

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SESSION

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SENATOR BERT K. STEDMAN

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 24

“An Act naming the bridge over Hammer Slough on Nordic Drive in Petersburg the Louis Miller Bridge”

Senate Bill 24 would name a bridge in Petersburg in honor of Louis Miller. Mr. Miller was an early Alaskan pioneer who helped found and build the community of Petersburg.

Louis Miller came to Alaska as part of the Klondike Gold Rush. He arrived in Petersburg in 1901 and worked for town founder Peter Buschmann as a carpenter. Miller is credited with building some of Petersburg’s first houses and serving as foreman for the construction of the community’s Sons of Norway Hall. He operated a moorage and warehouse on the site of the present day bridge over Hammer Slough until his death in 1955. Senate Bill 24 would name this bridge in his honor.

Under current law (AS 35.40.015), the State of Alaska may name public works infrastructure through an act of the legislature. Senate Bill 24 would honor a historic figure in Petersburg’s history and is supported by the City of Petersburg.

Contact: Weston Eiler, Legislative Aide to Senator Bert Stedman at (907)-465-3873

DISTRICT A

*Ketchikan • Sitka • Petersburg • Wrangell
Pelican • Elfin Cove • Port Alexander • Saxman • Meyers Chuck • Thorne Bay • Coffman Cove • Hollis*

SENATE BILL NO. 24

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR STEDMAN

Introduced: 1/9/09

Referred: Prefiled

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act naming the bridge over Hammer Slough on Nordic Drive in Petersburg the
2 Louis Miller Bridge."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** AS 35.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 35.40.220. Louis Miller Bridge.** The bridge over Hammer Slough on
6 Nordic Drive in Petersburg is named the Louis Miller Bridge.

CITY OF PETERSBURG, ALASKA

RESOLUTION # 1877

**Offered by: Jensen
Supported by: Sarff**

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PETERSBURG'S LEGISLATORS TO SPONSOR AN ACT DESIGNATING THE BRIDGE ACROSS HAMMER SLOUGH ON THE MITKOF HIGHWAY AS THE LOUIS MILLER MEMORIAL BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the Petersburg City Council received a letter dated June 20, 2008 from Leif O. Wikan asking the Council to acknowledge the contribution of two Petersburg pioneers for their dedication to the community by naming the downstream bridge across Hammer Slough the Rasmus Enge Bridge and the upstream bridge the Louis Miller Bridge, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this resolution by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Council has formally designated the downstream bridge across Hammer Slough as the Rasmus Enge Memorial Bridge by a motion passed and approved at a meeting held July 7, 2008; and


WHEREAS, the bridge upstream of Hammer Slough is a structure that is owned and maintained by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and

WHEREAS, AS 35.30.040 provides authority for the Alaska Legislature to designate memorial public works by an Act sponsored by a member of the legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Petersburg City Council hereby petitions its state legislators to sponsor an Act amending AS 35.40 by adding a new section designating the bridge across Hammer Slough in the City of Petersburg on the Mitkof Highway as the Louis Miller Memorial Bridge.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska this 20nd day of October 2008.

CITY OF PETERSBURG, ALASKA



Al Dwyer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathy O'Rear, City Clerk

Proposed Louis Miller Bridge
Petersburg, Alaska

