

**Subject:**

FW: Letter to the Assembly for Tonight's Meeting

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**From:** James Boyer [mailto:cutterman29@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 19, 2012 3:39 PM

**To:** Turner, Michele

**Subject:** Letter to the Assembly for Tonight's Meeting

Ms. Turner,

I was informed that you would be able to forward my below email to the Assembly members to read prior to hearing my request for a waiver as brought forth by Mr. Bill Smith.

Thank you,  
Jay Boyer

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,

First, thank you for taking the time to consider my request for a waiver of the filing deadline for the Disabled Veterans Exemption. I realize upon rereading my written document that accompanied my paperwork for the waiver to the KPB Assessing Department that some of the years I listed were mistakenly listed as 2011 when they should have been 2012. I provide the below as clarification with accurate dates. I apologize for any confusion.

I officially retired from the U.S. Coast Guard on 01SEP2011. I submitted my claim to the Veterans Administration (VA) in March of 2011 (the earliest allowed time by the VA) for compensation and pension (C&P). I then spent the next 10 months trying to get the VA to schedule my C&P medical exams. I called them and had my representative (Anchorage American Legion) contact them close to 50 times and submitted dozens of emails trying to get my exams scheduled. Finally, after submitting a Congressional request to Congressman Don Young to ask for his involvement in getting my longstanding issue of getting my C&P exams scheduled, my C&P exams started in mid-February and the last one was completed on 15 March 2012.

The online application for the exemption states that "Applicants must provide documentation each year of 50% or more service connected disability to qualify." It wasn't until 02APR12 that I received my final determination dated 28MAR12 from the VA stating that they determined my overall or combined rating of 60%. At this point I determined I was eligible to apply for the Disabled Veterans Exemption, but was outside of the official filing deadline. I did not have this evidence until I received my letter from the VA on 02APR12. When I contacted the KPB Assessing Department on 02APR12 they informed me that I could have filed the request before I even knew if I was qualified at 50% or greater disability by the VA. I had not thought to contact them prior to receiving my rating due to the wording in the online application, because until that point I did not possess the required documentation and did not even know if I would receive a rating of 50% or greater.

I submitted my package to the VA at the earliest time I was allowed and if they would have processed my claim within their advertised timeline of 5 months from the time an application is received I would have been able to meet the deadline. These delays were not caused by any actions on my part and were an extraordinary one-time event that was beyond my control. I ask for a waiver of the deadline and that I be granted the exemption for the 2012 tax year.

Thank you again for your consideration,  
James M. Boyer