



Alaska State Legislature Senate Majority News

Jeff Turner, Senate Majority Press Secretary
Room 413, State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: 907.465.3803

Web Site: <http://www.akrepublicans.org>

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Alaska Territorial Guard Day Bill Passes **Legislature**

SB 90 Designates October 18 as Alaska Territorial Guard Day

(Juneau) – Today the State House passed legislation designating every October 18 as Alaska Territorial Guard Day to commemorate the 6,500 men and women who answered the call to duty when Alaska was invaded by the Japanese during World War II.

Sen. Charlie Huggins (R – Rural Mat-Su/Chugiak) sponsored SB 90. “Only 300 Alaska Territorial Guard members are still with us. It’s time to set aside one day a year so Alaskans can honor them for the bravery and sense of duty they displayed during Alaska’s darkest hour.”

The guard was formed in 1942 and made up primarily of Alaska natives. They quickly became invaluable to the U.S. Army as scouts and guides along the state’s vast, rugged coastline to protect the state from additional Japanese attacks.

ATG day gives communities and civic groups the chance to hold ceremonies and observances that honor guard members.

SB 90 passed the Senate earlier this session. It now goes to Governor Frank Murkowski’s desk for his signature.

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