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3 0 8

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(5)

Date Referred: April 25, 1990

FURTHER REFERRALS:

FINANCE

Date of Committee Action: 5/1/90

The COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS Committee considered: CSSB 308(FIN)

CS SB NO. 308 (Finance)

MUNICIPAL TAXATION OF CERTAIN ST. PROP

"An Act relating to taxation by municipalities of certain property of governmental entities; and providing for an effective date."

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with \_\_\_\_\_  the same title
- have attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS: \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):  
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

(Date/Dept)

- fiscal impact
- zero fiscal note \_\_\_\_\_
- zero with analysis \_\_\_\_\_

- fiscal note(s) Commerce & Econ Dev
- zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- zero fn/analysis \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

Do Not  
PASS  
No Rec  
Amend

<u>Eileen P. Maclean</u> MACLEAN			
<u>James Kubina</u> KUBINA	<u>Cheri Davis</u> C. DAVIS	X	
<u>Richard J. Foster</u> FOSTER			
_____			
_____			
_____			
_____			
_____			
_____			
_____			

Eileen P. Maclean  
Chairman's Signature

Division of Pioneers' Benefits Position Paper



"An Act making a special appropriation for payment as grants for development, rehabilitation, relocation, or expansion of cemeteries and certain related access facilities; and providing for an effective date."

HB 507

This position paper only comments on lines 11 and 13 of page two of the bill: "City and Borough of Sitka - rehabilitation of the Pioneers' Home cemetery."

The \$177,400 requested is for the building of a memorial with all the names of the buried deceased Alaskans from the Sitka Pioneers' Home cemetery and for the preparation of the grounds with ground cover, a fence, lights to protect against vandalism, walkways and shrubbery. The initial estimate in 1986 was high due to defoliant spraying and the need for new topsoil. Since then the rain has been perking through the soil and no new topsoil is needed. The original estimate is attached.

The Sitka Pioneers' Home is a historic building monument. The cemetery of the Sitka Pioneers' Home is located about three miles away from the home. The cemetery contains about 1,650 graves of pioneer Alaskans. The cemetery has not been kept up for at least 15 years. The attached letter dated August 25, 1975, clearly states the sad disrepair of the cemetery.

The Division of Pioneers' Benefits does not have funds available in either the operational or CIP budgets for this cemetery project. Therefore, the Division strongly supports the passing of this bill.

Barbara Bathony  
Barbara Bathony, Director  
Division of Pioneers' Benefits

3-13-90  
Date

Frank S. Baxter  
Frank S. Baxter, Commissioner  
Department of Administration

3/13/90  
Date

BB2/LTR/0305  
Attachments



60 Malaspina St.  
Eagle River, Alaska 99577  
August 25, 1975

Governor Jay Hammond  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Hammond,

My Father, the late James F. Harrigan, was a past Superintendent of the Pioneers Home in Sitka.

At the time of his death, I was unable to attend his funeral. I have for the past two years, had the vision of my Father at rest in the beautiful Pioneer Home Cemetery. This summer, I was finally able to go to Sitka and view my Father's grave. I cried! I cried for my Father and for all the others who were buried in what was once a beautiful state maintained cemetery.

It is fortunate that my Mother and sister still reside in Sitka. They maintain my Father's grave. But what of the pioneers without families? As a taxpayer and twenty-six year resident of this state, I am for the first time, embarrassed at the neglect of the State Government and the careless maintenance of that once beautiful clean cemetery. My Father took great pride in maintaining the beauty of the cemetery during his years as Superintendent. I know how disgusted he would be at the present conditions.

The condition of the cemetery is deplorable! Tombstones out of place and upside down. My children and I tried to correct this to some extent. Graves are sunken in and litter such as beer cans, broken bottles, dead flowers, weeds and tire tracks may be found all over the cemetery.

Vandalism is an excuse, but not a very good one. When other State properties are vandalized, is it ignored and left unmaintained?

I sincerely hope that you can find the time to look into this matter. It is sad to think that these pioneers who helped build this wonderful state do not even deserve the privilege of resting in a clean cemetery.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Patricia Gallien

cc: Mr. Andy Warwick  
Manager, Sitka Pioneers Home  
Editor, Sitka Sentinel  
Mr. Wm. A. Egan  
Mrs. Alice A. Harrigan

March 13, 1990

Division of Pioneers' Benefits

Pictures in support of HB507, Sitka Cemetery upgrade

The pictures below show the overgrowth of the headstones with alders, salmonberry bushes and other vegetation. It also shows clearly the sinking of the graves and the general poor condition the cemetery of our Pioneers' is in.



A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: CS HB 507

Page 2, line 17:

Adds the following:

(16) City of Noorvik - cemetery restoration project  
\$20,000

**CITY of HOONAH**

PO. Box 360  
Hoonah, Alaska 99829  
(907) 945-3663

RECEIVED

March 2, 1990

Representative Peter Goll  
Room 122, Capitol  
P.O. Box V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Goll:

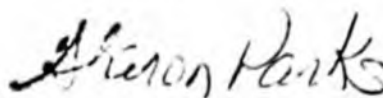
This letter is in support of HB No. 507 for the construction of cemeteries.

There has been a definite need in our community for a new cemetery for some time now. Communities such as ours have set aside lands to fill those needs but have been unable to develop them due to a lack of funding. Small communities such as ours have difficulty setting aside those monies, meeting more immediate needs.

It is with respect and gratitude that we support your bill and hope that it is met with favor before committee. We also support its final passage.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sharon Parks  
Administrator



## CITY OF HAINES, ALASKA

P.O. BOX 1049

HAINES, ALASKA 99827

(907) 766-2231 • TOURISM (907) 766-2234 • FAX (907) 766-3179

March 8, 1990

Peter Goll, Representative  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Ak 99811

Re: HB 507 Cemetery Funding

Dear Peter:

House Bill 507 will give much needed financial support to expanding, upgrading, and rehabilitating existing cemeteries. Mayor Frank Wallace and the city council have discussed the proposed house bill and they agree that it is a good idea.

The Haines Sawmill Road Cemetery serves the whole area of Haines, the surrounding borough, and Klukwan. It needs to be enlarged, and clearly defined access roads need to be installed. Also, a survey is necessary to be able to identify established plots, roads, and markers. Winter access through deep snow presents the problem of knowing where to drive the heavy equipment necessary in the burial process. I submit that a survey and access roads would be a viable solution to these problems.

Peter, this is a valid area for funding and you are encouraged to support it.

Sincerely,

Walter Wilcox  
City Administrator  
CITY OF HAINES

WW/KSG

MEMORANDUM  
MEMORANDUM  
MEMORANDUM  
MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska  
State of Alaska  
State of Alaska  
State of Alaska

To: Representative Grussendorf  
Room 204, Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: February 7, 1990

File no:

Telephone no: 907-747-3213

From: Julia A. Smith  
Administrator, Sitka Pioneers' Home  
Administration  
Division of Pioneers' Benefits

Subject: Pioneers' Home Cemetery

This is the information we have in our files concerning your request about upgrading the Pioneers' Home Cemetery.

The plan was to make the Pioneers' Home Cemetery into more of a monument to all Alaskan Pioneers' buried there. Approximately 1650 past residents graves would be surveyed, plotted so that the old head stones could then be removed and the grounds maintained more like a park at less expense. A rock/concrete type monument was planned that would hold plaques with all the names on it. To alleviate concern by family who wished to visit a grave sight it was invisioned that numbered metal stakes would be driven level with the ground surface at a corner of each eight graves. This way family could place flowers, etc. The plan included leveling the sight, reseeding, installing a fence and lighting to protect against vandalism. Several years ago we were asked to prepare a cost estimate for this project for Senator Eliason to present to the Legislature. The budget we estimated was \$347.4 for capital plus approximately \$7.3 for annual operational budget to keep it up. Since then, we found that we had overestimated by approximately \$170.0 since at the time we thought the soil was so depleted with extensive use of defoilants it would have to be completely replaced. Not so, as the soil tests fine after two years of rain perking thru it. The remainder of the estimated cost is approximately the same less \$170.0 or \$177.4. To complicate matters somewhat only \$25,000.00 was appropriated for the project. The money was to be a pass thru to the City of Sitka.

All these figures are from an estimate done in 1988 by Gary Sheridan, then Manager of the Sitka Home. The project is as valid today as then, but the figures may not be. I suggest that you contact Barbara Bathony, Director of Pioneers' Benefits and Elmer Sorenson, Buildings Management Specialist, Pioneers' Benefits for their input.

*Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.*

TOK SUBREGIONAL OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 126  
TOK, ALASKA 99780  
(907) 883-5181

February 2, 1990

Representative Dick Shultz  
Alaska State Legislature  
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

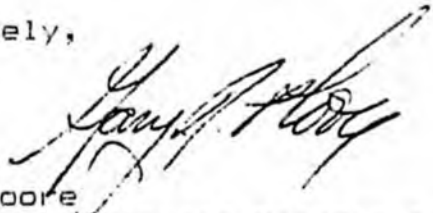
Dear Representative Shultz:

Please find the enclosed Capital Improvement Project request and supporting documents from the village of Tanacross.

Because of the utmost importance and urgency of this project, Tanacross is requesting that their proposal be given serious consideration and be included in the budget during this legislative season.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,



Gary Moore  
Community Resource Coordinator

GM/cdw

cc: Senator Jack Coghill  
Commissioner DCRA  
Ted Charles  
Ed Rutledge  
Tanacross Village Council

Circle, Alaska  
March 12, 1990

~~Representative Mike Davis~~  
Representative Gal I  
Box  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Representatives,

The Circle Civic Community Association is interested in securing funds through H.B. 507 in order to help preserve the Historical Graveyards in our area. These Graveyards date back to the 1800's when Circle was a "jumping off place" to the Klondike Gold Rush.

Last summer, restoration was begun. Repairs to the many graves, as well as brush cutting and the building of fences around approximately 40 of the 200 graves was completed through Revenue Sharing Funds.

We are requesting \$ 7000.00 to complete this project during the summer of 1990. This money will be used as following :

1. Brush Cutting Supplies (axes, chain saw files, gas etc.)  
\$ 300.00
2. Purchase of Materials for Fencing \$1200.00
3. Labor (local) \$3500.00
4. Road Improvements \$2000.00

(gravel to be hauled to site)

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,  
*Jeanne M. Boyle*  
Jeanne M. Boyle, President

Circle Civic Community Association  
Box 25  
Circle, Alaska 99733

C I T Y O F H Y D A B U R G  
Box 49  
Hydaburg, AK 99922  
(907) 285-3761

March 12, 1990

State of Alaska  
House of Representatives  
Honorable Representative Goll  
Box V  
Juneau, AK 99811

RECEIVED

Dear Representative Goll:

Re: Cemetery Rehabilitation Bill.

We are in support of this bill and are glad for your consideration. Hydaburg's cemetery is in very poor shape and has gotten little maintenance since the site was first used nearly eighty years ago. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Cook, Sr.  
Mayor

Angoon. AK. 99820

Box 121

Jan. 29, 1990

Representative Peter Gall:

Box V.

Juneau. AK. 99811.

Dear Mr Gall:

lot of times Robert James and I talked about getting a seaside cemetery. we even mention it to our Town Council to take action on it. but we never hear of any action.

Just talking among the Golden age Club, we really need a new cemetery since our present cemetery is really crowded, and can't find another place since its on top of a cliff.

Its really hard to find a place to dig, some places its only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 feet Grounds.

as a Golden age Club we are asking for your help. the state to give us seaside cemetery some where by the ferry terminal where there is a road.

we would like to hear from you on our request.

Sincerely,

Paul James, Sr.

Golden age Club.

Secretary.

TANACROSS VILLAGE COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 90-06

WHEREAS, Tanacross Village Council is the legal governing body of the village of Tanacross, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, The Tanacross Village Council is in need of improving the following which would cost:

Projects	Amount
1. Cemetery Relocation	\$47,306.00
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

and,

WHEREAS, the Tanacross Village Council is lacking financial resources necessary to provide those certain capital improvements, and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the citizens of the community of Tanacross, Alaska to acquire the above referenced improvements.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Capital Improvement list attached is hereby adopted and approved as the officially recognized Capital Improvement goal of the village of Tanacross, Alaska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tanacross Village Council submit a request to the State Legislature for possible funding of these Capital Improvement needs.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I hereby certify that the above resolutions was duly passed by the Village Council this 2nd day of February, 1990 and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

*Jerry Elmer*



Division of Pioneers' Benefits Position Paper

"An Act making a special appropriation for payment as grants for development, rehabilitation, relocation, or expansion of cemeteries and certain related access facilities; and providing for an effective date."

HB 507

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Barbara Bathony  
Barbara Bathony, Director  
Division of Pioneers' Benefits

3-13-90

Date

Frank S. Baxter  
Frank S. Baxter, Commissioner  
Department of Administration

3/13/90

Date

BB2/LTR/0305  
Attachments

Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.

122 First Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4897  
(907) 452-8251  
Fax (907) 451-8936

TO: Representatives

~~MR. MIKE DAVES~~

MR. Peter GOLL

FR:

LARRY Nathaniel

Chief, Circle Village Council

DATE:

13 MAR 90

\*\*\*\*\*  
FAX TRANSMITTAL MEMO  
TO: Rep. MR. DAVES & MR. GOLL  
DEPT: Admin FAX #: 463-5661  
FROM: Circle VC PHONE: 452-8251  
CO: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Post-it brand fax transmittal memo 7671  
LARRY NATHANIEL

NO. OF PAGES
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Subj.

H.B. 507: Funding for Cemetery Restoration

x x x x x x x x x x

Circle is in need of funding to do restoration work at three (3) cemeteries that are located at Circle. The funding will be used for fencing, tools, equip and labor. The amount requested is 7,000. Please support this legislation on behalf of Circle. Thank you.  
Respectfully Larry Nathaniel

6-2142E  
Utermohle  
3/12/90

Funding Information: General Fund \$2,111,706  
Other Funds -0-  
\$2,111,706

Original sponsor(s): REP. GOLL, Menard, Foster

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 507 ( )

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation for payment as  
7 grants for development, rehabilitation, relocation,  
8 restoration, or expansion of cemeteries and certain  
9 related access facilities; and providing for an  
10 effective date."

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

12 \* Section 1. The sum of \$2,052,400 is appropriated from the general  
13 fund to the Department of Administration for payment as grants under  
14 AS 37.05.315 to the following municipalities for the purposes and in the  
15 amounts stated:

16	(1) City of Angoon - rehabilitation and expansion of	
17	Danger Point cemetery and rehabilitation of the Danger Point	
18	cemetery access road	\$170,000
19	(2) City of Haines - rehabilitation and expansion of	
20	the Haines cemetery	250,000
21	(3) City of Hoonah - development and rehabilitation of	
22	the Hoonah cemetery	150,000
23	(4) City of Kasaan - rehabilitation and expansion of	
24	the Kasaan cemetery	150,000
25	(5) City of Klawock - rehabilitation and expansion of	
26	the Klawock cemetery	100,000
27	(6) City of Thorne Bay - development of a cemetery	175,000
28	(7) City of Craig - rehabilitation of the Craig	
29	cemetery	100,000

1	(8) City of Yakutat - rehabilitation of the Yakutat	
2	cemetery and rehabilitation of access to the Yakutat cemetery	150,000
3	(9) City of Metlakatla - rehabilitation of the	
4	Metlakatla cemetery	175,000
5	(10) City of Skagway - rehabilitation of the Skagway	
6	cemetery	50,000
7	(11) City of Kake - rehabilitation and expansion of the	
8	Grave Island cemetery and rehabilitation of access to the Grave	
9	Island cemetery	200,000
10	(12) Matanuska-Susitna Borough - development of a	
11	cemetery at Trapper Creek	10,000
12	(13) City and Borough of Sitka - rehabilitation of	
13	the Pioneers' Home cemetery	177,400
14	(14) City of Hydaburg - rehabilitation of the	
15	Hydaburg cemetery	75,000
16	(15) City of Nome - cemetery restoration project	70,000

17 \* Sec. 2. The sum of \$59,306 is appropriated from the general fund to  
 18 the Department of Community and Regional Affairs for payment as grants  
 19 under AS 37.05.316 to the following organizations for the purposes and in  
 20 the amounts stated:

21	(1) Tanacross Village Council - relocation of the	
22	Tanacross cemetery	\$47,306
23	(2) Circle Village Council - rehabilitation of the	
24	Circle cemetery	7,000
25	(3) Chilkat IRA Council - development of a cemetery at	
26	Klukwan	5,000

27 \* Sec. 3. The appropriations made by sec. 2 of this Act are for capital  
 28 projects and are subject to AS 37.25.020.

29 \* Sec. 4. This Act takes effect July 1, 1990.