug than smoking, but also produces a longer-lasting experience.

Subjective effects

Most users find that the effects of salvinorin are not conducive to socializing. People given Salvia often feel as though a trick has been played on them; in fact, while under the influence, most people tend to find any external stimuli distracting. Most people under the influence of salvia will remain in place although some users may move around. This can be especially dangerous as the user is in an altered state of consciousness and is therefore at a greater risk of unintended bodily injury. It is advisable to have a sober trip sitter present.

The effects of salvia are found by many to be highly spiritual entheogenic experience. Others find salvia useful for meditation. Consciousness is retained until the highest doses, but body control, awareness of externalities, and individual personality can disappear with even modest amounts. Even experienced drug users may feel totally out of control and confused.

At lower doses the user may experience spontaneous laughter, mild closed-eye visuals, stuttering or strobing visual effects, changes in depth perception, and a heightened sense of color and texture.

Moderate doses appear trance-like. Time distortion and open-eye visuals become increasingly apparent. Fractal patterns and geometric shapes may be noticeable with eyes open, and can be very confusing. Many people experience sensations of falling, similar to what is occasionally felt at the onset of sleep. The user may experience fully formed visions of other places, people, and events, especially with eyes closed.

At high doses, the effects become more powerful and may additionally include out-of-body experiences, perceptions of gravitational distortion, vertigo, sensations of wind or physical pressure, hearing voices, flanging of sound, significant open and closed-eye visuals, experiencing alternate realities, contact with beings or entities, dissolution of one's ego, and dissociation. It is also typical that, while under the effects of salvia, a person will not realize they have used the drug. The salvia experience is quite different from that of most other hallucinogenic drugs and may be overwhelming, even with the correct set and setting. Most users recommend darkness and silence as the best environment, however, minimal, ambient or relaxing music can be helpful.

According to experience reports at Erowid

(http://www.erowid.org/experiences/subs/exp_Salvia_divinorum.shtml) and elsewhere, Salvia seems to produce visual hallucinations which have a somewhat higher level of consistency than other substances. Reports of contact with an entity supposedly associated with the plant, ("the Shepherdess") again with fairly consistent characteristics, are also common.

Many salvia users, during high-dose out-of-body experiences, may suddenly "merge" with objects. With the significant time distortion typical of salvia, users may live a lifetime as another person, or as an inanimate object, such as a wall or a piece of furniture. The experiences can be extremely pleasant, or very frightening and confusing.

People often fail to achieve the effects the first time they try the plant, possibly due to problems in the administration of the drug. With repeated use, anecdotal evidence suggests that decreased dosage may be possible for the same level experience. Due to the lack of scientific studies on Salvia, if true it is unknown whether this is due to learning proper techniques of administration or a sensitization factor, sometimes colloquially referred to as "reverse-tolerance".

Some people who try Salvia find it difficult or impossible to achieve the desired effects. This may be due to an

insufficient flame. However, sometimes the results are unpredictable. For example, a user may smoke a large amount and feel no effect, but the next day may smoke a small amount and experience a strong trip.

Duration and after-effects

If inhaled, the effects do not last very long, with the peak reached within one minute and then a slow descent back to one's self after about five minutes and back to baseline within 15 to 20 minutes. Chewing the leaf (in a 'quid') makes the effects come on more slowly and be experienced for longer. The first 5 minutes after smoking extract are very intense, and should be experienced lying or sitting down, eyes closed.

Most users report no hangover or negative after-effects. Some users report a pleasing "afterglow," or pleasant sensation and state of mind persisting after the experience has ended. Others, however, claim that Salvia has a depressing effect. Salvia has not been found to be either physically or psychologically addictive. There are no proven health risks associated with the psychoactive chemicals, although the long-term effects on the human body are not well documented. However, smoking any substance is generally regarded as unhealthy by medical professionals.

Chemistry

The primary active constituent is *Salvinorin A*, sum formula $C_{23}H_{28}O_8$. Unlike most other known psychoactive compounds, Salvinorin A is not an amine—meaning it contains no nitrogen functional group. The Salvinorin group of compounds (including Salvinorin A, Salvinorin B and Salvinorin C) are called neoclerodane diterpenoids.

Extraction and purification of Salvinorin A has been documented but should only be attempted by qualified researchers with experience in chemistry and the proper laboratory equipment. Measurement of safe dosages is difficult and requires a sophisticated analytical balance, due to the extreme quantitative potency of Salvinorin A.



Legal status, Controversy

Until the late 1980s, not many people knew about salvia. The heavy commercialization of the Internet in the mid-1990s and the realization that the plant was not legally controlled engendered numerous Internet mail-order businesses which sold dried salvia leaves and other preparations, sometimes for exorbitant prices.

The general public became increasingly aware of salvia in 2002. As of June 1, 2002, Australia became the first country to ban salvia and salvinorin [2] (http://www.cognitiveliberty.org/news/salvia_australia.htm), [3] (http://www.thecouriermail.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5936,5717251%5E3102,00.html). In late 2002, Rep. Joe Baca (D-California) introduced a bill in the United States House of Representatives to schedule salvia as a controlled substance, and the DEA has indicated on its website that it is aware of salvia and is evaluating the plant for possible scheduling.

Press accounts of efforts to ban salvia often quote law enforcement and government officials who exhibit an inaccurate knowledge of the drug's effects, and frequently characterize the "high" as "chewable marijuana", or as identical to LSD and PCP (two drugs with quite dissimilar effects to *each other*, as well as to salvia).

Under Louisiana Act № 159, 40 plants, including *Salvia divinorum*, have become illegal if sold for human consumption. It is still legal to own the plants. More laws regarding *S. divinorum* can be found at Erowid's Salvia

Law vault (http://www.erowid.org/plants/salvia/salvia_law.shtml).

Salvia divinorum was outlawed in Missouri in fall 2005. New York is considering a bill that would place heavy civil penalties on the sale of the plant. Illinois is also considering regulating Salvia divinorum.

In January 2006, the Swedish government declared their intention on making salvinorin A and all plants containing the chemical illegal. This law has been in effect since 1 March 2006.

In Delaware on January 23 2006, teen Bret Chidester (<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060226/NEWS/602260356/-1/NEWS01>) committed suicide. His suicide note referred to the drug. In an essay found after his death, he wrote "*Salvia allows us to give up our senses and wander in the interdimensional time and space,... Also, and this is probably hard for most to accept, our existence in general is pointless. Final point: Us earthly humans are nothing.*" Because his use of the drug is considered to have contributed to his suicide, the Delaware State Legislature is rapidly moving to pass legislation (<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060323/NEWS/603230360/-1/NEWS01>) that would make the drug illegal there.

Unlike marijuana, salvia has a nondescript appearance (being in the same genus as cooking sage), can be grown in a small space, has no odor and requires no elaborate lighting set-up, criminalization is likely to affect only the commercial sale of the plant, and not its private cultivation, which would be impossible to police. For most regular users growing the plant is considered to be an integral part of establishing a relationship with it.

Botany

Unlike other sages, *Salvia divinorum* produces very few seeds, and the seeds it does produce seldom germinate. It appears to have very little histocompatibility variation, so the pollen from a plant genetically identical to the style fails to reach the ovule. It is propagated by cuttings and by falling over and growing new roots. Although reportedly (Valdez, et al) isolated stands of *S. divinorum* exist in its native range, these are thought to be purposely created and tended by the people of the region. Therefore it is considered a true cultivar and thus does not occur naturally in the wild anywhere.

For the most part, the fate of the species lies with a very small number of clone plants. Of these few clones, there are only two that are in any kind of public circulation; the Wasson/Hofmann strain, and the Blosser ("Palatable") strain. The former is a strain discovered by those whose name the plant bears, when on a visit to the Mazatecs. The latter is the same case, in regards to name, and was discovered in Oaxaca; it is called "Palatable" as well, as it is said to have more palatable leaves when ingested orally than those of the Wasson/Hofmann strain, though other reports state that there is little difference between the taste of the plants. Other varieties are also grown, including the Luna strain which is a strange offshoot of the Hofmann/Wasson line. A few other strains exist, but they are mostly quite similar, in potency, effect, and growth.

References

1. Chavkin C, Sud S, Jin W, Stewart J, Zjawiony JK, Siebert DJ, Toth BA, Hufeisen SJ, & Roth BL. Salvinorin A, an active component of the hallucinogenic sage salvia divinorum is a highly efficacious kappa-opioid receptor agonist: structural and functional considerations (<http://jpet.aspetjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/308/3/1197>). *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* 2004 Mar. 308 (3): 1197-1203.
2. Roth BL, Baner K, Westkaemper R, Siebert D, Rice KC, Steinberg S, Ernsberger P, Rothman RB. Salvinorin A a potent naturally occurring nonnitrogenous kappa opioid selective agonist (<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?tool=pubmed&pubmedid=12192085>). *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 2002 Sep 3, 99 (18): 11934-11939.

External links

- The Salvia divinorum Research and Information Center (<http://sagewisdom.org/>) - Daniel Siebert's site
- Erowid Salvia Divinorum Vault (<http://www.erowid.org/plants/salvia/salvia.shtml>) - Salvia section from Erowid's vast reference site
- Lycaeum page on Salvia divinorum (<http://leda.lycaeum.org/?ID=269>) - another large reference site for psychoactives
- The Salvia Center (<http://www.salviacenter.com/>) - a hub for Salvia information on the web
- Salvia Divinorum Scotland (<http://www.salvia-divinorum-scotland.co.uk/>) - information and advice on cultivation etc.
- International section of the "Salvia Community" (<http://www.salvia-community.net/International-f16.html>) - discussions with Salvia experts from all over the world
- SpiritPlants Salvia Forum (<http://www.spiritplants.org/>)
- SalviaD Alliance Forum (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SalviaD_Alliance)
- The Entheogen Forum (<http://www.entheology.org/>)
- The Australian Salvia Crusaders (<http://www.geocities.com/salviacrusaders/>) - Issues Regarding Australian Law and Salvia Divinorum

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Categories: Dissociatives | Entheogens | Herbal and fungal hallucinogens | Lamiaceae

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Salvia

How To Smoke Salvia Divinorum

by MSS

After numerous attempts I finally came upon what I call the Secret of Smoked Salvia divinorum. I will not discuss the subjective effects except in a limited sense, but what I do wish to discuss is how one might better feel these effects.

Find a comfortable position, preferably sitting down in a quiet environment. Load a water pipe with a full hit of Salvia, light and inhale as deeply, and hold as long, as possible.

While holding in the hit it may be advantageous to poke out the left over ash/foilage and reload. Upon exhalation take a couple deep breathes of fresh air then inhale a second hit as above.

Before taking another hit you may want to empty the water pipe of the left over smoke from the previous hit since the smoke stales quickly and make the next hit more difficult to inhale and hold for a length of time.

Depending on unknown factors, or insufficient inhalations, one may find it necessary to do a hit or two more. Two deep hits has always been good for me, but I have unusually large lung capacity.

Those who are used to smoking are more likely to feel the effects of Salvia simply due to the fact that their lungs are much better prepared to inhale a large amount of smoke. One technique to use to bring in large volumcs of smoke is to take a few deep breathes, exhale all the air in the lungs and then inhale from the water pipe.

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One other technique is to continue loading and smoking until you no longer have the coordination to load anymore. I've tried this last technique before and it is really great for open eye visuals.

Most people don't feel anything the first time they try Salvia. If you do not get any results after several attempts, try using a high temperature lighter (or torch) and water pipe. The high temperature flame will vaporize more of the active ingredient than a standard lighter.

If you use a torch, don't do it alone. Make sure someone is there to turn off the torch. If the Salvia hits in the middle of a toke, you might loose control of the torch.

After taking the necessary hits close your eyes, lay your head back on a comfortable support, and get your arms and legs in a comfortable open position that won't require you to move after the effects have begun. When the effects begin one might have a strong desire to open ones eyes or change ones position to reestablish an equilibrium. It is important that you not do this. Lay perfectly still with eyes closed for the duration.

If you desire to attempt the experiment with eyes open I highly recommend staying still as possible, having no moving objects in sight, and fixing ones eyes upon a motionless object for the duration. The initial peak last for no more than three to five minutes while residual effects may carry on for ten.

With continued usage over time one becomes more adept at both noticing the effects of Salvia and at exploring the new landscape. As I continued using Salvia I reached a peak experience and now the visions are rather mundane, failing in their once spectacular glory.

The three most important factors in feeling the Salvia experience are appropriate silence, lack of movement, and closed eyes. I have found that a lack of dialog, either from other participants, or from TV is of primary importance, but that instrumental music makes for a quite intriguing experience, especially if 4 speakers are properly placed surrounding ones head.

Since silence is such an integral part of the experience I've conducted sessions with only one person experimenting at a time. The participation of others during ones Salvia

experience can at times be a hindrance.

If others are present when you are experimenting it is important that they be as quiet as possible, both vocally and in their physical movements (no creaking in chairs or traversing hardwood floors, heavy breathing, or, the hardest thing for an observer to hold back, laughter).

I've always required of other participants/observers that they be completely still so as to cause absolutely no noise. During the experience a new landscape is opened up, one without borders, and space can appear to go on infinitely.

Usually this landscape is one that can shift from one scene to the next without apparent provocation and which resembles a rapid succession of unconscious material forcefully trying to push itself into conscious awareness. If someone makes a noise or speaks the vision may be lost or altered since the noise, and where it is located in space, can still be comprehended by the conscious and rational mind.

This causes the mind of the experimenter, which can be quite conscious of two realities at once, to become aware of the inconsistency between these realities, and this can, and in my case usually does, disrupt the experience.

What the motionless body allows the mind to do is to slip deeper into the 3 dimensional nature of the vision. If the body is moved the vision will often alter or slip away. In some way the physical body defines the inner landscapes of the vision. My only way to explain this is to say that the conscious rational mind retains awareness of consensus reality while under the influence of Salvia.

Since Salvia creates a non-consensus reality body movement causes a dichotomy of awareness which can cause the mind to attempt a reconciliation between these realities. Consensus reality often wins, causing the vision to dissipate, or at least lose its convincing nature.

This sort of dual awareness is also played out with sight, which may be why many who attempt to feel the effects of Salvia, and have failed to try closing their eyes, cannot. By having ones eyes open the mind appears to be unconsciously forced to recognize one reality over the next and therefore cannot fall deeply into the full Salvia experience.

Of course this dichotomy of forces appears to be overcome

depending on how much is smoked, and obviously extracted Salvinorin-A forces consensus reality to the wayside.

The main physical effects that I have noticed are a feeling of a rise of body temperature and a slight tightening of the muscles, especially in the hands. I found that if I consciously focus on relaxing my body during this tensioning that I would be pulled further into the vision. This fits into my theory of dichotomy.

I've also found that after the main effects have worn off short term memory may be slightly impaired. For example, I kept forgetting about my lit cigarette in the ashtray. I would lay it down and then, in what appeared a couple minutes, it would be completely burned down to the filter.

One may also notice an inability to recall many of the aspects of the vision and may suffer from incoherent speech. The incoherent speech is very important in attempting to interpret the experience. Just as in Freudian dream psychoanalysis the mind makes attempts to fill in the blanks of the vision with coherent structure, basically by adding material to make the vision make sense. But the visions in themselves are unconscious material coming up to a conscious level and this is very difficult to fully interpret.

When a participant comes down from the experience with me I remain completely silent, allowing the partaker to speak freely without my interjections or my attempts to make sense of what is being said. Let them freely speak, without the criticism of the all too common laughter, and try to form a new mental picture from remembered material. Let them have enough quiet time to digest what has happened so that they might come to their own personal understanding.

The main psychological effects seem to be a dissociation from one's physical surroundings. One becomes aware of other surroundings and of communication with alien, though not necessarily extraterrestrial or spiritual, beings. One of the more interesting factors I have found with Salvia is its ability to cause laughter, sometimes even uncontrollably so. Rarely have I seen fear from smoked foliage, but with Salvinorin-A I understand it is common.

Of course these are only my own observations and I make no guarantees of the same effects for others. Two last, though not thoroughly tested observations are that marijuana smoked beforehand interferes with the effects of Salvia and

that the effects of Salvia plateau, thereby requiring a rapid succession of hits.

I have yet to see if any other entheogen limits Salvia's effects. I look forward to testing and hearing about others' experiments with smoked Salvia during Mescaline, Psilocybin, Ayahuasca, and LSD excursions. It might also be interesting to try Salvia (masticated or smoked) in conjunction with smoked DMT. I have personally tried a smoked Salvia/5-MeO-DMT combination with highly dissociative effect on the ego (due to Id influences) while keeping a sense of superego awareness.

I became my superego aware of my ego as it was being affected and effected by my id. You could also say I became my super consciousness aware of my conscious mind being affected and effected by my unconscious mind. Quite a spectacular feeling. Tripartite Being recognized as one.

You should be aware that Salvia suitable for smoking purposes is available in different strengths and forms, for the sake of your own health always get standardized extract when possible, see below for more info.

--- *Normal Salvia Leaves* are just that, leaves that have been harvested and dried.

--- *High Grade Salvia Leaves* come from premium plants, similar to high grade marijuana compared to a standard strain.

--- *Crude Extract* is prepared by mixing crude extract with Salvia divinorum leaves. This concentrates tars and other harmful components of the leaf. It is usually described by a number followed by an x (such as "5x," "10x," etc). The number indicates the ratio of extract to leaf. For example 'Salvia Divinorum 10X Organic Extract', is prepared by mixing one unit of leaf with the tar-like crude extract obtained from nine units of leaf. The resulting product is ten times as potent as the leaves used to produce it. This type of product can vary tremendously in potency because the potency of the leaves used to produce it varies. It has a somewhat sticky feel and inferior burning characteristics due to the impure quality of the extract.

--- *Standardized Extract* is prepared by extracting pure salvinorin A (the active principal of the plant), then adding a measured quantity back onto Salvia divinorum leaves to bring them up to a specific, reliable, and consistent level of

potency. This type of product is time consuming to prepare, but is far superior to crude-extract enhanced leaf. Products that have been prepared in this manner have particularly good burning characteristics because they do not contain the tar-like, gummy chemicals found in crude extracts. Since the impurities have been removed during the extraction process, they won't end up in your lungs.

Salvia has been available legally in most areas of the world but it is being made illegal in more countries as time passes. Louisiana made it illegal to use Salvia as a drug in 2005. It used to be easy to buy Salvia online, it is becoming harder to find.

If you find a source, don't pay more than
\$50 for a gram of 20x standardized extract
\$25 for a gram of 10x standardized extract
\$15 for a gram of 5x standardized extract

When smoked (in the ways described), the effects of Salvia can be overpowering and overwhelming. If it is your first time trying Salvia use the table below to find the dosage you should start at.

Normal Salvia Leaves: 1/2 - 1 gram
High grade Salvia Leaves: 1/4 - 1/2 gram
Salvia Extract 5x: 1/10 - 1/3 gram
Salvia Extract 10x: 1/10 gram
Salvia Extract 15x: 1/20 gram
Salvia Extract 20x: 1/20 gram

The bouncing bear company sells salvia, that is ideal for smoking purposes, in the Salvia divinorum section of their site. They ship from the US to most areas of the world.

Liquid Salvia Extracts

I have seen liquid Salvia extracts (tinctures) available in the past but do not know if they are still available. They are recommended for people who don't like smoking or would prefer to ingest a liquid for a milder Salvia experience. Follow the manufacturers recommendations about how much to use and how to use it.

Using a liquid Salvia extract will not be as powerful as smoking Salvia, but the Salvia experience lasts longer when taken in liquid form than it does when smoked.

See [talking with god](#) for another persons idea of what the

Salvia experience is like.

Books

The Salvia Divinorum Grower's Guide

This book is dedicated to growing Salvia Divinorum only. There are other books that about dozens or hundreds of types of salvia, but this is the book to get if you want to grow the mind altering Salvia Divinorum plant.

It's an informative book that tells you everything you need to know about the special growing conditions of this unusual plant. It is only 64 pages, but the information it contains will help anyone start and maintain a Salvia Divinorum garden with ease.

The Salvia Divinorum Grower's Guide

A Book of Salvias: Sages for Every Garden

Salvias constitute the largest genus in the mint family, valued for their medicinal and culinary qualities. The name is derived from the Latin word *salvare*, to heal, and salvia provides a beneficial addition to any garden.

More than 900 species of Salvia exist, with more than half occurring in North and South America. In this book, the author has selected over 100 beautiful, garden worthy species and dozens of commercially significant hybrids and arranged them alphabetically with documentation providing the scientific name and native habitat of each, including elevation ranges and temperature tolerance, as well as historical background.

The author describes the leaves and flowers of each species, its blooming cycle, and its light, watering, fertilizing, and pruning requirements. Also suggests companion plants and offers data on propagation. The book includes a list of where to see and buy salvias, a flowering guide by seasons, and cold and shade tolerance guides. There are 96 color photographs and 40 line drawings.

A Book of Salvias

Lycaeum > Leda > Documents > Salvinorin A: Notes of Caution

What's New
Announcements
Disclaimer

Salvinorin A: Notes of Caution

What's Related >>

Leda

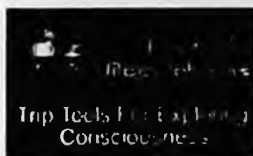
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by Daniel J. Siebert. From "The Entheogen Review" Vol. 3, No.4: Winter Solstice, 1994.

Salvinorin A (the major active principal of the plant *Salvia divinorum*) is an extremely powerful consciousness altering compound. In fact it is the most potent naturally occurring hallucinogen thus far isolated. But before would-be experimenters get too worked-up about it, it should be made clear that the effects are often extremely unnerving and there is a very real potential for physical danger with its use.

When the herb *Salvia divinorum* is consumed either by smoking the dried leaf or chewing the fresh leaves the effects are usually (but not always) pleasant and interesting, this is because when used this way the amount of salvinorin A absorbed into the blood stream is usually very small and in the case of the chewed leaves it is absorbed into the blood stream very gradually.

The pure compound salvinorin A is active at 200 - 500 mcg when vaporized and inhaled. Since very few people have the costly equipment necessary to accurately weigh anything close to this small an amount, it is inevitable that people will try to visually estimate the dose. Unfortunately there is little room for error before the effects become potentially dangerous. When the dose goes above 500 - 1000 mcg the effects can be very alarming. I have seen several people get up and lunge around the room falling over furniture, babbling incomprehensible nonsense and knocking their heads into walls. Several people have tried to wander out of the house. When the experience is over they have no memory of any of this. In fact they usually remember very different events. To an outside observer people in this condition have a blank look in their eyes as if no one is present (and perhaps no one is). It is also common for people to have a facial expression which is probably best described as being like that of a frightened animal. It appears that at these "larger" doses one completely loses awareness of, and control over, the physical body and for some reason part of the brain causes the body to get up and move about recklessly while the individual has no awareness of where their physical body is or what it is doing. It seems inevitable that one of these days some careless person will do too large a dose without a sitter and will wander out in the street, or hurt themselves in some way.

Because the dose is so small and insignificant looking, there is a tendency for people to think they need more than what they are told is a safe dose. Another problem is that the technique of vaporizing and inhaling the compound can be a bit tricky. Salvinorin A has a relatively high boiling point and people often don't get it hot enough to remain a gas all the way down into the lungs. Another problem is that so little is used that the vapor often disperses before it gets inhaled. Sometimes people just don't hold the vapor in their lungs long enough for thorough absorption. Several people after trying a dose in the recommended safe range and not getting an effect assumed that they needed a larger dose, when in fact the problem was that they did not vaporize the material efficiently the first time. I have already seen more than one intelligent, careful and experienced person accidentally do too large a dose because of this. Fortunately they had sitters and managed to get through the experience safely.

It is also important to understand that there have been no toxicological studies of

this compound in humans. It is true that the Mazatecs have used the plant for a very long time and don't seem to have problems with it, but when the pure compound is used it would be a simple matter to consume a dose hundreds of times greater than anything ever encountered by the Mazatecs.

Not only is salvinorin A chemically different from other hallucinogens (it is a diterpene not an alkaloid) but its effects are quite different as well. Many people consider the effects less manageable and harder to work with than other entheogens. The majority of people who have had a full blown experience with salvinorin A are reluctant to ever do it again. Anyone choosing to experiment with this compound should always have an alert, clear-thinking sitter present to prevent them from injuring themselves or others.

Salvia divinorum as an herb can be used quite safely and many people claim that it has proved beneficial to them. Hopefully there will not be a rush to isolate the pure compound as it is almost inevitable that it will cause problems, people will get hurt, the compound and possibly the plant will get negative attention and it will become scheduled. We will just be adding one more potentially valuable plant ally to the list of species which are already feared and condemned in our society.

If you choose to pursue a relationship with this plant please treat it with respect and care. Perhaps if people can use the plant safely and responsibly it will be able to grow and thrive freely into the future.

Created 9/12/2000 23:51:07
Modified 9/12/2000 23:51:07

Leda version 1.4.3

SB

40

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/16/07

FURTHER: State Affairs
Finance

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

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: _____

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 40

SB 40 LONGEVITY BONUS REAPPLICATIONS

"An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

be replaced with SCS or CS SB 40 (HES)

adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)

attached amendment(s)

adopt _____ Letter of Intent

further referral to _____ Committee

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

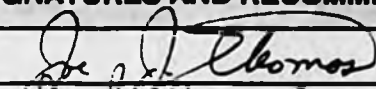
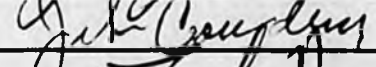
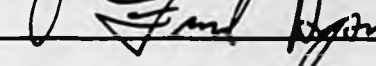

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
HSS	2/6/07			✓	
HSS (Held Harris)	2/6/07	✓			
HSS grants	2/6/07	✓			

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	✓			
	CAMPBELL	✓			
	DYSON			✓	
CHAIR: 	DAVIS	✓			

25-LS0354E

Cook

2/19/07

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 40()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY**Offered:****Referred:****Sponsor(s): SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and
2 providing for an effective date."

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

4 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 **REAPPLICATION FOR LONGEVITY BONUS.** (a) Notwithstanding AS 47.45.020
7 and the requirement under AS 47.45.010(a) that applications for longevity bonus payments
8 must be filed not later than December 31, 1996, a person who qualified to receive a monthly
9 longevity bonus payment under AS 47.45.010(a) before January 1, 1997, and was eligible for
10 a longevity bonus payment for June of 2003 or did not receive that bonus payment solely as a
11 result of complying with AS 47.45.030(a) may reapply to the commissioner of health and
12 social services for monthly longevity bonus payments if the person is a resident under
13 AS 01.10.055 on the day the reapplication form is signed and dated by the applicant.

14 (b) A reapplication under this section must be filed before January 1, 2008. The

1 Department of Health and Social Services shall prepare a reapplication form for use under this
2 section and may require evidence of eligibility for a longevity payment bonus payment as part
3 of the reapplication process.

4 (c) If the Department of Health and Social Services determines that a person who
5 reapplies meets the requirements of (a) of this section and is otherwise eligible under
6 AS 47.45.030(c) and 47.45.070, the amount of the person's monthly bonus payment shall be
7 the amount the person was eligible to receive under AS 47.45.010(a)(1) - (4).

8 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

P. O. Box 110650
Juneau, AK 99811-0650
Phone: (907) 465-3082
Fax: (907) 465-2499

February 20, 2007

The Honorable Kim Elton
State Senate
State Capitol, Room 506
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Elton:

In regards to your question on February 15, 2007, please see the response below:

➤ *How much would it cost to pay the bonus retroactively from January 1, 2007?*

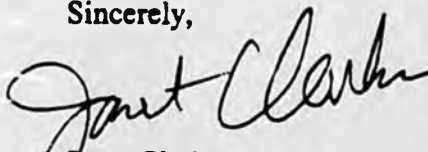
The proposal to begin Alaska Longevity Bonus payments with the month of January 2007 for all potentially eligible applicants would cost an estimated \$45,883, 216.

This calculation assumes the provision in AS 47.45.080 that limits the number of past months of ALB payments an applicant can receive would be waived. We estimate that 11,999 applicants will apply by January 1, 2008 and will be found eligible. They will receive 18 months of payments beginning January 2007 through June 2008.

This cost is estimated to be \$16,393,426 higher than the information included in the fiscal note for SB 40. The SB 40 fiscal note included an assumption that an ALB applicant will not receive a payment for more than two months before the date of application.

If you have additional questions regarding this issue, please contact me at 465-1630.

Sincerely,



Janet Clarke
Assistant Commissioner

cc: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner
Anthony Lombardo, Deputy Commissioner
Bill Hogan, Deputy Commissioner
Sherry Hill, Special Assistant
Laura Baker, Budget Chief, Finance and Management Services

Log 64/2007

DHSS Alaska Longevity Bonus Program Recommendations
DRAFT - February 13, 2007

Define continuous residency, congruent with AS 01.10.055, and require that the applicant be physically present in the state at the time of re-application with the intention of remaining a resident of the state, and accept the applicant's declaration regarding Alaska state residency. Only require proof of state residency if the Department considers the declaration to be questionable.

These recommendations will simplify the process for individuals to again receive the Longevity Bonus. A large proportion of former recipients are still residents of the state. A data match between 2006 permanent fund dividend recipients and June 2003 longevity bonus recipients shows that about 80 percent of the 16,364 bonus recipients received the 2006 PFD. The department believes that the remaining 20 percent did not receive the 2006 permanent fund dividend because they chose not to apply, left the state, entered a nursing home, or expired.

Waive the monthly reapplication requirement under AS 47.45.020 for the period during which longevity bonus payments were suspended due to lack of funding (i.e, from June 2003 to the present).

The proposed legislation allows former longevity bonus recipients to reapply for the bonus until January 1, 2008 and receive the same level of benefit as they had previously. This recommendation will prevent individuals from being disqualified due to not providing monthly applications while the program was not in operation.

George Ascott

From: Hill, Sherry [Sherry_Hill@health.state.ak.us]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2007 1:39 PM
To: George Ascott; Michael Sica
Cc: Christopher Clark; John Bitney; Lindstrom, Elmer A.; Fitzjarrald, Ellie; Clarke, Janet E.; 'Kraly, Stacy (Kraly, Stacy)'
Subject: DHSS recommendations for ALB legislative questions
Attachments: ALB Recommendations 21307.doc

Here are the DHSS policy recommendations in response to the "continuous residency" and "reapplication" questions that came up last week in the hearings on the ALB proposals.

If you have any questions please let me know. Ellie is really the one that has been working on this, but she is out of the office in Anchorage until Friday, so I can field questions and we'll work with you on it.

Thanks,
-Sherry

*Sherry L. Hill, M.Sc.P.R.
Communications Officer/Legislative Liaison
Department of Health and Social Services
Juneau Office 907-465-1618
Cell 907-321-2838
Anchorage Office 907-269-7800*

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: SB040-DHSS-DPA2-02
 Bill Version: SB 40
 () Publish Date: _____
 Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services
 RDU: Alaska Longevity Bonus Programs
 Component: Alaska Longevity Programs Management

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____
 Title: LONGEVITY BONUS REAPPLICATIONS

Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
 Requester: SENATE (HES) Component No. 2672

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						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This proposed legislation reinstates Alaska Longevity Bonus (ALB) payments for individuals who were qualified to receive them before January 1, 1997, and who received a payment in June 2003 when funding for the program ended. This legislation also provides for reapplication to be filed before January 1, 2008.

The Administrative costs for operating the Alaska Longevity Bonus program are included in the Governor's FY08 Budget.

Prepared by: Ellie Fitzjarrald, Acting Director Phone 465-1754
 Division: Public Assistance Date/Time 02/06/2007
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner Date 02/06/2007
 Agency: Department of Health and Social Services

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: SB040-DHSS-DPA3-02a
 Bill Version: SB 40
 () Publish Date: _____
 Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services
 RDU Alaska Longevity Bonus Programs
 Component Longevity Bonus Hold Harmless

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):
 Title LONGEVITY BONUS REAPPLICATIONS

Sponsor WIELECHOWSKI
 Requester SENATE (HES)

Component No. 2858

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						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	350.4	480.2	316.2	161.3	151.0	(6.2)
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	350.4	480.2	316.2	161.3	151.0	(6.2)

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	350.4	480.2	316.2	161.3	151.0	(6.2)
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Longevity Bonus Hold Harmless						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	350.4	480.2	316.2	161.3	151.0	(6.2)

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						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This proposed legislation reinstates Alaska Longevity Bonus (ALB) payments for individuals who were qualified to receive them before January 1, 1997, and who received a payment in June 2003 when funding for the program ended. This legislation also provides for reapplication to be filed before January 1, 2008.

Federal law governing the administration of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program requires the Alaska Longevity Bonus be counted as income when determining federal SSI benefits. Under AS 47.45.122, the ALB Hold Harmless replaces the SSI benefits that are denied.

As the number of recipients decreases, the benefits paid will decrease, as does the Hold Harmless.

Prepared by: Ellie Fitzjarrald, Acting Director
 Division: Public Assistance
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Health and Social Services

Phone 465-5847
 Date/Time 02/06/2007
 Date 02/06/2007

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: SB040-DHSS-DPA1-021
 Bill Version: SB 40
 () Publish Date: _____
 Dept. Affected: Health & Social Services
 RDU Alaska Longevity Bonus Programs
 Component Longevity Bonus Grants

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):
 Title LONGEVITY BONUS REAPPLICATIONS

Sponsor WIELECHOWSKI
 Requester SENATE (HES)

Component No. 26

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						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims	(2,769.7)	(4,633.2)	(7,543.6)	(10,138.4)	(12,636.6)	(15,043.3)
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	(2,769.7)	(4,633.2)	(7,543.6)	(10,138.4)	(12,636.6)	(15,043.3)

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF	(2,769.7)	(4,633.2)	(7,543.6)	(10,138.4)	(12,636.6)	(15,043.3)
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Longevity Bonus Hold Harmless						
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	(2,769.7)	(4,633.2)	(7,543.6)	(10,138.4)	(12,636.6)	(15,043.3)

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						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This proposed legislation reinstates Alaska Longevity Bonus (ALB) payments for individuals who were qualified to receive them before January 1, 1997, and who received a payment in June 2003 when funding for the program ended. This legislation also provides for reapplication to be filed before January 1, 2008.

Calculated savings on this fiscal note is because the comparison is to the FY08 Governors budget where ALB payments are fully funded for all recipients 12 full months.

Analysis continued on Page 2.

Prepared by: Ellie Fitzjarrald, Acting Director
 Division Public Assistance
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner
 Agency Department of Health and Social Services

Phone 465-5847
 Date/Time 02/06/2007
 Date 02/06/2007

FISCAL NOTE
FN # SB040-D

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 40

ANALYSIS CONTINUATION

Analysis Continued:

Analysis Assumptions

- Legislation will be effective and ALB payments will begin with the benefit month July 2007.
- ALB applications will only be accepted if received before January 1, 2008.
- 12,631 former ALB recipients may be eligible to qualify for the ALB in FY08.
- 95% or approximately 11,999 will be eligible and 5% or 632 potential ALB recipients will not qualify for the ALB because they do not meet the program's residency requirements or will not apply.
- Average ALB payment is \$212/month.
- The amount of the benefit ranged from \$100 to \$250 depending on time of entry in to the program.
- An ALB recipient may not accrue an ALB payment for more than two months before the date of application in accordance with AS47.45.080.
- The number of months a person may receive ALB payments in FY08 will vary depending on date of application, as shown in the chart below.
- Program expenditures for FY09 through FY13 will decline each year as eligible seniors move away, enter nursing homes, or expire.

Benefit Amount Calculations:

FY08

Percent of Applicants	Approx # of Applicants	Must apply by	May be paid retro-active to	Number months benefits FY08	Average Monthly Benefit Amount	Total FY08 Benefit Payments	
70%	8,842	9/1/2007	7/1/2007	12	\$ 212	\$ 22,494.0	
15%	1,895	10/1/2007	8/1/2007	11	\$ 212	\$ 4,419.0	
5%	632	11/1/2007	9/1/2007	10	\$ 212	\$ 1,339.8	
4%	505	12/1/2007	10/1/2007	9	\$ 212	\$ 963.5	
1%	126	1/1/2008	11/1/2007	8	\$ 212	\$ 213.7	
5%	-632	(will not meet residency criteria or will not apply)				\$	0
Average Benefit Amount= \$212.44							
Rounded to \$212							
Total	11,999					\$ 29,430.3	

FY09 through FY13

	Approx Number of Recipients	Total Benefit Payments
FY09	10,836	\$27,566.8
FY10	9,692	\$24,656.5
FY11	8,672	\$22,061.6
FY12	7,690	\$19,563.4
FY13	6,744	\$17,156.7

Senate Bill 40

Longevity Bonus Reapplications

Sponsor

Senator Bill Wielechowski

Sponsor Statement



Senator Bill Wielechowski Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 40: "Longevity Bonus Reapplications"

"An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and providing for an effective date."

In 2003, Governor Frank Murkowski eliminated funding for the Alaska Longevity Bonus, leaving thousands of elderly Alaskans without a crucial source of income.

Senate Bill 40 would correct this injustice by allowing those Alaskans who originally qualified to reapply for the program and collect the bonus for as long as they remain alive and in the state. The program would continue to be phased out as those seniors pass away.

Upon signing the phase-out of the program into law in 1993, Governor Wally Hickel wrote in his letter of transmittal, "I am proposing this phased elimination because many Alaskans who will be reaching 65 in the next four years have counted on the bonus in planning for their retirement, and an abrupt termination of the program would not be fair to them."

Governor Hickel was mindful of the fiscal challenges facing both the State and Alaska's pioneers in 1993. He structured his reform to reduce the State's financial burden while also to uphold the policy set by his predecessors.

It has been said that promises only count when they're hard to keep, and keeping a promise is an important measure of character. We made a promise to those remaining recipients in 1993, and in 2003 we broke that promise. We lost many Alaskan seniors' faith in fair government, and we need to work to get it back.

With the monumental rise in natural gas and heating oil costs, Alaska's settlers could use the resources promised to them now more than ever. I respectfully ask for your support.

***Proposed
CS***

25-LS0354C
Cook
2/5/07

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 40()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 **REAPPLICATION FOR LONGEVITY BONUS.** (a) Notwithstanding AS 47.45.020,
7 AS 47.45.030(a), and the requirement under AS 47.45.010(a) that applications for longevity
8 bonus payments must be filed not later than December 31, 1996, a person who qualified to
9 receive a monthly longevity bonus payment under AS 47.45.010(a) before January 1, 1997,
10 and was eligible for a longevity bonus for April, May, or June of 2003 may reapply to the
11 commissioner of health and social services for monthly longevity bonus payments if the
12 person is a resident and has maintained continuous state residency during the period between
13 June 30, 2003, and the date the reapplication is filed.

14 (b) A reapplication under this section must be filed before January 1, 2008. The

1 Department of Health and Social Services shall prepare a reapplication form for use under this
2 section and may require evidence of eligibility for a longevity bonus as part of the
3 reapplication process.

4 (c) If the Department of Health and Social Services determines that a person who
5 reapplies meets the requirements of (a) of this section and is otherwise eligible under
6 AS 47.45.030(c) and 47.45.070, the amount of the person's monthly bonus shall be the
7 amount the person was eligible to receive under AS 47.45.010(a)(1) - (4).

8 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

***Original
Bill***

SENATE BILL NO. 40

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI

Introduced: 1/16/07

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, State Affairs, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
5 to read:

6 **REAPPLICATION FOR LONGEVITY BONUS.** (a) Notwithstanding AS 47.45.020
7 and the requirement under AS 47.45.010(a) that applications for longevity bonus payments
8 must be filed not later than December 31, 1996, a person who qualified to receive a monthly
9 longevity bonus payment under AS 47.45.010(a) before January 1, 1997, and was eligible for
10 a longevity bonus for June 2003 may reapply to the commissioner of administration for
11 monthly longevity bonus payments if the person is a resident and has maintained continuous
12 state residency during the period between June 30, 2003, and the date the reapplication is
13 filed.

14 (b) A reapplication under this section must be filed before January 1, 2008. The

1 Department of Administration shall prepare a reapplication form for use under this section
2 and may require evidence of eligibility for a longevity bonus as part of the reapplication
3 process.

4 (c) If the Department of Administration determines that a person who reapplies meets
5 the requirements of (a) of this section and is otherwise eligible under AS 47.45.030 and
6 47.45.070, the amount of the person's monthly bonus shall be the amount the person was
7 eligible to receive under AS 47.45.010(a)(1) - (4) for June 2003.

8 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

***Sectional
Analysis***

LEGAL SERVICES

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

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


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

MEMORANDUM

January 29, 2007

SUBJECT: Reapplication for the Alaska longevity bonus program;
sectional summary (SB 40; Work Order No. 25-LS0354\A)

TO: Senator Bill Wielechowski
Attn: George Ascott

FROM: Tamara Brandt Cook
Director 

Sec. 1. Permits a person to reapply for longevity bonus payments if the person was qualified to receive a longevity bonus payment before January 1, 1997, and was eligible for the bonus payment for June 2003 (the end of the last fiscal year for which appropriations were made to fund the program). To qualify the person must have maintained continuous state residency between June 2003 and the date the reapplication is filed. The reapplication must be filed before January 1, 2008. The Department of Administration is directed to prepare a reapplication form and may require evidence of eligibility as part of the reapplication process. If a person is found to be eligible for the bonus, the amount the person gets each month will equal the amount the person was eligible to receive for June 2003.

Sec. 2. The bill has an immediate effective date.

TBC:med
07-048.med

White Paper
On
Longevity Bonus

(AARP)

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

History and Legislative Action

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

The original statutory eligibility requirements were:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monthly Operations

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

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

***Letter
Of
Support***



February 3, 2007

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

RE: SB 40 (Wielechowski)--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 40, authored by Senator Bill Wielechowski.

SB 40 will be the first step in setting application deadlines and continuous residency requirements for older Alaskans who wish to reapply for the Longevity Bonus.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote on SB 40.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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

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

CC: Senator Joe Thomas
Senator John Cowdery
Senator Kim Elton
Senator Fred Dyson
Senator Bill Wielechowski

***Fiscal
Note***

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Co-chair, Joint Armed Services
Committee

•
Resources Committee

•
Judiciary Committee

•
Transportation Committee



State Capitol, Rm. 115
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2435
Fax: (907) 465-6615

716 W. 4th Ave, Ste. 440
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-0102
Fax: (907) 269-6122

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

February 1, 2007

Senator Bettye Davis, Chair
Senate Health, Education & Social Services Committee
State Capitol, Room 30
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Davis:

I am writing to request a hearing on SB 40, "An Act relating to reapplications for the Alaska longevity bonus program; and providing for an effective date."

As you know, since funding for the Longevity Bonus was cut in 2003, thousands of elderly Alaskans have been deprived of a crucial source of income. For many of them, the situation has grown increasingly desperate as the price for fuel, medical care, and other necessities continues to increase every year. This bill would reinstate the process by which those seniors may apply for the bonus, allowing Alaskans who originally qualified to reapply for the program and collect the bonus for as long as they remain alive and in the state.

I intend to request that representatives from the appropriate departments and from legislative legal services be present to answer any questions that may arise. Further, I would like to allow public testimony to be taken statewide by electronic means.

Included with this letter you will find the latest version of this bill, a Sponsor Statement, Sectional Analysis, and other background materials.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Wielechowski", written over a horizontal line.

Senator Bill Wielechowski

LEGAL SERVICES

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State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
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CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

December 28, 2006

SUBJECT: Longevity Bonus Program (Work Order 25-LS0354\A)

TO: Senator-elect Bill Wielechowski
Attn: George Ascott

FROM: Tamara Brandt Cook
Director

You are interested in reinstating the Longevity Bonus Program. Although the program has never been repealed, I expect that simply appropriating money to fund the program will not be sufficient. Attached is a draft that attempts to provide a solution to the administrative problem of reinstating the original program. It has a potential legal weakness you should be aware of.

The Longevity Bonus Program was not funded during fiscal year 2004, fiscal year 2005, fiscal year 2006, nor was it included in the budget for fiscal year 2007. Under AS 47.45.010(a) no person qualifies for a bonus unless the person applied before January 1, 1997. AS 47.45.020 sets up a system for continuous eligibility once the person applies and becomes eligible for the program. Continuous eligibility is based on monthly applications, or, in certain isolated rural areas, applications mailed every six months. Obviously, it is unlikely that eligible recipients have continued to mail the applications during the period that the Longevity Bonus Program was not funded for purposes of ensuring continuous eligibility or that those applications have been consistently processed. Consequently, it appears that it will be necessary to require a new application in order to insure that formerly eligible recipients have maintained residency status and continue to be eligible for the program. (AS 47.45.010(c); AS 47.45.070) This will require a statute change.

Also, be aware that reinstatement of the Longevity Bonus Program in a way that includes only the original recipients potentially muddies the legal status of the program. In 1993, the legislature decided to terminate the program by gradually phasing it out and "grandfathering in" current recipients, and, at a reduced level, future recipients who would first become eligible and apply for the bonus by the end of 1996. This legislation was challenged, but upheld by the Superior Court. (Maggard v. Side, Superior Court, Third Judicial District, Case No. 3AN-94-08935 CI, order dated June 6, 1996) Basically, the Superior Court held that because the Longevity Bonus Program provides merely an economic interest, it is entitled only to minimum scrutiny under an equal protection challenge, so that all the state needed to show was that its objectives in enacting the 1993

Senator-elect Bill Wielechowski

December 28, 2006

Page 2

legislation were legitimate. The court found that the main objective was to terminate the program and save money, a legitimate state purpose. The court further found that the purpose of gradually phasing out the program while grandfathering in recipients and those who soon would be recipients was to protect the interests of people who might have reasonably been relying on receiving the bonus. This also, the court found to be a legitimate state purpose. What saved the "grandfather" provision in the 1993 legislation from being held to unconstitutionally discriminate between newcomer seniors to the state and long time resident seniors was the fact that the state was protecting the reliance interest of people who, to some degree, were depending upon the bonus. The case was never appealed to the Supreme Court. Obviously, if the reinstated Longevity Bonus Program is challenged again on equal protection grounds, it will be harder to successfully argue that the state is validly protecting a reliance interest when the people who are eligible for the payments have, in fact, not received them for four years and, arguably, can no longer be reasonably relying on future receipt of those payments. This potential constitutional issue can be avoided if the Longevity Bonus Program is reopened for all seniors, but this would make the program much more expensive.

TBC:ljw

06-406.ljw

Sec. 01.10.055. Residency.

(a) A person establishes residency in the state by being physically present in the state with the intent to remain in the state indefinitely and to make a home in the state.

(b) A person demonstrates the intent required under (a) of this section

(1) by maintaining a principal place of abode in the state for at least 30 days or for a longer period if a longer period is required by law or regulation; and

(2) by providing other proof of intent as may be required by law or regulation, which may include proof that the person is not claiming residency outside the state or obtaining benefits under a claim of residency outside the state.

(c) A person who establishes residency in the state remains a resident during an absence from the state unless during the absence the person establishes or claims residency in another state, territory, or country, or performs other acts or is absent under circumstances that are inconsistent with the intent required under (a) of this section to remain a resident of this state.

Sec. ~~47.45.020~~. Continuous eligibility procedures.

After qualification, monthly applications for bonuses may be made in person to any office of the Department of Health and Social Services. Mailed monthly applications shall also be considered by the department. In-person or mailed applications shall be made on forms provided by the department and shall conform to the conditions as provided by regulation. The commissioner of health and social services may make exceptions for those residents who are isolated in rural areas and cannot mail a monthly application; however, they shall mail an application at least once every six months.

Sec. 47.45.030. Absence from the state.

(a) After qualification, a recipient shall notify the commissioner of health and social services when the recipient expects to be absent from the state if the absence is for a continuous period that exceeds 60 days. After that notification, the recipient may no longer receive bonuses from the Department of Health and Social Services after the last regularly approved monthly application. Upon returning to the state, the recipient may again make application for a bonus. Failure to notify the commissioner of an expected absence may be grounds for disqualification.

(b) *[Repealed, Sec. 4 ch 78 SLA 2002].*

(c) A recipient who has been absent from the state for a continuous period that exceeds three years is permanently disqualified from receiving bonuses.

SB

62

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT First Committee of Referral

DATE: 1/19/07

FURTHER: Finance

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

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 3/12/07

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered

SENATE BILL NO. 62

SB 62 TASK FORCE ON HEALTH CARE INFECTIONS

"An Act establishing the Advisory Committee on Public Reporting of Health Care Associated Infections; relating to reporting and dissemination of data concerning health care associated infections; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

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

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


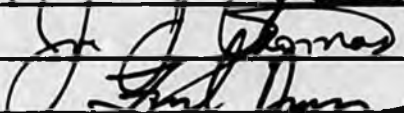
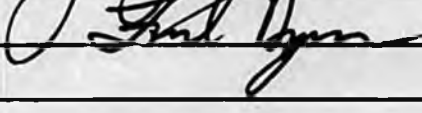
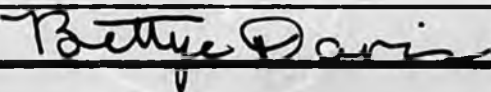
NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#
HSS	2/8/07	✓			

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Index	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	PRINTED NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC.	AMEND
	Elton Thomas	✓			
	Thomas	✓			
	Dusan	✓			
CHAIR: 	DAVIS	X			