



February 28, 2020

Rep. Andi Story
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Rep. Story,

We are writing to express our support for House Bill 193: Adding a Second Verse of Alaska's State Song.

The second verse of the Alaska State Song offers a long overdue honor and recognition to the First People of Alaska and Alaska's diverse cultures. The verse recognizes the history of Alaska's flag and its thirteen-year old designer, Benny Benson, while continuing verses that celebrate these great lands we are honored to live on. We also recognize and honor Benny Benson as he was the only Native American and the youngest person to design a state flag.

We also want to recognize and uplift the work of the Glacier Valley Elementary students who have been active participants and advocates for this legislation. It is not only fitting for our students to be involved, but we also recognize these upcoming leaders of our state who have taken an active role in recognizing the importance of Alaska's history and Alaska Native peoples.

We look forward to the passage of this bill and hope your colleagues will join you in making the second verse of the Alaska State Song finally come to fruition.

Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa/Quyana/Mahsi'/Baassee'/Maasee'/Dogedinh/Thank you,

Kendra Kloster
Executive Director
Native Peoples Action