

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.