

Alaska State Legislature

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Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee

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A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
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Rep. Bob Lynn (R-Anchorage) has sponsored HB 210, a bill that would enable all active duty warriors in our U.S. Armed Forces to be treated as adults. HB 210 permits active duty service members under age 21 to consume alcoholic beverages and use tobacco products in Alaska.

"Alaska has more residents in the military per capita than any other state, and we have the second highest number of veterans," Lynn said. "We should be leading the way when it comes to military and veteran-friendly policies, but once again federal overreach precludes us from pursuing common sense solutions at the state level." The federal government does not have the constitutional authority to govern state alcohol policies, but has managed to enforce a nationwide legal drinking age of 21 by threatening to withhold federal highway funds.

According to Rep. Lynn, "Alaska cannot be a 'laboratory for democracy' if we allow ourselves to be bought off by federal dollars every time our policy preferences conflict with the busy bodies in D.C."

"I've decided to draw the line at treating our brave servicemen and women as adults. I think they deserve it, and I hope Alaskans will stand with me against the heavy hand of Washington."