



# Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

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## *Bill to Protect Alaskans' Privacy Rights Legislators want option of privacy on Permanent Fund Dividend application*

JUNEAU – Senator Gretchen Guess (D-Anchorage) and Representative Eric Croft (D-Anchorage) announced plans today to protect Alaskans' privacy rights. A survivor of domestic violence brought it to our attention the list of PFD applicants and their addresses are currently public information. Although this appears benign on the surface, to victims of violent crime, disclosing their mailing address can be a terrifying and potentially life-threatening mistake.

Senate Bill 284 and House Bill 411 would allow a Permanent Fund Dividend applicant to check a box to keep the information disclosed on their form private, except in cases where disclosure of such information is required by the state or federal government.

Nobody should have to put themselves or their family at risk to receive their permanent fund dividend," says Representative Croft. "This bill protects Alaskans' privacy rights."

"A family should not only be able to collect a PFD without fearing for their lives," says Senator Guess. "The community at large should have the option to keep their information private."

Under this legislation, Alaskans will have a choice to keep their information private. It will also allow survivors of domestic violence to keep their names and addresses out of the public database – a move that could potentially save lives.

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Sen. Bettye Davis, Sen. Johnny Ellis, Sen. Kim Elton, Sen. Lyman Hoffman, Sen. Hollis French, Sen. Gretchen Guess, Sen. Georgianna Lincoln, Sen. Donny Olson, Rep. Ethan Berkowitz, Rep. Sharon Cissna, Rep. Harry Crawford, Rep. Eric Croft, Rep. Les Gara, Rep. Max Gruenberg, Rep. David Guttenberg, Rep. Reggie Joule, Rep. Mary Kapsner, Rep. Beth Kerttula, Rep. Albert Kookesh, Rep. Carl Moses