

HB

299

*AKAP
Moral Fete
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22-LS1193VF
Kurtz
4/11/02

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 299()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE DYSON

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A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act providing for the naming and renaming of Alaska geographic features."

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

* Section 1. AS 41.35.350(a) is amended to read:

(a) The duties of the commission are to

- (1) survey, evaluate, and catalog Alaska prehistory and history materials now in print;
- (2) ascertain and register what Alaska prehistory and history work is now in progress;
- (3) identify the existing gaps in the coverage of Alaska's past in presently available published works and establish priorities for bridging them;
- (4) prepare a thematic study of Alaska's history for historic preservation;
- (5) identify the sources of Alaska's history;
- (6) coordinate the production and publication of works that will adequately present all aspects of Alaska's past;

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1 (7) cooperate with the federal government in programs relating to
2 history and archaeology;

3 (8) develop criteria for the evaluation of state monuments and historic
4 sites and all real and personal property that may be considered to be of historic,
5 prehistoric, or archeological significance as would justify their acquisition and
6 ownership by the state;

7 (9) cooperate with the department in formulating and administering a
8 statewide historic sites survey under 16 U.S.C. 470-470n (P.L. 89-665, National
9 Historic Preservation Act of 1966);

10 (10) review those surveys and historic preservation plans that may be
11 required, and approve properties for nomination to the National Register as provided
12 for in 16 U.S.C. 470-470n (P.L. 89-665, National Historic Preservation Act of 1966);

13 (11) provide necessary assistance to the governor and the legislature
14 for achieving balanced and coordinated state policies and programs for the
15 preservation of the state's historic, prehistoric, and archeological resources;

16 (12) consult with local historical district commissions regarding the
17 establishment of historical districts under AS 29.55.010 - 29.55.020 and the approval
18 of project alterations under AS 45.98.040; recommend, if appropriate, the formulation
19 of additional criteria for the designation of historical districts under AS 29.55.020(b);
20 approve plans for and evaluate the suitability of specific structures for purposes of
21 loan eligibility and continuance under the historical district revolving loan fund
22 (AS 45.98); and consult with the Department of Community and Economic
23 Development relative to the adoption of regulations for historical district loans under
24 AS 45.98;

25 (13) determine the correct and most appropriate names of the lakes,
26 streams, places, and other geographic features in the state and their spelling;

27 (14) pass upon and give names to lakes, streams, places, and other
28 geographic features in the state for which no single generally acceptable name has
29 been in use;

30 (15) cooperate with local subdivisions of government and, with their
31 approval, change the names of lakes, streams, places, and other geographic features to

1 eliminate duplication of names in the state;

2 (16) prepare and publish an official state dictionary of geographic
3 names and publish it for sale, either as a complete whole or in parts when ready; and

4 (17) serve as the state representatives of the United States Board on
5 Geographic Names and cooperate with that board; where the official state and
6 federal names of a lake, stream, place, or other geographic feature differ, the
7 commission shall propose to the board that the board change the federal name to
8 match the state name [SO THAT THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN THE
9 STATE AND FEDERAL DESIGNATIONS OF GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES IN
10 THE STATE].

11 * Sec. 2. AS 41.35.350(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) In carrying out its duties to name geographic features under this section,
13 the commission shall select names that have a direct connection with Alaska or
14 Alaska's peoples. The commission shall review requests for changes to existing
15 official names of geographic features to identify the names that do not have a
16 direct connection with Alaska or Alaska's peoples, review alternative names that
17 have been used for the places, and rename the places with names that have a
18 direct connection with Alaska or Alaska's peoples. The commission shall consider
19 using Alaska Native place names for geographic features in the state [THAT HAVE
20 NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN NAMED], using Native language writing systems
21 accepted by the Alaska Native Language Center of the University of Alaska at
22 Fairbanks. For purposes of this subsection, a name that has a direct connection
23 with Alaska or Alaska's peoples

24 (1) commemorates a person who was present in and had a
25 significant role in the area of the feature being named;

26 (2) has been used in the region of the geographic feature or by
27 local Alaska Natives;

28 (3) is particularly descriptive of the geographic feature; or

29 (4) describes a significant event that happened in the vicinity of the
30 geographic feature.

31 * Sec. 3. AS 41.35.350(c) is amended to read:

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(c) When the commission gives a name to a lake, stream, place, or other geographic feature in the state, the name is the official name of the geographic feature and shall be used in all maps, records, documents, and other publications issued by the state or its departments and political subdivisions. ^{The commission use the} The commission shall establish a policy regarding the use of English translations of non-English words and whether translations, where included, should be considered a part of the official name. When the official name under this section differs from the official federal name, both official names shall be used, with the federal name in parentheses.

note
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names.
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~~Rep. Besh~~
Conceptual
AM
- use original (native) name
in original language.
"shall use the original native language name"

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(c) When the commission gives a name to a lake, stream, place, or other geographic feature in the state, the name is the official name of the geographic feature and shall be used in all maps, records, documents, and other publications issued by the state or its departments and political subdivisions. ^{the commission use the} The commission shall establish a policy regarding the use of English translations of non-English words and whether translations, where included, should be considered a part of the official name. When the official name under this section differs from the official federal name, both official names shall be used, with the federal name in parentheses.

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Rep. Beck
Conceptual
AM
- use original (native) name
in original language.
"shall use the original native language name"

Kopsner Q. zeroed fixed? How will the AK HX commission alert people that names have been changed?

Q- private contributors?
A- no

She wants to keep native names as well,
with native pronunciations.

Judy Bittner - opposed

Rep. Felt Q. - would this require 2 names?
never intended duplicate documents
- Federal name in parentheses

Jan Linn AK HX Commission.

Felt (Hold nation)

Around Rep. Bittner 1984 List

Belt Q. - how will zero FD affect you?

→ do best we can.

HB299
Amendment 1
Offered By Rep. Kerttula

(c) When the commission gives a name to a lake, stream, place, or other 1
geographic feature in the state, the name is the official name of the geographic feature 2
and shall be used in all maps, records, documents, and other publications issued by the 3
state or its departments and political subdivisions. The commission shall use the native
language for the chosen names. And The commission shall establish a 4
policy regarding the use of English translations of non-English words and 5
whether translations, where included, should be considered a part of the official 6
name. When the official name under this section differs from the official federal 7
name, both official names shall be used, with the federal name in parentheses. 8

Did
they pass
this?

2 year
3 year

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 299(CRA)
 (H) Publish Date: 3/27/02

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
 Title Alaska Place Names BRU Parks & Recreation Mgt.
 Component State Historic Preservation
 Sponsor Representative Dyson
 Requester HCRA Component No. 451

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Bill Lawrence staff Phone _____
 Division House Community and Regional Affairs Committee Date/Time 3/26/02 6:01 PM
 Approved by: Representative Carl Morgan Date 3/26/02
 Agency Co-chair, House Community and Regional Affairs



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REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

HB 299/ HJR 32 Sponsor Statement

Relating to Alaskan Names for Alaska Places

Updated: March 26, 2002

Contact: Representative Dyson's office at (907) 465-2199

The names of Alaska's geographical features come from a variety of sources, many of which have no connection or relevance to Alaska or its peoples.

HB 299 will allow the State Place Names Commission to begin to substitute relevant Alaskan names that are local Alaskan Native names, honor a local citizen, honor a famous Alaskan, uniquely describe an identifying feature, or describe a local event.

A companion resolution, HJR 32, encourages the US Geological Bureau to follow the lead of the State Agency in renaming the features on Federal maps and documents.

"Many of Alaska's geographical names were given by European explorers to honor a benefactor or curry favor with some powerful politician or ruler. Some of these people never saw Alaska or made any contribution to it. Most of the European explorers had no concept of recognizing the contributions and names used by Alaska's Native people who had been here for at least 10,000 years. Some of the American, Asian, Canadian, and European settlers who later came to Alaska made profound contributions to Alaska. It is far more fitting that our geographical place names should honor its people instead of the Alma Mater of some rich tourist on a quasi-scientific expedition. HB 299 encourages the Alaska Naming Commission to do the research and suggest more appropriate ALASKAN names.

Alaskans tend to give rivers, bays, glaciers, mountains and lakes far more descriptive names than did the Europeans. "Purgatory Creek" and "Murder Lake", are descriptive of conditions and events. "Looks like a Neck" is far more apropos than "Bainbridge Passage". "Place of the Last Great Battle" is much more colorful than "Green Lake".

Under the Alaska Native Lands Claim Act, Section H, a group under the US Department of the Interior, has done extensive work researching Native place names. The Native Language School at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks also has a large amount of similar information.

HB 299 will begin a public process that will hopefully result in more appropriate Alaska place names and the honoring of the native and non-native people who actually lived here or made a contribution to Alaska. We have too long a history of people from somewhere else coming here and taking our furs, gold, timber, fish, and oil and going back south. At least, with this legislation, we have a chance to take back some of our geographical names.

- E-mail -
Representative_Fred_Dyson
@Legis.state.ak.us

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<http://www.akrepublicans.org>



FAX COVER SHEET



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

DELIVER TO: Resources Committee

Co-Chair Beverly Masek
Co-Chair Drew Scalzi

LOCATION: _____

FAX#: 465-4822 PHONE#: 465-2679

FROM: Judy Buttner

LOCATION: ANCHORAGE- ATWOOD BUILDING
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

FAX#: (907)269-8908 PHONE#: 269-8715

DATE: 4-17-02 TOTAL #/PAGES 4
(including cover)

COMMENTS: Related to HB299 -
1pm Resources Committee meeting

Alaska Historical Commission
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Alaska Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
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ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION GUIDELINES FOR GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSALS

Local usage

Local usage is the single, best reason to name a geographic feature. Local usage refers to a feature name that has evolved over a period of years, is called that name by the community or area as a whole, and is supported by local petitions, diaries, oral histories, and documents or other publications. A feature named by the applicant is not considered local usage, even when the applicant has called the feature by that name for a number of years.

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the proposal includes published evidence of verbal or written usage, petitions signed by local residents, and resolutions or letters of support from government entities and community groups

Descriptive names (includes features named by applicant)

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the name is relevant and descriptive of the feature
- the name is not in use elsewhere in the region
- the name is in good taste and not frivolous

Commemorative names (please read the following page)

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the individual has been deceased for five (5) years and evidence of this is provided
- the individual made a significant contribution to Alaska
- the individual had a direct, long term association with the feature
- evidence of local support by authorities and residents is provided

Historical names

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the authenticity of the name can be established
- the name is clearly associated with the area

Native American names

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the name is in common local use and that use is documented
- the name is pronounceable without considerable difficulty
- the name is linguistically appropriate to the area in which it is to be applied
- the land owner, if on Native land, supports the proposed name in writing

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Alaska Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
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Name changes

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- the current official name is derogatory to any racial, ethnic, gender, or religious group
- the current official name is duplicative and causing confusion
- evidence of extensive local support by authorities and residents is provided

Other

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider if:

- there is an overriding need to name a feature within a wilderness area (for purposes of safety, education, or area administration), and the land manager has been consulted and given the opportunity to comment on the proposed name
- an existing name is applied to a related feature, *i.e.* the name of a mountain is applied to an unnamed glacier that is part of it
- a spelling that includes diacritical marks includes substantial evidence of active local use, such as official records, maps, and signs, in the area where the feature is located

All proposals must be accompanied by relevant U.S. Geological Survey 1:63,360 or 1:25,000 scale topographical maps. The feature to be named must be marked on the map. The applicant must clearly express reasons why the feature needs to be named. Photographs and other identifying aids are useful, but not required. Evidence of local support, in the form of letters, petitions, and newspaper articles and letters to the editor, showing public awareness and endorsement of the proposed name is encouraged.

COMMEMORATIVE NAMES

A commemorative name of a geographic feature is to honor and recognize an individual who has made an outstanding or noteworthy contribution to an area or the state, or is a national or international figure. A commemorative place name is not intended to memorialize a family member or friend.

Proposals containing a given name (first or last) or nickname of an individual are considered commemorative. The full name of a person as part of a geographic name normally is not approved unless surname use alone would be ambiguous.

The person must have been deceased *for at least five (5) years* before the Alaska Historical Commission will consider the proposal. An obituary and biography of the individual must be part of the proposal.

The person should have a *direct association* with the feature, or have made a *significant contribution* to the area in which it is located.

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Direct association. The individual should have been physically present at, or in the vicinity of, the feature for several years; or engaged in some activity that affected the feature; or spent a great deal of time at or in the vicinity of the feature. A person's death on or at a feature, such as a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the mere ownership of land or the feature, does not normally meet this criterion. Similarly, recreational use of or visits to a feature does not normally meet this criterion.

Significant contribution. The contribution that the individual has made must be notable, of consequence, and have had a noticeable impact on the community, region or state. A significant contribution is an extraordinary effort, achievement, or impact. It may come from the individual's work, professional or civic activities, and can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The significant contribution should have benefitted Alaskans beyond the individual's immediate circle of family and friends. Generally, these individuals will have been recognized through a letter of thanks from the Governor, certificates of appreciation from an agency or group, awards, newspaper articles featuring the contribution made, dedication of local man-made features (park, street, garden, building), inclusion in *Who's Who*, etc. The individual might be a historical figure.

Features can be named for persons who made a significant contribution nationally or internationally, especially if the individual made advancements in the area of global peace or cooperation, made the nation or planet a better place to live, or made an exceptional and unique contribution to the nation or planet in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. In such instances, the requirement of direct association does not need to be met.

Commemorative name proposals must include evidence of local support by authorities and residents attesting to the individual's association with the feature and significant contribution.

[1/23/98]