



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Revenue
PERMANENT FUND DIVIDEND DIVISION

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April 12, 2018

The Honorable Anna MacKinnon and Lyman Hoffman
Alaska State Senators
Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Co-Chairs MacKinnon and Hoffman:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with responses to the questions asked of the Department of Revenue during the bill hearing of SB186 to the Senate Finance Committee on April 10, 2018. Please see the request in italics and our response immediately below the request.

1. *Q: Is permanent fund dividend information confidential?*

A: Yes, per AS 43.23.017 PFD information is considered confidential.

AS 43.23.017. Applicant information confidential.

Information on each permanent fund dividend application, except the applicant's name, is confidential.

The department may only release information that is confidential under this section

(1) to a local, state, or federal government agency;

(2) in compliance with a court order;

(3) to the individual who or agency that files an application on behalf of another;

(4) to a banking institution to verify the direct deposit of a permanent fund dividend or correct an error in that deposit;

(5) as directed to do so by the applicant; and

(6) to a contractor who has a contract with a person entitled to obtain the information under (1) - (5) of this section to receive, store, or manage the information on that person's behalf; a contractor receiving data under this paragraph may only use the data as directed by and for the purposes of the person entitled to obtain the information.

(k) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department may release the names and addresses of permanent fund dividend applicants to a legislator of this state and to the legislator's office staff for official legislative purposes.

2. *Q: What data elements from the dividend application are shared with Division of Elections as part of the automatic voter registration process?*

A: PFD applicant information is only transferred to the Division of Elections if all the data elements listed below are provided, and the applicant is 18 years of age or older. The data is securely transferred within the state's network, and the file is encrypted and password protected.

- 1) The applicant's name;
- 2) The applicant's sex;
- 3) If issued, the applicant's State of Alaska driver's license number or State of Alaska identification card number, or the last four digits of the applicant's social security number;
- 4) The applicant's date of birth;
- 5) The applicant's Alaska residence address;
- 6) A declaration that the applicant is a citizen of the United States; and
- 7) The applicant's signature or mark.

3. *Q: How many paid dividends, check or direct deposit, are disbursed with an out of state mailing address?*

A: In 2017 629,859 dividends were paid, and of those 17,814 were to applicants with an out of state mailing address. 16,274 were direct deposit and 1,540 received a mailed check.

4. *Q: Are individuals that provide an out of state physical address on their PFD application automatically registered to vote?*

A: No, but an individual may provide an out of state mailing address and be automatically registered.

I hope you find this information to be useful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sara Race". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sara Race
Director, PFD