

HB

236

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member
Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Corrections
Labor and Workforce Develop.
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

House State Affairs Committee Chair

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931
Fax: (907) 465-4316
Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

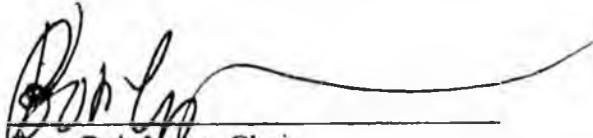
Interim:
716 W. 4th Ave., #650
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133


Phone: (907) 269-0205
Fax: (907) 269-0207

Date: May 4, 2007

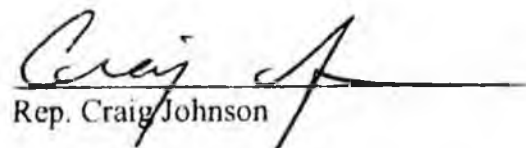
Re: HB 236 Deceased Veteran Death Certificate/Honor

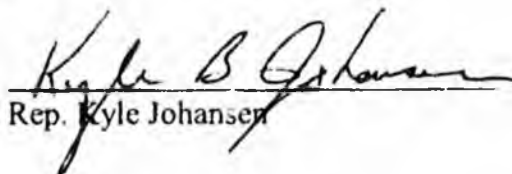
We the undersigned agree to waive HB 236 from House State Affairs Committee and on to House Finance Committee. Signature and agreement to waive does not constitute support or opposition to the bill, nor obligate the member to a specific vote on the House Floor.

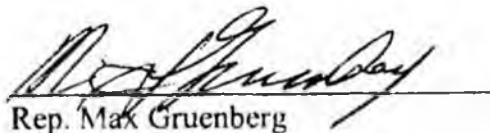

Rep. Bob Lynn, Chair



Rep. Bob Roses, Vice Chair


Rep. John Coghill


Rep. Craig Johnson


Rep. Kyle Johansen


Rep. Max Gruenberg


Rep. Andrea Doll

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Vice-Chairman
Economic Development, Trade & Tourism
Committee

Member
Judiciary Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Corrections
Labor and Workforce Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs
Public Safety



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

House State Affairs Committee

Session:
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone (907) 465-4931
Fax (907) 465-4316
Toll Free (800) 870-1391

Interim:
716 W. 4th Ave., #650
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone (907) 269-0205
Fax (907) 269-0207

Sponsor Statement

HB 236

Deceased Veteran Death Certificate / Honor

HB 236 provides one certified death certificate, without cost, to a surviving spouse, next of kin, or other eligible relative of a deceased veteran. The bill is modeled after Arizona statute.

HB 236 also 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 (7) outlines who is eligible to receive a free death certificate and indicates that one free death certificate be issued to eligible recipient.

Section 2 adds the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to As 26.10. It outlines the procedure for the program.

(c)(1) This section defines who is an "eligible recipient" of a deceased veteran.

(c)(2) This section defines "veteran" as the meaning given in As 26.10.080

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 4
 Bill Version: CSHB 236(M.L.V)
 (H) Publish Date: 3/18/08
 Dept Affected: Health & Social Services
 RDU Public Health
 Component Bureau of Vital Statistics

ID(File name) HB236CS(MLV)-DHSS-BVS-12-19-07
 Title DECEASED VETERAN DEATH CERTIFICATE/HONOR
 Sponsor HOUSE (STA)
 Requester HOUSE (FIN)

Component No. 961

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

CHANGE IN REVENUES (0)								
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF	50.0		60.0	75.0	90.0	90.0	90.0
1037 GF/Mental Health							
1156 (Receipt Services)	(50.0)		(60.0)	(75.0)	(90.0)	(90.0)	(90.0)
Other(Specify Type-do not abbreviate)							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Under this bill family members or representatives (executors, etc.) of deceased veterans may each request one free copy of the veteran's certified death certificate. Because the Bureau of Vital Statistics (BVS) relies substantially on fee revenues to cover its operating costs, any loss of these revenues will have an immediate impact on staffing and quality of service to the public if not replaced by general funds.

About 10% of the proposed FY09 budget for BVS is GF. In contrast, 65% of the BVS budget comes from Receipt Supported Services (RSS). Limited flexibility in the BVS budget compounds the problem of relying on fees for operating costs. (Continued on Page 2)

Prepared by: Beverly K. Wooley, Director
 Division: Public Health
 Approved by: Karleen Jackson, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Health and Social Services

Phone 465-3092
 Date/Time 12/04/2007
 Date 12/19/2007

**STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION****ANALYSIS CONTINUATION**

One-third of BVS's annual expenses are fixed costs for items such as lease space, telecommunications services and paper for certificates. Areas where there is some flexibility, such as travel, have been reduced in recent years due to "belt tightening" budget reductions and loss in buying power. Nearly two-thirds of the BVS budget covers personal services.

We project this bill will cost BVS \$50.0 in lost revenue in FY09, increasing to a loss of \$90.0 by FY12. The estimates are based on the \$20 fee for a certified copy of a death certificate and the approximately 900 deaths per year where the decedent was a veteran. Under this version of the bill, receipt of free copies is not restricted - each family member or representative may request one free copy but any number of family members or representatives may request a free copy. It is estimated that veteran's families and representatives will request, on average, five free copies (families have been known to request as many as 30 copies of a death certificate). The fiscal impact will be approximately \$50.0 for the first year the legislation is in effect (\$20 x 2,500 certified copies, assuming just 500 families will request five certificates each in the first year), increasing to \$90.0 by FY12 (\$20 x 4,500 certified copies) as more people become aware of the new benefit provided by this law. BVS will experience a greater loss of revenue if this bill generates more than five requests per death, or if the number of decedents who are veterans exceeds 900 in a year.

This projected loss of revenue to BVS appears in the Receipt Supported Services line and, if the current level of staffing and service to the public is to be maintained, this lost revenue will have to be replaced with GF. If new GF is not received to offset the lost revenue, the bureau will have to eliminate one position the first year this bill is in effect, and a second position within the subsequent one to two years. The loss of these positions will limit the bureau's ability to process requests for vital records in a timely manner by limiting the number of requests that can be processed daily. Previous experience has shown that when BVS is understaffed, the public can expect delays of up to eight weeks for processing vital record requests. At current staffing levels, the average turnaround time is two to three days.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 3
Bill Version: CSHB 236(MLV)
(H) Publish Date: 3/18/08

Identifier (file name): HB236-DMVA-VS-3-14-08 Dept. Affected: DMVA
Title: An Act relating to providing a death certificate for a deceased veteran without cost... RDU: Military and Veterans Affairs
Sponsor: State Affairs Component: Veterans Services
Requester: House Finance Component Number: 421

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Supplies	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

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

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

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1003 GF Match	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1037 GF/Mental Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Interagency Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

There is minimal impact to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for the cost of postage, mailing envelopes and paper stock for the Governor's memorial certificate program certificates

Prepared by McHugh Pierre, Legislative Liaison/Director of Communications Phone 465-4402
Division National Guard Military Headquarters/Commissioner's Office Date/Time 3/14/08 @ 10:00 am
Approved by Commissioner Craig Campbell Date 3/14/2008
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF ARIZONA

ORIGINAL STATE COPY

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DEATH NO. D 102-

Form with fields for name of deceased (AKA, LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST, EPSTEIN), sex, date of death, race, place of death, date of birth, age, marital status, social security no., usual residence, street address, father's name, informant's signature, burial information, and physician's signature.

FOR COURT PROCEEDINGS USE ONLY. Pursuant to A.R.S. 29-122, this copy has been issued free of charge for the purpose of applying for and obtaining Veteran's benefits and may not be used for any other purpose.

MORTUARY CORRECTED BOXES 1 & 14A, 2-5-2004

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF ARIZONA COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

DATE ISSUED FEB 06 2004

This is a true and exact reproduction of the document officially registered and placed on file in the VITAL RECORDS SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, PHOENIX, ARIZONA. Issued under the authority of A.R.S. 38-341, and by direction of:

Marcia M. Jacobson MARCIA MORAN JACOBSON YAVAPAI COUNTY



152164

b

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPC

5.4.07

(7) Date Referred to Committee: April 13, 2007

FURTHER REFERRALS: State Affairs Finance

Date of Committee Action: May 3, 2007

The HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS considered: HB 236

HOUSE BILL NO. 236

DECEASED VETERAN DEATH CERTIFICATE/HONOR

"An Act relating to providing a death certificate for a deceased veteran without cost; relating to a program to honor the memory of a deceased veteran; and providing for an effective date."

Recommends it be replaced with [] HCS or [X] CS for HB 236 (MLU) For Senate Bills with new title: [] Technical Title [] New Title: HCR [] Same Title [X] New Title

- [] attach amendments
[] add new referral to Committee
[] Letter of Intent Committee

- List of Abbr: for Depts: ADM CED COR CRT EED DEC DFG GOV HSS LWF LAW LEG MVA DNR DPS REV DOT UA

Table with columns: List by Dept(s), *FN#, Fiscal, Indet., Zero. Includes entries for MVA and HSS.

Table with columns: List by Dept(s), FN#, Fiscal, Indet., Zero. Empty table for previous fiscal notes.

Table for signing with recommendations. Columns: Printed Last Name, DP, DNP, NR, AM. Includes signatures and names like KAWANAKI, LOBOUT, FAIRCLOUGH, RAMRAS, and ROSES.



House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative,

The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and The Disabled American Veterans express the deep appreciation to you and other House members for the strong support given the veteran's legislative programs this past session. We have enclosed a copy of the Joint Venture's legislative priorities for consideration by the First Session of the 25th State Legislature.

Again, please accept our thanks and appreciation for your continuing support of important veteran issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Pisa".

Jim Pisa
Dept. Commander, The American Legion

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Simms".

Joe Simms
Dept. Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Schanrock".

Tom Schanrock
Dept. Commander, Disabled American Veterans

**The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled
American Veterans.**

Joint Venture

Legislative Issues
for FY 2008-2009

(condensed version)

1. **State Veteran's Service Officers Grant:** Increase of State Service Officers Grant from \$621,000. to \$651,000.
2. **Property Tax Exemption:** Support an Increase the Disabled Veterans' and Senior Citizens tax exemption.
3. **Community Based Outpatient Clinic:** Support from the Legislature for a VA community based outpatient clinic to be located in Southeast Alaska.
4. **Veteran's Cemetery:** We request the State Legislature to place a State Operated VA supported Cemetery in Fairbanks Alaska.
5. **Flag Amendment:** If Flag Amendment passes Congress Alaska ratify that amendment.

Burial & Memorial Benefits

Veterans Benefits & Services

Sample Presidential Memorial Certificates



The United States of America

honors the memory of

John H. Service

*This certificate is awarded by a grateful
nation in recognition of devoted and
efficient contributions to the service
of our country in the Armed Forces
of the United States.*

John F. Kennedy
President

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 current 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.

Page 2 - Presidential Memorial Certificates

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.

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 (41A1C)
Department of Veterans Affairs
5109 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903**

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 send an electronic inquiry to us by selecting the "Contact the VA" link below.

PLEASE NOTE: The above telephone number is for questions about the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program only.

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

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