

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE/SUBJECT FILES 8672

3058 SCOMM 139: HOUSE SPECIAL COMM. ON MIL. & VET. AFFAIRS 2005-2006



RECORDS CERTIFICATION



I, the undersigned, an employee of the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that the microfilm images on this microform are accurate reproductions of the original records of the State of Alaska as accumulated during the regular course of business, and that it is the established policy and practice of this State to microfilm its records and to dispose of the original documents after microfilm reproductions have been made.


Signature of Camera Operator

12/3/07
Date

LIST OF FILES

SCOMM 139: HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY & VETERANS'
AFFAIRS, 2005-2006

MEMBERS:

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE CISSNA
REPRESENTATIVE DAHLSTROM
REPRESENTATIVE ELKINS
REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG
REPRESENTATIVE MCGUIRE
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS

Established by HR 5, 2005

Contents: 23 files. See legislative homepage at
<http://www.legis.state.ak.us> for minutes and audio of meetings
2/3/05 - 4/6/06.

LIST OF FILES (PAGE 1)

MICROFICHE #

1. GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT: COL. TONY A. HART
2. HB 83
3. HB 84
4. HB 122
5. HB 166
6. HB 167
7. HB 168
8. HB 181
9. HB 201
10. HB 208
11. HB 212
12. HB 245
13. HB 277
14. HB 354
15. HB 435

SCOMM 139: HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY & VETERANS'
AFFAIRS, 2005-2006

LIST OF FILES (PAGE 2)

MICROFICHE #

- 16. HB 437
- 17. HB 465
- 18. HJR 8
- 19. HJR 25
- 20. HJR 27
- 21. HJR 33
- 22. SB 90
- 23. SCR 21

SCOMM

139:1



BIOGRAPHY

ALASKA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

176th Wing Public Affairs
5005 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
(907) 249-1342 DSN: 317-626-1342



Colonel Tony A. Hart

Colonel Tony A. Hart is commander of the 176th Wing, Kulis Air National Guard Base, Anchorage, Alaska. His responsibilities include articulating a vision, setting goals and objectives, developing leaders, and providing a healthy and equitable environment in which his people may serve. He oversees the recruiting, retention, and training of over 1500 Air Guard members, as well as operational and maintenance control of eight airlift C-130H, four rescue HC-130H (N), and six rescue HH-60 airframes for in-state and worldwide deployment.

Colonel Hart was commissioned in 1982 and received his navigator wings the same year. Colonel Hart has served in various positions at Air Mobility Command, including Advisor to the Director of Operations and Advisor to the Inspector General. Colonel Hart performed duties as Strategic Airlift Planner, Tanker Airlift Control Center, as well as being a lead qualified navigator in the 118 AW, Nashville, Tennessee and 182 AW, Peoria, Illinois.

Colonel Hart is a master navigator with more than 4,000 flying hours in the RC-135 and C-130 aircraft. He has participated in operations around the world, including Operation DESERT SHIELD and Operation PROVIDE PROMISE. Prior to assuming command at the 176th Wing, Colonel Hart served as the Air National Guard Advisor to the Commander, Air Mobility Command.

EDUCATION

1981 Bachelor's degree in religion, Tennessee Temple University, Chattanooga, Tennessee
1987 Squadron Officers School
1997 Air Command and Staff College
1999 Air War College

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. February 1982 - April 1982, student, officer training school, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas
2. May 1982 - December 1982, student, undergraduate navigator training, Mather Air Force Base, California
3. February 1983 - June 1983, student, electronic warfare school, Mather Air Force Base, California

4. August 1983 - July 1988, standardization and evaluation flight examine warfare officer, 343rd Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron and 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
5. August 1988 - October 1995, senior navigator, 105th Airlift Squadron, Tennessee Air National Guard, Nashville, Tennessee
6. August 1995 - January 1997, strategic airlift director, Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
7. October 1995 - February 1997, senior navigator, 169th Airlift Squadron, Illinois Air National Guard, Peoria, Illinois
8. February 1997 - May 1999, Chief, Air National Guard Readiness Plans, Office of the Inspector General, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
9. June 1999 - June 2000, strategic/tactical air operations staff officer, Training Division, Directorate of Operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
10. June 2000 - October 2003, Air National Guard Advisor to the Director of Operations, Directorate of Operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
11. October 2003 - January 2005, Air National Guard Advisor to the Commander, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Navigator

Flight hours: More than 4000

Aircraft flown: RC-135U, C-130A/E/H

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters

Air Force Commendation Medal

Combat Readiness Medal with two devices

National Defense with one device

Southwest Asia Medal

Saudia Arabian Medal for the Liberation of Kuwait

Kuwaiti Medal for the Liberation of Kuwait

Air Force Organizational Excellence with one device

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one device

Air Force Training Ribbon

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Air Force Longevity Service Medal with six devices

Air Force Good Conduct Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one device

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant	Apr 30, 1982
First Lieutenant	Apr 30, 1984
Captain	Apr 30, 1986
Major	Aug 6, 1991
Lieutenant Colonel	Jun 19, 1997
Colonel	Mar 30, 2001

(Current as of 15 February 2005)

SCOMM

139:2

Audit Report



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS
SAFETY COMMISSION
SUNSET REVIEW

October 22, 2004



Audit Control Number:
10-20038-05

Division of Legislative Audit
P.O. Box 113300, Juneau, Alaska 99811-3300

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee is a permanent interim committee of the Alaska Legislature. The committee is made up of five senators and five representatives, with one alternate from the Senate and two from the House. The chairmanship of the committee alternates between the two chambers every legislature.

The committee is responsible for providing the legislature with audits of state government agencies. The programs and activities of state government now cost more than \$6 billion a year. As legislators and administrators try increasingly to allocate state revenues effectively and make government work more efficiently, they need information to evaluate the work of governmental agencies. The audit work performed by the Division of Legislative Audit helps provide that information.

As a guide to all their work, the Division of Legislative Audit complies with generally accepted auditing standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and with government auditing standards established by the U.S. General Accounting Office.

Audits are performed as mandated by Alaska Statutes or at the direction of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee. Individual legislators or committees can submit requests for audits of specific programs or agencies to the committee for consideration. Copies of all completed audits are available from the Division of Legislative Audit's offices in Juneau, Anchorage, or at our web site <http://www.legaudit.state.ak.us/>

BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Representative Ralph Samuels, Chair
Representative Mike Hawker
Representative Beth Kerttula
Representative Vic Kohring
Representative Mike Chenault
Representative Reggie Joule (alternate)

Senator Gene Therriault, Vice Chair
Senator Ben Stevens
Senator Gary Wilken
Senator Con Bunde
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senator Lyda Green (alternate)

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

Pat Davidson, CPA
Legislative Auditor

P.O. Box 113300
Juneau, AK 99811-3300

(907)465-3830, Juneau
(907)561-1445, Anchorage
(907)465-2347, Juneau Fax
(907)561-1452 Anchorage Fax

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Division of Legislative Audit



P.O. Box 113300
Juneau, AK 99811-3300
(907) 465-3830
FAX (907) 465-2347
Internet e-mail address:
legaudit@legis.state.ak.us

November 10, 2004

Members of the Legislative Budget
and Audit Committee:

In accordance with the provisions of Title 24 and Title 44 of the Alaska Statutes, the attached report is submitted for your review.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION

October 22, 2004

Audit Control Number

10-20038-05

This audit was conducted as required by AS 44.66.050 and under the authority of AS 24.20.271(1). Alaska Statute 44.66.050(c) lists criteria to be used to assess the demonstrated public need for a given board, commission, agency, or program subject to the sunset review process. Currently under AS 44.66.010(a)(21), the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission is scheduled to terminate on June 30, 2005. If the legislature takes no action to extend the termination date, the commission would be allowed one year in which to conclude its administrative operations. Because the commission has been inactive since it was created in 2002, we recommend its termination date not be extended.

The sunset review was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government audit standards. Fieldwork procedures utilized in the course of developing this report are set out in the Objectives, Scope, and Methodology section.

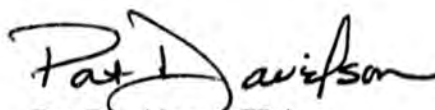

Pat Davidson, CPA
Legislative Auditor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Objectives, Scope, and Methodology	1
Organization and Function	3
Background Information.....	5
Report Conclusions.....	7
Findings and Recommendations.....	9
Agency Response:	
Department of Natural Resources.....	11

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

In accordance with Title 24 and Title 44 of the Alaska Statutes, we have reviewed the activities of, and circumstances surrounding, the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission (ASHSC). As required by AS 44.66.050(a), the legislative committees of reference are to consider this report during the legislative oversight process involved in determining if the commission should be reestablished. Currently, AS 44.66.010(a)(21) states that the commission will expire on June 30, 2005. If the legislature does not extend the termination date for the commission, ASHSC will have one year to conclude its administrative operations.

Objectives

There are two central, interrelated objectives of our report are:

1. To determine if the termination date of ASHSC should be extended.
2. To determine if ASHSC is operating in the public interest.

Scope and Methodology

The assessment of the operations and performance of the commission is to be based on criteria set out in AS 44.66.050(c). Criteria set out in this statute relates to the determination of a demonstrated public need for the commission. However, since the Alaska Seismic Hazard Safety Commission was never actually constituted, we are unable to provide an evaluation of the commission's activities in accordance with AS 44.66.050(c).

Therefore, the major areas of our review were legislative committee minutes and various documentation developed and presented in the course of deliberations involved in the passage of legislation establishing ASHSC. Additionally, we:

- Reviewed applicable statutes related to ASHSC.
- Reviewed minutes of legislative committee hearings related to the legislation that established ASHSC.
- Reviewed Executive Order 105, issued by Governor Murkowski in January 2003.
- Reviewed the activities and publications of state organizations in the western United States with missions and objectives similar to that of ASHSC.

- Interviewed the Department of Natural Resources' commissioner and the manager responsible for activities related to the mission and objectives of ASHSC.
- Interviewed local government building officials regarding how various communities in the states deal with seismic issues through adoption and enforcement of building codes.
- Reviewed correspondence of Commissioner Irwin of the Department of Natural Resources regarding his position and comments on the public policy objectives related to both the past and the future of ASHSC.

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION

In 2002, the legislature established the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission (ASHSC). In committee testimony, the primary sponsor of the legislation characterized the commission as having an "umbrella status" over various state agencies that would permit it to coordinate a seismic hazard mitigation policy for the state.

To better promote intergovernmental coordination, the commission was originally established in the Office of the Governor. ASHSC was transferred to the Department of Natural Resources by Executive Order Number 105, issued by Governor Murkowski in January 2003.

ASHSC is comprised of a cross section of members from government, business, and academia

The Seismic Hazards Safety Commission was designed to be made up of individuals from a wide cross section of government and private sector representatives. The nine commission members were to be representatives from:

1. the University of Alaska;
2. local government;
3. Department of Natural Resources;
4. Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs;
5. an appropriate federal agency;
6. the insurance industry; and,
7. three members from the general public *"who are expert in the fields of"*
 - a) geology,
 - b) seismology,
 - c) hydrology,
 - d) geotechnical engineering,
 - e) structural engineering,
 - f) emergency services, or
 - g) planning.

ASHSC was structured in such a way to address what the legislature saw as a *"pressing need to provide consistent policy framework and a means for continuing coordination of programs and public safety practices related to seismic hazards at all governmental levels and in the private sector."*

The legislature mandated that the commission recommend goals and priorities for seismic hazard mitigation to both governmental agencies and the private sector. ASHSC was also to

recommend policies to the governor and legislature related to such things as research, mapping, and monitoring programs necessary for effective seismic mitigation.

Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys

Alaska Statute 41.08.010 establishes in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), a division of geological and geophysical surveys under the direction of the state geologist. The state geologist is appointed by the commissioner of DNR, and responsible for conducting geological and geophysical surveys to determine the potential of Alaskan land for:

1. production of metals, minerals, fuels, and geothermal resources;
2. the locations and supplies of groundwater and construction materials; and,
3. the potential geologic hazards to buildings, roads, bridges, and other installations and structures.

The state geologist is also responsible for conducting other surveys and investigations necessary to advance the geology of the State. With the approval of the commissioner, the state geologist may acquire, by gift or purchase, geological and geophysical reports, surveys, and similar information.

State law further specifies that the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys shall:

1. *collect, record, evaluate, and distribute data on the quantity, quality, and location of underground, surface, and coastal water of the state;*
2. *publish or have published data on the water of the state;*
3. *require the filing with it of the results and findings of surveys of water quality, quantity, and location;*
4. *require of water well contractors, the filing with it of basic water and aquifer data normally obtained, including but not limited to well location, estimated elevation, well driller's logs, pumping tests and flow measurements, and water quality determinations;*
5. *accept and spend funds for the purposes of this section, AS 41.08.017, and 41.08.035 and enter into agreements with individuals, public or private agencies, communities, private industry, state agencies, and agencies of the federal government;*
6. *collect, evaluate, and distribute geologic data on seismic events and engineering geology of the state;*
7. *identify potential seismic hazards that might affect development in the state;*
8. *inform public officials and industry about potential seismic hazards that might affect development in the state.*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mitigation of seismic hazards refers to studying, identifying, and prioritizing actions that could be taken to reduce the impact of earthquakes. Accordingly, seismic hazards mitigation can involve everything from considering where earthquakes are most likely to strike to how buildings, bridges, other infrastructure, and even topography can be built or modified to reduce damage.

Mitigation involves studying seismic risks and coordinating action to minimize damage

Similar organizations in other states have taken such actions as studying earthquake-prone areas and evaluating infrastructure and topography in regions that have been identified as being at highest risk. These other state commissions work with local, state, and federal governments in addition to private sector interests to construct or modify buildings, bridges, highways, and power lines to reduce the damage earthquakes may cause. Such commissions also coordinate activities such as the evaluation of the topography of high risk areas. From such evaluations the organization considers what measures could be taken to avoid such things as flood damage from rivers and lakes or other damage from landslides or avalanches that may be precipitated by an earthquake.

Mitigation is distinguished from response because it involves trying to anticipate earthquake damage and taking steps to reduce or avoid damage and loss of human life. Response, in contrast, involves actions taken after an earthquake strike, which are necessary to restore and protect public health and safety. Response stems from preparedness, and the legislature made a formal finding in the enabling legislation that

[A]lthough the state has made significant improvements in disaster preparedness since the great earthquake of 1964, there has been little corresponding improvement in measures to reduce the disaster potential of major earthquakes and, consequently, to reduce the dependence on disaster relief.

Legislation establishing the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission (ASHSC) had extensive legislative support

The legislation setting up ASHSC passed with overwhelming support. In April 2001 the bill, HB 53, was adopted by the House of Representatives by a vote of 36-2. In May 2002 the legislation was adopted by the Senate by a vote of 17-3. The measure was signed into law by Governor Knowles in August 2002 – with an effective date of September 29, 2002. The 2002 legislature also made an FY 03 appropriation of \$33,500 for commission operations.

Outgoing Governor Knowles did not make any appointments to the commission prior to the November 2002 elections. In March 2003, Governor Murkowski issued an executive order transferring ASHSC from the Office of the Governor to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Governor Murkowski, however, made no appointments and, at the end of FY 03, the

commission's entire appropriation lapsed unspent and was swept into the state's Insurance Catastrophe Reserve Fund.¹

In FY 04, the \$28,900 in funding for ASHSC was transferred to DNR and included in the general fund base budget for the Geological Development allocation. While there was no financial activity related to ASHSC, the Geological Development general fund allocation is lapsing just under \$10,000 which is less than \$28,900 intended for ASHSC. In FY 05, there were no budgetary transactions specifically related to the commission that either increased or decreased the portion of the Geological Development allocation related to ASHSC.

It is likely no appointments were made because DNR Commissioner Irwin recommended ASHSC statutes be repealed. The commissioner's recommendation was based on his belief that the cost of ASHSC was too high. In correspondence with Legislative Audit, the commissioner stated that after receiving further information regarding ASHSC – and satisfying himself that the annual operating costs could be kept to \$10,000 rather than a previous budget projection of \$28,000 – he had changed his opinion and recommendation with regard to continuance of the commission.

Accordingly, he recommended that the Boards and Commission staff in the Office of the Governor proceed with appointments. In the view of the commissioner, there is a need for active coordination of earthquake-hazard mitigation activities between all levels of government and the private sector in the state. Having ASHSC in place to advise the governor, legislature, local governments, and the private sector on ways to reduce future economic losses and casualties from earthquakes is a valuable and necessary function. As of mid-October 2004, Governor Murkowski has yet to make an appointment to the commission.

¹State law, AS 37.05.289 (b), allows a sweeping of certain funds at the end of each fiscal year under the following provision:

If the amount necessary to satisfy claims or judgments for which payment may be due under the state insurance program in a fiscal year exceed the unexpended balance of the amounts allocated to the account, the department may charge an additional amount from the unencumbered balance of any appropriation that is determined by the commissioner of administration to be available for lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

REPORT CONCLUSIONS

Under state law, the burden of demonstrating a continuing public need for a given board, commission, or agency that is subject to termination rests with the entity subject to sunset review.² Accordingly, since the commission has not been active since it was created in 2002, it is difficult to make the argument there is a demonstrated public need for the commission's termination date to be extended.

Since there is no functioning commission, we recommend that the legislature not extend the termination date of the commission. By not extending the termination date the Commission will have one year to administratively conclude its operations, and will cease to exist at June 30, 2006.

We recognize when the commission was created it received overwhelming support from the legislature. Additionally, other western states that are prone to earthquakes have created boards and commissions with duties similar to that of the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission. If there is legislative interest in continuing the commission, we offer a recommendation regarding the composition of the commission that would enhance its operational effectiveness.

² AS 44.66.050(b) states

During a public hearing, the board, commission or agency shall have the burden of demonstrating a public need for its continued existence or the continuation of the program, and the extent to which any change in the manner of exercise of its functions or activities may increase efficiency of administration or operation consistent with the public interest. [emphasis added]

(Intentionally left blank)

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation No. 1

The legislature should consider, if it extends the termination date of the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission, altering the composition of the commission to provide more representation of local government.

Much of the testimony heard in support of the commission's enabling legislation (HB 53) stressed the importance of communicating policy and possible mitigation measures that could be taken by all levels of government. A major area of concern involved the development of local community zoning ordinances and building code requirements to minimize the impact that the seismic shock would have on residential, government, and commercial buildings. Staff working with similar seismic mitigation agencies, in other western states we surveyed, often cited improvements to local planning requirements and building code restrictions as a major, if not primary, tangible benefit of their organization's accomplishments.

As mentioned in the Background Information section, it was the finding of the 2002 legislature that there had been little *"improvement in measures to reduce the disaster potential of major earthquakes..."* since the great earthquake of 1964. In many respects, at both the state and local government level this may be the case. However, the evolution of building codes as reflected in the recently developed 2003 International Building Code (IBC) has resulted in increasingly stronger seismic-related construction requirements – primarily in response to the devastating destruction of earthquakes outside of the United States in recent years.

At the present time the standard code that is increasingly being recognized and adopted by local governments is the 2003 IBC. All building officials we spoke to commented that extensive seismic-related requirements were already incorporated into the IBC and that they varied depending on a region's seismic risk rating. One local building official adamantly maintained that the IBC seismic requirements were already too stringent for his region, and any statewide policy group that would want more extensive requirements would not be welcomed.

We contacted numerous local government building officials in the State regarding how the recommendations of the Alaska Seismic Hazard Safety Commission could be put in place through local building codes. Most communities have a building code advisory commission that makes recommendations about local construction codes. A modification of the code generally involves making local exception to the "standard" code, which most communities have adopted by reference.

The commission would benefit from additional representation by local government for two primary reasons:

- As discussed above, the mitigation of seismic hazards refers to studying, identifying, and prioritizing actions that could be taken to reduce the impact of earthquakes. The most cited tangible mitigation measure has been modification of zoning and building codes. Accordingly, the actual implementation of many of the commission's earthquake mitigation recommendations would have to be done by local governments. Having local representatives as part of the commission may facilitate the implementation of the commission's recommendations
- Many local governments adopted the IBC and have, therefore, already been involved in deciding if they believe it is in the public's interest to update local codes in conformity with IBC changes. Having more local government members would bring, to the commission, a sense of the local concerns about adding or modifying existing local ordinances for improved earthquake mitigation factors.

The commission membership is currently defined as a nine-member commission with one representative of local government. If the legislature is considering continuation of the commission, we believe that a statutory revision or expansion to the commission membership should include at least three local government representatives from seismically different geographic areas of the state.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

☐ 400 WILLOUGHBY AVENUE
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1796
PHONE: (907) 465-2400
FAX: (907) 465-3886

☐ 550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3650
PHONE: (907) 269-8431
FAX: (907) 269-8918

December 27, 2004

RECEIVED

DEC 29 2004

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

Ms. Pat Davidson
Legislative Auditor
Legislative Budget and Audit Committee
P.O. Box 113300
Juneau, AK 99811-3300

Re: Seismic Hazards Safety Commission Report
10-20038-05

Dear Ms. Davidson:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission (ASHSC) Preliminary Report to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee. As I stated in my prior letter to Mr. Griffen the draft report is very thorough and actually emphasizes the need for the ASHSC. I disagree with the conclusion that the ASHSC has not been active and it is therefore difficult to argue that there is not a demonstrated public need. I support the ASHSC and I urge the Legislature to extend the sunset date.

Alaska is the most seismically active state in the country. The legislature approved the ASHSC because they listened to the concrete arguments provided by professionals for the need for the commission. They recognized the success of similar commissions in other states for reducing earthquake losses and they took assertive action to address the issues in Alaska.

The risk of earthquake losses is steadily increasing and it should be clear as we witness the devastation caused by the earthquake in Asia that we need to minimize the state's risk as Alaska's population and infrastructure expand. Reducing losses at reasonable cost requires public commitment at the highest levels to earthquake-conscious siting, design, and construction. I believe that the ASHSC will provide the focus for this commitment. Governor Murkowski is currently reviewing nominees for appointments.

I concur with the Report's Recommendation No. 1 to increase representation of local government. Hazard mitigation occurs primarily at the local level and I agree that local governments in diverse regions of the state should be represented on the commission. This will ensure that proposed mitigation measures are appropriate, reasonable, and effective.

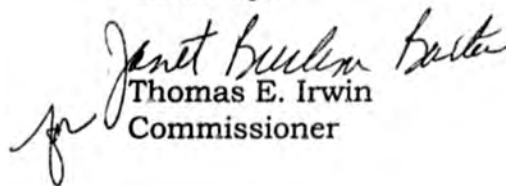
The report states that it is likely that no appointments were made to the commission because I initially recommended that the enabling statutes be repealed. As recognized in the report that initial recommendation was due to the cost of the Commission. It is a sad

Ms. Davidson
December 27, 2004
Page 2 of 2

state of affairs if a commission of this type is not extended because of my intent to be fiscally responsible. I take my job as Commissioner seriously and I weigh the benefits of an issue in light of the budget and my stewardship responsibilities. To act otherwise would be irresponsible. Once I was assured that the commission could be supported with a reduced budget I fully supported the commission and I recommend that the sunset date be extended. I expect the ASHSC's future recommendations to enhance public safety in our seismically active state.

Please contact me, Rod Combellick (451-5007; rod@dnr.state.ak.us) or Janet Burleson Baxter, 465-4730, if you would like further clarification on the department's recommendation on this issue.

Sincerely,


Thomas E. Irwin
Commissioner

cc: Rod Combellick
Janet Burleson Baxter
Marty Rutherford
Lorraine Derr
Linda Hay

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2487
Fax (907) 465-4956

INTERIM ADDRESS
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-8872
Fax (907) 486-5264

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

MEMO

DATE: 1/26/2005
TO: HOUSE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN, CHAIRMAN
FROM: REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE LEDOUX *GL*
RE: HEARING REQUEST FOR HB 83, AN ACT RELATING TO THE ALASKA
HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION

I respectfully request that House Bill 83 be scheduled for a hearing in the House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Attached you will find:

- Current version of House Bill 83
- Sponsor Statement
- Additional documentation relating to the bill
- The Kodiak Legislative Information Office (907) 486-8116 would like to be online for the teleconference; Dr. Gary Carver, if available, will be testifying from there with potentially other members of that community.
- There will be at least one representative from DNR present and Pat Davidson from Audit and Budget will be notified and try to be available.
- Scott Simmons, State Hazard Mitigation Officer Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, would like to be notified of the date and may want to participate from Anchorage.
- My staff member assigned to this legislation is Suzanne Hancock, direct line 465-4230.

SCOMM

139:3

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2487
Fax (907) 465-4956

INTERIM ADDRESS
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-8872
Fax (907) 486-5264

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 84

"An Act extending the termination date for the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission; and providing for an effective date."

HB 84 extends the termination date for the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission until June 30, 2010.

With more than 33,000 miles of shoreline, Alaska has been and can be devastated by earthquakes and tsunamis. Since about 1900, Alaska has had 80 magnitude 7 or larger earthquakes. This includes the second- and third- largest earthquakes worldwide, which were larger than the recent earthquake in Indonesia.

Alaska accounts for more than half of all the earthquakes that occur in the U.S. and about ten percent of all earthquakes worldwide. One of the roles of a Seismic Hazards Safety Commission would be to provide a proactive resource for state and local government officials and Alaskan communities that want assistance in acquiring information and guidance necessary to help mitigate earthquake hazards.

Alaska's population is growing and the state's infrastructure is developing. The Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission can play a vital role in reducing earthquake related losses. The Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission is an invaluable asset in promoting the earthquake preparation essential to reducing our earthquake threat and future losses to the state that, without effective mitigation measures, are inevitable.

*HB 84 merged
with HB 83*

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2487
Fax (907) 465-4956

INTERIM ADDRESS
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-8872
Fax (907) 486-5264

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

MEMO

DATE: 1/26/2005
TO: HOUSE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN, CHAIRMAN
FROM: REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE LEDOUX *GL*
RE: HEARING REQUEST FOR HB 84, AN ACT EXTENDING THE TERMINATION
DATE FOR THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARD SAFETY COMMISSION

I respectfully request that House Bill 84 be scheduled for a hearing in the House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Attached you will find:

- Current version of House Bill 84
- Sponsor Statement
- Additional documentation relating to the bill
- The Kodiak Legislative Information Office (907) 486-8116 would like to be online for the teleconference; Dr. Gary Carver, if available, will be testifying from there with potentially other members of that community.
- There will be at least one representative from DNR present and Pat Davidson from Audit and Budget will be notified and try to be available.
- Scott Simmons, State Hazard Mitigation Officer Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, would like to be notified of the date and may want to participate from Anchorage.
- My staff member assigned to this legislation is Suzanne Hancock, direct line 465-4230.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number:

Bill Version:

HB84

() Publish Date:

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction):

Dept. Affected: Military and Veterans Affairs

Title Extend the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety

RDU Military and Veterans Affairs

Commission

Component Homeland Security and

Sponsor Representative Ledoux

Emergency Management

Requester (H) Special Committee MLV

Component No. 2657

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2005) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 budget proposal: ☐

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

There is no fiscal impact.

Prepared by: John Cramer

Division: Division of Administrative Services

Approved by: Craig E. Campbell, Commissioner

Agency: Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Phone (907) 465-4602

Date/Time 2/1/05 12:01 PM

Date 2/1/2005

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2005 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB084-DNR-DGGS-02-0
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 Title An Act extending the termination date for the RDU Resource Development
Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission Component Geological Development
 Sponsor Rep. LeDoux, Rep. Guttenberg
 Requester (H) MLV Component No. 1031

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

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

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2005) cost: _____

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2006 budget proposal: ☐

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

There is no fiscal impact to DNR associated with implementation of this legislation.

Prepared by: Rod Combellick Phone 907-451-5007
 Division: Geological & Geophysical Surveys Date/Time 2/1/2005
 Approved by: Tom Irwin, Commissioner Date 2/1/2005
 Agency: Natural Resources

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2487
Fax (907) 465-4956

INTERIM ADDRESS
112 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
(907) 486-8872
Fax (907) 486-5264

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 84

"An Act extending the termination date for the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission; and providing for an effective date."

HB 84 extends the termination date for the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission until June 30, 2010.

With more than 33,000 miles of shoreline, Alaska has been and can be devastated by earthquakes and tsunamis. Since about 1900, Alaska has had 80 magnitude 7 or larger earthquakes. This includes the second- and third- largest earthquakes worldwide, which were larger than the recent earthquake in Indonesia.

Alaska accounts for more than half of all the earthquakes that occur in the U.S. and about ten percent of all earthquakes worldwide. One of the roles of a Seismic Hazards Safety Commission would be to provide a proactive resource for state and local government officials and Alaskan communities that want assistance in acquiring information and guidance necessary to help mitigate earthquake hazards.

Alaska's population is growing and the state's infrastructure is developing. The Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission can play a vital role in reducing earthquake related losses. The Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission is an invaluable asset in promoting the earthquake preparation essential to reducing our earthquake threat and future losses to the state that, without effective mitigation measures, are inevitable.

Honorable Gabrielle LeDoux
Representative
State of Alaska

Gabrielle

Thanks for the call concerning the State of Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission. I am particularly concerned that the Commission has never been filled and is facing expiration soon unless commissioners are appointed in the near future. Of all the states, none has a greater need for such a group.

Here are several contacts that may be very helpful. I suggest you contact them.

Representative Dave Guttenberg, House District 8 – Fairbanks. Rep. Guttenberg is also interested in the Seismic Hazards Safety Commission and has both information and expertise.

Commissioner Tom Irwin, Department of Natural Resources. I have been told he has reports and documents related to the Seismic Hazard Safety Commission that have not been released to the public but probably could be made available to members of the state legislature. Ph. 907-465-2400, email: <tom_irwin@dnr.state.ak.us>

Dr. Rod Combellick, Acting Director of the Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys. Rod is very knowledgeable regarding the Seismic Hazards Safety Commission, the history of its formation, and a lot more. Ph. 907-451-5007, email <rod@dnr.state.ak.us>

Consider the following:

ALASKA IS EARTHQUAKE COUNTRY

Alaska is the most seismically active state in the union. For comparison, California, widely regarded as the benchmark state for earthquake hazards nationally, has experienced 16 magnitude 7 or larger earthquakes historically (since about 1900). A magnitude 7 or larger earthquake is very powerful and if such an earthquake occurs in a populated region will cause widespread and severe damage and may result in casualties. During the same period, Alaska has had 80 magnitude 7 or larger earthquakes, including the second- and third-largest worldwide, the 1964 magnitude 9.2 (Prince William Sound - Kodiak) and 1957 magnitude 9.1 (eastern Aleutian Islands) earthquakes. Both of these were larger than the recent earthquake in Indonesia that generated the catastrophic tsunami in the Indian Ocean, and both generated killer Pacific-wide tsunamis. Indeed, Alaska accounts for more than half of all the earthquakes that occur in the United States and about ten percent of all earthquakes worldwide.

MOST ALASKANS LIVE NEAR BIG ACTIVE FAULTS

Alaska's population is largely concentrated in the seismically active regions of the state. The largest and most active faults in Alaska (and North America) are the Aleutian subduction zone and the Queen Charlotte-Fairweather fault. The Aleutian subduction zone extends from northern Prince William Sound near Cordova and Seward southwest to Kodiak and further

west along the Pacific side of the Alaskan Peninsula and Aleutian chain. This is one of the largest faults in the world and one of the most active. It produced both the 1957 and 1964 earthquakes. The Queen Charlotte-Fairweather fault system extends through southeast Alaska from the Yakutat-Sitka area south past Juneau, Ketchikan and the other communities in the panhandle. The Queen Charlotte-Fairweather fault is the Alaska equivalent of California's San Andreas Fault, just as large, just as active, and for southeast Alaska communities, just as dangerous. Anchorage faces exposure to the Aleutian subduction zone, as illustrated by the damage it caused there in 1964. Anchorage and the Mat-Su valley are in close proximity to the large and highly active Castle Mountain fault and a host of potentially dangerous faults in northern Cook Inlet. Fairbanks also is located in an area of significantly high seismicity from buried active faults that lie beneath the Tanana lowlands.

ALASKANS HAVE BEEN "LUCKY" SINCE 1964

Although a number of strong earthquakes have occurred in Alaska since the devastating 1964 earthquake, all have fortunately been located far away from populated areas. This is somewhat remarkable considering the close correlation between population centers and our largest and most active faults. It is only a matter of time before we experience another serious earthquake that centers on one of our cities. Preparedness is the only antidote we have to mitigate our seismic exposure. The Seismic Hazards Safety Commission is a potentially invaluable asset in promoting the earthquake preparation essential to reduce our earthquake threat and reduce future losses to the state that, without effective mitigation measures, are inevitable.

RECENT LESSONS LEARNED (OR NOT LEARNED)

On Nov. 3, 2002 the Denali fault in the central Alaska Range ruptured and generated a magnitude 7.9 earthquake, the largest "continental" earthquake in North America in the past 150 years. Fortunately the Denali fault is located in a sparsely populated part of the state. However, the fault rupture intersected the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline and offset the pipeline about 18 feet. Much to the credit of Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, a thorough study of earthquake hazards to the pipeline was conducted prior to its construction. Where the pipeline crossed the Denali fault special engineering design was incorporated, which allowed the pipe to withstand the 18 feet of offset and strong shaking without failure. The pipeline was only briefly shut down and no oil was spilled. Without the special seismic design considerations the pipeline most certainly would have sustained significant damage and been off line for a much longer period at great cost to the state and the petroleum industry. Since the Denali fault-pipeline crossing is adjacent to the Delta River and the river was thawed and flowing at the time of the earthquake, a large oil spill could have been catastrophic, with oil entering the Delta River, the Tanana and Yukon rivers, and possibly the Bering Sea. The state of Alaska dodged that bullet only because of earthquake preparation in the form of knowledge and engineering design to accommodate the Denali fault hazard. Did we learn anything from this experience? Failure to establish a state Seismic Hazards Safety Commission would suggest we did not.

A REAL AND PRESENT NEED

One of the roles of a Seismic Hazards Safety Commission would be to provide a resource for state and local government officials and Alaskan communities that want assistance in acquiring information and guidance necessary to help mitigate earthquake hazards. For example, presently our community (Kodiak) has determined that there is significant cause to believe some of our schools may not be life-safe in the event of a strong local earthquake. To this end, the Kodiak Island Borough has raised funds through a voter-approved bond issued to investigate the earthquake safety of our schools. Inherent in this process is the need to follow complex FEMA guidelines and understand specialized technical information regarding earthquakes and engineering. Compliance with the FEMA regulations is necessary if we are to qualify for federal funds to accomplish mitigation goals. For almost a year our local government has been struggling with these issues without the necessary expertise and little in the way of sources for advice and guidance. Failure to meet strict FEMA requirements jeopardizes the possibility of federal financial support to mitigate our hazards. The Kodiak community has discovered first-hand how useful a Seismic Hazards Safety Commission would be and how difficult it is for small local governments in the state to dealing with the earthquake mitigation issue.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING

As Alaska grows and our state's infrastructure develops time is passing and the next severe earthquake is drawing closer. Meanwhile, no coherent statewide program is in place to specifically to promote and support earthquake preparedness, and no official group is available to assist Alaska's communities with the mitigation measures needed to reduce our exposure to this threat. Do we need to experience the potentially huge financial losses and casualties a large earthquake in an urban area will bring to our state before we take action to reduce the earthquake hazard? Mitigation pays great dividends and costs very little compared to such losses. However, it is effective only if the mitigation action is done before the earthquake. Alaska cannot afford to stand idly by and wait for the inevitable, the consequences are too great. Establishment of the Seismic Hazards Safety Commission is a powerful first step in saving Alaskan lives, property, and financial well-being. Failure to complete the process by appointing the commission is unconscionable.

Finally, what role could the Commission play in reducing earthquake related losses in the state? According to the Alaska Division of Legislative Audit, Audit Digest #10-20038-05 as posted on the State of Alaska Web Site:

<http://www.legaudit.state.ak.us/pages/digests/2005/20038dig.htm>

- The mitigation of seismic hazards refers to studying, identifying, and prioritizing actions that could be taken to reduce the impact of earthquakes. The most cited tangible mitigation measure has been modification of zoning and building codes. Accordingly, the actual implementation of many of the commission's earthquake mitigation recommendations would have to be done by local governments. Having local representatives as part of the commission may facilitate the implementation of the commission's recommendations.
- Many local governments adopted the International Building Code (IBC) and have, therefore, already been involved in deciding if they believe it is in the public's interest to

update local codes in conformity with IBC changes. Having more local government members would bring, to the commission, a sense of the local concerns about adding or modifying existing local ordinances for improved earthquake mitigation factors."

Local jurisdiction representation on the commission is very important, but I think it is unfortunate that the legislative audit report's emphasis is placed on the use of building codes and zoning to mitigate seismic hazards. Code and zoning regulation is only a small part of a wide range of possible approaches the commission might take to reduce our exposure to seismic hazards. Some critics of the Commission construe such regulation negatively. Other more important and potentially more useful commission approaches could include coordination of state wide education and awareness, development of links with local, state, and federal agencies including FEMA, the US Geological Survey, Association of Structural Engineers, and a host of private and government agencies that could provide a range of assistance to local officials, private industry, and Alaska citizens.

adn.com

Anchorage Daily News

Print Page

Close Window

Tsunami warning system won't end threat to Alaska**BUOYS: Purpose of devices is to warn rest of Pacific of waves from earthquakes here.**

By TOM KIZZIA

Anchorage Daily News

(Published: January 15, 2005)

Alaskans shouldn't be lulled by the existence of high-seas buoys in the Pacific Ocean into thinking they are much better protected from danger than residents of Banda Aceh in Indonesia, according to earthquake and tsunami experts here.

 [Photo gallery](#)

The buoys that detect passing waves are subject to breakdown -- as evidenced by the fact that three of the six currently deployed have been out of service for a year.

More significantly, earthquake and tsunami experts said in recent interviews, those buoys are deployed to warn the rest of the Pacific Rim about tsunamis generated by earthquakes in unstable Alaska. An Alaska-generated wave would probably hit the shore here before it reaches the first buoy heading south.

"By the time it gets to the buoy, you better have everybody evacuated," said Paul Whitmore, the scientist-in-charge at the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer.

The situation is the same in the Indian Ocean. A buoy warning system there might have provided advance warning to Sri Lanka, which was hit several hours after the triggering earthquake Dec. 26. But it would not have alerted the coast of Sumatra, adjacent to the rift zone in the Andaman Sea.

An expanded buoy system in the Pacific, such as the one proposed Friday by the Bush administration, would provide more notice to Alaska of tsunamis coming from other places. But it would be unlikely to help with Alaska's own waves, whether generated by shifting subsea faults or landslides. Both kinds of waves proved devastating here during the 1964 earthquake.

What Alaska does have going for it, compared with the Indian Ocean nations, is a much more extensive deployment of seismometers and a notification system ready to put out alerts of a possible tsunami in a matter of minutes. Alaska also has a series of tidal gauges in coastal communities, helpful to some extent in confirming the existence of a wave as it passes, and a civil defense system drilled in the potential dangers to coastal towns. People have been told not to wait for a siren to evacuate.

"If the ground is shaking hard enough so that you have trouble standing, it's close," state seismologist Roger Hansen said. "I would say go to higher ground."

How high is high enough? Alaska is now mapping its tsunami danger zones. In Homer, for example, state and University of Alaska experts just released last month a new map showing the



()

Click on photo to enlarge

expected high-water mark of waves generated by the two likeliest subsea earthquake hazards. The result was surprisingly good news, with only a small segment of the low-lying Homer Spit likely to get washed over. Even so, city officials said, they would evacuate the Spit if the Palmer center reported a wave heading into Cook Inlet.

"We're in the prevention business," Homer fire chief Bob Painter said.

The new "inundation map" is based on mathematical formulas -- accounting for such things as fault lines and sea bottom contours -- first worked out for Kodiak and calibrated against the actual waves that killed six people there after the 1964 Alaska earthquake. The numbers are run through a supercomputer at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Similar hazard maps are being prepared for Seward and Sitka, Hansen said.

Anchorage is believed to have virtually no danger from long-distance tsunamis because it is at the end of Cook Inlet, whose long shallow straits would dissipate any wave's energy, Hansen said.

The new Homer map doesn't account for what has long been thought the most serious tsunami threat in the area, an eruption and landslide at Augustine Volcano about 60 miles away. Scientists have grown sharply divided over whether the island volcano presents a major tsunami threat.

Apart from Augustine, subsea landslides often trigger local tsunamis with little warning. Chris Waythomas, a hydrologist with the Alaska Volcano Observatory, said five of the seven fatal tsunamis in Alaska history were probably landslide-induced, including the most recent one, in Skagway in 1994.

The Pacific alert system for long-distance waves began to take shape after a 1946 earthquake in the Aleutians produced a wave that surprised Hawaii, killing 159 people along the waterfront in Hilo. Major waves from that quake hit Chile 12 hours later.

Prediction efforts took another big step forward after the magnitude-9.2 earthquake in Alaska in 1964, with establishment of a central information gathering point in Palmer. Most of the deaths caused by the 1964 quake were due to waves, including 10 as far away as Crescent City, Calif.

Today, the Palmer facility is hooked into 150 seismic sites around the world, including 50 outside the Pacific region. When these sites send information of a serious shake, employees notified by beepers are expected on the scene in five minutes. They assess the data and decide whether the quake may have generated a wave. An automatic warning system sends alarms to the National Weather Service, the Coast Guard and various emergency response agencies.

They won't know whether the subsea rumble really created a tsunami until they start to pick up information from tidal gauges at docks in a scattering of coastal towns. Some of those gauges feed information to Palmer via satellite steadily, while others beam data only every half hour, Hansen said.

The deep-sea buoys in the Pacific can pass along more precise measures of a wave's size. But their most important role may be in calling off false alarms. Presumably a tsunami alert has already been issued by the time the wave passes the so-called DART buoys (for "Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis"), which are set in water several miles deep. The DART buoys have sensors on the ocean floor capable of gauging the pressure change of waves only half an inch tall as they pass. If no wave is detected, the alarms are called off, saving coastal evacuations that may cost tens of millions of dollars, officials say.

Indeed, the buoy system won kudos in November 2003 when they allowed Hawaii to cancel an evacuation after an ominous 7.5-magnitude quake in the western Aleutians.

"They're better for canceling warnings than issuing them," said Whitmore, at the Palmer center.

Unfortunately, the western Aleutian DART buoy that gave the all-clear in 2003 is currently out of service, as is the buoy off Unalaska and one other off the Oregon coast.

"Some of us on the steering committee are concerned that half the system is down now," state seismologist Hansen said, referring to a national tsunami hazard group made up of five Pacific rim states and three federal agencies.

One of the three broken DART buoys has already been pulled and repaired and is ready for redeployment when winter sailing weather allows, according to National Weather Service spokesman Greg Romano.

"We are taking steps to make it a more rugged system," Romano said.

Increasing the number of deep-sea buoys would provide faster information and would also help triangulate the source and direction of waves, Whitmore said. The wave off Sumatra was over a 600-mile zone, not simply from the quake's epicenter, he said.

For Alaskans near the source of a wave, though, more buoys may not be much help. The first seismographic report of a potential tsunami may be the only useful warning Alaska gets.

[Print Page](#)

[Close Window](#)

Copyright © 2005 The Anchorage Daily News (www.adn.com)

SEAFOOD.COM NEWS [FAO Press statement] 13 January 2005, Washington and Rome -- The tsunami waves have had a devastating impact on the fisheries sector in many countries of the Indian Ocean, FAO said today.

In Sri Lanka, more than 7 500 fishers have been killed by the tsunami and over 5 600 are still missing. More than 5 000 Sri Lankan fishing families have been displaced and 80 percent of coastal fishing vessels have been completely destroyed or very seriously damaged, including around 19 000 boats. Ten out of the 12 main fishing harbours in the country have been completely devastated including infrastructure such as ice plants, cold rooms, workshops and slipways.

FAO has already sent fisheries experts to Sri Lanka to advise the government on the repair and rehabilitation of fishing harbours and infrastructure, fishing boats and fishing gear.

In the Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province of Indonesia, where 42 000 fishers and their families live, 70 percent of the small-scale fishing fleet have been destroyed. In Nias Island, about 800 fishing canoes have been destroyed. Two thirds of local fisherfolk from the capital Banda Aceh were killed by the waves.

Fish farming was severely affected in northern Sumatra with about 1 000 fish cage farms having been completely destroyed.

'FAO is currently assessing the damage and will help the government and local authorities to repair and replace fishing boats and gear and start with the initial repair of water fishponds and infrastructure so that fish production can be resumed as soon as possible,' said Jeremy Turner, Chief of the Fishery Technology Service.

In the affected coastal areas of Thailand, 386 fishing villages with a population of around 120 000 people have lost about 4 500 fishing boats, or their fishing gear has been seriously damaged. Most fishing boats are owned by small-scale, traditional fishers. The total damage to marine capture fisheries alone is estimated at around \$16.6 million.

Eight fishing harbours and their infrastructure have been seriously damaged. The affected aquaculture industry has suffered a serious setback. A total of around 15 800 fishing cages have been damaged, this has caused losses of about \$33 million. In some areas, seafood supplies have dropped by 90 percent since the tsunami.

FAO is preparing support measures for fisherfolk in six southern Provinces of Thailand providing essential fisheries inputs and assisting in the repair of damaged fishing vessels and damaged fishery infrastructure.

In the Maldives, where a very large part of the population depends on fishing for their livelihood, more than one third of all inhabited islands were severely damaged and hundreds of boats and harbours were destroyed. FAO is planning to assist the country with the repair and replacement of fishing boats, engines and fishing gear as well as with

the repair and rehabilitation of fisheries infrastructure.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh in India, fishers along the 1 000 km coastline were the worst hit by the tsunamis. Around 2 000 fishing boats and about 48 000 fishing gears were lost, about 300 000 fishers have lost their jobs. In the state of Tamil Nadu, 591 fishing villages and 30 islands of the Andaman and Nicobar islands have been badly affected by the tsunamis. India's seafood exports may decline by around 30 percent as a result of the tsunami.

In Myanmar, some 200 villages spread along the southern coast and heavily relying on fishing have been hit by tsunamis and lost fishing vessels, fishing gear and infrastructure. Some 17 seaside fishing villages have been reported as destroyed and at least 53 people as killed by the tsunamis. FAO is preparing for a long-term participation in relief and rehabilitation measures for the affected fishing communities.

In Malaysia, the livelihoods of about 6 000 fishers have been affected by the disaster.

In Somalia, around 2 600 fishing boats have been destroyed. FAO is assisting in damage and needs assessments and making preparations for the repair of damaged fishing vessels and for the provision of essential fishing inputs in six southern provinces of the country. FAO will also provide short-term financial aid and training in improved fishing techniques and boatbuilding to about 2 000 fishers.

In the Seychelles, coastal fish farms and the artisanal fisheries sector suffered extensively. A great number of fishing vessels were damaged or lost. The two fish processing plants and cold storage facilities located at the fishing port in Victoria were also affected by the tsunamis. FAO is preparing assistance programmes for the repair and replacement of fishing vessels and landing facilities and for the restoration of sustainable livelihoods in the fisheries sector.

The damage caused by the recent tsunamis in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors of the affected countries is worse and more complex than expected, Turner said.

FAO's Fisheries Department has embarked on a concerted effort to assist the fisheries and aquaculture sectors of the tsunami effected countries through relief and rehabilitation measures and projects.

LESSMEIER & WINTERS

LAWYERS - LLC

VINTAGE BUSINESS PARK
3000 VINTAGE BOULEVARD
SUITE 100
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

MICHAEL L. LESSMEIER
GREGORY W. LESSMEIER
SHELDON E. WINTERS

TELEPHONE: (907) 796-4999
FACSIMILE: (907) 796-4998
E-MAIL: l-w@gcl.net

January 27, 2005

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux
State Capitol, Room 412
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: House Bill 84

Dear Representative LeDoux:

I am writing to you on behalf of State Farm Insurance Companies with respect to House Bill 84. State Farm supported the creation of the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission and supports your proposal to extend the Commission through another five years. If there is any assistance or information we can provide to you, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,



Sheldon E. Winters

SEW/caf
RepLeDoux01SEW.wpd

SCOMM

139:4

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(9)

Date Referred to Committee: February 2, 2005

FURTHER REFERRALS: Finance

Date of Committee Action: 3-17-05

The HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS considered: HB 122

HOUSE BILL NO. 122

LIFE INSURANCE FOR NATIONAL GUARD

"An Act relating to payment of premiums for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance on behalf of members of the Alaska National Guard deployed to a combat zone; and providing for an effective date."

Recommends it be replaced with ☐ HCS or ☒ CS for HB122 _____ (_____)
 For Senate Bills with new title: ☐ Technical Title ☐ New Title: HCR _____ ☒ Same Title ☒ New Title

- [] attach amendments
[] add new referral to _____Committee
[] Letter of Intent_____Committee

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

[illegible][illegible]

<u>Signing with recommendations</u>	Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Wm. Breech</i>	Thomas	✓			
<i>Mrs. Greenberg</i>	Greenberg	-			
<i>Miss Massia</i>	CISSNA	✓			
<i>R. Elkins</i>	ELKINS	✓			
<i>Fred McQuire</i>	McQuire	✓			
Chair: <i>Lynn</i>	LYNN	X			
Chair:					

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim:

716 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133
Phone: (907) 622-3783
Fax: (907) 622-3784



Session:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3783
Fax: (907) 465-2293
Toll Free (877) 460-3783

REPRESENTATIVE NANCY DAHLSTROM

ELMENDORF AFB • FORT RICHARDSON • BIRCHWOOD • FIRE LAKE • GOVERNMENT HILL • MULDOON
Representative_Nancy_Dahlstrom@legis.state.ak.us

SPONSOR STATEMENT CS HB 122

At a time when the federal government is considering action to better serve our military men and women in foreign countries, Alaska's guardsmen deserve the state's support as well.

As many of you know, guardsmen don't serve in the military full time; they are our co-workers and next-door neighbors. Providing a little extra security for their dependents affords them a little extra assistance while away on duty.

When the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Committee met previously, the bill was limited to covering payments of life insurance premiums of Guardsmen. The committee discussed expanding the bill to include some other ways to assist our Guardsmen who are deployed for a minimum of 30 days to a combat zone. Committee Substitute for HB 122 includes the following provisions:

- **Termination of a motor vehicle lease:** allows any person, or spouse of a person, who is deployed on active duty to terminate any motor vehicle lease that is entered into on or after the effective date of the bill and is executed by or on behalf of the person deployed.
- **Termination of a cellular phone contract:** allows any person, or spouse of a person, who is deployed on active duty to terminate, without penalty, a cellular phone contract that is entered into on or after the effective date of the bill and is executed by or on behalf of the person deployed.
- **Military education leave of absence:** requires institutions of higher to grant a student "military leave of absence" from the institution should he/she be deployed under this legislation. Requires these institutions, upon request of the individual to credit tuition and fees (without any penalty) paid towards a subsequent academic term within one year of return from deployment. Also, requires institutions to allow students, already accepted in a degree program, to maintain their student status and degree requirements.

- **Utility Protection:** prohibits a regulated company who provides gas, electric or other heating source from ceasing to provide gas, electric or other heating source to the residential premises of any residential consumer who is deployed under this legislation for nonpayment for gas supplied or electricity provided to the residential premises.

Requires the utility company to work out a payment plan for any past due amounts.

Prohibits any late payments fees or interest from being charged to the residential consumer during the deployment

- **State loan deferment:** allows any person who is deployed on active duty under this legislation to defer any state loan payment that is due on or after the effective date and is entered into by or on behalf of the person deployed.
- **Fishing and Hunting Licenses:** requires the Department of Fish and Game to reissue any fishing or hunting licenses obtained for the year in which the person is deployed under this legislation, for the year following the return of the guardsman.
- **Life Insurance premium reimbursement:** allows any person, or spouse of a person, who is deployed on active duty to submit a reimbursement claim form within six months of returning for all life insurance premiums paid during time of deployment.

It is the guardsmen's mission to support United States National Security objectives, and passing this legislation allows us to honor and support them in that role. HB 122 has bipartisan support and I ask for the committee's favorable consideration. Thank you.

*Representative Nancy Dahlstrom
Alaska State Legislature*

SPONSOR STATEMENT
House Bill 122

Life Insurance for the National Guard

At a time when the federal government is considering action to better serve our military men and women in foreign countries, Alaska's guardsmen deserve the state's support as well. With the passage of House Bill 122 the state will pay life insurance premiums for our guardsmen deployed to a combat zone.

As many of you know, guardsmen don't serve in the military full time; they are our co-workers and next-door neighbors. This straightforward and simple measure provides some additional support to these men and women who volunteer their time to defend our country. Providing a little extra security for their dependents affords them a little extra assistance while away on duty.

This legislation would allow for premiums to be paid for up to \$250,000 in life insurance for those guard members affected by this legislation.

It is the guardsmen's mission to support United States National Security objectives, and passing this legislation allows us to honor and support them in that role.

HB 122 has bipartisan support and I ask for the committee's favorable consideration.

* Federal action consideration

Military to up death benefit

■ U.S. families could receive up to \$250,000 for those killed in combat

By BRADLEY GRANT and ANN SCOTT TYSON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Under pressure from Congress, the Pentagon is moving to increase death benefits for nearly 100,000 families of U.S. troops killed in combat.

The proposed plan, which would raise the maximum benefit from \$125,000 to \$250,000, would affect families of U.S. troops killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, would retroactively increase cash that survivors can receive from government payments and life insurance proceeds.

"This increase is a recognition of the areas of benefit compensation, the support packages for survivors have not been kept up to date," said Bryan Whitman, a Pentagon spokesman.

The initiative follows a mounting effort on Capitol Hill to correct what some lawmakers have decried as paltry compensation for survivors of U.S. troops killed in combat. The political concern has reflected growing public distress over the deaths, injuries and long hours of duty being endured by U.S. forces in Iraq.

ADN
Feb 1, 2005

See Back Page, PENTAGON

PENTAGON: Details of proposal to be announced today

Continued from A1

Both Republicans and Democrats have introduced legislation to raise military death benefits, part of a broader effort in Congress to improve conditions for those who serve in the armed forces, their families and veterans.

"What the Pentagon has put forward is a good core approach," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., a leading advocate of greater death benefits. "We'll serve as a good vehicle for moving forward."

Under the Pentagon's plan, a six-figure three "death gratuity" paid to survivors of military men and women killed in the line of duty would rise from \$125,000 to \$250,000. The government also would increase the limit of life insurance coverage for service members by \$150,000 to \$400,000. The government would pay the prevailing civilian extra coverage for troops in combat.

As of Monday, 1.45, lawmakers had not yet introduced legislation to raise death benefits. But the House and Senate have passed legislation to raise death benefits, part of the goal was to cover the cost of the funeral, burial, and other expenses, according to the Pentagon. The cost of covering higher gratuity payments and other life insurance settlements by reducing corporate tax payments would be absorbed within in reductions in payments, according to the Defense Department.

"There is no price that you can put on human life, and no amount of money that can compensate for the loss of a loved one," said Whitman, who discussed the Pentagon proposal after it was reported by The Associated Press. "But we can make a family's financial circumstances more bearable."

The plan, which requires congressional approval, is expected to be detailed further today by senior Pentagon officials in testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee. It will be sent to Congress formally next week as part of the president's state budget request, officials said.

The U.S. government currently provides various forms of compensation to service members' survivors, including special payments for such categories as burial, housing relocation, education and child support.

Death benefits pay more than the insurance coverage for a soldier's family. The benefit is because they are a family's only source of income when a soldier is killed in combat.

The benefit, introduced in 1954, had grown to \$125,000, the sum of \$1,000 for World War II, \$1,000 for the Korean War, and \$1,000 for the Vietnam War. It was increased to \$125,000 in 2003, at that time, Congress also made it tax-free — before that, half was taxable —

and tied future increases to military pay raises.

Still, the payments have been dwarfed by government settlements averaging \$2.1 million paid to families of those killed in the terrorist attacks.

As for life insurance, troops are covered under a group program that charges modest premiums. But some service members have elected to reduce their coverage, sometimes without notifying their spouses or next of kin. The new Pentagon plan would require such notification.

Retired Marine Col. Lee Lange, deputy director of government relations for the Military Officers Association of America, said his group was "pleasantly surprised" by the Pentagon's proposal.

Donna Gilmore, of Stafford, Va., lost her husband, Sgt. Maj. Cornell Gilmore, the senior enlisted man in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, when Iraqi insurgents shot down the helicopter he was riding in on Nov. 7, 2003. She received \$250,000 in life insurance, a one-time death gratuity of \$125,000, and \$1,000 a month in an indemnity and survivor benefit.

"The money doesn't go far, it really doesn't," said Gilmore, who sold a car, cut back her children's living allowances and is working overtime in hopes of staying in the family home.

* Information on the web to servicemen & women.

Life Insurance Program

Veterans Benefits & Services

Choose a Topic

Go!

Insurance
Home Page

Servicemembers'
Group Life Insurance

Veterans' Group
Life Insurance

VGLI Online
Access

SGLI Family
Coverage

Accelerated Benefits
Option

Beneficiary Financial
Counseling

Policy Conversion

Legislation

Email OSGLI

Forms

SGLI/VGLI Handbook

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

What is SGLI?

SGLI is a program of low cost group life insurance for servicemembers on active duty, ready reservists, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies, and members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

How Much Coverage is Available?

SGLI coverage is available in \$10,000 increments up to the maximum of \$250,000.

How Much Does SGLI Cost?

SGLI premiums are currently \$.065 per \$1,000 of insurance, regardless of the member's age. Follow this link to view a table of SGLI premium rates at different coverage levels.

How Much Life Insurance do I Really Need?

We can help you figure out how much insurance you need. To assess your life insurance needs, follow this link to our Insurance Needs Calculator.

Conversion Feature

Servicemembers with SGLI coverage have two options available to them upon release from service. They can convert their full-time SGLI coverage to term insurance under the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program or convert to a permanent plan of insurance with one of the participating commercial insurance companies. Follow these links for:

- [More information about converting to VGLI](#)
- [More information about converting to a commercial plan of insurance](#)

If you have questions - Use one of the following links for answers to [SGLI Frequently Asked Questions](#) or to [view SGLI premium rates](#). You will also find a comprehensive overview of the SGLI program in the [SGLI/VGLI Handbook](#). If you can't find the information that you're looking for on this site, please contact the appropriate office listed below.

Servicemembers should contact their **Personnel Office** for:

- changes to Basic SGLI or Family SGLI coverage

Servicemembers should contact their **Flight, Payroll and/or Finance Office** for:

- SGLI and Family SGLI premium payment information
- SGLI and Family SGLI premium refunds

Servicemembers and their beneficiaries should call, email or write the **Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI)** for:

- pending SGLI or Family SGLI claims.

Note: OSGLI does not have information concerning SGLI or Family SGLI premium payments, refunds or changes to coverage.

OSGLI can be reached by:

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-419-1473

Toll-free fax numbers:

*Death and accelerated
benefits claims only:* 1-877-832-4943

All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142

Overseas:

Phone Number: 973-548-5699

Fax Number: 973-548-5300

E-mail:

*Death and accelerated
benefits claims only:* osgli.claims@prudential.com

All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com

General Correspondence:

Office of Servicemembers' Group
Life Insurance
290 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, New Jersey 07039

**New VGLI Applications and
VGLI Reinstatements:**

OSGLI
PO Box 5000
Millville, New Jersey 08332-9928

[VA Home Page](#) / [Search](#) / [Site Map](#) / [Facilities Locator](#) / [Privacy & Security Statement](#) /
[Disclaimer](#) / [FOIA](#)

Reviewed/Updated: February 10, 2004

Life Insurance Program

Veterans Benefits & Services

Choose a Topic

Go!

Insurance
Home Page

Servicemembers'
Group Life Insurance

Veterans' Group
Life Insurance

VGLI Online
Access

SGLI Family
Coverage

Accelerated Benefits
Option

Beneficiary Financial
Counseling

Policy Conversion

Legislation

Email OSGLI

Forms

SGLI VGLI Handbook

SGLI Premium Rates

**What are the
current rates?**

The current rates are listed in the table below.

**When did the
current rates
go into effect?**

The current rates went into effect on July 1, 2003.

Follow this link for more information about the premium rate reduction.

Current Basic SGLI Premium Rates - Effective July 1, 2003

Coverage amount	Monthly premium rate
10,000	0.65
20,000	1.30
30,000	1.95
40,000	2.60
50,000	3.25
60,000	3.90
70,000	4.55
80,000	5.20
90,000	5.85
100,000	6.50
110,000	7.15
120,000	7.80
130,000	8.45

Coverage amount	Monthly premium rate
140,000	9.10
150,000	9.75
160,000	10.40
170,000	11.05
180,000	11.70
190,000	12.35
200,000	13.00
210,000	13.65
220,000	14.30
230,000	14.95
240,000	15.60
250,000	16.25

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-419-1473

Toll-free fax numbers:
*Death and accelerated
benefits claims only:* 1-877-832-4943

All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142

Overseas:
Phone Number: 973-548-5699
Fax Number: 973-548-5300

General Correspondence:
Office of Servicemembers' Group
Life Insurance
290 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, New Jersey 07039

**New VGLI Applications and
VGLI Reinstatements:**
OSGLI



Press Release

July 21, 2004

States Providing Range of Benefits for Military Families

Newly Released Survey Shows Governors Lending Helping Hand to Men and Women in Uniform

 Survey: State Support for National Guard and Regular Military Members And Their Families

WASHINGTON--With more than 40 percent of the National Guard and Reserves currently engaged in overseas military operations, the nation's governors are supporting these men and women, as well as their families, with a variety of benefits and services, a new survey has found.

Overall, according to the report, governors and their states have been stepping forward to assist families of men and women called to active duty, both regular military and National Guard and Reserves. The survey, conducted jointly by the National Governors Association (NGA) and the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Military Community and Family Policy, surveyed states to see the varied strategies that governors are employing to make life easier for deployed reservists and their families.

According to the report, states have responded to the unique challenges by, among other things, extending hiring preferences for state jobs to spouses of military personnel, offering childcare services, protecting families from foreclosure, facilitating easy access of professional licenses, and providing health and life insurance while activated.

Testifying today before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Subcommittee on Children and Families, NGA Executive Director Raymond Scheppach presented the results of the survey, and praised the work that states like **Florida, Idaho, Indiana** and **North Carolina** are doing to accommodate military members and their families.

To alleviate the heavy burden facing deployed military members and their families, many states have initiated plans, like a pilot program in several Florida counties, which forgives the property taxes of its deployed men and women. "Florida is proud of the men and women who serve courageously and honorably from our state," said Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who also addressed the Senate subcommittee today. "We've made serving these military personnel, National Guardsmen and Reservists one of our top priorities. We are committed to creating a supportive environment for United States military missions based in our state, and for the military families who live among us."

Full tuition assistance for state universities, tax deductions and filing extensions are just some of the ways Indiana supports deployed military members and their families, said Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan in his remarks to the subcommittee today. Kernan also spoke about the Indiana National Guard Family Program, its focus on family readiness and the valuable involvement of volunteers. "The cornerstone of our service to Guard members and their families is a strong volunteer network," Kernan said. In particular, he noted that the program's youth services, led by a five-member council made up of sons and daughters of Guard members, works with parents and teachers on ways to help children deal with anxiety and fears that are the

result of a family member's deployment.

"I commend our nation's governors for stepping forward to provide necessary support to our servicemen and women and their families," said U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.). "As our soldiers are away fighting to defend our freedom, it is our responsibility to make sure we support their spouse and help take care of their children.

"In the Senate we have held a series of seven hearings over the past year to identify ways we can respond to the unique challenges facing our military families. We learned that much can be done at the state level through executive orders by the governors and action by state legislatures. I am proud that today almost every state has a plan in place and is providing needed support to our troops and their families."

The NGA survey places these benefits into six categories:

- **Family Support**, including credit counseling, family survivor benefit plans, and support groups;
- **Education Benefits**, including tuition assistance and scholarships for spouses and children;
- **Licensing and Registration Benefits**, including extended deadlines for professional licenses;
- **Tax and Financial Benefits**, including tax relief and extension of filing deadlines;
- **State Employees Benefits**, including health care and life insurance benefits; and
- **Other Support Benefits**, including reemployment protection and hiring preferences.

Although states are required to enforce the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, and the Soldiers and Sailor Civil Relief Act, the benefits currently being offered by states go far beyond these basic requirements. In North Carolina, for example, the state has provided assistance to its National Guardsmen during deployment in Iraq by supplying them with hand held radios, body armor and laptop computers.

"Our brave men and women in the military have answered our country's call to duty and it is our responsibility here at home to support them and do what we can to help," North Carolina Gov. Mike Easley said. "Being away from your home and your loved ones is extremely difficult. We are reaching out to members of the military, their families and their communities to ease that burden."

In related news, Easley was one of two governors, Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne being the other, who was recently appointed to lead NGA's efforts on National Guard-related issues. The announcement came during the NGA's recently completed 2004 Annual Meeting in Seattle. At that meeting, David Chu, the Defense Department's Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command and Commander of the U.S. Northern Command, met with the nation's governors to discuss states' efforts to accommodate the growing numbers of deployed Reservists and National Guardsmen and the thousands of regular military personnel overseas.

"This recent call-up of Idaho National Guard members completed the most extensive mobilization of Idaho's National Guard for overseas military deployment in our state's history," said Kempthorne. "It's possible these men and women could be away from home for up to two years and it's critical that we do everything within our means to support these fine soldiers abroad while taking care of their families here at home. The work we do here at NGA will help all governors as they struggle to adjust to these new realities."

For a copy of the complete report and a copy of Raymond Scheppach's testimony, log on to the NGA Web site at [NGA Web site](#).

* Information on the web to servicemen & women.

Life Insurance Program

Veterans Benefits & Services

Choose a Topic

Go!

Insurance
Home Page

Servicemembers'
Group Life Insurance

Veterans' Group
Life Insurance

VGLI Online
Access

SGLI Family
Coverage

Accelerated Benefits
Option

Beneficiary Financial
Counseling

Policy Conversion

Legislation

Email OSGLI

Forms

SGLI/VGLI Handbook

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

What is SGLI?

SGLI is a program of low cost group life insurance for servicemembers on active duty, ready reservists, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies, and members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

How Much Coverage Is Available?

SGLI coverage is available in \$10,000 increments up to the maximum of \$250,000.

How Much Does SGLI Cost?

SGLI premiums are currently \$.065 per \$1,000 of insurance, regardless of the member's age. Follow this link to view a [table of SGLI premium rates](#) at different coverage levels.

How Much Life Insurance do I Really Need?

We can help your figure out how much insurance you need. To assess your life insurance needs, follow this link to our [Insurance Needs Calculator](#).

Conversion Feature

Servicemembers with SGLI coverage have two options available to them upon release from service. They can convert their full-time SGLI coverage to term insurance under the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program or convert to a permanent plan of insurance with one of the participating commercial insurance companies. Follow these links for:

- [More information about converting to VGLI](#)
- [More information about converting to a commercial plan of insurance](#)

If you have questions - Use one of the following links for answers to [SGLI Frequently Asked Questions](#) or to [view SGLI premium rates](#). You will also find a comprehensive overview of the SGLI program in the [SGLI/VGLI Handbook](#). If you can't find the information that you're looking for on this site, please contact the appropriate office listed below.

Servicemembers should contact their **Personnel Office** for:

- changes to Basic SGLI or Family SGLI coverage

Servicemembers should contact their **Flight, Payroll and/or Finance Office** for:

- SGLI and Family SGLI premium payment information
- SGLI and Family SGLI premium refunds

Servicemembers and their beneficiaries should call, email or write the **Office of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (OSGLI)** for:

- pending SGLI or Family SGLI claims.

Note: OSGLI does not have information concerning SGLI or Family SGLI premium payments, refunds or changes to coverage.

OSGLI can be reached by:

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-419-1473

Toll-free fax numbers:

*Death and accelerated
benefits claims only:* 1-877-832-4943

All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142

Overseas:

Phone Number: 973-548-5699

Fax Number: 973-548-5300

E-mail:

*Death and accelerated
benefits claims only:* osgli.claims@prudential.com

All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com

General Correspondence:

Office of Servicemembers' Group
Life Insurance
290 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, New Jersey 07039

**New VGLI Applications and
VGLI Reinstatements:**

OSGLI
PO Box 5000
Millville, New Jersey 08332-9928

[VA Home Page](#) / [Search](#) / [Site Map](#) / [Facilities Locator](#) / [Privacy & Security Statement](#) /
[Disclaimer](#) / [FOIA](#)

Reviewed/Updated: February 10, 2004

Life Insurance Program

Veterans Benefits & Services

Choose a Topic



Insurance
Home Page

Servicemembers'
Group Life Insurance

Veterans' Group
Life Insurance

VGLI Online
Access

SGLI Family
Coverage

Accelerated Benefits
Option

Beneficiary Financial
Counseling

Policy Conversion

Legislation

Email OSGLI

Forms

SGLI/VGLI Handbook

SGLI Premium Rates

What are the
current rates?

The current rates are listed in the table below.

When did the
current rates
go into effect?

The current rates went into effect on July 1, 2003.

Follow this link for [more information about the premium rate reduction.](#)

Current Basic SGLI Premium Rates - Effective July 1, 2003

Coverage amount	Monthly premium rate
10,000	0.65
20,000	1.30
30,000	1.95
40,000	2.60
50,000	3.25
60,000	3.90
70,000	4.55
80,000	5.20
90,000	5.85
100,000	6.50
110,000	7.15
120,000	7.80
130,000	8.45

Coverage amount	Monthly premium rate
140,000	9.10
150,000	9.75
160,000	10.40
170,000	11.05
180,000	11.70
190,000	12.35
200,000	13.00
210,000	13.65
220,000	14.30
230,000	14.95
240,000	15.60
250,000	16.25

Toll-free telephone: 1-800-419-1473

Toll-free fax numbers:

Death and accelerated
benefits claims only: 1-877-832-4943

All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142

Overseas:

Phone Number: 973-548-5699

Fax Number: 973-548-5300

General Correspondence:

Office of Servicemembers' Group
Life Insurance
290 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, New Jersey 07039

New VGLI Applications and
VGLI Reinstatements:
OSGLI

HB 122 – Life Insurance for National Guard
(version 24-LS0446X adopted)

Conceptual Amendment:

We are dealing with the phrase on line 18 with the amounts due. If you are deployed you can terminate your lease by turning over the vehicle. That does not relieve you from the amounts past due.

Amendment #1 page 2 line 17 AND page 2 line 21
Delete the word "actual"

Amendment #2 page 2 line 25 after the word "member"
Add: "and military dependent"

Amendment #3 page 3 line 5 after the words "natural gas"
Add: "or other heating fuel"

Also, on page 2 line 21 would we use the word "providing" as it is shown in the bill, or would the word "sending" be appropriate? The Committee is thinking "providing" is the proper word but just wanted to double check with legal.

Attn Don Buuck
Legal

Fax X 2029

SCOMM

139:5

Contact: Kelly Huber: 465-3783
Date: 03-17-05
Action: (H) MLV » (H) FIN

HB 166: VETERANS' MEMORIAL CERTIFICATES

Creates the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to allow the Adjutant General to honor deceased veterans who are Alaska residents by issuing to their family death certificates. The Certificate Program is modeled after the Presidential memorial certificate program. It is the intent that the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program will simply be a certificate issued to surviving family members or other eligible recipients as defined, acknowledging the State's appreciation of the service of deceased veterans.

Version: HB 166
Sponsor: (H) MLV
Contact: Nancy Manly:
Date: 03-17-05
Action: (H) MLV » (H) STA

HB 167: DEATH CERTIFICATE FOR DECEASED VETERAN

Provides a death certificate without cost to a surviving spouse, next of kin, or other relative of a deceased veteran. The bill is modeled after Arizona statute, which provides the death certificate for purpose of obtaining Veteran's or Social Security Benefits.

Version: HB 167
Sponsor: (H) MLV
Contact: Nancy Manly: 465-4931
Date: 03-17-05
Action: (H) (MVA) » (H) STA

HB 178: SPECIAL REQUEST LICENSE PLATES

Allows all motor vehicles subject to registration the opportunity to display the standard, 'vanity' or a specialty plate offered by the DMV. Each additional plate sold will generate additional revenue for the State of Alaska.

Version: CS HB 178 (STA)
Sponsor: Olson
Contact: Eleanor Wolfe: 465-3707
Date: 03-17-05
Action: (H) STA » (H) FIN

HB 181: WAIVE CONTINUING EDUC. REQ FOR MILITARY

Introduced to eliminate the possibility of a professional licensee losing his or her license because of failure to fulfill statutory requirements for continuing education while serving on active duty in a combat zone or area where continuing education classes are not available.

Version: HB 181
Sponsor: Coghill
Contact: Karen Lidster: 465-3719
Date: 03-17-05
Action: (H) MLV » (H) L&C

HB 201: PERM. FUND DIVIDEND APPS OF MILITARY

The purpose of this bill is to permit the person who has power of attorney for an individual who is serving on active duty with the United States armed services outside the state of Alaska to sign and file a permanent fund application for said individual.

Alaska State Legislature

Chair

Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Member

Labor and Commerce Committee
State Affairs Committee
Econ Dev, Int'l Trade & Tourism
Education Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees

Labor and Workforce Development
Community and Economic Development
Military and Veterans' Affairs



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
Chairman

House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

Session:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931

Fax: (907) 465-4316

Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

Interim:

716 W. 4th Ave., #350
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone: (907) 269-0205

Fax: (907) 269-0207

Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us

HB 166

Sponsor Statement

HB 166 creates the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to allow the Adjutant General to honor deceased veterans who are Alaska residents by issuing to their family death certificates. The Certificate Program is modeled after the Presidential memorial certificate program. It is the intent that the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program will simply be a certificate issued to surviving family members or other eligible recipients as defined, acknowledging the State's appreciation of the service of deceased veterans.

Sectional Analysis

section 1 adds the Governor's Memorial Certificate Program to AS 26.10. It outlines the procedure for the program

(b) (1) This section defines who is an "eligible recipient" of a deceased veteran to receive the certificate.

(b) (2) This section defines "veteran" as the meaning given in AS 26.10.080.

LII

legal information institute

US CODE COLLECTION

[collection home](#)[search](#)[TITLE 38](#) > [PART I](#) > [CHAPTER 1](#) > [Sec. 112.](#)[Prev](#) | [Next](#)**Sec. 112. - Presidential memorial certificate program****(a)**

At the request of the President the Secretary may conduct a program for honoring the memory of deceased veterans, discharged under honorable conditions, by preparing and sending to eligible recipients a certificate bearing the signature of the President and expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the Armed Forces. The award of a certificate to one eligible recipient will not preclude authorization of another certificate if a request is received from some other eligible recipient.

(b)

For the purpose of this **section** an "eligible recipient" means the next of kin, a relative or friend upon request, or an authorized service representative acting on behalf of such relative or friend

Search this title:

[Search Title 38](#)[Notes](#)[Updates](#)[Parallel authorities
\(CFR\)](#)[Topical references](#)[© copyright](#)[about us](#)[send email](#)[Prev](#) | [Next](#)

Burial & Memorial Benefits

Veterans Benefits & Services

Presidential Memorial Certificates



A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.

History

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

Administration

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligibility

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided.

Application

Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email. There is no form to use when requesting a PMC. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate. Please submit copies only, as we cannot return original documents. We are presently receiving mail at our Washington, D.C. address, however mail delivery is considerably slower than normal.

If you would like to request a Presidential Memorial Certificate, or if you requested one more than eight (8) weeks ago and have not received it yet, we ask that you either:

1. Fax your request and all supporting documents (copy of discharge and death certificate) to: (202) 565-8054, or
2. Mail your request and all supporting documents using either the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial mail service, such as one of the overnight or express mail delivery services, to:

**Presidential Memorial Certificates (402E12)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420-0001**

If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in, or about the program in general, you may call (202) 565-4964. Or you may email us at:

PMC@mail.va.gov

PLEASE NOTE: The above telephone number and email address are for questions about the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program only. We do not accept e-mail requests. All requests must be in writing.

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

We do not administer other VA programs or have access to other VA records. For assistance with other VA benefits or records please use the "Contact the VA" link below. Or call your Regional office at:

1-800-827-1000

Sec. 26.10.080. Death gratuity. (a) The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs shall pay, upon application, a death gratuity in the amount of \$750 to the surviving spouse of a qualified veteran who was a resident of the state at the time of death. If the veteran has no surviving spouse, the gratuity shall be paid to the person designated by the veteran as the beneficiary of the gratuity. A veteran is qualified under this subsection if the veteran served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces for a period of at least 90 days, and the death of the veteran was a result of a service-connected disability.

- (1) burial occurred in the state on or after May 13, 1984; or
(2) death occurred on or after September 19, 1990.

(b) A death gratuity may be paid for a veteran otherwise eligible under (a) of section even if the veteran died while temporarily absent from the state.

(c) The Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs may not pay a death gratuity unless the veteran for whom payment is made received an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions.

(d) In this section

(1) "personal representative" includes administrator, executor, special administrator, successor personal representative, and persons who perform substantially the same function under the law governing their status;

(2) "veteran" means

(A) a person who served in a branch of the armed services of the United States

(i) who at the time of entry into the service was a resident of the territory or state, who had been a resident for not less than one year immediately before entry into the service and who returned to the territory or state within one year after discharge as a resident with the intention of remaining in the territory or state; or

(ii) who was a resident of the state for not less than one year immediately preceding the time of death; or

(B) a person who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard, the Alaska Army National Guard, the Alaska Air National Guard, or the Alaska Naval Militia, or who served in a reserve unit of the United States armed forces in Alaska if the reserve unit required a minimum of one weekend of duty each month and 15 consecutive days of active duty training each year for not less than three years. (§ 1 ch 98 SLA 1982; am § 14 ch 67 SLA 1983; am E.O. No. 58, § 12 (1984); am § 1 ch 7 SLA 1984; am § 1 ch 16 SLA 1985; am § 1 ch 146 SLA 1990)

Revisor's notes. — In subsection (c) of this section, "Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs" was substituted for "division of veterans' affairs" under § 27, E.O. 58, in 1984.

Sec. 26.10.090. Alaska Territorial Guard veterans included. In this chapter, except where otherwise indicated, "veteran" includes a person who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard. (§ 10 ch 93 SLA 1991)

Chapter 15. Veterans' Loans.

Section

10. Powers and duties of Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development with respect to veterans' loans
20. Validation of certain documents
30. Powers and duties of Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development in general
40. Veterans' loans
50. Interest rates
70. Sale or transfer of mortgages and notes

Section

- 85. Disposal of property acquired by default or foreclosure
- 90. Alaska World War II veterans' revolving fund
- 95. Special account established
- 130. Eligibility for loans
- 140. Eligibility for benefits under this chapter
- 160. Extension of chapter to members of the Alaska Territorial Guard and to veterans of Korea and Vietnam

Administrative Code. — For veteran's loan assumptions, see 3 AAC 41.

Transfer of property to non
tract transferring property finan
loan to a nonveteran was not exp
illegal, and was not void as ag
Currington v. Johnson, 685 P.2d
Option contract transferring pr
veterans' loan to a nonveteran wa

Sec. 26.15.010. Power and Economic Development of Commerce, Community, regulations relating to the mend legislation.

(b) The department shall make available to Servicemen's Re-Adjustment Loans Corporation Under regulations of the department portions of loans not to exceed \$500,000 on the qualifications of beneficiaries of the bank, savings and loan associations and may grant participation in the same.

(c) Under regulations of more qualified veterans to with one or more other per a business or joint vent nonveteran or nonveteran joint venture.

(d) Under regulations of the State with insurance companies

(c) ACLA 1949; am ch 83 :

Revisor's notes. — In 1999, "Department of Commerce and ment" was changed to "Depart and Economic Development" in a ch. 58, SLA 1999.

In 2004, in (a) of this sect
Community and Economic
changed to "Department of Co

Sec. 26.15.020. Valid
ments, or other docume
provisions of this chapter
"Veterans' Affairs Commi
signor, assignee, or other
under the provisions of an
Territory of Alaska, the A
veterans' affairs, in an
subsisting obligations, and
be kept, paid, performed,
instrument shall be disch
delivering any such instru
Affairs Commission," not

Sec. 26.15.030. Power and Economic Development

SCOMM

139:6

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPC T

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: February 22, 2005

FURTHER REFERRALS: State Affairs

Date of Committee Action: 3-17-05

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

HB 167

HOUSE BILL NO. 167

DEATH CERTIFICATE FOR DECEASED VETERAN

"An Act relating to providing a death certificate for a deceased veteran without cost."

Recommends it be replaced with ☐ HCS or ☒ CS for HB 167 ()

For Senate Bills with new title: ☐ *Technical Title* ☐ *New Title: HCR*_____ ☒ *Same Title* ☐ *New Title*

☐ attach amendments

☐ add new referral to _____ Committee

[] Letter of Intent _____ Committee

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

[illegible][illegible]

Signing with recommendations		Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
Wm. B. J. J.		Thomas	✓			
Max J. J.		Finch	-			
Samuel J. J.		Cissna	✓			
J. J.		ELKINS	✓			
Chair: J. J.		LYNN	X			
Chair: J. J.						

Alaska State Legislature

Chair

Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Member

Labor and Commerce Committee

State Affairs Committee

Econ Dev, Int'l Trade & Tourism

Education Committee

Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees

Labor and Workforce Development

Community and Economic Development

Military and Veterans' Affairs



A Communication From

REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN

Chairman

House Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

Session:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931

Fax: (907) 465-4316

Toll Free: (800) 870-4391

Interim:

716 W. 4th Ave., #350
Anchorage, AK 99501-2133

Phone: (907) 269-0205

Fax: (907) 269-0207

Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us

HB 167

Sponsor Statement

HB 167 provides a death certificate without cost to a surviving spouse, next of kin, or other relative of a deceased veteran. The bill is modeled after Arizona statute, which provides the death certificate for purpose of obtaining Veteran's or Social Security Benefits.

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF ARIZONA

ORIGINAL
STATE
COPY

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

DEATH NO.
D 102-

NAME OF DECEASED AKA A. FIRST SEYMOUR B. MIDDLE C. LAST EPSTEIN		SEX MALE	DATE OF DEATH MONTH JANUARY DAY 31 YEAR 2004
1. SIMON EPSTEIN		2. MALE	3. JANUARY 31 2004
4A. WHITE		5. YES	
6. YAVAPAI		7. PRESCOTT VALLEY SAMARITAN CENTER	
8. NOVEMBER 7 1920		9. WIDOWED	
10. ILLINOIS CHICAGO		11. U.S.A.	
12. 322 14 1666		13. SHEET METAL WORKER	
14. ARIZONA		15. YAVAPAI	
16. 3380 NORTH WINDSONG		17. 28 YEARS	
18. MAX		19. ANNIE	
20. EPSTEIN		21. RABKIN	
22. RELATIVE		23. 4801 KENAI AVENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508	
24. FEBRUARY 6, 2004		25. NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF ARIZONA	
26. PHOENIX, ARIZONA		27. 86314	
28. ARIZONA WAKELIN BRADSHAW, 8480 EAST VALLEY ROAD, PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ		29. 86314	
30. SIGNATURE		31. FEBRUARY 2, 2004	
32. 0635		33. 0635	
34. W. DOWNING, MD. 215 NORTH MCCOMB		35. 171	
36. 171		37. 171	
38. 171		39. 171	
40. 171		41. 171	
42. 171		43. 171	
44. 171		45. 171	
46. 171		47. 171	
48. 171		49. 171	
50. 171		51. 171	
52. 171		53. 171	
54. 171		55. 171	
56. 171		57. 171	
58. 171		59. 171	
60. 171		61. 171	
62. 171		63. 171	
64. 171		65. 171	
66. 171		67. 171	
68. 171		69. 171	
70. 171		71. 171	
72. 171		73. 171	
74. 171		75. 171	
76. 171		77. 171	
78. 171		79. 171	
80. 171		81. 171	
82. 171		83. 171	
84. 171		85. 171	
86. 171		87. 171	
88. 171		89. 171	
90. 171		91. 171	
92. 171		93. 171	
94. 171		95. 171	
96. 171		97. 171	
98. 171		99. 171	
100. 171		101. 171	
102. 171		103. 171	
104. 171		105. 171	
106. 171		107. 171	
108. 171		109. 171	
110. 171		111. 171	
112. 171		113. 171	
114. 171		115. 171	
116. 171		117. 171	
118. 171		119. 171	
120. 171		121. 171	
122. 171		123. 171	
124. 171		125. 171	
126. 171		127. 171	
128. 171		129. 171	
130. 171		131. 171	
132. 171		133. 171	
134. 171		135. 171	
136. 171		137. 171	
138. 171		139. 171	
140. 171		141. 171	
142. 171		143. 171	
144. 171		145. 171	
146. 171		147. 171	
148. 171		149. 171	
150. 171		151. 171	
152. 171		153. 171	
154. 171		155. 171	
156. 171		157. 171	
158. 171		159. 171	
160. 171		161. 171	
162. 171		163. 171	
164. 171		165. 171	
166. 171		167. 171	
168. 171		169. 171	
170. 171		171. 171	
172. 171		173. 171	
174. 171		175. 171	
176. 171		177. 171	
178. 171		179. 171	
180. 171		181. 171	
182. 171		183. 171	
184. 171		185. 171	
186. 171		187. 171	
188. 171		189. 171	
190. 171		191. 171	
192. 171		193. 171	
194. 171		195. 171	
196. 171		197. 171	
198. 171		199. 171	
200. 171		201. 171	
202. 171		203. 171	
204. 171		205. 171	
206. 171		207. 171	
208. 171		209. 171	
210. 171		211. 171	
212. 171		213. 171	
214. 171		215. 171	
216. 171		217. 171	
218. 171		219. 171	
220. 171		221. 171	
222. 171		223. 171	
224. 171		225. 171	
226. 171		227. 171	
228. 171		229. 171	
230. 171		231. 171	
232. 171		233. 171	
234. 171		235. 171	
236. 171		237. 171	
238. 171		239. 171	
240. 171		241. 171	
242. 171		243. 171	
244. 171		245. 171	
246. 171		247. 171	
248. 171		249. 171	
250. 171		251. 171	
252. 171		253. 171	
254. 171		255. 171	
256. 171		257. 171	
258. 171		259. 171	
260. 171		261. 171	
262. 171		263. 171	
264. 171		265. 171	
266. 171		267. 171	
268. 171		269. 171	
270. 171		271. 171	
272. 171		273. 171	
274. 171		275. 171	
276. 171		277. 171	
278. 171		279. 171	
280. 171		281. 171	
282. 171		283. 171	
284. 171		285. 171	
286. 171		287. 171	
288. 171		289. 171	
290. 171		291. 171	
292. 171		293. 171	
294. 171		295. 171	
296. 171		297. 171	
298. 171		299. 171	
300. 171		301. 171	
302. 171		303. 171	
304. 171		305. 171	
306. 171		307. 171	
308. 171		309. 171	
310. 171		311. 171	
312. 171		313. 171	
314. 171		315. 171	
316. 171		317. 171	
318. 171		319. 171	
320. 171		321. 171	
322. 171		323. 171	
324. 171		325. 171	
326. 171		327. 171	
328. 171		329. 171	
330. 171		331. 171	
332. 171		333. 171	
334. 171		335. 171	
336. 171		337. 171	
338. 171		339. 171	
340. 171		341. 171	
342. 171		343. 171	
344. 171		345. 171	
346. 171		347. 171	
348. 171		349. 171	
350. 171		351. 171	
352. 171		353. 171	
354. 171		355. 171	
356. 171		357. 171	
358. 171		359. 171	
360. 171		361. 171	
362. 171		363. 171	
364. 171		365. 171	
366. 171		367. 171	
368. 171		369. 171	
370. 171		371. 171	
372. 171		373. 171	
374. 171		375. 171	
376. 171		377. 171	
378. 171		379. 171	
380. 171		381. 171	
382. 171		383. 171	
384. 171		385. 171	
386. 171		387. 171	
388. 171		389. 171	
390. 171		391. 171	
392. 171		393. 171	
394. 171		395. 171	
396. 171		397. 171	
398. 171		399. 171	
400. 171		401. 171	
402. 171		403. 171	
404. 171		405. 171	
406. 171		407. 171	
408. 171		409. 171	
410. 171		411. 171	
412. 171		413. 171	
414. 171		415. 171	
416. 171		417. 171	
418. 171		419. 171	
420. 171		421. 171	
422. 171		423. 171	
424. 171		425. 171	
426. 171		427. 171	
428. 171		429. 171	
430. 171		431. 171	
432. 171		433. 171	
434. 171		435. 171	
436. 171		437. 171	
438. 171		439. 171	
440. 171		441. 171	
442. 171		443. 171	
444. 171		445. 171	
446. 171		447. 171	
448. 171		449. 171	
450. 171		451. 171	
452. 171		453. 171	
454. 171		455. 171	
456. 171		457. 171	
458. 171		459. 171	
460. 171		461. 171	
462. 171		463. 171	
464. 171		465. 171	
466. 171		467. 171	
468. 171		469. 171	
470. 171		471. 171	
472. 171		473. 171	
474. 171		475. 171	
476. 171		477. 171	
478. 171		479. 171	
480. 171		481. 171	
482. 171		483. 171	
484. 171		485. 171	
486. 171		487. 171	
488. 171		489. 171	

39-122. Free searches for and copies of public records to be used in claims against United States; liability for noncompliance

A. No state, county or city, or any officer or board thereof shall demand or receive a fee or compensation for issuing certified copies of public records or for making search for them, when they are to be used in connection with a claim for a pension, allotment, allowance, compensation, insurance or other benefits which is to be presented to the United States or a bureau or department thereof.

B. Notaries public shall not charge for an acknowledgment to a document which is to be so filed or presented.

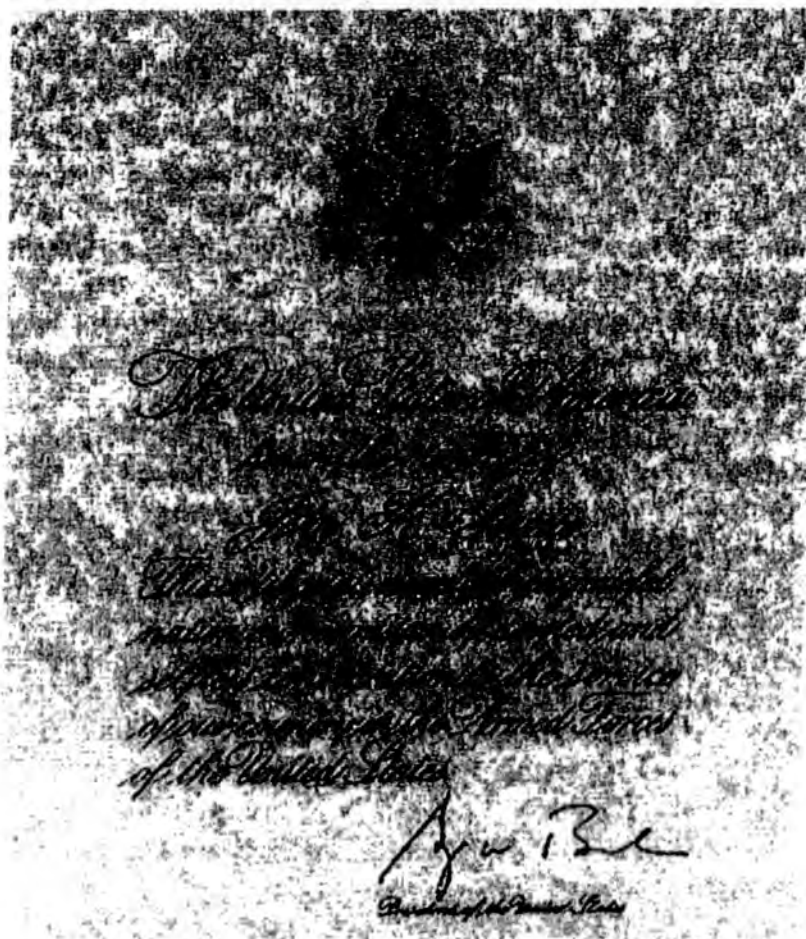
C. The services specified in subsections A and B shall be rendered on request of an official of the United States, a claimant, his guardian or attorney. For each failure or refusal so to do, the officer so failing shall be liable on his official bond.

Arizona Revised Statutes

Burial & Memorial Benefits

Veterans Benefits & Services

Presidential Memorial Certificates



A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans.

History

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

Administration

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligibility

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided.

Application

Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email. There is no form to use when requesting a PMC. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate. Please submit copies only, as we cannot return original documents. We are presently receiving mail at our Washington, D.C. address, however mail delivery is considerably slower than normal.

If you would like to request a Presidential Memorial Certificate, or if you requested one more than eight (8) weeks ago and have not received it yet, we ask that you either:

1. Fax your request and all supporting documents (copy of discharge and death certificate) to: (202) 565-8054, or
2. Mail your request and all supporting documents using either the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial mail service, such as one of the overnight or express mail delivery services, to:

**Presidential Memorial Certificates (402E12)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420-0001**

If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in, or about the program in general, you may call (202) 565-4964. Or you may email us at:

PMC@mail.va.gov

PLEASE NOTE: The above telephone number and email address are for questions about the Presidential Memorial Certificate Program only. We do not accept e-mail requests. All requests must be in writing.

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

We do not administer other VA programs or have access to other VA records. For assistance with other VA benefits or records please use the "Contact the VA" link below. Or call your Regional office at:

1-800-827-1000

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF ARIZONA

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

DEATH NO.
D 102-

ORIGINAL
STATE
COPY

NAME OF DECEASED AKA A. FIRST SEYMOUR B. MIDDLE EPSTEIN		SEX 2. MALE		DATE OF DEATH 3. JANUARY 31 2004	
1. SIMON EPSTEIN		RACE (e.g., white, black, American Indian, (specify tribe) etc.) 4A. WHITE		WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (SPECIFY YES OR NO) 5. YES	
PLACE OF DEATH 6. YAVAPAI		B. TOWN OR CITY PRESCOTT VALLEY		C. HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION PRESCOTT VALLEY SAMARITAN CENTER	
DATE OF BIRTH 7. NOVEMBER 7 1920		AGE (YEARS) 8A. 83		IF UNDER 1 YEAR 8B. 83	
STATE AND CITY OF BIRTH 11. ILLINOIS CHICAGO		CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? 12. U.S.A.		SOCIAL SECURITY NO. 13. 322 14 1666	
USUAL RESIDENCE 15. ARIZONA YAVAPAI		C. TOWN OR CITY PRESCOTT VALLEY		D. ZIP CODE 86314	
STREET ADDRESS OF R.F.D. 15E. 3380 NORTH WINDSONG		INSIDE CITY LIMITS? 15F. YES		ON RESERVATION (SPECIFY Yes or No) 15G. NO	
FATHER'S NAME 19. MAX		MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME 20. ANNIE		C. LAST RABKIN	
INFORMANT'S SIGNATURE <i>Kelie Malynicz</i>		RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED 22. RELATIVE		ADDRESS 23. 4801 KENAI AVENUE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508	
BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL, OTHER (Specify) 24. REMOVAL/BURIAL		DATE 25. FEBRUARY 6, 2004		CEMETERY OR CREMATORY - NAME/LOCATION 26. NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF ARIZONA PHOENIX, ARIZONA	
FURNERAL HOME 28. ARIZONA WAKELIN BRADSHAW, 8480 EAST VALLEY ROAD, PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ		NAME 86314		CITY AND STATE 86314	
TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, DEATH OCCURRED AT THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE AND DUE TO THE CAUSE(S) STATED		DATE SIGNED (Mo., Day, Year) 31. FEBRUARY 2, 2004		HOUR OF DEATH 32. 0635	
NAME OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN IF OTHER THAN CERTIFIER (Type or print) 33. SAM W. DOWNING, MD, 215 NORTH MCCORMICK, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA 86301		AUTHORIZED FOR REGISTRATION (SPECIFY) 40. YES		MEDICAL EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE 41. [Signature]	
DATE REGISTERED 42. 2/5/04		REG. FILE NO. 43. 171		DATE REC'D. IN STATE OFFICE 46. [Blank]	
PART I A. IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH OR CONDITION RESULTING IN DEATH (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE ON EACH LINE) 1. A.S. 30-122.1 Pneumonia		B. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF 2. Care drawn for this copy has been issued free of charge for Security Benefits and		C. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF 3. Pursuant to A.R.S. 30-122.1 this copy has been issued free of charge for Security Benefits and	
PART II A. IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH OR CONDITION RESULTING IN DEATH (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE ON EACH LINE) 4. [Blank]		B. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF 5. [Blank]		C. DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF 6. [Blank]	
MANNER OF DEATH 47. [Blank]		YR 48. NO		HOUR 49. NO	
INJURY AT WORK? (Specify Yes or No) 50. NO		DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED 51. [Blank]		WHERE LOCATED? 52. [Blank]	
STREET ADDRESS 53. [Blank]		CITY OR TOWN 54. [Blank]		STATE 55. [Blank]	
SUPPLEMENTARY ENTRY 56. MORTUARY CORRECTED BOXES 1 & 14A. 2-5-2004					

CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF ARIZONA
COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

DATE ISSUED **FEB 06 2004**

This is a true and exact reproduction of the document officially registered and placed on file in the VITAL RECORDS SECTION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, PHOENIX, ARIZONA. Issued under the authority of A.R.S. 36-341, and by direction of:

Marcia M. Jacobson
MARCIA MORAN JACOBSON
YAVAPAI COUNTY REGISTRAR
YAVAPAI COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying county seal in color and raised seal of issuing agency.

152164



LII

legal information institute

[collection home](#)

US CODE COLLECTION

[search](#)[TITLE 38](#) > [PART I](#) > [CHAPTER 1](#) > Sec. 112.[Prev](#) | [Next](#)**Sec. 112. - Presidential memorial certificate program****(a)**

At the request of the President the Secretary may conduct a program for honoring the memory of deceased veterans, discharged under honorable conditions, by preparing and sending to eligible recipients a certificate bearing the signature of the President and expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the Armed Forces. The award of a certificate to one eligible recipient will not preclude authorization of another certificate if a request is received from some other eligible recipient.

(b)

For the purpose of this **section** an "eligible recipient" means the next of kin, a relative or friend upon request, or an authorized service representative acting on behalf of such relative or friend

Search this title:

[Search Title 38](#)[Notes](#)[Updates](#)[Parallel authorities](#)[\(CFR\)](#)[Topical references](#)[© copyright](#)[about us](#)[send email](#)[Prev](#) | [Next](#)