

SB

26

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 1/21/03

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 3/13/03
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 3/26/03

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 26

SB 26 STATE EMPLOYEES CALLED TO MILITARY DUTY

"An Act relating to state employees who are called to active duty as reserve or auxiliary members of the armed forces of the United States; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with _____ CS SB 26 (STA)
- 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#
APM/ALL DEPT'S	3/25/03	xxx ✓		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>John J. Caspary</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓			

*Adopted
w/o obj.*

23-LS0232D.1
Craver
3/20/03

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR ELTON

TO: SB 26

- 1 Page 1, line 9, following "including the":
- 2 Delete "Alaska National Guard and the Alaska Naval Militia"
- 3 Insert "organized militia of Alaska, consisting of the Alaska National Guard, the
- 4 Alaska Naval Militia, and the Alaska State Defense Force"

SB 26
Sponsor Statement

"An Act relating to state employees who are called to active duty as reserve or auxiliary members of the armed forces of the United States; and providing for an effective date."

This measure allows the Governor to ensure that state employees who are members of reserve and auxiliary military units, including the Alaska National Guard and Alaska Naval Militia, will not be financially penalized while on active duty. These courageous Alaskans could continue to receive their state salaries, or the equivalent, and some or all of their state benefits.

This is the right thing to do for our reserve and auxiliary service members who are called to active duty. The governors of many other states already possess this authority. Alaska should join their ranks.

This authority would be discretionary and triggered by an order of the governor. We do not anticipate a governor would invoke this provision for a short-term mobilization of the National Guard for, say, disaster assistance. We would expect that it generally would be invoked only for large-scale activations such as those we have seen recently across the country. The intent of the bill is that state employees called to active duty should not be financially harmed.

We urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

SB 26
Bullet Points

"An Act relating to state employees who are called to active duty as reserve or auxiliary members of the armed forces of the United States; and providing for an effective date."

- Governor may authorize by administrative order for state employees who are called to active duty to continue to receive state compensation and some or all of their state benefits.
- Department of Administration may adopt emergency regulations to implement order issued by governor.
- Not subject to AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) because they are meant to be immediate and of limited duration.
- Retroactive to September 11, 2001.
- We don't anticipate emergency regulations providing full salary, just benefits and any difference between active duty pay and state salary.
- Soldiers' families keeping health insurance.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: SB 26
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: All
 Title "An Act relating to state employees BRU _____
 who are called to active duty..." Component _____
 Sponsor Elton/Taylor _____
 Requester _____ Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	*	*	*	*	*	*

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	*	*	*	*	*	*

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: _____ *
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 Current year funding requirements are unknown at this time.
 Out year funding is indeterminate. There is no way to predict the number of emergencies for which an Administrative Order under the proposed legislation might be considered.

Prepared by: David Stewart Phone 465-4431
 Division Division of Personnel Date/Time 3/25/03 1:10 PM
 Approved by: _____ Date 3/25/2003
 Agency _____



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State workers called to military duty will keep regular pay

By The Associated Press
February 23, 2003

NASHVILLE - State workers called to active military duty with the National Guard or Armed Forces Reserves will continue to get paid the same salary they make in their civilian jobs, under an executive order signed Saturday by Gov. Phil Bredesen.

"Signing this document is the least that we can do for hard-working state employees, Guardsmen, Reservists and their families," Bredesen told more than 500 people at the 74th Annual Conference of the National Guard Association of Tennessee.

Shortly after the speech, Bredesen took a plane to Washington, where he is attending the National Governors' Association meeting.

The executive order renews a pledge by former Gov. Don Sundquist that was set to expire March 11.

It requires government agencies and departments to extend military leave and provide offsetting pay to state employees whose active-duty wages are less than their normal salary.

For example, if an employee normally earning \$2,619 a month - the average government salary - is called to active duty making only \$2,100 a month, the state will pay \$519 a month. The benefit is capped at \$1,000 a month.

Bredesen also encouraged private employers to supplement pay of their workers who are deployed.

"Guardsmen and Reservists already have given so much," Bredesen said. "They should not have to sacrifice financially in order to defend our freedom and security."

An estimated 480 state employees were members of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guards in January 2002, the most current number available from the Department of Personnel. An unspecified number serve in the Armed Forces Reserves.

The Tennessee National Guard now has more than 2,200 members on active duty.

It was unclear how many state workers have been called to duty.

Bredesen said he will keep renewing the new order as long as the nation is at a high risk of war.

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