

SB

4

<TARGET><BILL>SB 4</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
4</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA28</COMM></TARGET>

**SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
First Committee of Referral**

DATE: 1/16/13

FURTHER: Labor and Commerce
Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 2/12/13

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 4

SB 4-MILITARY TRAINING CREDIT

"An Act relating to applying military education, training, and service credit to occupational licensing and certain postsecondary education and employment training requirements; providing for a temporary occupational license for qualified military service members; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with CS SB 4 (STA) Same Title [] New Title
- [] adopt previous CS _____ (_____) [] Same Title [] New Title
- [] attached amendment(s)
- [] adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- [] further referral to _____ Committee

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

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
ADM	✓			
LWF			✓	
EED			✓	
VA			✓	

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

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Wielechowski	✓			
	Gjesse	✓			
	Ryan	✓			

CHAIR:

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

State Capitol, Rm. 419
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-2435
Fax: (907) 465-6615

Interim

716 W. 4th Ave, Ste. 540
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-0120
Fax: (907) 269-0122



State Affairs Committee
Judiciary Committee
In-State Energy Committee
Joint Armed Services
Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

MEMORANDUM

January 17, 2013

TO: Senator Fred Dyson
Chair, State Affairs

FROM: Senator Bill Wielechowski 

SUBJ: Hearing Request for Senate Bill 4

I am writing to request a hearing for Senate Bill 4 Military Training Credit.

This legislation requires the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development to accept military education, training, and service as equivalent to some or all of the qualifications required for an occupational license. In addition, it directs the President of the University of Alaska, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board to implement a policy and procedure for the acceptance of military education, training and service as academic credit toward a degree or technical program.

Included in the bill packet:

- Senate Bill 4
- Sectional Analysis
- Sponsor Statement
- One Page Fact Sheet
- Support Letters

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or my staff Kendra Kloster at 465-2435. Thank you for your consideration.

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State Affairs Committee

Judiciary Committee

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Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 4: Military Training Credit

Senate Bill 4 will help eliminate the red tape veterans face when they leave the service and seek employment or education in a field where they have been working for years. This bill directs state boards to accept relevant military education, training, and service as equivalent to some or all of the qualifications required while applying for a license or certificate. In addition, it authorizes the issuance of a temporary license or certificate for active duty service members who had an equivalent license or certificate issued in another state.

The United States Department of Defense has designated this effort as a top priority across the nation. According to their data, as of September 2012, 773,000 veterans were unemployed and the jobless rate for post-9/11 veterans was 9.9%, with young male veterans experiencing an unemployment rate of 18.1%. Data also indicates that last year, 1,231 military members who separated or retired call Alaska home. This legislation will help those veterans find employment quicker to support their families.

When recruiting, the military highlights its educational advantages, promising young men and women that service will give them an advantage toward a college degree and a better career. However, many veterans who attend college after tours of duty are denied credit for military courses and specialized skills, forcing them to waste time taking classes on subjects they have already mastered.

Senate Bill 4 also directs the University of Alaska and Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education to implement policies and procedures to accept relevant military experience as credit toward a degree or technical program.

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450
FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101


State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

January 18, 2013

SUBJECT: Sectional summary for SB 4 (Work Order No. 28-LS0016\U)

TO: Senator Bill Wielechowski
Attn: Kendra Kloster

FROM: Jean M. Mischel
Legislative Counsel 

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill, and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1. Requires the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and AS 08.01 boards to accept relevant military education, training, and service credit toward the qualifications required for an occupational license or certificate issued under AS 08.01. If otherwise authorized to issue a temporary license, authorizes the issuance of a temporary license or certificate for active duty service members who had an equivalent license or certificate issued by another state or who was awarded a military degree, diploma, or certificate that met military standards for an equivalent license or certificate.

Section 2. Requires the President of the University of Alaska to implement a policy and procedure for the acceptance of military education, training, and service credit as academic credit toward a degree or technical program offered by the University.

Section 3. Requires a postsecondary educational institution to accept military education, training, and service credit toward a degree or program offered by the institution in specified circumstances.

Section 4. Requires the Alaska Workforce Investment Board to facilitate the development and implementation of a statewide policy and procedure that provides for the acceptance of military education, training, and service credit toward a degree or program offered by a technical training center in the state.

Senator Bill Wielechowski
January 18, 2013
Page 2

Section 5. Authorizes the adoption of regulations by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and applicable boards to implement secs. 1 - 4 of the bill.

Section 6. Provides for a December 31, 2013, effective date for secs. 1 - 5 of the bill.

Section 7. Provides for an immediate effective date for sec. 5 of the bill.

JMM:ld
13-020.lnd

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 4 (U)
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB004-UA-SYSBRA-2-12-13
Title: MILITARY TRAINING CREDIT
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
Requester: State Affairs

Department: University of Alaska
Appropriation: University of Alaska
Allocation: Budget Reductions/Additions - Systemwide
OMB Component Number: 1296

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2014 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
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 (Operating Only)

None								
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency?
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Prepared By:	<u>Michelle Rizk</u>	Phone:	<u>(907)450-8187</u>
Division:	<u>University of Alaska</u>	Date:	<u>02/11/2013 01:00 PM</u>
Approved By:	<u>Michelle Rizk</u>	Date:	<u>02/11/2013</u>
	<u>University of Alaska</u>		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB004

Analysis

SB004 will not have a fiscal impact on the University of Alaska (UA)

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 4 (U)
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB004-DCCED-CBPL-02-09-13
Title: MILITARY TRAINING CREDIT
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
Requester: Senate Labor and Commerce

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and
Economic Development
Appropriation: Corporations, Business and Professional
Licensing
Allocation: Corporations, Business and Professional
Licensing
OMB Component Number: 2360

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2014 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel	107.6							
Services	30.0							
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants & Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
Total Operating	137.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1156 Rcpt Svcs	137.6							
Total	137.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

Change in Revenues								
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 12/31/13

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: Don Habeger, Director	Phone: (907)465-2536
Division: Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing	Date: 02/09/2013 08:30 AM
Approved By: JoEllen Hanrahan, Director	Date: 02/09/13
Administrative Services	

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 4

Analysis

SB 4 would require the department or board to accept relevant experience, training, or service acquired while serving in the armed forces for professional licensing. The bill would allow greater flexibility for those exiting military service to become temporarily licensed in Alaska.

Travel costs of 107.6 are to meet the December 31, 2013 effective date and would require eleven affected boards to schedule additional meetings before October 1 in order to meet the requirements of this bill. It is expected that each of the affected boards will need two meetings to deliberate the topic, confer with content experts including the Department of Defense, draft and approve regulations before the public comment period, and consider public comment before approving final regulations. This fiscal note reflects the travel costs for board members and staff to travel to these meetings. The department will make every effort to schedule additional meetings via teleconference when feasible.

Services of 30.0 include additional funding for facilitation and drafting of regulations by the December 31 effective date.

Average costs associated with a one day board meeting:

- Per diem – \$65
- Car rental – \$100
- Hotel – \$125
- Average airfare – \$400
- Total cost – \$690

BAH – 7 x 690 = 4,830 x 2 = 9,660	AS 08.13
CHI – 6 x 690 = 4,140 x 2 = 8,280	AS 08.20
CSW – 6 x 690 = 4,140 x 2 = 8,280	AS 08.95
DEN – 10 x 690 = 6,900 x 2 = 13,800	AS 08.32
MFT – 6 x 690 = 4,140 x 2 = 8,280	AS 08.63
MED – 8 x 690 = 5,520 x 2 = 11,040	AS 08.64
NUR – 7 x 690 = 4,830 x 2 = 9,660	AS 08.68
PHA – 8 x 690 = 5,520 x 2 = 11,040	AS 08.80
PHYS – 8 x 690 = 5,520 x 2 = 11,040	AS 08.84
PYSCH – 6 x 690 = 4,140 x 2 = 8,280	AS 08.86
VET – 6 x 690 = 4,140 x 2 = 8,280	AS 08.98

Total for eleven boards – 107,640

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 4 (U)
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB004-DOLWD-WIB-2-8-13
Title: MILITARY TRAINING CREDIT
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI
Requester: Senate State Affairs

Department: Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Appropriation: Business Partnerships
Allocation: Workforce Investment Board
OMB Component Number: 2659

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2014 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
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

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Jeff Selvey, Executive Director, Workforce Investment Board	Phone:	(907)269-3569
Division:	Business Partnerships	Date:	02/08/2013 03:00 PM
Approved By:	Dianne Blumer, Commissioner	Date:	02/08/13
	Department of Labor and Workforce Development		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB004

Analysis

The proposed legislation requires the Workforce Investment Board to facilitate a statewide policy to determine credit towards a degree or program offered by a vocational or technical center in the state of Alaska for a member of the nation's armed forces. This will be conducted via teleconferences between the state's applicable training center organizations.

There is no fiscal impact to the department as a result of this legislation.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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State Affairs Committee

Judiciary Committee

In-State Energy Committee

Joint Armed Services
Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

Senate Bill 4: Military Training Credit

SUBJECT: Separating Service members are frequently delayed or denied getting post-Service employment and education credit even though they have applicable military education, training and experience which can qualify them for licenses and/or provide academic credit towards degree requirements.

MESSAGE: Separating Service members leave the military with documented training and experience that can prepare them for civilian employment; however, this documentation is not always used by state entities to qualify them for licenses required for their occupation or to provide them academic credit. Reported unemployment rates of separating Service members that are higher than national averages have brought attention to supporting issues such as expedited licensure and increased academic credit recognition to alleviate this problem.

BACKGROUND: As of September 2012, 773,000 thousand Veterans were unemployed and the jobless rate for post-9/11 veterans was 9.9 %, with young male Veterans (ages 18 to 24) experiencing an unemployment rate of 18.1%.¹

SENATE BILL 4:

- Requires the Department of Commerce and Boards to accept military education, training, and service as equivalent to some or all of the qualifications required while applying for a license or certificate.
- Authorizes the issuance of a temporary license or certificate for active duty service members who had an equivalent license or certificate issued by another state.
- Requires the President of the University of Alaska, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board to implement a policy and procedure for the acceptance of military education, training and service as academic credit toward a degree or technical program.

¹ Current Population Survey (CPS), Bureau of Labor Statistics. Monthly Averages. Age 18 years and over. Not Seasonally Adjusted



Chapter 904 - Anchorage, Alaska "An Agenda of Service"

January 19, 2013

Senator Bill Wielechowski

Senator:

One year ago today, we requested movement on what was then SB150 dealing with this same issue.

As you and other members of the state legislature heard last year during your very successful town hall meeting, many members of the service, upon separation and becoming veterans basically lose any consideration for the real value of the training they have received in service and the work they have done in a number of vocations for years in the most challenging of environments – combat.

This just doesn't make much sense. We must find a way for the state through its licensing programs and for the University of Alaska to recognize the value of both these veterans' training and service.

Your bill, SB 150 from last year should have jump started this process, and hundreds of veterans in Alaska are still waiting for this. But let me also point out that I sent each of 48 other State Council Presidents of VVA SB150, and based on questions to me while in DC recently, there is a great deal of interest in this idea. I'll canvas these veteran leaders and see just how many have bills in process or passed to date and forward same info to you.

Let me make it clear that this is NOT to suggest that our new veterans may not need additional training to meet licensing or other civilian standards for such in each state. But it is to strongly suggest that this experience and training should be seriously considered as having some value, by the state et al.

It is critical in this time of military downsizing and international redeployments, that we make every effort in Alaska, with the highest per capita number of veterans, to welcome, enable and embrace these men and women who have walked in hell for us.

It is an honor,

Ric Davidge

President, VVA 904

National Chairman, VVA Government Affairs Committee



READINESS AND FORCE
MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

The Honorable Bill Wielechowski
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 419
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Wielechowski:

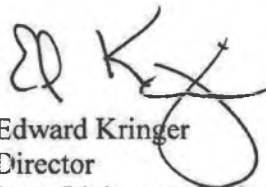
On behalf of the Department of Defense, we want to thank you for your sponsorship of Senate Bill 4. This effort will greatly aid separating Service members who move back to Alaska upon military separation or retirement with gaining academic credit and occupation licensing as they transition to civilian life.

This issue, one of our top priorities for 2013, is one of the key elements of the Veterans Employment Initiative of the current Administration. The policy as currently represented in Senate Bill 4 will enable Alaska to join 23 other states also providing this kind of help to our separating Service members; and since Alaska had 1,231 Service members move back to the state in Fiscal Year 2012, the academic and occupational licensing help your policy change provides will have significant personal impact for many.

Aided by your leadership in the Senate, the Alaska legislature has been a champion in addressing a number of key military family issues for the past six years. We intend, principally through our Regional Liaison for the Northwest, Mark San Souci, to provide as much information and support as possible as this policy initiative moves forward in upcoming hearings. However, if you have questions or need my assistance, please contact me at (571) 372-5321, or at ed.kringer@osd.mil.

With Alaska's continued dedication to our military, our Service members can complete their missions, overseas and at home, knowing you are taking care of their families.

Sincerely,



Edward Kringer
Director
State Liaison and Educational Opportunity

cc:

Mr. Mark B. San Souci, Northwest Regional State Liaison (WA, AK, ID, OR)