



LAWS OF ALASKA

1988

Source

CSSB 499 (SA)

Chapter No.

65

AN ACT

Establishing February 16 as 'Elizabeth Peratrovich Day'.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1, LINE 9.

Approved by the Governor: May 26, 1988
Actual Effective Date: August 24, 1988

AN ACT

Establishing February 16 as 'Elizabeth Peratrovich Day'.

* Section 1. FINDINGS. The Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood had fought for three years to eliminate the racial discrimination that was evident in Alaska during the first part of the 20th century. Alaska Natives were barred from some public facilities and segregated from non-Natives in other public facilities. Elizabeth Peratrovich, then Grand President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, worked tirelessly in support of House Bill No. 14, the first legislation in the territory to prohibit racial discrimination in public accommodations. Her testimony in support of H.B. 14 before the territorial Senate overcame the unfavorable predisposition that existed in the legislature. The bill passed the territorial Senate on February 8, 1945, and was signed into law by the governor of the territory, Ernest Gruening, on February 16, 1945.

* Sec. 2. AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 44.12.065. ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY. Elizabeth Peratrovich Day is established on February 16 of each year to honor Elizabeth Peratrovich, past Grand President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, for her courageous, unceasing efforts to eliminate discrimination and bring about equal rights in Alaska. Elizabeth Peratrovich Day may be observed by suitable observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.