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SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 212

Our military members come from all over the United States to serve in defense of our country. Alaska requires all residents who wish to operate a motor vehicle in this state to obtain an Alaskan driver's license within 90 days of entering the state with some exceptions, including if they are active military.

Many members of the armed forces choose to maintain permanent residency in another state, thus allowing them to vote in their home state elections and retain their home state driver's license while serving in Alaska. This is already state law. (A.S. 28.15.021(3))

Unfortunately, we do not currently join 39 other states in extending those same benefits to the spouse which can pose an unnecessary burden on the military family. HB 212 corrects that imbalance and strengthens the harmony of the family unit.

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