

ALASKA STATE HOUSE

Session:

State Capitol Building,
Room 104
Juneau, AK 99801
1-800-491-4587



Interim:

1292 Sadler Way, Suite 308
Fairbanks, AK 99701
1-800-491-4527

REPRESENTATIVE DAVE TALERICO

Sponsor Statement for House Bill 88

“An Act naming the Trooper Gabe Rich Memorial Bridge.”

The legislation amends Alaska Statute 35.40 by naming bridge number 392 over the Chatanika River at mile 38.8 of the Steese Highway to be named the Trooper Gabe Rich Memorial Bridge.

On May 1, 2014, Gabriel "Gabe" Lenox Rich, gave his life while answering the call of duty in Tanana. Gabe attended Lathrop High School, graduating in 2006. He attended Montana State University and the University of Alaska Anchorage before pursuing his lifelong dream of entering the ranks of law enforcement. After graduating from the Fairbanks Police Academy in 2007, he went to work for the North Pole Police department until being accepted by the Alaska State Troopers in 2011. Of all of his achievements, the greatest of these soon followed when he became a father.

Integrity was the foundation of his career as a trooper, and love was his foundation at home. As a father and spouse, you couldn't have asked for a more dedicated and compassionate man. In his career, Gabe was dependable, kind and had an innate ability to bring comfort in difficult situations. He loved his work and those he worked with.

Gabe Rich was an Alaska State Trooper killed in the line of duty on May 1, 2014. He had served the State of Alaska over 7 years.

Let this be a lasting memorial to a man who gave his life in the line of duty to the citizens of the State of Alaska.