

HB

50

<TARGET><BILL>HB 50</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
50</SUBJECT><COMM>SJUD27</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session:
State Capitol, Room 409
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
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REPRESENTATIVE DAN SADDLER

SPONSOR STATEMENT

CSHB 50 (JUD)

An Act relating to the purchase of alcoholic beverages at a club and to access by certain persons under 21 years of age to a club's licensed premises when alcoholic beverages are present.

CS House Bill 50 (JUD) is an effort to support the young men and women serving in the armed services in Alaska, by clarifying language to make it easier for them to enjoy companionship in the clubhouses of service and patriotic organizations.

The young soldiers, airmen, sailors, marines and coast guard personnel stationed in Alaska face special challenges. Separation from loved ones, the rigors of barracks life and the monotony of three mess hall meals a day can take their toll on morale. Patriotic clubs – such as those operated by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans and others – are places to relax with buddies and enjoy the special understanding and support from others who have “been there” and understand the rigors of military life.

The Legislature recognized this value, and in 2006 passed SB 209 to allow these young men and women access to such clubs using their military ID cards. However, some language remains in statute that creates confusion as to when such access is permitted. CSHB 50 (JUD) will eliminate that confusion by making it clear that such access is not limited solely to special events. The House Judiciary Committee amended the bill to also allow access by their accompanying spouses.

It is important to note that CSHB 50 (JUD) makes no change in law that would allow service members under the age of 21 to purchase or consume alcohol in service clubs.

Your support of CSHB 50 (JUD) will be a clear demonstration that Alaska understands and works to address the special needs of those who defend our freedom.

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Chairman, Chugiak-Eagle River Delegation

Sectional Analysis

CSHB 50 (JUD)

Access to Licensed Premises

Section 1 removes the phrase “upon special occasions” from AS 04.1.10(d). The effect of this deletion would allow military personnel on active duty, who are extended club privileges by patriotic organizations, to purchase alcoholic beverages in the portion of the club that is a part of the club’s licensed premises at times beyond just “special occasions.” This extended privilege is also extended to their accompanying spouses.

Section 2 adds the phrase “is a guest or member of the club, or the spouse accompanying a guest, and the guest” to AS 04.11.110(g). The addition of this phrase would allow a person under 21 years of age to enter or remain on the premises of a patriotic organization that is licensed as a club under AS 04.11.110, when alcoholic beverages are present, if the person under 21 years of age is a guest or a member of the club, and has proper military identification on their person. The amendments to this section add the requirement that for a person under 21 years of age to remain in the licensed premises portion of a patriotic club, the person must be either a guest or a member of the club.

Section 3 conforms AS 04.16.049 (Access of persons under 21 years of age to licensed premises), to the amendment set out in section 2 of the bill. This section adds a subsection to AS 04.16.049(a), which allows a person under 21 to enter or remain on the licensed premises under Title 4, if “the person is permitted on the premises under AS 04.11.110(g).”

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number 1
 Bill Version HB 50
 (H) Publish Date 4/5/11

Identifier (file name) HB 50 Dept. Affected _____
 Title Access to Premises Appropriation _____
 Allocation _____
 Sponsor Representative Saddler
 Requester House Labor & Commerce Committee OMB Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2012	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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 (please identify)								
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost _____

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

This is the initial fiscal note to HB 50

Prepared by Konrad Jackson, Committee Aide
 Division House Labor & Commerce Committee
 Approved by Representative Kurt Olson
Chair, Laobr & Commerce Committee

Phone 907-465-4954
 Date/Time 4/4/11 5:00 PM
 Date 4/4/2011

Lynne Smith

From: Rep. Dan Saddler
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 2:28 PM
To: Lynne Smith
Subject: FW: House Bill 50 (UNCLASSIFIED)

-----Original Message-----

From: Lemelin, David Mr CIV US USA IMCOM [<mailto:David.Lemelin1@us.army.mil>]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2011 9:34 AM
To: Rep. Dan Saddler
Subject: House Bill 50 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: FOUO

As the Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10029, North Pole Alaska. I give my support to House Bill 50 and Representative Dan Saddler.
If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at (907) 378-1256.

Respectfully,

Dave

David A. Lemelin
Commander
VFW Post 10029

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: FOUO

Mattison, John W CTR USAF PACAF 673 LRS/LGRM

From: Mattison, John W CTR USAF PACAF 673 LRS/LGRM
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011, 1:59 PM
To: 'Representative_Dan_Saddier@legis.state.ak.us'
Subject: HB 50 support

Gentlemen and Ladies,

I write this email in support of House Bill 50. This bill has been long in coming and I believe it will provide our younger heroes a better and more conducive venue to shed the pressures of military life. All too often, younger veterans are limited to on-base attractions. This allows them to congregate with their peers, but doesn't offer the mentorship opportunities that Patriotic Organizations such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the American Legion do. It should be noted that there is no age restriction for membership in the VFW, only that they be an American citizen, honorable service in the Armed Forces, and be the recipient of a qualifying campaign medal. As such, young (under 21) veterans may return from their deployment fresh from combat and be eligible for immediate membership, only to be told they can enter their club only during a special event. This is wrong and must be changed. I believe the verbiage in HB 50 will remove the confusion and correct this wrong.

John W. Mattison

Past Department of Alaska Commander (2008-2009)

VFW asks Saddler to get under-21 military into club

Bill wouldn't let them drink

BY ZAZ HOLLANDER
Alaska Star

Officers at Eagle River's Veterans of Foreign Wars club enlisted Eagle River's Representative Dan Saddler in their mission to open the doors to active-duty service men and women – even those who aren't quite 21 yet.

House Bill 50 sponsored by Saddler would let soldiers under 21 enter licensed premises of patriotic clubs if they are members or guests of a member. It would not allow them to drink alcohol.

The bill also has a section that expands access to service and patriotic organizations for active-duty service men and women over 21. Some language in statute limits such access to "special occasions" only, Saddler wrote in an e-mail. HB 50 deletes this language.

Saddler called the bill "simply an access bill" and said he wanted to emphasize that the bill would not allow underage persons to drink.

"It simply clarifies that soldiers over 21 don't have to wait for a 'special occasion' to visit patriotic clubs, and that soldiers under 21 can visit if they are club members, or guests," he wrote.

Eagle River's VFW Post 9785 asked for Saddler's help several months ago while the legislator was at the post, according to John Mattison, the post quartermaster and himself a Vietnam-era veteran who retired as a U.S. Army major. Mattison talked to Saddler again by phone in late March.

"A young troop can enlist when he's 17, go through his training, go to Afghanistan, come back when he's 19," Mattison said. "He's eligible for the VFW but he can't come in. I wanted to untangle that mess."

But once inside, wouldn't it be pretty easy for an underage soldier to wander up to the bar and order a beer? Or get a friend to do the buying for him?

Mattison said the VFW doesn't go through a lot of bartenders, and the staff gets to know patrons.

"I don't see that as being a problem at all," he said. "We've talked to our bartenders. They said, 'No, it won't be a problem.' They card everybody they don't know."

In terms of someone buying for an underage member, Mattison said that could theoretically happen the way laws are written now – somebody can bring in an underage soldier as a guest, sit them at a table and buy the table a pitcher of beer.

The larger problem is that right now, an Afghanistan veteran can't come in the door of the VFW unless there's a special occasion, Mattison said. If the bill passes, the soldier could become a dues-paying member.

"Any time we get an Afghanistan or Iraqi vet in there, it's a special occasion, that's how we treat it," he said. "But we've got to sign them in as guests."

The bill remained in the House Judiciary Committee as of

Alaska
Star
4/14/11

"It's time to get to somewhere where I think is one of the nicest high school stadiums in the nation," Shackelford said of Huffer Stadium. "You can't beat the scenery."

ASAA has yet to finalize a playoff schedule for next year, and it's unclear how many games would be played at the stadium. In past years, the four semifinal (two each for the Large and Small Schools divisions) and the championship games were played in Anchorage. However, that number could be higher this year, as ASAA also voted to create a third, "Middle" division in football that

competition," he said. As to potential one that the club is an unfair home to the Mustangs buying it.

"Ask the Dal that worked out Shackelford getting the goes to the sch tion, the field Rep. Bill Stol secure funding \$1.35 million in 2008.

"Kudos to (Chugiak athle

SOCCE WITH AN EDGE

Sunday, April 10

12:30-2:00p - 98 E

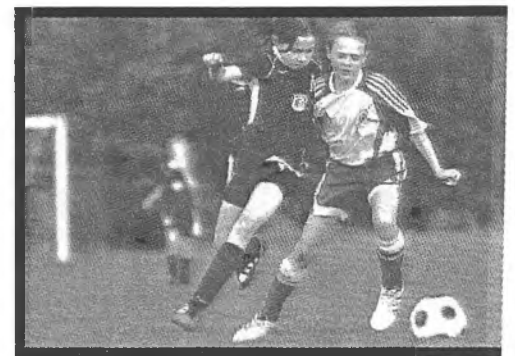
2:00-3:30p - 99 Bc

3:30-4:30p - 02/0.

4:30-6:00p - 01 G

6:00-7:00p - 02/0.

7:00-8:30p - 01 B



Tuesday