

12067 SENATE STATE AFFAIRS

HJR

25



Representative Beth Kerttula

Alaska State Legislature District 3

**Sponsor Statement
House Joint Resolution 25
Supporting Veterans Home Ownership Act**

Alaska is one of five states participating in the Veterans Homeownership Program, which makes low-interest home loans available to veterans who served before 1977 and apply within 30 years of leaving active military duty. Unless Congress takes action to extend the program, its effectiveness will dwindle as less and less veterans qualify.

With about 70,500 veterans, Alaska has the largest per capita population of veterans in the United States. Approximately 11,700 Alaskan veterans have benefited from the program since 1983. During the first three years of the program, over 1,000 veterans per year qualified for the loan. Last fiscal year, the number was down to 57.

The American Veterans Homeownership Act, repealing the pre-1977 service requirement, was inserted into the Tax Reconciliation Bill last year. The U.S. House of Representatives approved a version of the Tax Reconciliation Bill with the language, but the U.S. Senate's version doesn't have the language.

HJR 25 urges Congress to approve the American Veterans Homeownership Act language in the U.S. House version of the Tax Reconciliation Bill. This program is a way for our nation to express its gratitude to those who have served in the armed forces and should be extended to benefit current and future veterans.

Veterans Mortgage Program (VMP)

Please note: This program is not the same as a Veterans Administration (VA) Guaranteed Loan. However, a VA Guarantee may be used with this program.

Under this program, certain eligible veterans may obtain financing at a lower interest rate, because the funds come from tax-exempt bonds.

Eligible Properties

Owner-occupied, single-family residences, condos, PUDs, Type 1 mobile homes, and duplex, triplex, and four-plex dwellings are eligible for this program. On multi-family dwellings, all units must have been in existence and initially occupied as a multi-family dwelling at least five years immediately preceding execution of the new mortgage.

Terms

Loan is a fixed interest rate and may be either a 15-year or 30-year loan.

Interest Rates

Interest rates for this program fluctuate. For the current rate, contact an AHFC-approved lender, or AHFC's interest rate hotline or Web site.

Loan Limits

Loan limits periodically change. For the most current loan limits, contact any AHFC-approved lender.

Borrowers' Eligibility

A person is a qualified veteran for purposes of this program if the person satisfies the following requirements:

The person has served on full-time duty, other than for training, in a branch of the Armed Forces; AND

- ◆ **was on active duty* prior to January 1, 1977; AND**
- ◆ **was not discharged from active duty more than 30 years prior to the date of submission of the loan file to AHFC; AND**
- ◆ **if retired, discharged, or released, separation was under conditions other than dishonorable.**

*** Active duty which began after 1/1/77 is ineligible, even if the veteran enlisted under a deferred entry prior to that date.**

This program is also available to certain individuals in the Public Health Service and military academies, or certain individuals in NOAA or CGS. Contact your lender for qualifying criteria if you are in one of these career fields.

If there is more than one borrower and the applicants are unmarried, then both borrowers must be qualified veterans.

Documentation Required

The following two items must be submitted to determine the borrower's eligibility: (1) DD-214 or Statement of Service and (2) Certificate of Veteran Eligibility or Title 38 Letter.

Down Payment Required

Conventional loans require a minimum down payment of 5% on a single-family residence and 10% on a duplex. A minimum of 20% down is required on all triplex and four-plex residences for conventional financing.

If the loan is federally insured or guaranteed—Veterans Administration (VA), USDA Rural Development (RD), or Federal Housing Administration (FHA)—the down payment required is generally lower.

Assumptions

Loans made under VMP are assumable by buyers who qualify under this program.

Available Combinations

In addition to possible use of FHA, VA, or RD, this program may be combined with other AHFC programs, including Energy Efficiency Interest-Rate Reduction (EEIRR) Program, Interest-Rate Reduction for Low-Income Borrowers (IRRLIB) Program, and Affordable Housing Enhanced Loan Program (AHELP), provided both borrower and property meet all the program criteria for any combined programs used.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
4300 Boniface Parkway
PO Box 101020
Anchorage, AK 99510-1020
907-338-6100
1-800-478-AHFC (2432)

Interest Rate Hotline
907-330-8400
1-888-854-3884
(toll-free statewide)

www.ahfc.us

How To Apply

To apply for an AHFC mortgage, contact any AHFC-approved lender. **Note: Other lenders may originate AHFC loans in partnership with an AHFC-approved lender.**

AHFC Lenders

- Alaska First Bank & Trust
- Alaska Pacific Bank
- Alaska USA Mortgage Company
- Central Pacific Mortgage Company
- Countrywide Home Loans
- Denali State Bank
- First Bank
- First National Bank Alaska
- GMAC
- Guild Mortgage
- Homestate Mortgage Company
- Kodiak Island Housing Authority
- Mt. McKinley Mutual Savings Bank
- Northern Schools Federal Credit Union
- Pacific Alaska Mortgage
- Residential Mortgage
- Seattle Mortgage Company
- Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Veterans Mortgage Program (VMP)

Feb 2, 2006

To: Hannah
From: Dennis

QVMB program statistics FY 1998 – FY 2006

<u>FY Year</u>	<u>number of loans</u>	<u>dollar volume</u>
1998	597	93,885,910
1999	540	91,249,038
2000	496	85,877,200
2001	430	73,184,764
2002	315	59,339,089
2003	187	38,782,068
2004	125	25,472,549
2005	57	12,260,899
2006 (thru 01/31)	27	7,291,794

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 13, 2006

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Defense
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Max Baucus
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Defense
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley and Senator Baucus:

We are writing to request your support for Section 303 (Veterans' Mortgage Bonds) of the House's version of the Tax Reconciliation bill. We strongly urge you to support its inclusion in the final conference report.

Under current law, California, Texas, Wisconsin, Oregon, and Alaska have the ability to issue tax-exempt bonds, the proceeds of which are used to finance mortgage loans to veterans. These loans can only be made to veterans who served on active duty before 1977 and who applied for the financing within 30 years of the last date of their active service. As a result of these limits, veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Kosovo, Bosnia, Haiti, Somalia and the 1991 Persian Gulf War are not eligible for these mortgage loans.

Section 303 of the House bill would repeal the requirement that veterans receiving loans must have served in the military before 1977. This change would ensure that we can continue to honor and reward our veterans by offering them low-cost home loans. Our veterans deserve this benefit, and we urge you to work to see that Section 303 is retained in the final conference agreement.

Thank you for working with us on this important issue.

Sincerely,



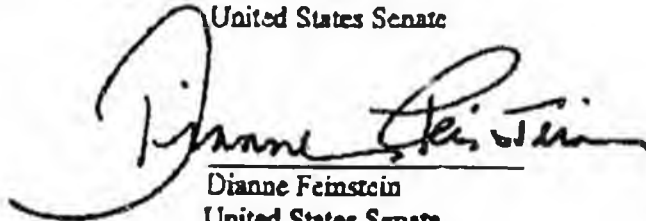
Gordon H. Smith
United States Senate



Herb Kohl
United States Senate



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate

Ron Wyden
Ron Wyden
United States Senate

Barbara Boxer
Barbara Boxer
United States Senate

John Cornyn
John Cornyn
United States Senate

Russell D. Feingold
Russell D. Feingold
United States Senate

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H.R.4297

Tax Relief Extension Reconciliation Act of 2005 (Engrossed as Agreed to or Passed by House)

SEC. 303. VETERANS' MORTGAGE BONDS.

(a) All Veterans Eligible for State Home Loan Programs Funded by Qualified Veterans' Mortgage Bonds-

(1) IN GENERAL- Paragraph (4) of section 143(l) (defining qualified veteran) is amended--

(A) by striking 'at some time before January 1, 1977' in subparagraph (A), and

(B) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

'(B) who applied for the financing before the date 25 years after the last date on which such veteran left active service.'

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE- The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to financing provided after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) Revision of State Veterans Limit-

(1) IN GENERAL- Subparagraph (B) of section 143(l)(3) (relating to volume limitation) is amended to read as follows:

'(B) STATE VETERANS LIMIT-

'(I) IN GENERAL- A State veterans limit for any calendar year is the amount equal to--

(I) \$53,750,000 for the State of Texas,

- ' (II) \$66,250,000 for the State of California,
- ' (III) \$25,000,000 for the State of Oregon,
- ' (IV) \$25,000,000 for the State of Wisconsin, and
- ' (V) \$25,000,000 for the State of Alaska.

' (ii) PHASEIN- In the case of calendar years beginning before 2010, clause (i) shall be applied by substituting for each of the dollar amounts therein by the applicable percentage. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the applicable percentage shall be determined in accordance with the following table:

Applicable	
Calendar Year:	
percentage is:	
2006	20 percent
2007	40 percent
2008	60 percent
2009	80 percent.

' (iii) TERMINATION- The State veterans limit for any calendar year after 2010 is zero.'

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE- The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2005.

SEC. 304. CAPITAL GAINS TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN SELF-CREATED MUSICAL WORKS.

(a) In General- Subsection (b) of section 1221 (relating to capital asset defined) is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4) and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

**Statement of
Congressman Paul Ryan (WI-01)
On the introduction of
The American Veterans Homeownership Act of 2005
June 16, 2005**

Mr. Speaker, I, along with Congressman Wally Herger, introduced today, the American Veterans Homeownership Act of 2005, and I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

As you know, under current law, the States of Alaska, California, Oregon, Texas and my home state of Wisconsin, have the authority to issue tax-exempt bonds, which are called Qualified Veterans Mortgage Bonds (QVMBs). The proceeds of these bonds are used to finance mortgage loans to veterans who served on active duty before 1977 and who applied for the financing before the date of 30 years after the last date of which the veteran left active service.

As a result of the limits under current law, veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Kosovo, Bosnia, Haiti, Somalia and the 1991 Persian Gulf War are not eligible for these mortgage loans that are financed by QVMBs. In addition, the QVMB program has, in effect, ended or is ending in the five affected states due to the current 30-year time limitation.

My legislation, the American Veterans Homeownership Act of 2005, would allow all veterans in these five States to be eligible for QVMB-financed mortgage loans by repealing the requirement that veterans receiving loans financed by QVMBs must have served before 1977 and would provide new State limits for these bonds. These veterans deserve the homeownership opportunities this program provides. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting these veterans and cosponsor this important legislation.

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American Veterans Homeownership Act of 2005 (Introduced in House)

HR 2952 IH

109th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2952

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the eligibility of veterans for mortgage bond financing, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 16, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin (for himself and Mr. HERGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to the eligibility of veterans for mortgage bond financing, and for other purposes.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'American Veterans Homeownership Act of 2005'.

SEC. 2. ALL VETERANS ELIGIBLE FOR STATE HOME LOAN

PROGRAMS FUNDED BY QUALIFIED VETERANS' MORTGAGE BONDS.

(a) In General- Section 143(l)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining qualified veteran) is amended--

(1) by striking 'at some time before January 1, 1977' in subparagraph (A), and

(2) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

'(B) who applied for the financing before the date 25 years after the last on which such veteran left active service.'

(b) Effective Date- The amendments made by this section shall apply to financing provided and mortgage credit certificates issued after June 30, 2005.

SEC. 3. REVISION OF STATE VETERANS LIMIT.

(a) In General- Subparagraph (B) of section 143(l)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to volume limitation) is amended to read as follows:

'(B) STATE VETERANS LIMIT- A State veterans limit for any calendar year is the amount equal to--

'(i) \$215,000,000 for the State of Texas,

'(ii) \$265,000,000 for the State of California,

'(iii) \$100,000,000 for the State of Oregon,

'(iv) \$100,000,000 for the State of Wisconsin, and

'(v) \$100,000,000 for the State of Alaska.'

(b) Effective Date- The amendment made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2005.

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1 **CORRECTED**
 Bill Version: CSHJR 25(MLV)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/17/2006

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title Supporting Veterans Homeownership RDU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Representative Kerttula
 Requester House Military & Veterans' Affairs Component No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
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						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

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

Estimate of any current year (FY2006) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2007 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Nancy Manly, Committee Aide Phone 907-465-2794
 Division: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs Date/Time 2/17/06 12:00 AM
 Approved by: Representative Lynn, Chair Date 2/17/2006
 Agency: _____

HJR

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ALASKA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Session Contact:

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(907)-465-3719

3340 Badger Road

FAX# (907)-465-3258

North Pole, AK 99705

State Capitol

(907)-488-5725

Room 204

Fax# (907)-488-4271

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN COGHILL

HJR 27

"The Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Allotment Act"

SPONSOR STATEMENT

This Act urges Congress to reopen the legislatively approved allotments in the Tongass National Forest, which were closed under the court case, *Shiel v. United States*.

This Act also urges Congress to amend the Alaska Native Vietnam Veterans Allotment Act to give a fair opportunity to obtain allotments.

My reason for introducing this resolution is twofold.

First, a promise made to Natives from 1906 through 1998 that allotments were going to be offered under certain circumstances has not been fulfilled. The slow, cumbersome, and unwilling behavior of the federal government to perform on legitimate claims filed properly by people who have watched family members die while the government would not act cannot go unchecked.

Secondly, land that should be in private hands has been kept for government purposes only. This is a matter of fairness that has too long been unresolved for the Natives of Alaska. Applications have been lost, denied, sat on for decades, and finally the repealing of the Act in 1971 was swift and confusing because of the last ditch efforts by the federal government to inform people of their opportunity.

The reopening of the Act in 1998 did allow certain Vietnam Veterans to apply for allotments, giving some credibility to the argument that the last year was confusing. However, the restrictions on the reopening were unfair and very difficult for applicants. We simply ask Congress to give a fair opportunity to revisit a reopening only possible through legislation.

(24-LS1543/A)

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1811

To amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of lands to Alaska Native veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of lands to Alaska Native veterans.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Alaska Native Vet-
5 erans Land Allotment Equity Act".

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO ALLOW CERTAIN ALASKA NATIVE**

7 **VETERAN LAND ALLOTMENTS.**

8 Section 41 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
9 Act (43 U.S.C. 1629g) is amended as follows:

1 (1) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a)
2 are amended to read as follows: “(1) The period for
3 filing allotments under this Act shall end 3 years
4 after the Secretary issues final regulations under
5 section 3 of the Alaska Native Veterans Land Allot-
6 ment Equity Act. A person described in paragraph
7 (1) or (2) of subsection (b) shall be eligible for an
8 allotment of not more than two parcels of Federal
9 land totaling 160 acres or less.

10 “(2)(A) Allotments may be selected from the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(i) Vacant lands that are owned by the United
13 States;

14 “(ii) Lands that have been selected or conveyed
15 to the State of Alaska if the State voluntarily relin-
16 quishes or conveys to the United States the land for
17 the allotment.

18 “(iii) Lands that have been selected or conveyed
19 to a Native Corporation if the Native Corporation
20 voluntarily relinquishes or conveys to the United
21 States the land for the allotment.

22 “(B) A Native Corporation may select an equal
23 amount of acres of appropriate Federal land within the
24 State of Alaska to replace lands voluntarily relinquished

1 or conveyed by that Native Corporation under subpara-
2 graph (A)(iii).

3 “(C) For security reasons, allotments may not be se-
4 lected from—

5 “(i) lands within the right-of-way granted for
6 the TransAlaska Pipeline; or

7 “(ii) the inner or outer corridor of that right-
8 of-way withdrawal.”.

9 (2) Subsection (a)(3) is repealed.

10 (3) In subsection (b)(1), strike “A person” and
11 insert “Except as provided in paragraph (3), a per-
12 son”.

13 (4) Subsection (b)(1)(B) is amended to read as
14 follows:

15 “(B) is a veteran who served during the period
16 between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975, includ-
17 ing such dates.”.

18 (5) Subsection (b)(2) is amended to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 “(2) If an individual who would otherwise have been
21 eligible for an allotment dies before applying for the allot-
22 ment, an heir on behalf of the estate of the deceased vet-
23 eran may apply for and receive the allotment.”.

24 (6) In subsection (b)(3), insert before the pe-
25 riod the following: “, except for an heir who applies

1 and receives an allotment on behalf of the estate of
2 a deceased veteran pursuant to paragraph (2)''.

3 (7) Subsection (e) is amended to read as fol-
4 lows:

5 ''(e) REGULATIONS.—All regulations in effect imme-
6 diately before the enactment of subsection (f) that were
7 promulgated under the authority of this section shall be
8 repealed in accordance with section 552(a)(1)(E) of the
9 Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1)(E))''.

10 (8) Add at the end the following new sub-
11 sections:

12 ''(f) APPROVAL OF ALLOTMENTS.—(1) Subject to
13 valid existing rights, and except as otherwise provided in
14 this subsection, not later than January 31, 2010, the Sec-
15 retary shall approve an application for allotments filed in
16 accordance with subsection (a) and issue a certificate of
17 allotment which shall be subject to the same terms, condi-
18 tions, restrictions, and protections provided for such allot-
19 ments.

20 ''(2) Upon receipt of an allotment application, but in
21 any event not later than October 31, 2007, the Secretary
22 shall notify any person or entity having an interest in land
23 potentially adverse to the applicant of their right to ini-
24 tiate a private contest or file a protest under existing Fed-
25 eral regulations.

1 “(3) Not later than January 31, 2008, the Secretary
2 shall—

3 “(A) if no contest or protest is timely filed, ap-
4 prove the application pursuant to paragraph (1); or

5 “(B) if a contest or protest is timely filed, stay
6 the issuance of the certificate of allotment until the
7 contest or protest has been decided.

8 “(g) RESELECTION.—A person who made an allot-
9 ment selection under this section before the date of the
10 enactment of Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Eq-
11 uity Act may withdraw that selection and reselect lands
12 under this section if the lands originally selected were not
13 conveyed to that person before the date of the enactment
14 of Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Equity Act.”.

15 **SEC. 3. REGULATIONS.**

16 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment
17 of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall issue final
18 regulations to implement the amendments made by this
19 Act.

○

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2000

To amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 10, 2005

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. STEVENS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Alaska Native Vet-
5 erans Land Allotment Equity Act".

6 **SEC. 2 OPEN SEASON FOR CERTAIN ALASKA NATIVE VET-**
7 **ERANS FOR ALLOTMENTS.**

8 Section 41 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement
9 Act (43 U.S.C. 1629g) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking
3 “IN GENERAL” and inserting “ALASKA NATIVE
4 VETERAN ALLOTMENTS”;

5 (B) by striking paragraphs (1) through (4)
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(1) ALLOTMENTS.—

8 “(A) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—Any person
9 described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection
10 (b) shall be eligible to receive an allotment
11 under the Act of May 17, 1906 (34 Stat. 197,
12 chapter 2469), of not more than 2 parcels of
13 Federal land, the total area of which shall not
14 exceed 160 acres.

15 “(B) FILING DEADLINE.—An allotment
16 shall be filed for an eligible recipient not later
17 than 3 years after the date on which the Sec-
18 retary promulgates regulations pursuant to sec-
19 tion 3 of the Alaska Native Veterans Land Al-
20 lotment Equity Act.

21 “(2) LAND AVAILABLE FOR ALLOTMENTS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—An allotment under
23 this section shall be selected from land that
24 is—

25 “(i)(I) vacant; and

1 “(II) owned by the United States;

2 “(ii) selected by, or conveyed to, the
3 State of Alaska, if the State voluntarily re-
4 linquishes or conveys to the United States
5 the land for the allotment; or

6 “(iii) selected by, or conveyed to, a
7 Native Corporation, if the Native Corpora-
8 tion voluntarily relinquishes or conveys to
9 the United States the land for the allot-
10 ment.

11 “(B) RELINQUISHMENT BY NATIVE COR-
12 PORATION.—If a Native Corporation relin-
13 quishes land under subparagraph (A)(iii), the
14 Native Corporation may select appropriate Fed-
15 eral land, as determined by the Secretary, the
16 area of which is equal to the area of the land
17 relinquished by the Native Corporation, to re-
18 place the relinquished land.

19 “(C) EXCLUSIONS.—An allotment under
20 this section shall not be selected from land that
21 is located within—

22 “(i) a right-of-way of the TransAlaska
23 Pipeline; or

24 “(ii) an inner or outer corridor of
25 such a right-of-way.

1 “(3) ALTERNATIVE ALLOTMENTS.—A person
2 described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b)
3 who qualifies for an allotment under this section on
4 land described in paragraph (2)(C) may select an al-
5 ternative allotment from land that is—

6 “(A) located within the boundaries land
7 described in paragraph (2)(C); and

8 “(B)(i)(I) withdrawn under section
9 11(a)(1)(C); and

10 “(II) not selected, or relinquished after se-
11 lection, under section 11(a)(3);

12 “(ii) contiguous to an outer boundary of
13 land withdrawn under section 11(a)(1)(C), un-
14 less that land is within a National Park; or

15 “(iii) vacant, unappropriated, and unre-
16 served.”; and

17 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and
18 (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;
19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking subpara-
21 graph (B) and inserting the following:

22 “(B) is a veteran who served during the period
23 beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7,
24 1975.”;

1 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
2 ing the following:

3 “(2) DECEASED INDIVIDUALS.—If an individual
4 who would otherwise have been eligible for an allot-
5 ment under this section dies before applying for an
6 allotment, an heir of the individual may apply for,
7 and receive, an allotment under this section, on be-
8 half of the estate of the individual.”;

9 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting before
10 the period at the end the following: “, other
11 than an heir who applies for, and receives, an
12 allotment on behalf of the estate of a deceased
13 individual under paragraph (2).”;

14 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
15 subsections (f) and (g), respectively; and

16 (4) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(d) APPROVAL OF ALLOTMENTS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any valid right
19 in existence on the date of enactment of the Alaska
20 Native Veterans Land Allotment Equity Act, and ex-
21 cept as provided in paragraph (3), not later than
22 January 31, 2010, the Secretary shall—

23 “(A) approve any application for an allot-
24 ment filed in accordance with subsection (a);
25 and

1 “(B) issue a certificate of allotment under
2 any term, condition, or restriction as the Sec-
3 retary determines to be appropriate.

4 “(2) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than October
5 31, 2007, on receipt of an application for an allot-
6 ment under this section, the Secretary shall provide
7 to any person or entity that has an interest in land
8 described in subsection (a)(2) that is potentially ad-
9 verse to the interest of the applicant notice of the
10 right of the person or entity, not later than 90 days
11 after the date of receipt of the notice—

12 “(A) to initiate a private contest of the al-
13 lotment; or

14 “(B) to file a protest against the allotment
15 in accordance with procedures established by
16 the Secretary.

17 “(3) ACTION BY SECRETARY.—If a private con-
18 test or protest relating to an application for an allot-
19 ment is initiated or filed under paragraph (2), the
20 Secretary shall not issue a certificate to the allot-
21 ment under paragraph (1)(B) until a final deter-
22 mination has been made with respect to the private
23 contest or protest.

24 “(c) RESELECTION.—A person that selected an allot-
25 ment under this section may withdraw that selection and

1 reselect land in accordance with this section after the date
2 of enactment of the Alaska Native Veterans Land Allot-
3 ment Equity Act, if the land originally selected—

4 “(1) was selected before the date of enactment
5 of the Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Eq-
6 uity Act; and

7 “(2) as of the date of enactment of this Act,
8 was not conveyed to the person.”.

9 **SEC. 3. REGULATIONS.**

10 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
11 of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall promulgate
12 final regulations to carry out the amendments made by
13 this Act.

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