

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

State Capitol, Rm. 101
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2435
Fax: (907) 465-6615

Interim

716 W. 4th Ave, Ste. 540
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-0120
Fax: (907) 269-0122

Senator_Bill_Wielechowski@legis.state.ak.us



Chair

State Affairs Committee

Co-chair

Joint Armed Services Committee

Vice Chair

Resources Committee
Judiciary Committee

Member

Administrative Regulation Review

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

Sponsor Statement

SB 117: PFDs for Alaska Military Members

Alaskans who choose to protect our state and country by joining the Armed Forces make immense personal sacrifices on the public's behalf. Among these is the requirement to live where stationed, most often not in Alaska. While serving elsewhere, Alaskan members of the military still deserve to receive the Permanent Fund Dividend. Senate Bill 117 will ensure that these brave Alaskans receive all the support they deserve—including their PFDs.

Current Alaska statutes allow for members of the military to continue to receive their PFDs for 10 years after the last year they were in state long enough to otherwise qualify for the PFD. However, after 10 years of absence, they are no longer eligible.

Soldiers who make the military an extended career may not be able to return to Alaska long enough to be eligible for the PFD for many years. In 2010, 67 Alaskan soldiers who applied for the PFD were denied, simply because they had been serving in the military out of state for over the 10-year limit.

Alaska statutes do allow members of the Alaska delegation to the United States Congress, their family, their staff, and their staff's family to exceed the 10-year limit. Alaskans who have proven their residency in Alaska while serving in the military deserve the same respect and treatment. Senate Bill 117 will allow Alaskan soldiers to receive their PFD as long as they are members of the Armed Forces, protecting our country, and waiting for the chance to return to the state they love.

Thank you, and I urge you to join me in supporting Senate Bill 117.