

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: HB 137
 (H) Publish Date: 3/7/01
 Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 BRU: Information/Resource Mgmt
 Component: Recorder's Office
 Component Number: #802

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____
 Title: An Act relating to records of veterans of
the armed forces.
 Sponsor: Sp Cmte on Military & Veterans Affairs
 Requester: (H) MLV

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: none

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY2002 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

AS 26.10.070 currently requires DNR's recording offices to periodically provide copies of recorded veteran discharge papers to the Vital Statistics office in the Department of Health and Social Services. It also requires Vital Statistics to maintain separate records of such information in its files. This statute essentially charges two separate government agencies with maintaining the same records – an unnecessary and duplicative waste of government resources.

Recording offices have been performing this function for decades in compliance with the existing statute.
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 Division: Support Services Date/Time 27-Feb-01
 Approved by: Pat Pourchot Date 27-Feb-01
 Agency: Natural Resources

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ANALYSIS: (continued)

The state's thirty-four recording districts manually monitor this information and send copies of all veteran

The state's thirty-four recording districts manually monitor this information and send copies of all veteran separation papers, with a manually prepared report, to vital statistics on a monthly basis. There is no easy means to extract all veteran separation papers from the recording system records. Reports must be requested under each branch of military service to locate and identify each recorded DD214 document. Then copies have to be manually produced from library film records and a typed report is then prepared. As the records base becomes larger and larger, DNR recording staff are spending more and more time each month in tracking and reporting this information. In the Anchorage office alone, this amounts to between four and six hours a month. Statewide, the report preparation and processing time is estimated at more than 200 hours per year (at an approximate cost of \$5.0). While this is not a huge block of time, it does represent valuable work time that will be devoted to other component priorities such as indexing and mailback functions which frequently fall into backlog status.

At the present time, the Vital Statistics office merely stores the document copies and the reports for use in the event a veteran ever requests the information from their office. The state's recording system is the official repository for all recorded documents, including military separation papers which are recorded at no charge pursuant to another provision of this same statute. This proposal would eliminate both the requirement for recorders to submit copies to Vital Statistics and the requirement for Vital Statistics to maintain separate records of such information. This proposal is in line with meeting the Governor's objectives to balance the budget by streamlining government processes. Elimination of unnecessary and redundant processes frees up valuable staff time in both agencies to meet other established objectives.

Fiscal impact of this proposal can only be measured in terms of improving available staff time in the recording section to work toward meeting other statutory mandates, such as daily recordation and indexing of incoming documents. Staff time involved in the manual tracking and preparation of reports and copies for Vital Statistics varies by office, but as noted above is estimated at more than 200 hours per year statewide.