

Introduced: 4/7/69
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY MERDES AND MILLER

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting additional Veterans Admin-
6 istration assistance and personnel for
7 Alaska.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 WHEREAS contact service has been made available in Alaska only sporadi-
10 cally in connection with regular field work, seriously deterring deserving
11 veterans and their dependents from requesting or obtaining the benefits to
12 which they are entitled; and

13 WHEREAS Vietnam veterans interested in education benefits in Alaska
14 cannot obtain counseling because of inadequate staffing and facilities at
15 the Veterans Administration regional office in Juneau; and

16 WHEREAS the Veterans Administration has promised improved support for
17 the Guaranteed and Direct Loan Program, since in 1968 only 192 direct loans
18 were disbursed, principally in the Anchorage area, thereby leaving banks,
19 lenders, and veterans in the other major population centers of Alaska without
20 assistance;

21 BE IT RESOLVED that the Veterans Administration is respectfully requested
22 to

23 (1) establish a regular itinerant contact service, based on
24 demonstrated need, to all cities and villages in the state that are
25 served by scheduled airlines, surface transportation, or other means
26 until it has been demonstrated that the need no longer exists for
27 Veterans Administration assistance, and

28 (2) add a qualified vocational counselor to the Veterans Adminis-
29 tration Regional Office staff to increase the volume of counseling

1 service that can be made available in the principal cities and towns of
2 Alaska, and

3 (3) fulfil their promise to assist all Alaskan veterans in
4 obtaining full loan benefits.

5 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable William J.
6 Driver, Administrator, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.; the
7 Honorable M. W. McDonough, Manager, Veterans Administration Regional Office,
8 Juneau; the Honorable Joseph Briones, Service Officer of the American
9 Legion, Juneau; the Honorable Lewis Fiorella, Service Officer, Veterans of
10 Foreign Wars, Juneau.