

Retroactive Waiver for Old Age Folks

The state has been successful in obtaining a retroactive federal waiver to prevent the Alaska Longevity Bonus being considered as income for the Old Age Assistance Program.

Without reducing total amount of income, this waiver will result in higher federal payments to most Old Age Assistance recipients in Alaska with a corresponding decrease in the state's actual payments.

Commissioner Frederick McGinnis, Department of Health and Social Services, indicated that, "While approximately 1,500 needy Alaskans over 65 will see changes in the federal and state amounts paid for their monthly payments, their total amount will remain constant."

"Additionally, many persons who have not been receiving any federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment are now eligible and should begin receiving checks from this federal program this month," explained McGinnis.