



**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY)**

4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

DoD-State Liaison Office

February 6, 2013

The Honorable Dan Saddler
Alaska State House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 104,
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Saddler,

On behalf of the Department of Defense, we want to thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill 46. This effort will greatly aid separating Service members who move back to Alaska upon military separation or retirement with gaining occupation licensing in the critical field of commercial truck driving when they transition to civilian life.

The issue of aiding our new veterans in employment transition is one of our top priorities for 2013 and one of the key elements of the Veterans Employment Initiative of the current Administration. The policy as currently represented in House Bill 46 will enable Alaska to join 44 other states also providing this kind of help to our separating Service members; and since Alaska had 1,231 Service members move back to the state in Fiscal Year 2012, the occupational licensing help your policy change provides will have a significant personal impact for many of those heroes in the trucking career field.

Aided by your leadership in the House, the Alaska legislature has been a champion in addressing a number of key military family issues for the past six years. We intend to provide as much information and support as possible as this policy initiative moves forward in upcoming hearings. However, if you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact me at (571) 309-4622, or at mark.sansouci@osd.mil.

With Alaska's continued dedication to our military, our Service members can complete their missions, overseas and at home, knowing that you are taking care of their families.

Sincerely,

Mark San Souci
Regional Liaison Northwest
Department of Defense State Liaison Office