

Sponsor Statement for HB 305

Noncompliance With Selective Service

An Act prohibiting certain state employment, a student loan, or a permanent fund dividend for a person who fails to register for the military selective service; and providing for an effective date.

Released: January 29, 2002
Contact: Representative Lisa Murkowski's office at (907) 465-3783

In an effort to encourage military selective service registration for all eligible persons, I have introduced HB 305. The intent of this legislation is to ensure that Alaskans are knowledgeable about the military selective service registration system and will register promptly. This is particularly timely in view of the attack on America on September 11th and the resurgence of patriotism and service to protect our freedom and way of life in our country.

HB 305 requires any United States male citizen who is between the ages of 18 and 26 to comply with the federal selective service registration requirements, if applicable, when applying to receive:

- Certain state employment
- An Alaska student loan
- A permanent fund dividend

Failure to timely register within 30 days of turning 18 will result in ineligibility for the above state benefits. Federal law already requires military selective service registration, with consequences for not registering. A male U.S. citizen, who is 18 and meets the requirements of 50 U.S.C. App. 453 and has not registered for the selective service, is subject to a fine of \$250,000 and up to five years in prison. Registration is also a requirement to qualify for federal student aid, job training benefits and most federal employment. The US Immigration and Naturalization Service makes registration with the selective service a condition for US citizenship if the man first arrived in the U.S. before his 26th birthday. Twenty-eight other states have or are considering legislation which attaches conditions of service for eligibility for certain programs and state benefits. With this legislation, Alaska will join those other states in ensuring compliance with the federal registration requirements.