

HB

166

Alaska State Legislature

Chair

Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Member

Labor and Commerce Committee
State Affairs Committee
Econ Dev, Int'l Trade & Tourism
Education Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees

Labor and Workforce Development
Community and Economic Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs



A Communication From

REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN

Chairman

House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

Session:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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MEMORANDUM

Date: April 6, 2005

To: Representative Paul Seaton, Chair
House State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Bob Lynn, Chair
House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

Re: House Bill 166, Veterans' Memorial Certificates

The House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee respectfully requests that House Bill 166 be scheduled in the House State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience. Included in this packet is the following information.

- Sponsor Statement
- Sectional Analysis
- Backup material

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CS HB 166 (MLV) **Veterans' Memorial Certificates**

Sponsor Statement

HB 166 creates the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to allow the Adjutant General to honor deceased veterans who are residents of Alaska, by issuing to their family memorial certificates. The certificate program is modeled after the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program. It is the intent that the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program will simply be a certificate given to surviving family members or other eligible recipients as defined, acknowledging the State's appreciation for the service of the deceased veteran.

Sectional Analysis

section 1 adds the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to AS 26.10. It outlines the procedure for the program

(b) (1) This section defines who is an "eligible recipient" of a deceased veteran, to receive the certificate.

(b) (2) This section defines "veteran" as the meaning given in AS 26.10.080

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Sec. 112. - Presidential memorial certificate program

(a)

At the request of the President the Secretary may conduct a program for honoring the memory of deceased veterans, discharged under honorable conditions, by preparing and sending to eligible recipients a certificate bearing the signature of the President and expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the Armed Forces. The award of a certificate to one eligible recipient will not preclude authorization of another certificate if a request is received from some other eligible recipient.

(b)

For the purpose of this section an "eligible recipient" means the next of kin, a relative or friend upon request, or an authorized service representative acting on behalf of such relative or friend

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Burial & Memorial Benefits

Veterans Benefits & Services

Presidential Memorial Certificates



A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.

History

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

Administration

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligibility

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided.

Application

Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email. There is no form to use when requesting a PMC. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate. Please submit copies only, as we cannot return original documents. We are presently receiving mail at our Washington, D.C. address, however mail delivery is considerably slower than normal.

If you would like to request a Presidential Memorial Certificate, or if you requested one more than eight (8) weeks ago and have not received it yet, we ask that you either:

1. Fax your request and all supporting documents (copy of discharge and death certificate) to: (202) 565-8054, or
2. Mail your request and all supporting documents using either the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial mail service, such as one of the overnight or express mail delivery services, to:

**Presidential Memorial Certificates (402E12)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420-0001**

If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in, or about the program in general, you may call (202) 565-4964. Or you may email us at:

PMC@mail.va.gov

PLEASE NOTE: The above telephone number and email address are for questions about the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program only. We do not accept e-mail requests. All requests must be in writing.

Veteran Service Officers and Funeral Homes - Please contact us at (202) 565-4259 or (202) 501-2004 for information about submitting requests.

We do not administer other VA programs or have access to other VA records. For assistance with other VA benefits or records please use the "Contact the VA" link below. Or call your Regional office at:

1-800-827-1000

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 166
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Military and Veterans Affairs
 Title An Act relating to a program to honor a RDU Military and Veterans Affairs
deceased veteran's military service. Component Veterans Services
 Sponsor Military and Veterans Affairs
 Requester (H) Military and Veterans Affairs Component No. 421

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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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--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL

Estimate of any current year (FY2005) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

It is anticipated that a memorial certificate program will cost less than \$1000.00 annually to conduct. The number of deaths each year can not be estimated and therefore the fiscal note is indeterminate.

Prepared by: John Cramer Phone (907) 465-4602
 Division: Division of Administrative Services Date/Time 3/8/05 1:33 PM
 Approved by: Commissioner Craig E. Campbell Date 3/8/2005
 Agency: Department of Military and Veterans Affairs