

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Bill 203 – Sectional Analysis

" An Act designating portions of the Parks, Glenn, Seward, and Sterling Highways as a part of the State's Purple Heart Trail and relating to signage and informational displays for the trail."

Section 1. Amends AS 35.40.210(a) to extend the Purple Heart Trail designation to include the ~590 miles of highway from Fairbanks to the End of the Road in Homer. With this extension, the Purple Heart Trail will, in its entirety, be made up of:

- the Alaska Highway from the Alaska-Canada Border to Delta Junction - ***existing***
- the Richardson Highway between Delta Junction and Fairbanks - ***existing***
- the George Parks Highway between Fairbanks and Wasilla - ***new***
- the Glenn Highway between Wasilla and Anchorage - ***new***
- the Seward Highway between Anchorage and the Seward-Sterling highway junction - ***new***
- the Sterling Highway to its termination at the end of the Homer Spit - ***new***

Section 2. Amends AS 35.40.210(b) to require the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities erect appropriate "Purple Heart Trail" signage at the Veterans Memorial at Byers Lake, Wasilla, Anchorage, the junction of the Seward and Sterling highways, Soldotna, and Homer.

Removes the existing language requiring signage be placed at points "halfway between" these locations and replaces it with language that allows the department to determine the most appropriate locations for additional signage.

Section 3. Amends AS 35.40.210(c) to increase to six the number of required informational displays at pull-outs along the Purple Heart Trail. The Border to Fairbanks trail has three displays, so this will require that *at least* three displays be erected on the new portion of the Purple Heart Trail between Fairbanks and Homer.

Section 4. Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska to ensure that DOTP&F has the authority to accept gifts, donations, and grants from a person or agency for the purpose of providing signage and informational displays required by AS 35.40.210(b) and (c).

Section 5. Amends the uncodified law of the State of Alaska to clarify that DOTP&F has the flexibility to erect the signs and informational displays as funds are available, without waiting to receive all the funds needed to complete the entire project required by AS 35.40.210(b) and (c).