

SB

64

SFIN

FILE

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

REPORTED OUT
FEB 26 2001
SENATE FINANCE
COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/8/01

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 02/26/01

Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 64

"An Act relating to the award of a high school diploma to certain World War II veterans."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS SB 64 (FIN)
- adopt previous CS CS forthcoming ()
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by committee
- further referral to ttee

- Senate Bill:**
 same title
 new title
- House Bill:**
 same title
 technical title
 new: SCR #

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#
EDUCATION			✓	1

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>Linda Green</i>	✓			
<i>William [unclear]</i>	✓			
<i>[unclear]</i>	✓			
<i>[unclear]</i>	✓			
<i>[unclear]</i>	✓			
<i>[unclear]</i>	✓			
COCHAIR: <i>[unclear]</i>	✓			
COCHAIR: <i>[unclear]</i>	✓			

22-GS1011U
Ford
2/15/01

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 64()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the award of a high school diploma to certain World War II
2 veterans."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * Section 1. AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 14.03.077. High school diploma for certain veterans. (a)**

6 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, the commissioner shall award a high
7 school diploma to a person who

8 (1) makes application under (b) of this section; if a person is deceased
9 or incapacitated, an immediate family member may apply on behalf of the person;

10 (2) attended high school and left that high school in order to join the
11 United States armed forces or the Alaska Territorial Guard;

12 (3) never received a high school diploma; and

13 (4) actively served in the United States armed forces or the Alaska
14 Territorial Guard during the period of August 7, 1940, through July 25, 1947, and

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- (A) died in active service;
- (B) was honorably discharged; or
- (C) was released from active duty because of a service-related disability.

(b) The commissioner shall provide a form or electronic format for a person to apply under this section. The commissioner may accept an affidavit to support the award if documentation is not readily available from the military or other sources.

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P.O. BOX 5800

FT. RICHARDSON, AK 99505-5800

PH: (907) 428-6003

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSSB 64 (HES)

AN ACT RELATING TO AWARD OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO CERTAIN WORLD WAR II VETERANS.

This bill recognizes that many 17 year-olds left school to join the United States armed forces or the Alaska Territorial Guard in order to fight in a war that threatened the stability of the world. When they returned home, many did not return to high school and did not receive a high school diploma.

In order to recognize their service to this country, many states have joined together to pass legislation similar to the bill now in your committee. This effort is aptly named "Operation Recognition".

The Department believes there are less than 150 veterans that would fall within the guidelines of this bill.

Veterans or their families will need to apply to the Department of Education for the diploma.

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Sectional Analysis CSSB 64 (HES)
An Act relating to award of a high school diploma to
certain World War II veterans

Section 1. Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education to award a high school diploma to a veteran or a family member if the veteran is deceased, if certain stipulations are meant. The person must have served during August 7, 1940 through July 25, 1947.

DMVA
2/21/01
cc

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

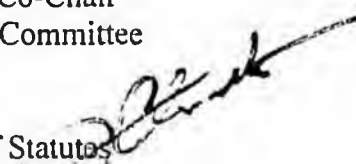
MEMORANDUM

February 8, 2001

SUBJECT: World War II service periods identified in SB 64/CSSB 64(HES)
(Work Order No. 22-GS1011\A)

TO: Senator Dave Donley, Co-Chair
Senator Pete Kelly, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Jack Chenoweth
Assistant Revisor of Statutes



RECEIVED
FEB 08 2001
Senate Finance
Committee

Senate Bill 64 and its first proposed committee substitute, CSSB 64(HES), legislation introduced by the Rules Committee by request of the governor to award high school diplomas to certain veterans of World War II, have been referred to the Senate Finance Committee for consideration. The purpose of this memo is to direct attention to the period of service in the United States armed forces or Alaska Territorial Guard described in the measure that would qualify the veteran for the high school diploma.

The measure proposes to set "the period of August 7, 1940, through July 25, 1947," as the active duty military service qualifying period. The merits of the legislation aside, the committee may want to consider conforming these dates to the beginning and ending dates otherwise set out in state statute that qualify veterans of World War II military service for other programs.

The beginning date: The reference to "August 7, 1940" varies from other similar reference dates usually used in state law. State statutes have commonly set the earliest date for a veteran's qualifying for a state program at "September 16, 1940." So, for example, the veterans preference for occupancy of certain housing projects under the "Moderate Cost and Rental Housing" program of AS 18.55.300 - 18.55.470, recognizes, in the definition of "veteran" set out in AS 18.55.470(4), military service for the period beginning "September 16, 1940" Similarly, the "Veterans Loans" programs of the Department of Community and Economic Development (AS 26.15) describes eligibility for loans in AS 26.15.130(1) and (2) with reference to the September 16, 1940 date. Finally, the "veterans preference" allowed for state civil service employment under AS 39.25.159(d)(4) defines "veteran" with reference to the person's military service beginning on the September 16, 1940, date.

Senator Dave Donley, Co-Chair
Senator Pete Kelly, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee
February 8, 2001
Page 2

I can't find that the August 7, 1940, date used in the measure has been applied in any other state statute or regulation as the beginning date for identifying a period of qualifying military service.¹

The ending date: Each of the first two of the three statutory programs mentioned in the paragraph above--the housing preference and the veterans loan programs--uses a "July 25, 1947" ending date, matching the qualifying ending date set out in the measure. The third, the veterans preference provided for state employment under AS 39.25.159, uses "December 31, 1947." If, as I understand, the intent is to allow a claim based on the widest possible period relating to World War II-related service, the committee may want to consider substituting the latter as the ending active duty military service date that would qualify.

Thank you for your consideration.

JBC:glc
01-114.glc

cc: Deborah E. Behr, Assistant Attorney General and
Legislation Attorney, Department of Law

¹ Choice of qualifying dates in the preparation of the administration bill, as I understand, was strongly influenced by a Wisconsin Statute, Wisc. Stat. sec. 45.35(5)(e), setting, within the definition of the term "veteran," the dates for qualifying for certain veteran-related programs in that state a beginning date for World War II military service of "August 27, 1940" and an ending date of "July 27, 1947." In retyping the bill for introduction, the "August 27" reference inexplicably became "August 7."

STATE OF ALASKA

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P.O. BOX 5800
FT. RICHARDSON, AK 99505-5800
PH: (907) 428-6003

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSSB 64 (HES)

AN ACT RELATING TO AWARD OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO CERTAIN WORLD WAR II VETERANS.

This bill recognizes that many 17 year-olds left school to join the United States armed forces or the Alaska Territorial Guard in order to fight in a war that threatened the stability of the world. When they returned home, many did not return to high school and did not receive a high school diploma.

In order to recognize their service to this country, many states have joined together to pass legislation similar to the bill now in your committee. This effort is aptly named "Operation Recognition".

The Department believes there are less than 150 veterans that would fall within the guidelines of this bill.

Veterans or their families will need to apply to the Department of Education for the diploma.

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Sectional Analysis CSSB 64 (HES)
An Act relating to award of a high school diploma to
certain World War II veterans

Section 1. Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education to award a high school diploma to a veteran or a family member if the veteran is deceased, if certain stipulations are meant. The person must have served during August 7, 1940 through July 25, 1947.

DMVA
2/21/01
cc

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 1/31/01

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 02/01/01
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/8/01

Health, Education and Social Services Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 64

"An Act relating to the award of a high school diploma to certain World War II veterans."

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS SB 64 (HES)
- adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee
- further referral to _____ Committee

- Senate Bill:**
 same title
 new title
- House Bill:**
 same title
 technical title
 new: SCR # _____

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#
Education - Early Dev	11/14/00		X	1

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
<i>Arwen E. Hennings</i>	✓			
<i>Henry Wilson</i>	✓			
<i>Gene Bee</i>	✓			
<i>Bettye Davis</i>	✓			
CHAIR: <i>Arwen E. Hennings</i>	✓			

TONY KNOWLES
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STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

January 30, 2001

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

Dear President Halford:

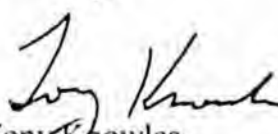
This bill I transmit today brings a long-overdue recognition to those World War II veterans who left Alaska's high schools before graduating in order to serve their country. These veterans would be awarded high school diplomas.

Alaska would join other states in the national "Operation Recognition" program designed as society's gesture of gratitude towards World War II veterans. Many of these veterans never received high school diplomas because they chose, rather, to serve in the military at a crucial time to ward off a genuine threat to world stability. When they returned home in the post-war economic and baby boom, they went straight to work and pursued careers rather than go back to school.

Under this bill, the Department of Education and Early Development would award a diploma upon application by, or on behalf of, a person who served in the military between August 7, 1940 and July 5, 1947. Those veterans with a Graduation Equivalency Diploma could also apply.

Out of respect and recognition of Alaska's World War II veterans, I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,


Tony Knowles
Governor

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SIGN-IN

SB 64-HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA FOR CERTAIN WWII VETS

NAME: CAROL CARROLL Subject/Bill No: SB 64
Co./Dept./Title: Dr Admin DMVA Phone: 4730
Address: _____ Zip: _____

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: _____ Subject/Bill No: _____
Co./Dept./Title: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Zip: _____

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: _____ Subject/Bill No: _____
Co./Dept./Title: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Zip: _____

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

NAME: _____ Subject/Bill No: _____
Co./Dept./Title: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Zip: _____

Do you wish to testify? Yes No Respond To Questions

SB 64

Mary Ellen Cunningham

KENAI

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