

HB

129

<TARGET><BILL>HB 129</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
129</SUBJECT><COMM>SFIN27</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/28/12

FURTHER:
DATE TURNED
INTO OFFICE: _____

Finance Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 129(FIN)
HB 129-DECEASED VETERAN DEATH CERTIFICATE

"An Act relating to providing a death certificate for a deceased veteran without charge."
and recommends:

be replaced with SCS _____ () [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[] New Title/SCR No. _____
[X] adopt previous SCS CS HB 129 (STIA) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
[X] New Title/SCR No. 26







[] attached amendment(s)
[] adopt _____ Letter of Intent
[] further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	ADM	LEG
	CED	LAW
	COR	LWF
	CRT	MVA
	EED	DNR
	DEC	DPS
	DFG	REV
	GOV	DOT
	DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
DHS	X			2

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:		PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
		Thomas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Eggen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		McIlwaine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Ellison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Hoffman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Stedman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CO-CHAIR:						

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version SCS CSHB 129(STA)
 Fiscal Note Number 2
 (S) Publish Date 3/28/12

Identifier (file name) HB129CS(FIN)-DHSS-BVS-12-15-11 Dept. Affected Health and Social Services
 Title Deceased Veteran Death Certificate Appropriation Public Health
 Sponsor Rep. Gruenberg Allocation Bureau of Vital Statistics
 Requester Sen. State Affairs Committee OMB Component Number 961

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants, Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)							
1002	Federal Receipts								
1003	GF Match								
1004	GF	75.0	0.0	80.0	85.0	90.0	95.0	100.0	
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)	(75.0)	0.0	(80.0)	(85.0)	(90.0)	(95.0)	(100.0)	
1037	GF/MH (UGF)								
1178	temp code (UGF)								
	TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

POSITIONS									
Full-time									
Part-time									
Temporary									
CHANGE IN REVENUES	(75.0)	(80.0)	(85.0)	(90.0)	(95.0)	(100.0)			

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required,
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required,
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)
Updated fiscal note to reflect current fiscal year.

Prepared by Ward Hurburt, M.D. MPH - Chief Medical Officer / Director Phone 269-6680
 Division Public Health Date/Time 12/15/11 12:00 PM
 Approved by Nancy Roltzen, Assistant Commissioner Date 12/15/2011
DHSS Finance & Management Services

FISCAL NOTE #2

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SCS CSHB 129(STA)

Analysis

Under this bill family members or representatives (executors, etc.) of deceased veterans may each request one free certified copy of the veteran's death certificate. This bill would allow many members or representatives of the veteran's family to separately request a free death certificate.

This bill will reduce the Bureau of Vital Statistics (BVS) program receipts/fees by an estimated \$75.0 in the first year, increasing each year to a projected loss of \$100.0 by Year 5. Because BVS relies substantially on fees to support its operating costs, any loss of these program receipts will have an immediate impact on staffing and quality of service to the public if not replaced by general funds. About 3% of the budget for BVS is GF (\$91.1). In contrast, 80% of the BVS budget comes from program receipts (GF/Pgm).

The Bureau estimates that initially 75% of veteran's families will be aware of the bill, increasing to nearly 100% over five years. About 30 percent (approximately 1000 deaths) of total deaths in Alaska per year indicate the decedent was a veteran. It is estimated that between three to five family members (or executors) will qualify for a death certificate at no charge (families have been known to request as many as 40 copies of a death certificate). Assuming 3 to 4 certificates per death, the impact to the Bureau is projected to be between 3,000 to 4,000 certificates issued at no charge annually. The fee for a death certificate is \$25. It is anticipated the impact would be comparatively less for the first few years and then increase as more families become aware of the new law.

The fiscal impact will be approximately \$75.0 for the first year the legislation is in effect (\$25 x 3,000 certified copies, assuming just 750 families will request on average four certificates each in the first year), increasing to \$100.0 by Year 5 (\$25 x 4,000 certified copies) as more people become aware of the new benefit provided by this law. The Bureau will experience a greater loss of revenue if this bill generates more than four requests per death, or if the number of decedents who are veterans exceeds 1000 in a year. If the current level of staffing and service to the public is to be maintained, these lost program receipts will have to be replaced with GF.

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 129(STA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/28/12
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES GRUENBERG, Lynn, Gara, Costello, Kawasaki, Guttenberg, Kerttula,
Johnson

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to providing copies of a death certificate for a deceased veteran
2 without charge."

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

4 * Section 1. AS 18.50.320 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 18.50.320. Copies of data from vital records. Except as otherwise
6 provided and in accordance with the regulations adopted under AS 18.50.310,

7 (1) the bureau and the custodian of permanent local records shall, upon
8 request, issue a certified copy of a certificate or record in their custody, or a part of it;
9 each copy issued must show the date of registration or recording, and copies issued
10 from records marked "delayed," "amended," or "court order" shall be similarly marked
11 and must show the effective date;

12 (2) a certified copy of a certificate or a part of it issued in accordance
13 with (1) of this section is considered the original for all purposes and is prima facie
14 evidence of the facts stated; however, [PROVIDED THAT] the evidentiary value of a

HB0129D

-1-

SCS CSHB 129(STA)

COMMITTEE COPY New Text Underlined [DELETED TEXT BRACKETED]

1 certificate or record filed more than one year after the event, or a record that has been
2 amended, or a presumptive death certificate, shall be determined by the judicial or
3 administrative body or official before whom the certificate is offered as evidence;

4 (3) the National Office of Vital Statistics may be furnished the copies
5 or data it requires for national statistics if the bureau is reimbursed for the cost of
6 furnishing the data; the National Office of Vital Statistics may not use the data for
7 purposes other than statistical purposes unless authorized by the state registrar;

8 (4) federal, state, local, and other public or private agencies, upon
9 request, may be furnished copies or data for statistical purposes on the terms or
10 conditions prescribed by the bureau;

11 (5) a person or agency may not prepare or issue a certificate or part of
12 a certificate that purports to be an original, certified copy, or copy of a certificate of
13 birth, death, fetal death, or marriage, except as authorized in this chapter or the
14 regulations adopted under it;

15 (6) upon request, the bureau shall furnish a copy of a certificate or
16 record registered by the bureau to the child support services agency created in
17 AS 25.27.010, or the child support enforcement agency of another state, for child
18 support purposes authorized under law; such a certificate or record that is prepared or
19 maintained in an electronic data base may be supplied by providing the requesting
20 agency with a copy of the electronic certificate or record and a statement certifying its
21 contents;

22 (7) the bureau shall issue up to four certified copies of the death
23 certificate of a veteran without charge; under this paragraph, certified copies of a
24 veteran's death certificate are available without charge only to a qualified
25 person; in this paragraph,

26 (A) "qualified person" means an individual who is

27 (i) a personal representative of the veteran's estate;

28 (ii) a trustee of a revocable trust of which the
29 veteran was the settlor; or

30 (iii) a person who needs a certified copy of the
31 veteran's death certificate for the purpose of satisfying an

1 eligibility requirement for a benefit related to the death of the
2 veteran;

3 (B) "veteran" means an individual who was

4 (i) on active duty at the time of the veteran's death
5 or had received an honorable or general discharge from a branch
6 of the armed services of the United States, the National Guard, a
7 reserve unit of the United States armed services, the Alaska Scouts,
8 the Alaska Territorial Guard, or the Alaska Naval Militia; and

9 (ii) a resident of the state at the time of the
10 individual's death.

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD
STATE OF ARIZONA

ORIGINAL STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS
 COPY CERTIFICATE OF DEATH DEATH NO. D 102-

1	NAME OF DECEASED	A FIRST	B MIDDLE	C LAST	SEX	DATE OF DEATH	MONTH	DAY	YEAR
1	AKA	SIMON	EPSTEIN	EPSTEIN	MALE	JANUARY	31	2004	
2	RACE (e.g., white, black, American indian, (specify tribal affiliation))	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	WHITE	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
3	PLACE OF BIRTH	A COUNTRY	B TOWN OR CITY	C STATE	D	E	F	G	H
3	YAVAPAI	YAVAPAI	PRESCOTT VALLEY	ARIZONA	PRESCOTT VALLEY	PRESCOTT VALLEY	PRESCOTT VALLEY	PRESCOTT VALLEY	PRESCOTT VALLEY
4	DATE OF BIRTH	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	AGE (YEARS, MONTHS, DAYS)	IF UNDER 1 DAY	IF UNDER 1 DAY	IF UNDER 1 DAY	IF UNDER 1 DAY
4	NOVEMBER	7	1920		83	NO	NO	NO	NO
5	STATE AND CITY OF BIRTH	A STATE	B COUNTY	C CITY OR CITY	D	E	F	G	H
5	ILLINOIS	CHICAGO	U.S.A.						
6	USUAL RESIDENCE	A STATE	B COUNTY	C TOWN OR CITY	D ZIP CODE	E	F	G	H
6	ARIZONA	YAVAPAI	PRESCOTT VALLEY		86314				
7	STREET ADDRESS OF RFD	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
7	3380 NORTH WINDSONG								
8	PREVIOUS STATE OF RESIDENCE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
8	CALIFORNIA								
9	PREVIOUS STATE OF RESIDENCE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
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56	CALIFORNIA								
57	PREVIOUS STATE OF RESIDENCE	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
57	CALIFORNIA								

FOR INFORMATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES:
 Pursuant to A.R.S. 20-122A, this copy has been issued free of charge for the purpose of applying for any other purpose.
 Pursuant to A.R.S. 20-122A, this copy has been issued free of charge for the purpose of applying for any other purpose.

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF ARIZONA }
 COUNTY OF YAVAPAI }
 DATE ISSUED FEB 06 2004

152164

Marcia M. Jacobson
 YAVAPAI COUNTY REGISTRAR
 YAVAPAI COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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Finance Subcommittees:

Corrections
Courts
Law

Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

House District 20

Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Floor Leader

Email:
Rep.Max.Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

HB 129

DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR DECEASED VETERANS

Sponsor Statement

House Bill 129 provides that up to four free death certificates will be issued to the estate of deceased Alaska veterans to help them obtain benefits relating to the veteran's death. The bill is modeled on an Arizona statute. It demonstrates the state's respect for our veterans and their families, and will provide a valuable service to families in their bereavement.

If you have any questions about the bill, please contact my legislative aide, Ted Madsen, at 465-2840.

Thank you for your consideration of House Bill 129.

AARP
March 20, 2012

AARP Alaska
3601 C Street
Suite 1420
Anchorage, AK 99503

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F 907-341-2270
TTY 1-877-434-7598
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The Honorable Bill Wielechowski, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska Capitol, Room 101
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 129 (Gruenberg)—Support

Dear Chair Wielechowski:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the Senate State Affairs Committee to support HB 129, authored by Representative Max Gruenberg and co-sponsored by Representatives Lynn, Gara, Costello, Kawasaki, Guttenberg, Karttula and Johnson.

HB 129 would offer death certificates for a deceased veteran without a fee.

As you know, Alaska has the highest per capita number of veterans in the United States. AARP is proud that we have a large number of veterans in our membership in Alaska.

Providing copies of death certificates to the survivors in a veteran's family is one more way that we can recognize their service and one more way to thank their families.

We urge an "AYE" vote on HB 129.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506
Juneau, AK 99801
586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Joe Paskvan
Senator Cathy Giessel
Senator Albert Kookesh
Senator Kevin Meyer
Representative Max Gruenberg

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

House District 20

Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)

House Minority Floor Leader

House Bill 129:

Deceased Veteran Death Certificate

Explanation of Changes

HB 129 (27-LS0450VA) to SCS for CS HB 129(STA) (27-LS0450D)

1) Changes between HB 129 (27-LS0450VA) and CSHB 129(MLV) (27-LS0450B):

- a) Paragraph (i) on page 3, lines 4-10 of HB 129 version "A" was restructured, incorporating the following changes:
 - i) References to the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserves were omitted in the CS because they are a branch of the "armed services," which is already included in the paragraph.
 - ii) References to "Alaska Army National Guard" and "Alaska Air National Guard" were eliminated. "National Guard" was substituted as an umbrella term.
 - b) These were stylistic changes and were not intended to exclude any service members covered in the original bill.
- 2) Changes between CSHB 129(MLV) (27-LS0450B) and CSHB 129(FIN) (27-LS0450D):*
- a) Page 2, lines 22-25: Instead of issuing one free death certificate to each eligible recipient, the Bureau of Vital Statistics is authorized to issue up to four free certified copies for each deceased veteran.
 - b) The definition of "eligible recipient" was deleted (page 2, line 26 to page 3, line 2 of CSHB 129 (MLV)). (NOTE: Similar language was subsequently added back in to the bill during the Senate State Affairs Committee meeting. See the following section paragraph C.)

3) Changes between CSHB 129(FIN) (27-LS0450D) and SCS for CSHB 129(STA) (27-LS0450D):

- a) The title (page 1, line 1) was changed to reflect that more than one death certificate will be produced free of charge.
- b) Language on page 2, lines 22-25 of both versions was clarified to show that only four free death certificates will be issued per deceased veteran. The previous language was unclear as to whether four free death certificates were to be given per deceased veteran or whether four free death certificates were to be given per claimant (i.e. whether for the same decedent, a wife, a mother, a son, etc. could each get four). The CS makes it clear that only a total of four free death certificates can be given out for each deceased veteran.
- c) Language was added (page 2, line 26-page 3, line 2 of the "D" version) to clarify that only certain individuals can claim the deceased veteran's free death certificates. These individuals are:
 - a personal representative of the veteran's estate;
 - a trustee of a revocable trust of which the veteran was the settlor; or
 - a person who needs a copy of the veteran's death certificate to claim a benefit related to the death of the veteran.

These claimants are not prioritized; the first in time will prevail.

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**Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Floor Leader**

HB 129

DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR DECEASED VETERANS

Expected Witnesses

- Phillip Mitchell, Section Chief—Bureau of Vital Statistics
- Marie Darlin, AARP