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Senator Jerry Ward
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Ward Wants Change in Veterans' Loan Eligibility

(JUNEAU) - Sen. Jerry Ward (R-Kenai/Anchorage) introduced a resolution today urging the United States Congress to allow veterans who served after 1976 to be eligible for veterans' home loans.

Thousands of veterans have faithfully served during the last 25 years, in peacetime as well as in hostile military confrontations such as Beirut, Grenada, Latin America, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, and Bosnia, but are being denied state veterans' home loans.

"We need to honor our veterans for the work they have done to serve our country," said Ward. "The federal government provides home loans for those who served before 1976. Now is the time to show respect to all veterans, regardless of when they served."

Congress is considering measures to extend the authorization for the veterans' home loans to include veterans who have served after 1976. If the measures do not pass, the veterans' mortgage program will be discontinued due to a lack of eligible participants.

Senate Joint Resolution 31 urges the 107th United States Congress to support H.R. 959 and S. 97 which would change the Internal Revenue Code allowing for veterans who served after 1976 and their families to have the opportunity to receive state veterans' home loans.

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