

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Charlie Huggins Senator

Senate Bill No. 209

Sponsor Statement

“An Act relating to access by persons under 21 years of age to premises licensed to sell alcoholic beverages as clubs”

Senate Bill 209 amends AS 04.11.110(g) by authorizing access by persons under 21 years of age, who possess a valid military active duty (or armed forces identification card issued by the United States Department of Defense or the United States Department of Homeland Security) ID card, to a club’s licensed premises without specific authorization of the Alcoholic Beverage Control board in certain circumstances.

Under present state law, persons under the age of 21 cannot be on any premises that are licensed to sell alcoholic beverages unless a parent or legal guardian accompanies them. Current law causes a dilemma to the under age veteran. Although they are eligible to join an organization, they are unable to go to the veteran’s meetings or functions because they are under age.

This legislation will, in no way, allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 in licensed clubs. This bill will simply allow our troops access to the supportive and safe environments which they currently are not allowed. A military organization post will truly be a place where veterans across the generations will have an accepting atmosphere in which they can impart their wisdom and stories. This bill will help ensure a place of safety for our troops while they are on the home front.

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