

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE**

March 5, 2024

2:04 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Kevin McCabe, Chair
Representative Sarah Vance, Vice Chair
Representative Tom McKay
Representative Craig Johnson
Representative Jesse Sumner
Representative Louise Stutes
Representative Genevieve Mina

MEMBERS ABSENT

All members present

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

HOUSE BILL NO. 341

"An Act naming the Marvin Thurmond Galena Maintenance and Operation Station."

- MOVED HB 341 OUT OF COMMITTEE

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

BILL: HB 341

SHORT TITLE: MARVIN THURMOND GALENA MAINT. STATION

SPONSOR(S): REPRESENTATIVE(S) CRONK

02/20/24	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
02/20/24	(H)	TRA
03/05/24	(H)	TRA AT 2:00 PM BARNES 124

WITNESS REGISTER

REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CRONK
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: As prime sponsor, introduced HB 341.

DAVE STANCLIFFE, Staff
Representative Mike Cronk
Alaska State Legislature

Juneau, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Answered questions during the hearing on HB 341 on behalf of Representative Mike Cronk, prime sponsor.

JENNALE ESMAILKA, representing self

Galena, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 341.

KATHERIN THURMOND, representing self

Fairbanks, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 341.

SHAUNDA HUNTINGTON, representing self

Galena, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 341.

EDWARD THURMOND, representing self

Fairbanks, Alaska

POSITION STATEMENT: Testified in support of HB 341.

ACTION NARRATIVE

[2:04:51 PM](#)

CHAIR KEVIN MCCABE called the House Transportation Standing Committee meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Representatives McKay, Vance, Stutes, Mina, and McCabe were present at the call to order. Representatives C. Johnson and Sumner arrived as the meeting was in progress.

HB 341-MARVIN THURMOND GALENA MAINT. STATION

[2:05:31 PM](#)

CHAIR MCCABE announced that the only order of business would be HOUSE BILL NO. 341, "An Act naming the Marvin Thurmond Galena Maintenance and Operation Station."

[2:05:59 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CRONK, Alaska State Legislature, as prime sponsor, introduced HB 341. He paraphrased the sponsor statement [included in the committee packet] which read as follows [original punctuation provided]:

Marvin Thurmond Nomenclature

Present and past employees of the DOT/Galena Maintenance and Operation have requested their facility be named after a long time highly respected employee who has passed.

Our office has received many endorsements for this proposed action and no opposition.

The workers there have pledged to provide the time and materials at no cost to the state.

It is an honor to support in this worthy effort and I ask for your support.

[2:07:15 PM](#)

CHAIR MCCABE inquired about a sectional analysis.

[2:07:22 PM](#)

DAVE STANCLIFFE, Staff, Representative Mike Cronk, Alaska State Legislature, on behalf of Representative Cronk, prime sponsor of HB 341, stated there was no need to present the sectional analysis, as the bill was "pretty straightforward" and just honors an individual by applying a name to a building. He also drew attention to a zero fiscal note which is included in Section 2 of the bill to stipulate it was a commitment made by DOT&PF at no expense.

[2:08:05 PM](#)

CHAIR MCCABE opened public testimony on HB 341.

[2:08:31 PM](#)

JENNALE ESMAILKA, representing self, testified in support of HB 341 and read a resolution titled 2024-04 that the Galena City Council had passed. She added that Mr. Thurmond had a great impact on the community, and he lived a life of dedication. By naming the building after Mr. Thurmond, she said it would be a great legacy that would continue to shine through the community of Galena.

[2:10:38 PM](#)

KATHERIN THURMOND, representing self, testified in support of HB 341, as the wife of Edward Thurmond, Marvin Thurmond's brother.

She read a letter of support from her husband, and she thanked Senator Bishop and Representative Cronk for putting the bill forward.

[2:12:47 PM](#)

SHAUNDA HUNTINGTON, representing self, testified in support of HB 341 and stated that Mr. Thurmond was a dedicated employee, cared greatly about the community, and was a good friend. She said he was a "hard act to follow" and noted his experience and values meant a lot to the community. She offered her appreciation towards Senator Bishop and Representative Cronk for introducing the bill.

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EDWARD THURMOND, representing self, testified in support of HB 341 and stated he was Marvin Thurmond's younger brother. He thanked the legislature for introducing the bill on behalf of his brother.

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CHAIR MCCABE, after ascertaining no one else wished to testify, closed public testimony on HB 341. He noted that anyone could send in their testimony if they were unable to testify today.

[2:15:57 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE STUTES offered her support for HB 341 unamended.

[2:16:06 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE VANCE moved to report HB 341 out of committee with individual recommendations and the attached zero fiscal note. There being no objection, HB 341 was reported out of the House Transportation Standing Committee.

[2:17:27 PM](#)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, the House Transportation Standing Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.