

HJR

68

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Rep. Ivan, Chair
Rep. Davidson
Rep. Foster
Rep. Gonzales
Rep. Gruenberg
Rep. M.W. Miller
Rep. Parnell



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 463-1527

Special Committee on Military & Veterans Affairs

SUMMARY - HJR 68

House Joint Resolution 68 requests Congress to amend federal law that would allow otherwise eligible Alaska Native veterans a new 18-month filing period for Native land allotments.

Since some of our Native veterans served during the time of the Vietnam conflict, many were overseas and could not take advantage of the native land allotments which were discontinued by the enactment of ANCSA in 1971. This resolution addresses that problem by requesting Congress to reopen this issue.

STATE OF ALASKA
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 68

Revision Date: February 13, 1992 Department Affected: None
 Title: Reopen allotments for Native veterans BRU: None
 Component: None

Sponsor: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

Requestor: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO.

--	--	--	--

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES	0					
TRAVEL	0					
CONTRACTUAL	0					
SUPPLIES	0					
EQUIPMENT	0					
LAND & STRUCTURES	0					
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0					
MISCELLANEOUS	0					
TOTAL OPERATING	0					

CAPITAL	0					
---------	---	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE	0					
FUND SOURCE:	0					

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0					
FEDERAL FUNDS	0					
OTHER FUND SOURCE:	0					
TOTAL	0					

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0					
PART-TIME	0					
TEMPORARY	0					

Estimate of current year impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Thomas W. Wright, Committee Staff Phone: 465-4527
 Division: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs Date: February 13, 1992
 Approved by Commissioner: Representative Ivan M. Ivan, Chair
 Agency: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs Date: February 13, 1992

Delbert J. Rexford
Box 231
Barrow, Alaska 99723

February 20, 1992

Good Morning Mr. Chairman
House Special Committee Members on Military & Veterans' Affairs

My name is Delbert J. Rexford. I am a member of the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope, IRA Joint Tribal Council and the Treasurer for the Native Village of Barrow, Inupiat Traditional Government Council.

I am here this morning to speak in support of House Joint Resolution No. 68. Please keep in mind I have not served in any of the United States Military Service Branches.

During the Vietnam conflict in South East Asia. Many of our young Alaska Natives served in the military when the Alaska Native allotments deadline filing date of December 18, 1971 was in effect.

I would like to make my statement brief and to the point. I whole heartedly support House Joint Resolution No. 68. Many of our Alaska Natives are deprived of receiving Native Allotments due to serving their country in a controversial war. Controversial on the home front as well as on the battle fields of Vietnam. The Vietnam War between the United States and Vietnam continues haunts many of our Alaska Natives.

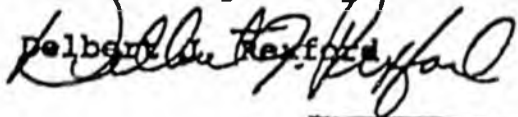
I would like to share with you a healing process a Pt. Hope Vietnam Veteran uses due to the personal impact on his life. He continues to experience emotional and spiritual setbacks due to his involvement in Vietnam. When the Vietnam War conflict flashbacks occur...he goes into the country to relaxes by being alone. This is a common occurrence by Vietnam Veterans. The point is this man has been deprived of peace of mind and the only way he gets peace of mind is to be alone in his own country. He deserves to receive a Native Allotment. After all he fought for the United States of America. He fought for Old Glory. He fought for the beliefs and principles of his country. But the United States Government mandated a deadline date of December 18, 1971 for Native Allotment eligibility. All Alaskan Natives who served in the Vietnam War should be made eligible for Native allotments. After all they laid their life on the line when in active duty for our country and the United States of America owes them peace of mind. In our Alaska Native Cultures...peace of mind is being one with the earth, the environment and having a sense of belonging.

A closing, " The great law of culture: let each become all that he is created capable of being." A quote from Thomas Carlye between 1815-1881. Our Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans are people of the land. Depriving them of Native Allotments is the greatest injustice for those who served in to fight for the beliefs and principles of

a democratic and free nation...

Please support House Joint Resolution No. 68. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of HJR No. 68.

Delbert G. Rexford



REPRESENTATIVE EILEEN MACLEAN

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 68

I am Arnold N. Brower Jr., a Vietnam Veteran honorably discharged. My time in service began in February 1968. I received an honorable discharge in January of 1971.

In delight of House Joint Resolution No. 68, I lend full support.

I appreciate this opportunity to speak for native veterans from the vietnam conflict. After all, the draft gave no choice of our future. Higher education of some sort would have been my preference in civilian life.

Those of us that went to Vietnam, it was a traumatic experience. Returning home relapses occurred, it was like a period of sobering up after drunkenness, except it took a long time for some veterans.

I received an early out discharge provided exceptance by an accredited college or school immediately upon discharge. Upon settling at home from attending Sheldon Jackson Jr College, I heard about the land allotments but I was told it was too late. At the time the ASRC or application office was in Barrow. Wesley Aiken and Jacob Adams were the personnel attending to the maps.

The issue started before the ANILCA passage. Apparently, the amendment never got submitted in Washington, D.C. Other issues considered in the past include the opt in, opt out provisions to the 1991 amendments. Provisions for 1991 issues allow children born after 1991 some privileges under the ANSCA law.

Alaska native veterans should apply same as those Alaska natives who applied for native allotments. The same allowance is comparable in the education paid by the military after a military discharge. Normally the veteran would have gone to further educational venture instead of military service by the draft. The military grants under the laws of the United States certain educational benefits a veteran he or she didn't receive because of service. Congress should pass the Alaska native veteran's allotment right to similiar benefits a veteran did not receive because of the military service provided. Alaska native veterans would have normally applied if they didn't go to War.

I urge this resolution to pass and forwarded to the congressional delegation for immediate passage. I urge all veteran posts and affiliation to support this important document. If an American citizen had a right before his service for his country, it must be restored after his service is no longer needed by the country. Aboriginal native rights of all Alaska natives was intended to be honored during the land claims act.

NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

P.O. Box 69
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Phone: 907-852-2811

Jessie Kaleak, Sr., Mayor



February 20, 1992

Representative Ivan Ivan
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Ivan:

I was delighted to be informed that the House of Representatives has introduced the House Joint Resolution No. 68 urging Congress to reopen the Native Allotment process for the benefit of our Native military veterans.

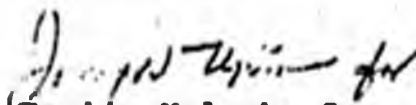
I would like to inform you that the North Slope Borough supports this bill as there are numerous military veterans who served in the Vietnam War who were not able to participate in the Native Allotment filing process. These veterans should not be denied the right to own an allotment because he/she was serving our country at the time of the filing period.

This great country of ours should honor the wishes of these brave military veterans who answered to the call of duty.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to say a few words in this regard. I hope that this bill will pass the Congress as it deals with the most important part of our country, its people.

If I can be of any assistance to you in this crucial matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,


Jessie Kaleak, Sr.
Mayor

c:\wp50\misc\rep_ivan

To: Chairman Ivan M. Ivan
House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs

From: Johnny T. Hawk, President & Chief Executive Officer
Callsta Corporation

Date: February 21, 1992

Subject: House Joint Resolution 68

I am speaking for House Joint Resolution 68, which I feel is long overdue. It is good that the Alaska Legislature is recognizing the contributions of Alaska Natives who have served this great country of ours at a great sacrifice.

I believe this country should reward those who served their country in time of need rather than penalize them. Alaska Natives historically have proven themselves to be very patriotic and their record speaks for itself.

Some may say that those involved were wards of the government itself, so had the opportunity to participate in the Native Allotment Program. If they hold that belief, how many United States Department of the Interior personnel were willing to go to the front lines and enroll them? This holds true for those military personnel that were assigned to the four corners of the world at that time as well.

It is only fair that the State of Alaska urge the United States to open a window of opportunity for those affected to participate in a program beneficial to all eligible. This is a good time to do this because I have spoken to our Congressional Delegation personnel and they informed me that the Department of the Interior is reviewing land allotment applications at this time. Thus, now is the time to make this request on behalf of Alaska Native Veterans.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, on behalf of the many Native Veterans from the Callsta Region for this and for the opportunity extended to us. It is very much appreciated.

cc: United States Veterans Affairs, Washington DC
Honorable Manual J. Lujan, Jr., Secretary of the Interior
Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice President of the United States
Ranking Members of U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate
Honorable Robert C. Byrd, President Pro Tempore, U.S. Senate
Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
Honorable Ted Stevens, U.S. Senator
Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senator
Honorable Don Young, U.S. House of Representatives

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE DAVIDSON

NAME: DAN SHYDER JR.
TITLE: VIETNAM VET
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 226
CITY: KOTZEBUE ALASKA
PHONE: 442-3513
ZIP: 99752

BILL NO: HJR 68

SUBJECT: REOPEN ALLOTMENTS FOR NATIVE VETERANS

MESSAGE: I AM IN SUPPORT OF SEEING HJR 68 (MLV) PASSED AND SENT TO CONGRESS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION, BEING NATIVE & VIETNAM VETERAN I WAS NEVER MADE AWARE OF ALLOTMENT PROCESS AND BECAME AWARE AFTER DISCHARGE & DEADLINE. REOPENING THIS PROCESS FOR VETERANS WOULD SHOW THAT THE U.S. APPRECIATES THOSE THAT SERVE.

POHID: 10143240

DATE: 92/03/13

TIME: 14:32:40

LIONAME: KOTZEBUE INFORMATION OFFICE

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

CARNEY
FINKELSTEIN
HUDSON
IVAN
LEMAN
LINCOLN
MOYER
ZAHACKI
DOHLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
GRUSSENDORF
MARTIN
TAYLOR

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: REPRESENTATIVE DAVIDSON

NAME: CHICK GREENE
TITLE: NW ARCTIC BOROUGH MAYOR
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1110
CITY: KOTZEBUE ALASKA
PHONE: 442-2500
ZIP: 99752

BILL NO: HJR 68

SUBJECT: REOPEN ALLOTMENTS FOR NATIVE VETERANS

MESSAGE: SUPPORT URGING CONGRESS TO REOPEN THE NATIVE ALLOTMENTS PROCESS FOR THE BENEFIT OF NATIVE MILITARY VETERANS.

POHIO: 10145012

DATE: 92/03/13

TIME: 14:50:12

LIONAME: KOTZEBUE INFORMATION OFFICE

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES

CARNEY
FINKELSTEIN
HUDSON
IVAN
LEMAN
LINCOLN
MOYER
ZAHACKI
DOHLEY
ELLIS
GRUENBERG
GRUSSENDORF
MARTIN
TAYLOR

House Joint Resolution 1X0.68
Seventeenth Legislature — Second Session

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veteran's Affairs, Resources

Dear Committee Members.

Here is a list of veterans in Haines, Alaska who will qualify for their individual National Endowment for Democracy allotments. Haines Viet Nam Veterans are in the congressional records of the House of Representatives. Percentage wise there was not a place in the United States who could equal Haines. One per thousand of population those that volunteered to serve their country. I'm an honorary life time member of the Viet Nam Veterans.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Ron Hotch | 13. Leo D. Land |
| 2. Clifford Hotch | 14. Ronald Martin |
| 3. Jimmy Ackerman | 15. Gene Martin |
| 4. Sonny Thomas, Jr. | 16. Chipper Strong |
| 5. Donald S. Hotch | 17. Jim Strong |
| 6. Leonard Willard | 18. David Strong |
| 7. George T. Stevens | 19. Gene Strong |
| 8. Bill Peters | 20. Tom Stevens |
| 9. Bill Thomas | 21. Jim Stevens |
| 10. Billy Albecker | 22. John Thompson |
| 11. Sonny Albecker | 23. Gary Cranston |
| 12. Jeff David, Jr. | 24. Teddy David, Jr. |
| | 25. Teddy David |

Sincerely,



Leo A. Land
P.O. Box 121
Haines, AK 99827