

Fund checks to be \$556

More than 530,000 Alaskans will receive Permanent Fund dividends of \$556.26 each this year, making the annual check the largest one-year payout ever, Gov. Bill Sheffield said.

"Besides injecting nearly \$300 million into the economy, this year's dividend is tangible evidence that the Permanent Fund belongs to the people," he said.

According to calculations of the Alaska Department of Revenue,

which supervises the dividend program, an estimated 531,911 Alaskans will receive a total of nearly \$296 million, the amount of earnings transferred by the fund for the 1986 dividend. That translates into the dividend check of \$556.26.

In 1985, the dividend was \$404, compared to \$331.29 in 1984 and \$386.15 in 1983.

Department of Revenue officials say the final checks should be mailed out before Christmas.