



MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

January 11, 2017

The Honorable Chris Tuck
Majority Leader
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 204
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Majority Leader Tuck,

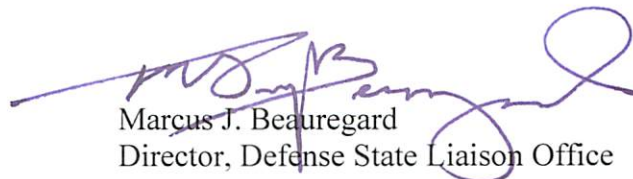
On behalf of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy, I want to thank you for your support of Service members in private sector hiring, as evidenced by your sponsorship of House Bill 3 (HB 3) in the 2017 Alaska legislative session. This key Department of Defense issue for 2017 simply provides employment protections to Alaskans serving in the National Guard in other states when mobilized outside the state during state-sponsored activation.

This effort will strengthen existing statutes to protect reemployment rights to members of the National Guard, because in Alaska as in many states, employment protection laws only protect the members of the National Guard assigned to their state. Many Alaskans with civilian jobs in Alaska, who serve in the National Guard of another state, risk losing those jobs when mobilized by the state where they serve. By revising wording in your existing state statute to recognize "members of the National Guard of this state and any other state" this problem can be alleviated.

Thus far, three other states are considering this provision in their 2017 legislative session and we hopeful there will be several others. If the policy change, as represented in HB 3 is successful, Alaska will join 28 other states already providing this help to members of the National Guard members in their states.

We greatly appreciate that the Alaska legislature has been a champion in addressing our key military family quality of life issues for the past ten years. As always, Mark San Souci, our Northwest Regional Liaison, who you know, stands ready to support where he can. If you have questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 571.372.5357, or Mark at 571.309.4622, mark.b.sansouci.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,



Marcus J. Beauregard
Director, Defense State Liaison Office