

Senate Bill 241 Fact Sheet
March 28, 2020

On a temporary basis, [Senate Bill 241](#):

- Extends the governor's 30-day public health emergency declaration to November 15;
- Grants the Chief Medical Officer the authority to issue standing orders for healthcare providers related to COVID-19;
- Ensures that first responders and healthcare workers receive workers compensation if they contract COVID-19;
- Provides \$10 million from the Disaster Relief Fund for response efforts;
- Allows the Department of Community, Commerce and Economic Development to provide financial assistance to small businesses to help alleviate COVID-19 related costs;
- Creates an expedited path to certify out-of-state licensed professionals to help address the public health emergency;
- Halts evictions and foreclosures for Alaskans experiencing a financial hardship as a result of COVID-19;
- Ensures that government COVID-19 assistance payments, including Permanent Fund dividends, are not counted as income when determining an individual's eligibility for means-tested programs;
- Protects Alaskans experiencing COVID-19-related financial hardship from defaulting on state loans and having their assets seized;
- Outlaws price gouging;
- Encourages the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development to purchase Alaska seafood for distribution to foods banks, soup kitchens and Alaska Native organizations;
- Directs the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation to provide financial assistance to address homelessness caused by COVID-19 and provides \$5 million for additional grants for that purpose;
- Allows the Lieutenant Governor to direct Alaskans to vote by mail if in-person voting is a danger to public health; and
- Extends the application period for the 2020 dividend to April 30, 2020 and ensures Alaskans who were out of state when the disaster was declared will remain eligible for their PFDs if they follow travel recommendations and stay outside.