



Senator Click Bishop  
State Capitol Room 121  
Juneau, AK 99801

Senator Bishop:

Thanks so much for introducing Senate Bill 144 (SB144) honoring Walter Harper.

Princess Cruises and Holland America Line both have a long history of honoring Mr. Harper. The theme of the Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge, located north of the Chulitna River, is that of climbers who have attempted to summit North America's highest peak. In the lobby, we have photos of Mr. Harper that recognizes his initial summit of the mountain in 1913.

At the Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge, located at the gateway to Denali National Park and Preserve, we have our large conference room named the "Harper Room". We also have the Music of Denali dinner theater that was written in 1996 and has played at Denali princess and McKinley Chalet Resort. The show recreates the first ascent of Denali with Walter Harper and Hudson Stuck.

At the Fairbanks Westmark, located in the heart of downtown Fairbanks, we have another room honoring Walter Harper.

The original name of the Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge was the "Harper Princess Lodge" and there was an original oil painting of Walter Harper, painted by a descendant that hung in the lobby. Unfortunately, both the hotel and the painting were destroyed in a fire in 1996.

We join you in honoring a true Alaskan hero, Mr. Walter Harper.

Sincerely,

Ralph Samuels  
Vice President, Government and Public Affairs  
Holland America Line & Princess Cruises