



25th ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE SENATE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 110

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Bill Version: SB 110

Sponsor: Senator Gene Therriault

Short Title: PUBLIC PENSION FORFEITURE FOR BRIBERY ETC

Summary:

- Denies public employee retirement pension benefits to legislators, legislative directors, and public officers and employees who commit the following offenses in connection with their official duties:
 - a federal or state felony offense of bribery, receiving a bribe, perjury, subornation of perjury, scheme to defraud, or fraud.
- Applies only to pension benefits and contributions that accrue to a person after: the effective date of the bill, and the date the person commits the offense.
- Does not deny insurance; voluntary or involuntary wage reductions; supplemental or health benefits; or benefits such as an employee's 401K rollover into the employee's pension.
- Allows the Alaska Retirement Management Board to award a dependent or former spouse of the person some or all of the amount that would have gone to the public official whose pension is forfeited.
- Allows the ARM board to consider the totality of circumstances when determining whether to make an award to a dependent or former spouse, including:
 - the role of the dependent or former spouse in connection with the illegal conduct;
 - the degree to which the dependent or former spouse profited from the illegal conduct;
 - restitution ordered by the court in the criminal case and the amount of restitution owing, if any.

Benefits:

- Prevents state funds from going to pensions for public officials committed of wrong doing.

Background:

- Currently, 13 other states have laws or constitutional provisions that allow for the denial of pension benefits to a legislator or public official who has been convicted of a crime in connection with the execution of their public duties. As of February 13, 2007, at least 4 other states are considering similar legislation.