

HB

464

Alaska State Legislature

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SPONSOR STATEMENT

HOUSE BILL 464,

"An Act relating to state veterans' home facilities"

4/3/98

House Bill 464 amends Chapter 98 SLA 1992. This special law of Alaska allows Alaska to have an Alaskan Veterans' Home and includes verbiage identifying domiciliary care. However, in order for the state to recuperate approximately 65% of the construction costs of the home from the Veterans Administration if one is eventually built, the law must include nursing facilities. Without them, the state would have to shoulder the burden of all construction costs.

Further, Veterans Homes in other states are self sufficient in many cases because they contain nursing facilities. The nursing facility allows the state to collect medical fees from Medicare, Medicaid, and other third party health insurance. This offsets any state operating costs.

Please note that this bill does not request funding for a veterans home, it merely changes the law to allow one should it be deemed feasible. Currently the Veterans' organizations are raising money for a study to determine the feasibility and the logistics of having such a home in Alaska. HB 464 simply clears the way.

Please note also that HB 464 is now accompanied by two zero fiscal notes.