

HOUSE BILL NO. 249

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE GROH

Introduced: 1/8/24

Referred: Prefiled

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act creating the military and veteran family help desk in the Department of**
2 **Military and Veterans' Affairs; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1.** AS 44.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 44.35.025. Military and veteran family help desk.** (a) The military and

6 veteran family help desk is created in the Department of Military and Veterans'

7 Affairs.

8 (b) The military and veteran family help desk shall

9 (1) conduct outreach to and advocate on behalf of military members,

10 veterans, and their families;

11 (2) provide direct assistance and information about state services to

12 military members, veterans, and their families;

13 (3) provide information about state statutes and regulations to military

14 members, veterans, and their families;

(4) research issues military members, veterans, and their families may be facing and create informational materials relating to those issues;

(5) in coordination with military installations, the United States Department of Defense, municipalities, and other departments of the state, provide recommendations to the department for improving assistance to military members, veterans, and their families relating to issues including workforce development, employment, physical and behavioral health, education, and access to child care;

(6) assist the family members of a military member in obtaining professional licenses, credentials, or employment in the state;

(7) in coordination with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, develop a standard form for the spouse of a military member to complete that details the spouse's skills, education, and training for the purpose of assisting the spouse in finding employment;

(8) encourage a municipality with close economic or community ties to a military installation to create a military and veteran family liaison; and

(9) provide an annual report to the adjutant general.

(c) In this section, "family member" means a person related to a military member by blood, marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the military member's household on a permanent basis.

20 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).