



**LAWS OF ALASKA**  
**1993**

**Source**  
HB 98

**Chapter No.**  
42

**AN ACT**

Naming the Black Veterans Recognition Bridge on the Alaska Highway over the Gerstle River.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

**Approved by the Governor: June 1, 1993**  
**Actual Effective Date: August 30, 1993**

AN ACT

1 Naming the Black Veterans Recognition Bridge on the Alaska Highway over the Gerstle  
2 River.

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4 \* Section 1. PURPOSE. The Gerstle River Bridge on the Alaska Highway is named Black  
5 Veterans Recognition Bridge to recognize and commemorate the black soldiers of the U.S.  
6 Army Corps of Engineers for their contribution in constructing the Alcan Highway, now  
7 known as the Alaska Highway, during World War II. The construction of the 1,522 miles of  
8 road from Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Canada, to Fairbanks, Alaska, through rugged,  
9 unmapped wilderness was heralded as an almost impossible feat. Despite incredible odds  
10 through a cold and punishing winter, the Alcan Highway was completed in a record time of  
11 8 months and 12 days. The black soldiers of the 93rd, 94th, 95th, 97th, and 388th engineer  
12 general service regiments, numbering 3,695 soldiers of a total troop strength of 10,607, were  
13 rarely mentioned or praised for their important contribution to the construction of the Alcan  
14 Highway.

**Chapter 42**

- 1       \* **Sec. 2.** AS 35.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:  
2                   Sec. 35.40.085. **BLACK VETERANS RECOGNITION BRIDGE.** Bridge  
3                   number 503 on the Alaska Highway over the Gerstle River at milepost 1392 is named  
4                   Black Veterans Recognition Bridge.