

Alaska State Legislature

Session Address:
Alaska State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone (907)465- 4087
House District 32



Interim Address:
305 Center Avenue, Suite 1
Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Phone (907)486-8872
Fax (907)486-5264

Representative Louise Stutes

Speaker of the House

Sponsor Statement HB 27 v. A

"An Act naming the irene Webber Bridge."

This legislation renames Bridge 406, Scott Glacier No. 6 on the Copper River Highway to the irene Webber Bridge, in memory of the longtime Cordovan whose leadership and vision inspired Cordova's running community.

irene Webber, an Alutiiq woman born in Cordova, was the founder of the Cordova Running Club and is remembered as the first sole participant in Cordova's inaugural King Salmon Marathon in 1986. With her boundless enthusiasm, irene built that same marathon into the annual Alaska Salmon Runs. After 34 years, the Alaska Salmon Runs now boasts five different athletic events – the King Salmon Marathon, Sockeye Half-Marathon, Coho 10K, Humpy 5K and the Smooth One Mile Fun Run. The races have become a part of a renowned sporting event that sees almost 300 participants each year from around the state.

irene was also responsible for founding the Cordova 2x2 Cancer Walk. The annual walk raises money to support Cordova cancer patients. Since its establishment in 2002, the event has raised more than \$100,000 for to assist Cordovans with cancer screenings or treatment expenses.

In addition to her contributions to the Cordova running community, irene selflessly volunteered her time to other philanthropic efforts supporting St. Jude's Children's Hospital, The American Cancer Society and S.S.D.S Ride-A-Thon.

irene passed away in 2018. She is remembered fondly by many. With the passing of this legislation, her contributions will continue to be memorialized by the Cordova community.

Thank you for your support of this legislation.

Please contact my staff, Sara Perman, at 907-465-4087 regarding any questions.