



Representative Carolyn Hall

House District 16 | Turnagain, Spenard and Sand Lake

HB 221

Sponsor Statement

January 21, 2021

Alaska Arts and Culture Day

House Bill 221 would establish the twenty-first of June as Alaska Arts and Culture Day. Alaskans know how many amazing resources our state has to offer and that these resources make the state one of the greatest places to live. We regularly honor some of these resources with days, such as Alaska Wild Salmon, Alaska Mining, and Alaska Agriculture Day.

Alaska's artistic and cultural resources should be no different and they should be recognized and uplifted with similar regularity. Designating the twenty-first of June as Alaska Arts and Culture Day is a perfect way to highlight the creativity and dedication that Alaskans infuse into their everyday lives. Alaska Arts and Culture Day will encourage the celebration of the many artistic and cultural treasures, tangible and intangible, that infuse Alaskans' lives with beauty, meaning, and shared experiences. These impart to Alaskans strength and resilience, economic prosperity and power, and serve as an inspiration for people all over the world to come and experience all that is great and wonderful about Alaska.

No day is better suited to be Alaska Arts and Culture Day than June 21st, the summer solstice. The solstice is a time of year when sun's warmth and nurturing powers are at their peak and is an impetus for the many of the celebrations that this bill hopes to further inspire. By placing Arts and Culture Day on the 21st of June, we help cultivate a unique cultural wealth that will continue to enrich our beautiful state for years to come.