

Introduced: 5/13/81
Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FULLER, MOSS, BEIRNE
AND ABOOD

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 570

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Veterans Affairs Committee as
7 a permanent interim committee of the legislature; and
8 providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 24.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

11 ARTICLE 5. VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

12 Sec. 24.20.571. VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. (a) The Veterans
13 Affairs Committee is established as a permanent interim committee of
14 the legislature. The establishment of the committee recognizes the
15 need for continuing consideration by the legislature of matters concern-
16 ing veterans.

17 (b) The Veterans Affairs Committee is composed of three members
18 of the house appointed by the speaker of the house and three members of
19 the senate appointed by the president of the senate. The committee
20 elects a presiding officer from among its members.

21 (c) When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Veterans
22 Affairs Committee, the presiding officer of the appropriate house shall
23 appoint a successor. If the office of the president of the senate or
24 speaker of the house of representatives becomes vacant and a vacancy
25 from the affected house occurs among the membership of the committee,
26 the remaining committee members from the appropriate house shall appoint
27 a new member.

28 (d) The Veterans Affairs Committee shall be organized within 15
29 days after the organization of each legislature. Members serve for the

1 duration of the legislature during which they are appointed. If they
2 are reelected or their term of office extends into the next succeeding
3 legislature, they continue to serve until reappointed or the appointment
4 of their successor.

5 (e) The Veterans Affairs Committee may meet during sessions of
6 the legislature and during the interim between sessions at such times
7 and places in the state as the presiding officer may determine. Members
8 may receive, for the minimum time required to get to and from meetings
9 and for the period while attending meetings, the same travel and per
10 diem allowances provided by law for members of the legislature when
11 attending sessions, except that members of the committee receive no per
12 diem during legislative sessions other than the per diem allowance paid
13 to other members of the legislature.

14 (f) The Legislative Affairs Agency shall provide the committee
15 with professional and clerical assistance under the auspices of the
16 Legislative Council.

17 Sec. 24.20.575. DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE. The Veterans Affairs
18 Committee shall

- 19 (1) review the operation of veterans programs in the state;
20 (2) review veterans benefits available to state veterans
21 from the federal and state governments;
22 (3) review veterans legislation from other jurisdictions;
23 and
24 (4) recommend legislation on matters pertaining to veterans
25 to the legislature.

26 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
27 070(c).