

AMENDMENT #1

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE  
TO: SB 154

BY REPRESENTATIVE GROH

1 Page 1, line 1, following "procurement": *(title amendment)*  
2 Insert "; creating the military and veteran family help desk in the Department of  
3 Military and Veterans' Affairs; and providing for an effective date"

4  
5 Page 2, following line 6:

6 Insert new bill sections to read:

7 "\* **Sec. 3.** AS 44.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

8 **Sec. 44.35.025. Military and veteran family help desk.** (a) The military and  
9 veteran family help desk is created in the Department of Military and Veterans'  
10 Affairs.

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

12 (1) provide a central point of contact for military members, veterans,  
13 and their families seeking information, resources, and state services;

14 (2) provide information about state statutes, regulations, and court  
15 decisions to military members, veterans, and their families;

16 (3) cooperate with the University of Alaska to research issues military  
17 members, veterans, and their families may be facing;

18 (4) in coordination with local veteran service organizations, agencies,  
19 and nonprofit organizations, identify and address the needs of military members,  
20 veterans, and their families, facilitate coordination and communication to enhance the  
21 range and quality of services, streamline the delivery of services, and share data and  
22 information for improving services for military members, veterans, and their families;

23 (5) in coordination with military installations, federal departments that

1 operate branches of the military, municipalities, and other departments of the state,  
2 provide recommendations to the department for improving assistance to military  
3 members, veterans, and their families relating to issues including workforce  
4 development, employment, physical and behavioral health, education, and access to  
5 child care;

6 (6) in coordination with the Department of Labor and Workforce  
7 Development, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development,  
8 and other professional licensing entities, reduce barriers to employment for the  
9 spouses of military members;

10 (7) upon request, assist a municipality with close economic or  
11 community ties to a military installation in creating a military and veteran family  
12 liaison; and

13 (8) provide an annual report to the adjutant general.

14 (c) In this section,

15 (1) "family member" means a person related to a military member or  
16 veteran by blood, marriage, or adoption, and a person living in the military member's  
17 or veteran's household on a permanent basis;

18 (2) "military" means the armed forces of the United States, the United  
19 States Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
20 Commissioned Officer Corps, the United States Public Health Service Commissioned  
21 Corps, or the Alaska National Guard.

22 \* **Sec. 4.** Section 3 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c)."