



03/10/2025
Alice Ruby
141 Main ST
Dillingham, AK 99576

Dear Mayor Ruby,

We are Molly McBride and Justus Spaulding, President and Vice-President of Alaska National Guard Child & Youth Program Youth Council (AKNG CYP). Our Council is composed of sixteen National Guard youth who strive to be an active part of their community. Current members hail from Anchorage, Wasilla, Palmer, Eagle River, and Fort Greely. We are a voice for military youth across Alaska, hosting events throughout the state to support and connect military kids and families.

We are reaching out to you today to request that you show your support for military kids by making a public announcement proclaiming April as the Month of the Military Child. We would love to celebrate with the city of Dillingham on April 11, 2025.

We would also like to encourage you to participate in **PurpleUp Day!** which is a day dedicated to supporting Military Youth throughout the United States and Territories. You can show your support by posting or sending us a picture of your city government wearing purple and tag @akng.youthprogram on Instagram. In other states, some cities changed their building lights to purple and others had a proclamation at their town hall meeting. Your support would mean a lot to our program and to National Guard youth in Alaska. The goal is for military kids to SEE that they are supported and loved by their local communities.

According to Alaska National Guard data, there are currently 1,518 Army National Guard Service Members and 2,198 Air National Guard Service Members in Alaska, many of whom have families and children.

This is a signed proclamation by Governor Dunleavy from last year proclaiming April 2024 Month of the Military Child (we anticipate he'll do the same this year for 2025):

<https://gov.alaska.gov/month-of-the-military-child-6/>

Here is some more information regarding Month of the Military Child:

<https://www.dodea.edu/dodeaCelebrates/Military-Child-Month.cfm>

Attached is a flier you can share to help us promote **PurpleUp Day!** Please consider taking part in this annual display of support. Your participation matters!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Molly McBride
President, AKNG CYP Youth Council

Justus Spaulding
Vice President, AKNG CYP Youth Council