

# Alaska State Legislature

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Judiciary Committee  
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## **Sponsor Statement: House Bill 186 v. M**

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 inspires Cordova's running community.

Irene Webber 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 in the annual Alaska Salmon Runs. After 33 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 to assist Cordovans with cancer screenings or treatments 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 the S.S.D.S. Ride-a-Thon.

Irene passed away in 2018. With the passing of this legislation, her contributions will continue to be remembered 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.