



SENATOR DENNIS EGAN

SB 63

"An Act naming the Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff State Library, Archives, and Museum."

Sponsor Statement

SB 63 names the state library, archives, and museum building for Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff in honor of his countless contributions to preserving Alaska history.

Father Kashevaroff was of Aleut and Russian descent. He was ordained by the Russian Orthodox Church, which he served for 60 years, combining religious trips around our state with historic research. He turned down an offer to be Bishop to focus his efforts on Alaska's historical preservation. Revered for his knowledge of Alaska, he was a favorite speaker for Alaska Day events until his passing in 1940.

Father Kashevaroff was known and respected throughout Alaska. He successfully pushed the Territorial Legislature to expand the historical library and create a Territorial museum. In 1920 he was appointed the first curator of the Alaska Territorial Library and Museum. He spent a great deal of his time writing historical articles for various newspapers and journals.

The state, library, archives, and museum building, known as SLAM, is currently under construction and including Father Kashevaroff's name on the sign will not increase costs. SLAM's estimated completion date is May 2016.

ALASKA SENATE

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