

# Alaska State Legislature



## **Representative Cheryll Heinze Sponsor Statement HB 536**

**“An Act relating to applications for permanent fund dividends by certain individuals serving in the armed forces; and providing for an effective date.”**

Currently, Alaskan men and women who serve in the armed forces are being denied their permanent fund dividend checks because they were in situations where communications were unavailable during the application period. Alaskans who fought in the recent wars in Iraq and Afganistan have had their applications rejected because they either didn't get their application forms in time or were unable to send them out.

These Alaskan men and women are patriots who serve their country faithfully in times of crisis and need, they deserve to be praised for their bravery and fortitude not punished for it. HB 536 amends the current PFD application process to allow for members of the armed services who receive hostile fire/imminent danger pay during the application period to receive an application extension. This would give members of the armed services the leeway they need to submit their PFD applications on time. I urge you to support this bill.