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I am writing in regards to SB 46 and the state recognizing only the black soldiers who worked to build the highway and the message it sends to not just Alaska, but America. I don't understand the need to bring attention to the work specifically done by black soldiers when in all of the years I've lived here I have not seen much in the way of news on \*any\* of the men that worked on the highway.

Per Sen. Wilson's own statement:

"SB 46 provides the recognition that is due **the men** who helped contribute to the construction of the ALCAN Highway"

Why, then, is the state considering recognizing only one race? If the Legislature wants to publicize the story of the crews, publicize the ENTIRE crew. Use photos and tell the story of how ALL of the men building the Alaska Highway worked equally as hard. Why demean the work of the white soldiers by not recognizing them?

Please don't make yet another headline about race. As a 40+ year resident of Alaska, I am asking this: If the Alaska Legislature is considering a holiday with SB46, make it about ALL of men that worked to build the great Alaska Highway.

Thank you for your time,

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Lisa Duntley  
Anchorage, Alaska