

SB

194

<TARGET><BILL>SB 194</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
194</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA29</COMM></TARGET>

Daniel George

From: Brooke Ivy
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 5:10 PM
To: Daniel George
Subject: SB 194 - Testifier List

Hi Daniel,

Below please find the list of **testifiers I understand will be calling in for SB 194 tomorrow:**

Expected Testimony

- Verdie Bowen, Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Pam Beale, Chair, Alaska Veterans Advisory Council
- Pasert Lee, President, Hmong Alaska Community
- Arthur Yang, Secretary, Alaska United States Special Guerilla Unit, Inc.
- (Additional Hmong Veteran – TBD)
- (Possible, if available) Commissioner Laurie Hummel, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Available for Questions

- Amy Erickson, Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, Department of Administration
- Kathy Monfreda, Criminal Records & Identification Bureau Chief and Acting Statewide Services Director, Department of Public Safety
- Hilary Martin, Attorney, Legislative Legal Services

Please note – I heard back from Senator Murkowski’s office and they will be unable to deviate from their standard practice of not taking a position on State legislation. However, her Deputy Chief of Staff, Nathan Bergerbest, plans to listen in.

If you have questions, let me know. Thank you!

Brooke Ivy
Office of Senator Bill Wielechowski



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Juneau, AK 99801
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senatorbill.org

29-LS1499\H
Martin
3/30/16

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 194(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): SENATOR WIELECHOWSKI BY REQUEST

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to a veteran's designation on an identification card or a driver's license**
2 **for Hmong veterans and Lao veterans."**

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

4 *** Section 1.** AS 18.65.310(l) is amended to read:

5 (l) At the request of the person, the department shall provide a veteran
6 designation and United States flag replica on an identification card identifying the
7 person as a retired veteran, [OR] a veteran of the armed forces of the United States
8 discharged under honorable conditions, or a Hmong veteran or Lao veteran who
9 served in military operations in support of the United States in the Kingdom of
10 Laos between February 28, 1961, and May 15, 1975. The department may not
11 charge a fee solely for the designation. To receive a veteran designation, the person
12 shall provide proof of veteran status that shows the person is retired, was [OR]
13 discharged under honorable conditions, or is a Hmong veteran or Lao veteran. The
14 department shall consult with the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

1 to determine the proof necessary to show that a person is a Hmong veteran or
2 Lao veteran. With the approval of the person, the department shall make available to
3 the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs the name and address of a person
4 receiving a veteran designation under this subsection. Notwithstanding (a) of this
5 section, the department may charge a fee of \$5 for replacement of a valid
6 identification card with a new identification card with a veteran designation.

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 28.15.111(c) is amended to read:

8 (c) At the request of an applicant, the department shall provide a veteran
9 designation and United States flag replica on a license identifying the driver as a
10 retired veteran, [OR] a veteran of the armed forces of the United States discharged
11 under honorable conditions, or a Hmong veteran or Lao veteran who served in
12 military operations in support of the United States in the Kingdom of Laos
13 between February 28, 1961, and May 15, 1975. The department may not charge a
14 fee solely for the designation. To receive a veteran designation, the driver shall make
15 available proof of veteran status that shows that the person is retired, was [OR]
16 discharged under honorable conditions, or is a Hmong veteran or Lao veteran. The
17 department shall consult with the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs
18 to determine the proof necessary to show that a person is a Hmong veteran or
19 Lao veteran. With the approval of the applicant, the department shall make available
20 to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs the name and address of a driver
21 receiving a veteran designation under this subsection. The department may charge a
22 fee of \$5 for replacement of a valid driver's license with a new license with a veteran
23 designation. A replacement license with a veteran designation issued for \$5 under this
24 subsection shall retain the expiration date of the license it replaces.

Senate Bill 194 – Explanation of Changes Version W to Version H

1. **Page 1, Line 8 following “conditions,”:** Removes “a” and inserts “or a Hmong veteran or”

Adds the term “Hmong veteran” to the more general definition of Lao veteran so as to ensure an inclusive definition that recognizes cultural and historic sensitivities.

2. **Page 1, Line 10 following “1975”:** Removes “, or a Hmong veteran who assisted United States personnel in military or rescue operations during the Vietnam era between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975”

Deletes an overly prescriptive definition of Hmong veteran for the purpose of streamlining the definition of Hmong veterans with Lao veterans to fully encompass the conflict referenced in the bill. The remaining definition complies with officially recognized dates of the Vietnam War under Title 38 of the U.S. Code §101(29)(A) -- February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7, 1975 – while accounting for the official fall of the U.S. Secret Army base in Laos on May 15, 1975. This change also makes this definition in stronger compliance with dates used in existing Alaska Statute [AS 28.10.181(cc)] for Lao veteran specialty license plates.

3. **Page 2, Line 11 following “conditions,”:** Removes “a” and inserts “or a Hmong veteran or”

Conforms to definition change in Section 1 (change #1).

4. **Page 2, Line 13 following “1975”:** Removes “, or a Hmong veteran who assisted United States personnel in military or rescue operations during the Vietnam era between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975”

Conforms to definition change in Section 1 (change #2).

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Session

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Senator.Bill.Wielechowski@akleg.gov



Resources Committee

State Affairs Committee

Joint Armed Services Committee

Judiciary Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

MEMORANDUM

March 24, 2016

TO: Senator Bill Stoltze, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senator Bill Wielechowski 

SUBJ: Hearing Request for SB 194 – Lao/Hmong Veteran Driver's License & ID Card

I am writing to respectfully request a hearing for Senate Bill 194 – Lao/Hmong Veteran Driver's License & ID Card. Senate Bill 194 would expand the eligibility for a Veteran's designation on state-issued ID cards and driver's licenses to include Lao Veterans who served in military operations in support of American interests during the Vietnam era and Secret War. Trained covertly by the CIA and armed by the United States, over 35,000 Hmong soldiers fought valiantly in the Kingdom of Laos to block the primary supply route of the North Vietnamese Army, gather intelligence, support American military personnel and rescue downed pilots.

Included in this bill packet:

- SB 194 Sponsor Statement
- SB 194 ver W
- SB 194 Supporting Documents
 - Essay, Why Are the Hmong in America 2002
 - Lao Veterans of America
 - Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 2000
 - Veterans Today Column, The US Abandonment of the Hmong 1-27-10
 - Citation, Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit 4-16-14
 - Letter of Support, Hmong Alaska Community, Inc. 2-24-16
 - Letter of Support, Hmong Veterans Family of Alaska 3-12-16
 - Letters of Support, Individual Hmong Veterans 2-22-16

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or my staff, Brooke Ivy, at 465-2435.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Resources Committee

State Affairs Committee

Joint Armed Services Committee

Judiciary Committee

SENATOR BILL WIELECHOWSKI

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 194

Lao/Hmong Veteran Driver's License & ID Card

Senate Bill 194 would expand the eligibility for a Veteran's designation on state-issued ID cards and driver's licenses to include Lao Veterans who served in military operations in support of American interests during the Vietnam era and Secret War. Trained covertly by the CIA and armed by the United States, over 35,000 Hmong soldiers fought valiantly in the Kingdom of Laos to block the primary supply route of the North Vietnamese Army, gather intelligence, support American military personnel and rescue downed pilots.

The high cost of service paid by Hmong fighters and civilians is testament to their dedication and loyalty. During the conflict, heavy bombing campaigns decimated the agricultural livelihood of the Hmong people. It is estimated close to 100,000 Hmong soldiers and civilians died during the conflict, and far more were displaced. When Laos finally fell to Communist forces, tens of thousands more were forced to flee to avoid retribution and reprisal.

Despite serving honorably in the Vietnam War, Hmong Veterans were not formally recognized for their courage and sacrifice. Instead, they have waited decades and many passed away before being honored for their service. Today, the significant role of the Hmong people in the Vietnam War is only just beginning to be respected.

Under current statute, the Division of Motor Vehicles offers a Veteran designation on driver's licenses and state ID cards to those who can show proof of Veteran status. However, as Lao Veterans who served the US overseas do not possess a formal DD214, these populations are not currently benefiting from this designation.

In an effort to honor Lao Veterans in Alaska for their service and support to our country, I urge your support of Senate Bill 194.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2016 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 194
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: SB194-DOA-DMV-03-25-16
Title: LAO/HMONG VETERAN DRIVER'S LIC. & ID CARD
Sponsor: WIELECHOWSKI BY REQUEST
Requester: Senate State Affairs

Department: Department of Administration
Appropriation: Motor Vehicles
Allocation: Motor Vehicles
OMB Component Number: 2348

Expenditures/Revenues

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

| | FY2017 Appropriation Requested | Included in Governor's FY2017 Request | Out-Year Cost Estimates | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| 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 | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2017) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

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: Amy Erickson, Director
Division: Motor Vehicles
Approved By: Sheldon Fisher, Commissioner
Agency: Department of Administration

Phone: (907)269-5574
Date: 03/25/2016 10:00 AM
Date: 03/01/16

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB 194

Analysis

SB 194 allows Lao or Hmong veterans who provide proof of veteran status a veteran designation on their driver license ID card. There is no fiscal impact to DMV. Therefore, a zero fiscal note is submitted.

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICES

29th Alaska Legislature
LRS Report 16.202
March 28, 2016



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Background Information on the Hmong People

Susan Haymes, Legislative Analyst

You asked for background information on the Hmong population. Additionally, you asked about the current status of federal legislation recognizing the contributions of Lao-Hmong veterans.

The Hmong are an Asian ethnic group from the mountainous regions of China, Lao, Thailand, and Vietnam. For thousands of years, the Hmong have maintained a distinctive culture, including dress, oral traditions, and religion. They are a strongly independent people and highly value their autonomy. In pre-war Lao the Hmong lived high in the mountains practicing subsistence agriculture and had little contact with other people. As an ethnic minority in most areas where they have lived, the Hmong have often held a relatively low social status.¹ Hmong veterans are those who fought in Lao on behalf of the United States during the Vietnam War—also known as “Lao veterans.”

The Hmong and the Vietnam War

The Hmong generally supported the French occupation of Indochina from 1945-1954 because under the French the Hmong were a protected minority, and were mostly left alone to live their lives.² When the French withdrew in 1954, the Hmong found themselves under attack from the lowland Lao and from both the North and South Vietnamese. The United States, fearing a communist victory in Vietnam, had supported the French during the First Indochina War, and when the French withdrew supported South Vietnam.³ As the Vietnam conflict intensified in the early 1960s, the United States discovered that communist forces had entered Laos.⁴ In response, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) sent agents to recruit the Hmong to help in the fight. The Hmong, who saw communism as a threat to their land and their autonomy, agreed to assist. The CIA established an air base at Long Cheng in northern Lao and selected Vang Pao to command the Hmong forces. This CIA-covert operation in Lao became known as the Secret War.

The United States relied heavily on Hmong soldiers from 1960-1975 to engage in direct combat, direct air strikes, rescue downed American flyers, fight behind enemy lines, and gather intelligence on the movements of North Vietnamese troops. During this time period, more than 35,000 Hmong soldiers, representing about 12 percent of the population, lost their lives

¹ Rashaan Meneses, “Hmong: An Endangered People,” UCLA International Institute, July 7, 2004. The article can be accessed at www.international.ucla.edu/article.asp?parentid=12590.

² French Indochina included the current states of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. After World War I a nationalist movement had formed in Vietnam led by Ho Chi Minh. Ho Chi Minh formed a liberation movement known as the Viet Minh and battled first the Japanese during World War II and then the French until 1954. The war during the French occupation is known as the First Indochina War. Negotiations to end the conflict, known as the 1954 Geneva Accords, divided Vietnam at the 17th parallel. The territory north of the line was led by Ho Chi Minh with Hanoi as its capital and the southern part was led by Ngo Dinh Diem with Saigon as its capital. North Vietnam became a communist regime and Ho created a new band of guerilla fighters in the South known as the Viet Cong.

³ The United States subscribed to the domino theory, which posited that a communist victory in Vietnam might lead to communist victories in Lao, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

⁴ The Laos communists were known as the Pathet Lao. At the time, Laos had been declared neutral, but with a growing communist presence, the CIA saw it as the next front.

and many more were seriously injured and disabled.⁵ Overall, Hmong soldiers died at a rate ten times that of American soldiers in Vietnam. Tragically, most of the dead, however, were Hmong civilians who perished by the tens of thousands. Some estimates put the total number of Hmong lost during the Secret War at nearly 100,000, but given the circumstances of the Secret War, it is nearly impossible to know the exact number of Hmong killed.

In a report from 1969, then director of the CIA Richard Helms wrote that the Hmong had "borne a major share of the active fighting" against the Communists in Laos. After eight years of constant warfare, General Vang Pao had "been forced to use 13 and 14-year old children to replace his casualties."⁶ Nevertheless, the Hmong continued to fight beside the U.S. for another six years. Mr. Helms and others note that the tenacity and effectiveness of the Hmong saved thousands of American lives.⁷ Not only did the Hmong suffer heavy losses during the 15-year war, they faced even greater hardship when the war ended and the United States withdrew its forces.

The Hmong in the Aftermath of the Vietnam War

For the Hmong, the end of the Vietnam War came on May 15, 1975, when the Pathet Lao overran the CIA's mountain air base at Long Tieng.⁸ The U.S. had no coherent evacuation plan after 15 years of secret missions and had only enough aircraft to evacuate the Hmong officers and their family members. The CIA military records that had been left behind helped the new government track down Hmong soldiers who had fought with the Americans. Many of the Hmong with resources were able to escape to Thailand; however, most of the poor and uneducated stayed in Laos.

In 1977, the Lao government organized a massive troop movement against the Hmong, driving them from their homes. Hmong villages were burned, crops destroyed, and livestock killed.⁹ Tens of thousands of Hmong fled into the jungles and wound up as refugees in Thailand. It is believed that as many as a third of the Hmong population fled to Thailand at that time. During the exodus, countless people drowned in the Mekong River and hundreds of others died from starvation and disease. For example, by one account, a group of some 8,000 Hmong began the journey to Thailand, but only 2,500 arrived. The Lao military used conventional and chemical weapons against the Hmong, as well as terror bombing and mass rape. Of the Hmong that were captured, tens of thousands were sent to reeducation camps, which were essentially prisons and torture facilities. Many thousands died in these camps, as a result of torture, starvation, and illness. All told, between 1975 and 1978, an estimated 50,000 Hmong were killed in retribution for having assisted the Americans during the Secret War.¹⁰

Several thousand of the Hmong, primarily soldiers and their families, who escaped into the jungle took up arms against the Lao government. Although some of their raids were initially successful, the Lao military retaliated with heavy bombing and chemical weapons. Today perhaps 1,000 are still on the run in the jungles of Lao according to journalists and human rights activists who have recently traveled to the area. The jungle Hmong are believed to have staged occasional hit-and-run attacks

⁵ The Hmong population in Laos numbered between 300,000 and 400,000 before the war, with most estimates putting the total closer to 400,000.

⁶ Tim Weiner, "Gen. Vang Po's Last War," *New York Times*, May 11, 2008. The article can be accessed at www.nytimes.com/2008/05/11/magazine/11pao-t.html?pagewanted=all.

⁷ Lionel Rosenblatt, president emeritus of Refugees International, who has followed the plight of the Hmong for 30 years, notes that "The U.S. put the Hmong into this meat grinder, mostly to save U.S. soldiers from fighting and dying there. The U.S. had no compunction about putting Hmong into this role, which saved thousands of American lives."

⁸ In 1973, the U.S. and North Vietnam signed an agreement in Paris to withdraw their military forces from Cambodia, Lao, and South Vietnam. To gain citizen's support, the Pathet Lao in 1974 prepared an 18-point policy called the Program for Achieving Peace, Independence, Neutrality, Democracy, Unification, and Prosperity of the Kingdom of Lao. In 1975, the Pathet Lao took over Lao.

⁹ As a result of this systemic eradication of the Hmong people, the government of Lao has been accused of committing genocide.

¹⁰ Mai Xiong, Ed. D., "Hmong Journey for Freedom," Hmong Studies, Delta College, Stockton, CA. The article can be accessed at www.hmongstudies.org/HmongJourneyforFreedom.html.

but, according to Amnesty International, their military capacity is all but depleted. The Hmong, however, are still being hunted and killed by Lao military units.¹¹ Several hundred thousand Hmong live in Laos today in cities and small villages, but essentially the Hmong have lost their land and their way of life.

Since 1975, many Hmong have been resettled in the United States, Australia, and other countries. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the Hmong population in the U.S. numbers 260,076. The Hmong mostly live in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Alaska also has a sizeable Hmong population. According to the 2010 Census, 3,534 Hmong live in Alaska, primarily in Anchorage.¹²

Federal Legislation to Honor Lao-Hmong Veterans

In 2015, Senator Murkowski reintroduced the *Hmong Veterans' Service Recognition Act*, which would extend burial benefits in national cemeteries to Hmong and Lao Americans who served beside U.S. Armed Forces during the Vietnam War (S. 1358). The measure is currently pending in the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The bill is being co-sponsored by Senators Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Al Franken (D-MN), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Barbara Boxer (D-CA), and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), among others.¹³ In the House, Representatives Jim Costa (D-CA) and Paul Cook (R-CA) also reintroduced the *Hmong Veterans' Service Recognition Act* (H.R. 2327). This measure is currently pending in the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.

¹¹ Tim Weiner, "Gen. Vang Po's Last War," *New York Times*, May 11, 2008.

¹² *Hmong Studies Journal*, Census Special Issue, Volume 13, Issue 2, 2010. The Journal can be accessed at www.hmongstudiesjournal.org/hsj-volume-1322012-2010-census-special-issue.html.

¹³ More information on S. 1358 is available at <http://www.murkowski.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/sponsoredlegislation>.

Alaska Dispatch News

Anchorage honors Hmong veterans of Laos conflict

Devin Kelly, May 15, 2014



A celebration in Anchorage Thursday, May 15, honored the "largely untold" story of Hmong veterans who fought in support of the U.S. in Laos during the 1970s. Erik Hill photo

Steven Yang was 15 when he was recruited to fight on the front lines of the United States war effort in Laos in 1970.

He was among an estimated 100,000 Hmong trained by the CIA as Special Guerilla Combat Units to fight against North Vietnamese and communist troops. The war took a hefty toll: About 40,000 Hmong died in the fighting, and tens of thousands more were seriously injured or disabled.

On Thursday, Yang, now 58, sat in a cap and camouflage fatigues at an outdoor ceremony in Anchorage, one of a group of Hmong veterans being honored for their role in the conflict.

Last June, the Alaska Legislature officially proclaimed May 15 as Hmong-American Veteran Memorial Day. The date marks the end of U.S. military operations in Laos in 1975.

Because those operations were covert, the involvement of the Hmong in the Laos war effort remains a "largely untold" story, according to the text of the bill. After the war, facing retribution and torture, hundreds of thousands of Hmong refugees fled to Thailand and eventually re-settled across the United States.

About 5,000 Hmong now live in Anchorage, according to census data, a fast-growing population.

During Thursday's ceremony at Mountain View Lions Park, veterans listened to a series of speeches from Alaska legislators, community leaders and other dignitaries. Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux and Sen. Bill Wielechowski, the main sponsors of the bill to establish the commemorative date, and Rep. Geran Tarr, who co-sponsored the bill, were among those attending.

Each veteran received a copy of a special citation from the 28th Alaska Legislature to commemorate the occasion and an honor coin from the state's Office of Veteran Affairs. And the men were thanked, repeatedly, for their sacrifice.

Yang, now 58, lived in a refugee camp in Thailand before coming to the United States in 1979. He said the memorial day was important to reflect on what was lost in the conflict.

"You lost many things," Yang said. "You lost the home, friendships, family members."

Fellow veteran Breddy Yang, 60, a former captain in the Special Guerilla Units, remembered arriving at a U.S. Army airport in Laos when he was 9, after his mother died.

He later worked in the military's census office in Laos, keeping records of men who were killed. He remembers the details that had to be entered into the system, from the soldier's names and platoons to the names of people in their families.

He also remembered preparing weapons and uniforms that were loaded into airplanes and dropped to soldiers in the field.

Between 1975 and 1976, Breddy Yang was a prisoner of war in his home country. He immigrated to the United States in 1987.

He stood at attention and saluted as America's national anthem was sung at the start of the ceremony.

"Today is for them, for the people who passed away," Breddy Yang said.

Few Hmong serve in the U.S. military today, said Sgt. Kong Ly, an active duty member of the Alaska Guard Bravo 1-143 Airborne Regiment. Ly came to Thursday's ceremony after seeing a flier about it at a local restaurant.

Ly's father fought as Special Guerrilla Unit, and Ly grew up listening to stories of jungle warfare.

"For me, it's special because this is my heritage," said Ly, who came wearing his fatigues. He said his father is the reason he serves in the U.S. military today.

A second ceremony to commemorate Hmong-American Veterans Memorial Day is scheduled to begin at noon Sunday at the Boys and Girls Club of Mountain View. The entire month of May is Hmong History Month.



ANCHORAGE PRESS

Due Respect

NOVEMBER 05, 2014 - 11:29 PM



Pasert Lee, president of the Hmong Alaska Community, Inc. and a veteran of the Secret War in Laos, in his office in East Anchorage.

Pasert Lee was buried alive while running radio support for American jets from an underground bunker somewhere in Laos.

It was 1972, and he was 45 feet beneath the jungle floor when the bunker was bombed. Lee didn't have to wait long before his men dug him out of the rubble and put him on a helicopter to the nearest hospital, where he gained consciousness more than three days later. It wasn't the only time he dodged death during the Laotian Civil War: He bears scars from the AK-47 bullets that riddled his body.

Now, more than 40 years after the official end of the war, Lee is still fighting, struggling to secure military benefits for the remaining Hmong veterans living throughout the United States, including himself.

"It is very hard," said Lee, 68, one of the last Hmong veterans in the Last Frontier. Lee, president of the Hmong Alaska Community, Inc., lives in Mountain View and is one of thousands of Hmong people recruited by the CIA to help fight communist forces during the Cold War. The special guerilla units battled the Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese in Laos in the '60s and '70s, and fought to keep communist troops from using the valuable Ho Chi Minh Trail. Lee said 35,000 Hmong were killed over the course of the so-called Secret War. Another 11,000 simply disappeared and are presumed dead, with "no cemetery, no nothing," Lee said.

When Laos was overcome by the Pathet Lao in 1975, the surviving Hmong fighters and their families became refugees. Tens of thousands fled, trying to make it to camps in Thailand. Many died during the journey. Between June 1975 and April 1979, Lee said he and the other men in his unit struggled to survive, "mountain by mountain, year by year, jungle by jungle."

Finally, he reached the banks of the Mekong River and swam two-and-a-half miles to Thai shores and the refugee camps on the other side.

Many years later, Lee came to America. In 1997, Hmong special guerilla unit veterans were honored with a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, and in 2000 President Bill Clinton signed legislation granting naturalized U.S. citizenship to Hmong veterans of the Secret War in Laos.

For Lee and many others, it's not enough.

Mai Xiong, one of Lee's Mountain View neighbors and a member of Alaska's Hmong community, still becomes emotional when speaking about the Secret War and its steep toll.

"We hope that the American people know what we did for them – that we died for them," Xiong said. "Without the Hmong people, they would not be alive."

They hope to see Hmong veterans receive U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care, and the honor of being laid to rest in America's national cemeteries. It's been a long, drawn-out battle.

In May, Lee traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with lawmakers and testify on behalf of Hmong veterans. He flew east again in late October, meeting with dozens of members of Congress to advocate for several bills currently caught up in committee. He hopes to return to Washington for a third time later this year.

At stake is H.R. 3369, cosponsored by Rep. Don Young, introduced and referred to committee in October 2013. A twin bill, S. 2337, was cosponsored by Sen. Lisa Murkowski and Sen. Mark Begich, introduced May 14 and referred to committee the

same day. Both pieces of legislation would give Hmong veterans the right to be buried in national cemeteries.

The bill-tracking website Govtrack.us predicts the measures have little chance of success. The House resolution has an estimated 15 percent chance of enactment, according to the website, while the Senate equivalent has only a six percent chance. Despite the odds, Lee continues to push.

He works closely with the nonprofit Center for Public Policy Analysis in Washington, which has spent decades advocating on behalf of Hmong veterans and refugees. Philip Smith, CPPA executive director, was instrumental in the dedication of the Hmong memorial at Arlington. Like Lee, he hopes for more.

"It is important to honor these extraordinary veterans with burial honors," Smith said in an Oct. 24 statement on behalf of the CPPA.

Two days prior, a group of Hmong veterans had marched on Capitol Hill in an effort to draw attention to their cause.

Besides the policy center, Lee said both Murkowski and Begich have been proven allies in the fight to honor the veterans of the Secret War; helping arrange audiences with other members of Congress and adding their names to various bills. In September, Murkowski announced her support for the creation of National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. The Alaska Legislature passed a similar bill last year.

But time is running out.

There are only about 6,000 Hmong special guerilla unit veterans living in the United States these days, Lee said. There are 22 left in Alaska. There used to be 24, Lee said, but Yong Seng Moua passed away several years ago, and Neng Vue died last year. Both were lieutenants.

"People are passing, every year," Xiong said.

Lee said he does not understand why the veterans' legislation has yet to move forward, or why he must work so hard to secure burial honors for the Hmong people who gave years of their lives protecting American forces in southeast Asia.

While the war may be over, Lee's fight continues with no end in sight.

"It is very hard for me, because the people cannot wait for the bill to pass," he said. Before long, there will be no Hmong veterans left to honor.

H. R. 371

One Hundred Sixth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday,
the twenty-fourth day of January, two thousand*

An Act

To facilitate the naturalization of aliens who served with special guerrilla units or irregular forces in Laos.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. EXEMPTION FROM ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN ALIENS WHO SERVED WITH SPECIAL GUERRILLA UNITS OR IRREGULAR FORCES IN LAOS.

The requirement of paragraph (1) of section 312(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)(1)) shall not apply to the naturalization of any person—

(1) who—

(A) was admitted into the United States as a refugee from Laos pursuant to section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157); and

(B) served with a special guerrilla unit, or irregular forces, operating from a base in Laos in support of the United States military at any time during the period beginning February 28, 1961, and ending September 18, 1978; or

(2) who—

(A) satisfies the requirement of paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) was the spouse of a person described in paragraph (1) on the day on which such described person applied for admission into the United States as a refugee.

SEC. 3. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION CONCERNING CIVICS REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN ALIENS WHO SERVED WITH SPECIAL GUERRILLA UNITS OR IRREGULAR FORCES IN LAOS.

The Attorney General shall provide for special consideration, as determined by the Attorney General, concerning the requirement of paragraph (2) of section 312(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)(2)) with respect to the naturalization of any person described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 2 of this Act.

SEC. 4. DOCUMENTATION OF QUALIFYING SERVICE.

A person seeking an exemption under section 2 or special consideration under section 3 shall submit to the Attorney General documentation of their, or their spouse's, service with a special

guerrilla unit, or irregular forces, described in section 2(1)(B), in the form of—

- (1) original documents;
- (2) an affidavit of the serving person's superior officer;
- (3) two affidavits from other individuals who also were serving with such a special guerrilla unit, or irregular forces, and who personally knew of the person's service; or
- (4) other appropriate proof.

SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXEMPTION AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.

(a) In determining a person's eligibility for an exemption under section 2 or special consideration under section 3, the Attorney General—

(1) shall review the refugee processing documentation for the person, or, in an appropriate case, for the person and the person's spouse, to verify that the requirements of section 2 relating to refugee applications and admissions have been satisfied;

(2) shall consider the documentation submitted by the person under section 4;

(3) may request an advisory opinion from the Secretary of Defense regarding the person's, or their spouse's, service in a special guerrilla unit, or irregular forces, described in section 2(1)(B); and

(4) may consider any documentation provided by organizations maintaining records with respect to Hmong veterans or their families.

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall provide any opinion requested under paragraph (3) to the extent practicable, and the Attorney General shall take into account any opinion that the Secretary of Defense is able to provide.

SEC. 6. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES.

This Act shall apply to a person only if the person's application for naturalization is filed, as provided in section 334 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1445), with appropriate fees not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7. LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total number of aliens who may be granted an exemption under section

H. R. 371—3

2 or special consideration under section 3, or both, may not exceed 45,000.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1358

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inter in national cemeteries individuals who supported the United States in Laos during the Vietnam War era.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 14, 2015

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to inter in national cemeteries individuals who supported the United States in Laos during the Vietnam War era.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Hmong Veterans'
5 Service Recognition Act".

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEME-**
2 **TERIES.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2402(a) of title 38,
4 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
5 following new paragraph:

6 “(10) Any individual—

7 “(A) who—

8 “(i) was naturalized pursuant to sec-
9 tion 2(1) of the Hmong Veterans’ Natu-
10 ralization Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-
11 207; 8 U.S.C. 1423 note); and

12 “(ii) at the time of the individual’s
13 death resided in the United States; or

14 “(B) who—

15 “(i) the Secretary determines served
16 with a special guerrilla unit or irregular
17 forces operating from a base in Laos in
18 support of the Armed Forces of the United
19 States at any time during the period begin-
20 ning February 28, 1961, and ending May
21 7, 1975; and

22 “(ii) at the time of the individual’s
23 death—

24 “(I) was a citizen of the United
25 States or an alien lawfully admitted

1 for permanent residence in the United
2 States; and

3 “(II) resided in the United
4 States.”.

5 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
6 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to an individual
7 dying on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



*** HONORING ***

*** Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit Veterans of Alaska ***

The Twenty-eighth Alaska State Legislature honors and recognizes the Hmong Special Guerrilla Units that fought valiantly in support of American interests during the Vietnam War.

Hmong Special Guerrilla Units played a fundamental role in combatting and disrupting Communist forces during the Vietnam conflict. Trained covertly by the CIA and armed by the United States, nearly 25,000 Hmong soldiers fought valiantly to block the primary supply route of the North Vietnamese Army, gathered intelligence, supported American military personnel and rescued downed pilots.

The high cost of service endured by Hmong fighters and civilians is testament to their dedication and loyalty. During the conflict, heavy bombing campaigns decimated the agricultural livelihood of the Hmong people. Well over 40,000 died and far more were displaced. When Laos finally fell to Communist forces, tens of thousands more were forced to flee to avoid retribution and reprisal.

Despite serving honorably in the Vietnam War, Hmong veterans were not formally recognized for their courage and sacrifice. Instead, they waited decades and many passed away before being honored for their service. Today, the significant role of the Hmong people in the Vietnam War is only now beginning to be taught and respected.

The 200,000 Hmong living in the United States, including the thriving community in Alaska, deserve the dignity of being recognized for their sacrifices. With great respect for their valor and bravery, the members of the Twenty-eighth Legislature proudly salute Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit veterans and thank them for their service.




MIKE CHENAULT
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE


SEN. BILL WIELECHOWSKI
PRIME SPONSOR


SHERLIE HUGGINS
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE


REP. GABRIELLE LEDOUX
PRIME SPONSOR

Date: April 16, 2014

Cosponsors: Senators Huggins, Bishop, Coghill, Dunleavy, Dyson, Figan, Ellis, Fairclough, French, Gardner, Giessel, Hoffman, Kelly, McGuire, Meyer, Micciche, Olson, Stedman, Stevens, Representatives Chenault, Costello, Drummond, Edgmon, Feige, Foster, Gara, Gattis, Greenberg, Gattenberg, Hawke, Heron, Higgins, Holmes, Hughes, Isaacson, Johnson, Josephson, Kawasaki, Keller, Kito III, Kreis-Tomkins, Lynn, Millet, Muñoz, Nageak, Neuman, Olsen, Pruitt, Reinhold, Sadtler, Seaton, Stotze, Tarr, Thompson, Tuck, P. Wilson, T. Wilson



Journal for the Clandestine Community

The US Abandonment of the Hmong – How easily we forget those who saved our lives!

By [Chuck Palazzo](#) on January 27, 2010

Danang, Vietnam – Many of us may recall the peace loving, and US loyal peoples of Vietnam. There are many stories that have been told of how these wonderful and such courageous folks fought with us, alongside us, protected us, and died with and for us. Some of us remember them as the Montagnards.

The Hmong are an Asian ethnic group of people – primarily from the mountainous areas of Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Burma. There are many personal accounts that have been told to me, and a very near and dear friend, whose husband met a very untimely demise as a result of his exposure to Agent Orange, was shot down while here during the war. He survived the crash – and was protected from the VC as well as the NVA because of the loyalty and devotion of the Hmong to him and to the US. They literally hid him, fed him, protected him, and helped him find his way back to an allied controlled area where he ultimately met up with his unit and safety with US Ground Troops.

In the 1960's, the CIA started to recruit the Hmong to help the US fight in Vietnam as well as the "secret war" in Laos. The main reason in my opinion and documented by several historians – their familiarity with the terrain, especially when it came time to block the NVA from heading south via the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Between 1962 – 1975, about 12,000 Hmong died fighting against the Pathet Lao. Following the US withdrawal from Vietnam in 1975, the Lao kingdom was overthrown by the communists and the Hmong became targets – literally.

This began the mass exodus of the Hmong from Laos to Thailand – those who were successful, wound up in UN refugee camps. Sadly, those who were not part of the exodus to Thailand were sent to re-education camps most of whom died. Others found their way to the US and several other friendly nations. An estimated 30,000 Hmong would be killed by Communist forces while trying to reach Thailand. Over 100,000 Hmong people died as a result of the war.

The Hmong apparently were told that they could bravely fight for the US because the United States would always be there to protect them should local communists turn on the Hmong. It was a relationship of trust, but Hmong trust in the US would be sadly

misplaced. After taking over Laos in 1975, the Pathet Lao Communists stated that they would wipe out the Hmong.

A Vietnamese broadcast apparently called for genocide against them. From 1976 to 1979, there were credible reports of chemical warfare used against Hmong villages. The world tried to ignore these reports, and some influential voices in the United States tried to discredit the evidence, claiming that the "yellow rain" that had been used to kill Hmong people was just natural bee feces, not a chemical toxin. By the time overwhelming evidence had been gathered to shatter the "bee feces" theory, the media no longer seemed interested in exploring charges of genocide by Communist forces.

On December 27, 2009, Thailand launched an operation to close a refugee camp and send some 4,500 ethnic Hmong back to Laos, despite concerns about their safety. Thailand blames other countries for the deportation, and we, the friendly US, whom the Hmong did so much for, risked and lost so many of their lives for US forces, "criticized" the Thai Government. That was as recent as a week ago.

The Hmong's fate? One could only guess.

Do not forget what they did for us, perhaps many of you reading this have had personal experiences you could share – share them with your congressional and US Representatives, The White House, The UN. We have a responsibility for these people's safety – as we promised them we would protect them over 40 years ago. Another lie from the US Government that the rest of the world just ignores.

Source: <http://www.veteranstoday.com/2010/01/27/the-us-abandonment-of-the-hmong-%E2%80%93-how-easily-we-forget-those-who-saved-our-lives/>



Hmong Alaska Community Incorporated

1345 Rudakof Circle Suite 203. Anchorage, AK 99508
Office Phone: (907) 743-0210. Cell: (907) 317-9002. Fax: (907) 743-0250

February 24, 2016

Senator Bill Wielechowski
State Capitol, Room 419
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Bill Wielechowski,

My name is Pasert Lee, president of the Hmong Alaska Community, Inc., and I support Senate Bill 194. As a veteran myself, I am deeply moved by the bill. This bill will give proper recognition to the men who served this country during the Vietnam War. The Hmong/Lao soldiers stood strong next to the American soldiers and fought hard. Many men gave their lives to protect the American people.

The Hmong/Lao veterans earned their title as true veterans that fought for this country. As of 2014, there was an estimated 6,000 veterans residing in the United States and about 22 veterans living in Alaska. This recognition on driver's licenses and identification cards will serve as a lifetime appreciation for Hmong/Lao veterans. DD214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, will serve as the ultimate form of documentation showing that each veteran completed their time in the military just like any other American veteran. Hmong/Lao veterans have waited a long time to be recognized in a professional and highly respected way.

Thank you again honoring Hmong/Lao veterans. My email is pasertlee@gmail.com if you have any questions or need additional information. Feel free to contact me anytime.

Thank You,

Pasert Lee
President, Hmong Alaska Community, Inc



ALAKSA, UNITED STATES SPECIAL GUERRILLA UNIT, INC.

(Established by SGU Veterans, sons, and daughters who volunteer to serve the American Public)
We are Partnership with DOD Vietnam War 50th Commemoration Committee
Non-Profit Organization



Local Office: 2711 Glacier Street
Anchorage, AK 99508
Email: haccinc@gmail.com-907-764-3634

March 28, 2016

Sen. Bill Wielechowski
State Capitol Room 419
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Bill Wielechowski:

On behalf of Hmong SGU in Alaska, I am writing this letter to support the **SB 194** for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's licenses and ID cards.

In 1960, The Central Intelligence Agency and the United States recruited Hmong people to fight against the Vietnam War. The Hmong SGU missions were:

1. To block the Ho Minh Trail to prevent North Vietnamese troops for going into South Vietnam to fight the US troops.
2. To rescues all American pilots who were shot down over Vietnam air space, dead or life,
3. To protect the Radar Navigation Tour 40 Kilometer board from North Vietnam to navigating all American pilots (without the Radius Communication Tour, all the US Pilots do not where to fly).

All the Hmong SGU veterans who have served during Vietnam War now -a-day are dying-out in a daily basic to see such recognition opportunity to honor their service and scarifications.

The Hmong SGU veterans were proud to defend and served as the US Armed Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos and our scarifications were never being regretted.

We Hmong Thank you the United States for keeping their promised and accepting Hmong to settle in the United States. We will intend to be good citizens of the United States and willing to bear arms to protect this Nation with all other American citizens to keep America a safe place for our families and children.

Again, thank you very much for your Leaderships and for what you have done to Hmong SGU veterans. If there is any question please contact me at (907) 764-3634. Thank you

Respectfully Yours,

Arthur Yang, Secretary of
Alaska, Untied Stated Special Guerilla Unit, Inc.
2711 Glazer Street. Anchorage, Alaska 99508
(907) 764-3634
Email: haccinc@gmail.com



Hmong Veterans Family of Alaska

2711 Glacier Street

Anchorage, Alaska 99508

March 12, 2016

Senator Bill Wielechowski

State Capital Room 419

Juneau, AK 99801

I, Steven Yang, a former soldier of the Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit, served as a soldier for the USA during the Vietnam War in Laos from 1968 to 1975. I supported the HB. NO. 330 for Hmong Veterans Driver License and ID cards for Hmong Veterans and Families.

I would appreciate the consideration to support HB. NO. 330 in recognizing Hmong Veterans who reside in the State of Alaska.

Thank you

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven Yang'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steven Yang,

President of Hmong Veterans (SGU) State of Alaska

February 22, 2016

Steven Yang, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

2711 Glacier St.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sincerely



February 22, 2016

Lee U. Yang

....., a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

2711 Glacier St.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sincerely

Lee U. Yang

February 22, 2016

I Gachue Yang a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the U.S. Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

905 Muldoon Rd. Sp. # A91
Anchorage, AK 99504.

Sincerely

Gachue Yang

February 22, 2016

I Nhia Paw Thaw, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

701 S Klevin St. #108

Anchorage. AK 99508



Sincerely

February 22, 2016

I, Mai Yia Xiong, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

3402 ~~St~~ Dorbrandt St
Anchorage, AK 99503

Sincerely

Mai Yia Xiong

February 22, 2016

I Pai Thao is a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the U.S. Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

5816 Fuji St
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sincerely

X PAI THAO

February 22, 2016

I, Mee Lor, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the U S Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

1033 E. 10th Ave #8

Anchorage, AK 99501

Sincerely

Mee Lor

February 22, 2016

I See Mona Yang, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

9499 Brayton Dr. #141
Anchorage, AK 99507

Sincerely See n yang ✓

February 22, 2016

1 Bla Vang

....., a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

701. Skelvin St Rt 80
Anchorage AK 99558

Sincerely

Bla Vang

February 22, 2016

Cha Ye Xiong a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

Cha Ye Xiong
701 S. Kevin St # 9A
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sincerely

Cha Ye Xiong

February 22, 2016

I, YONG VANG CHANG, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

Yong Vang Chang
705 Muldoon Rd SPC 60
ANCHORAGE AK 99504
575-3052. - 332-1998H

Sincerely

Yong Vang Chang

February 22, 2016

I, George Neng Moua, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the U S Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

George Neng Moua
250 Patterson Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Sincerely



February 22, 2016

CHUE Z. XIONG, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me: *

CHUE Z. XIONG
701 S. KLEVIN ST #35A
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508

Sincerely

CX

February 22, 2016

Ying Thao

_____, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the U S Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

YING THAO
701 KLEVIN ST SPC 112
ANCHORAGE AK 99508

YING
Sincerely

February 22, 2016

I NHOUA MOUA, a former Hmong Special Guerrilla Unit who had served as the US Arms Forces during the Vietnam War in Laos. I am supporting the HB. NO. 330 for veteran designation for Hmong veterans on driver's license and ID cards. I am really appreciated for your Leaderships and consideration in recognizing the sacrifice of the Hmong veterans. If there is any question, please contact me:

4618 Thompson Ave # 4

Anch. AK 99508

Sincerely

Nhoua Moua