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**236**

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1  
Bill Version: SB 236  
(S) Publish Date: 2-2-00

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected Military and Veterans Affairs  
Title POW/MIA/Women's Veterans Days BRU Alaska National Guard  
Component Office of the Commissioner  
Sponsor Rules Committee  
Requester Governor Component No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>						
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>						
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2000) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill will formulize in statute specific days to recognize the men and women of our Nation's Armed Forces who were either Prisoner's of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). It also set a day to recognize women veterans.

Prepared by: Carol B. Carroll Phone 465-4730  
Division Administrative Services Date/Time 12/2/99 11:52 AM  
Approved by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ Date 12/2/99  
Agency Military and Veterans Affairs

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February 1, 2000

SB236

The Honorable Drue Pearce  
President of the Senate  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Pearce:

American members of the military forces, men and women, have stood proudly against the forces of tyranny and oppression throughout the world. Many tragically suffered as prisoners of war or remain missing in action. Alaska should honor these brave men and women and it is fitting they be recognized in state law. This bill I transmit today formally establishes days to honor prisoners of war, persons missing in action, and women in the military.

This bill establishes three days in law. To honor all former prisoners of war (POWs) who have returned home from our nation's wars, April 9 will be known as Former POW Recognition Day. The third Friday in September will be known as POW and MIA Recognition Day to commemorate all prisoners of war and persons missing in action (MIAs) unaccounted for or who died in captivity. November 9 of each year will be recognized as Women Veterans Day.

Veterans groups have for some time observed a former POW recognition day to primarily honor all POWs who have returned home. More recently, those groups have observed a POW/MIA recognition day as a day to honor Vietnam War POWs and especially MIAs. Over time this day has become a day to honor all POWs, including those who died in captivity, and a day to make a special effort to remember all persons who remain missing in action.

Countless courageous servicemen and women have sacrificed their lives for our nation, and many others have lost their own freedom as prisoners of war. Exhibiting patience and determination, prisoners of war are a powerful reminder that the spirit of the

The Honorable Drue Pearce  
February 1, 2000  
Page 2

American soldier cannot easily be broken, even by brutal treatment in violation of international law and the laws of common decency.

These brave soldiers, some of who died in captivity, and who, in many cases, spent years captive under the most reprehensible conditions, deserve our gratitude and commendation. The search for unaccounted for and missing soldiers from our nation's wars continues. Their unknown fate causes considerable uncertainty for their families, friends, and fellow veterans. By establishing these recognition days in their honor, Alaska will not forget the lives of these extraordinary heroes and the stories of their dedication to the people of America.


Because the number of women in the military -- and their roles in it -- is growing, it is important to publicly recognize women as they leave the armed forces and serve the communities to which they return.

Women currently constitute four percent of all veterans. By the end of the next decade, women will comprise 17 percent of veterans, and the percent of women in the active military is projected to grow from its current 14 percent. Although the history of women in the military is relatively recent, and they were not recruited to join the armed forces until World War I, some disguised themselves as men to join the Continental Army. The first female officers were appointed during World War II. During the Vietnam era, over a quarter of a million women served as military nurses or physicians, or in intelligence, supply, administration, and air support.

There is a need to identify and revise policies and practices in the military and veterans-related agencies that were developed at a time when women in the service were a rarity, and to assure that women veterans' issues are incorporated into future planning efforts. Designating a specific day to conduct programs and celebrations to honor and remember women veterans will hasten these efforts.

In honor to our veterans, I urge your prompt and favorable action on this bill.

Sincerely,

  
Tony Knowles  
Governor

**Message**

Date: Thursday Mar 02, 2000

Time: 3:51 PM

To: JUNEAU

From: Sandra Nelson

TC Number: 10499

Message: [REDACTED] has a problem with ltns so they called me to let you know they have a testifier for SB238 her name is Mrs Patrick Hutchinson. Sandra Nelson

Close Window

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And Laddie  
5/11/00

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

P.O. BOX 5800

FT. RICHARDSON, AK 99505-5800

PH: (907) 428-6003

February 2, 2000

The Honorable Jerry Ward, Chair  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Room 423  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Ward:

The Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs requests that the Committee schedule a hearing on the following bills. These bills are very important to our veterans and the active members of the National Guard, Naval Militia and the Alaska State Defense Force.

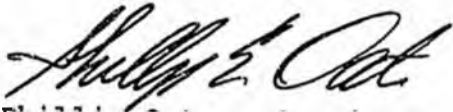
SB 236 "An act establishing Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Recognition Days and Women Veterans Day" would formally set special days to recognize the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and Alaska and their families.

SB 237 "An act relating to payment, allowances, and benefits of members of the Alaska National Guard and Alaska Naval Militia in active service" would streamline the process for paying members of the Guard and Militia when called to active duty. Members are called to active duty during times of disaster or state emergency. The current process is manual, time consuming and subject to errors. The process outlined in this bill would greatly reduce the time involved in calculating state active duty pay and reduce the chance for errors. It would also enhance the timeliness of payment for active duty.

SB 238 "An Act relating to payment, benefits, and work status of members of the Alaska State Defense Force". This bill would clarify the status of the Alaska State Defense Force when called to state active duty. The Alaska State Defense Force (ASDF) is a part of the organized militia of the State of Alaska. However, they are not members of the Alaska National Guard or Naval Militia and are not paid unless they are called to active duty. In the past, the department has paid the ASDF as if they were members of the Guard. The Department of Law determined that no statutory authority existed for the department to do so. This bill identifies that the department will pay the ASDF when called to active duty in accordance with state pay scales (level of work performed) but recognizes that the ASDF is subject to the ASDF command structure and discipline.

I look forward to working with you on these bills. If you have questions or if I can provide further information, please call my legislative staff, Carol Carroll at 465-4730 or me at 428-6003. Thank you for this opportunity to address your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phillip Oates".

Phillip Oates, Commissioner  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

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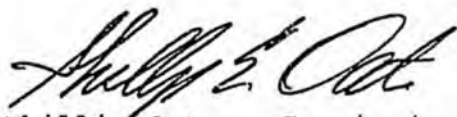
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Phillip Oates, Commissioner  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs