

HB

2000

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Ford
4/5/01

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 200(STA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act establishing July 3 as Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day."**

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 44.12.090. Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day.** Drunk Driving
5 Victims Remembrance Day is established on July 3 of each year to commemorate the
6 victims of drunk driving. The governor shall issue a proclamation to commemorate
7 the day. The day may be observed by suitable observances and exercises by civic
8 groups and the public.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chairman
Representative Scott Ogan, Vice-Chairman
Representative John Coghill
Representative Jeannette James
Representative Kevin Meyer
Representative Ethan Berkowitz
Representative Albert Kookesh



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Heather M. Nobrega
Counsel to Committee

MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. John Coghill, Chairman
House State Affairs Committee

From: Rep. Norman Rokeberg, Chairman
House Judiciary Committee

Date: March 20, 2001

Re: Request to Hear House Bill 200

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norman Rokeberg".

The House Judiciary Committee respectfully requests that HB 200, Drunk Driving Remembrance Day, be scheduled for a hearing.

Attached are:

1. HB 200
2. Sponsor Statement
3. Anchorage Daily News article

HOUSE BILL NO. 200

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

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

**Introduced: 3/19/01
Referred: State Affairs**

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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

3 *** Section 1.** AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 44.12.090. Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day.** Drunk Driving
5 Victims Remembrance Day is established on July 3 of each year to commemorate the
6 individuals who died as a result of a traffic accident involving a drunk driver. The
7 governor shall issue a proclamation to commemorate the day and shall direct that the
8 Alaska flag be flown at half-mast on that day. The day may be observed by suitable
9 observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

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Sponsor Statement for HB 200

On July 3, 2000, an Anchorage man with six previous drunk driving convictions was allegedly driving drunk when he struck and killed Jessie Withrow. Jessie, a college student, was riding her bike down the sidewalk on Minnesota Drive when she was hit. Jessie's death is just one tragedy in a numerous string of drunk driving deaths that occurred throughout the state last year.

By establishing July 3rd as Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day, we create a day when drunk driving victims like Jessie, and others, can be remembered. July 3rd has been chosen by Mothers Against Drunk Driving because it was the day of Jessie's death, and because it is right before a major summer holiday when Alaskans are more susceptible to drinking and driving accidents.

Alaska will be the first state in the union to establish a day devoted to commemorating the individuals who died as a result of a traffic accident involving a drunk driver. Drinking and driving has reached epidemic proportions in our state. By establishing a Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day, we hope to bring awareness to this problem, and help prevent future victims of drunk driving.

The committee urges your support of this bill.

#UN
5 July
2000

Pickup hits, kills bicyclist

Police say man drunk had 6 previous DWIs

By LISA DEMER
Daily News reporter

An Anchorage man with six previous drunk driving convictions was driving drunk when he struck and killed a college student riding her bicycle on the sidewalk along Minnesota Drive late Monday, Anchorage police said.

Russell D. Carlson, 39, who had a 2-year-old child in the truck with him, was charged with manslaughter, child abuse, driving while intoxicated and driving while his license was revoked, according to police.

The bicyclist was Jessie Withrow, who grew up in Anchorage and



Jessie Withrow died Tuesday in Anchorage.

BICYCLIST: Student enjoyed friends, family, music

Continued from Page A-1

was a dean's list student at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. She was pronounced dead at Providence Alaska Medical Center on Tuesday afternoon.

Police Lt. Bob Griffiths said Carlson had six DWI convictions in Alaska. Details about those cases were not available Tuesday because of the July Fourth holiday.

The crash happened about 11:30 p.m. Carlson was driving a white full-size pickup, police spokesman Ron McGee said.

Witnesses told police that Carlson was weaving and driving fast while heading south on Minnesota. He ran into a Ford Explorer that had stopped for a red light on Northern Lights Boulevard, then went on the sidewalk and struck Withrow on

her bike, according to police. His truck then went into the parking lot of the Aurora Village Shopping Center and crashed into three parked cars, police said.

The 2-year-old child and another man in the truck were not hurt, police said. The relationship between Carlson and the child wasn't clear.

Family friends of the young woman who died described her as exceptionally bright and creative.

"Jessie was a very unusual child. It was like she was way grown up beyond her years. She was destined to do great things. The world is going to be a cheated place for the fact she was not able to achieve her potential," said Susan Peck, who has a daughter close to Withrow and who is a friend of Withrow's mother, Wendy.

Withrow wrote for Perfect World, the

teen-oriented pages in the Anchorage Daily News. She sang with her mother at the Renaissance Festival and the Anchorage Folk Festival. She served on the Anchorage Youth Court, helping kids who had gotten in trouble. In 1998, she graduated with honors from Steller Secondary School and won a scholarship to Bates College, a liberal arts school. She was home for summer break and would have been a junior, studying English.

"Her friends, her family and her music were the things she enjoyed the most," said another family friend, Ray Booker.

Carlson is being held at Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility on \$100,000 bail.

Reporter Lisa Demer can be reached at ldemer@adn.com and 257-4390.

See Back Page, BICYCLIST

Flag Lowering

State Statute

AS 44.12.080 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

AS 44.12.085 - Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day

In addition to honoring the death of various Alaskan political figures and law enforcement officials killed in the line of duty, Governor Knowles has ordered the Alaska flag flown at half-staff on the following:

USS Cole Bombing, 10/13/2000

Fallen Police Officers, 5/12/2000

State employees killed in car crash, 4/20/2000

(note: this was for Martin Richard and Ladd Macaulay who were killed by a drunk driver)

Alaska Airlines crash victims, 2/2/2000

President George Washington, 12/14/1999

Justice Harry A. Blackmun, 3/8/1999

Oil Pioneer Bill Bishop, 2/12/1999

King Hussein, 2/8/1999

Justice Lewis F. Powell, 8/28/1998

Korean War Armistice, 7/27/1998

Barry Goldwater, 6/3/1998

Alex Miller, 1/30/1998

Thomas E. Thompson, 12/3/1997, flags lowered in Sitka and Petersburg for this fishing industry leader

Sec. 44.12.080. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is established on December 7 of each year to commemorate the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and to honor the individuals who died as a result of the attack. The governor shall issue a proclamation to commemorate the day and shall direct that the Alaska flag be flown at half-mast on that day. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day may be observed by suitable observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

(§ 1 ch 28 SLA 1995)

Effective dates. Section 1, ch. 28, SLA 1995, which enacted this section, took effect on August 10, 1995.

Sec. 44.12.085. Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day.

Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day is established on June 3 of each year to commemorate the attack on Dutch Harbor on June 3, 1942, and to honor the individuals who died as a result of the attack and those inhabitants of Attu and Kiska who fell into enemy hands three days later and were held captive in Japan until the end of World War II. On Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day the many servicemen who died in 1943 while recapturing Attu and Kiska from the Japanese are also honored for their diligent service to the United States and to the state. The governor shall issue a proclamation to commemorate Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day and shall direct that the Alaska flag be flown at half-mast on that day. The day may be observed by suitable observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

(§ 1 ch 38 SLA 1995)



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Press Releases



October 13, 2000

Release 00257

FLAGS LOWERED FOR VICTIMS OF USS COLE BOMBING

President, Governor Order Flags Lowered through Monday Evening for Service Members Slain in Terrorist Bombing

As a mark of respect for those who died aboard the United States Navy Destroyer, USS Cole, President Clinton ordered all U.S. flags lowered to half-staff through sunset on Monday.

The Cole was struck yesterday by an apparent terrorist bomb as it was docking in the port of Aden, Yemen to refuel. The bomb tore a 20-by 40-foot hole in the destroyer's hull and killed 6 American sailors, with 11 missing and presumed dead, and 36 sailors injured.

President Clinton called the bombing a "despicable and cowardly act," and vowed to find those responsible and hold them accountable.

This morning, the President ordered the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff through sunset, Monday, October 16, 2000. In accordance with accepted flag protocol, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff for the same period.

##

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Press Releases



May 12, 2000

Release 00125

**FLAGS LOWERED MONDAY IN MEMORY OF FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS
Knowles Joins President Clinton in Marking Peace Officers Memorial Day**

Monday, May 15, has been declared Peace Officers Memorial Day by President Bill Clinton, who has ordered the United States flag lowered to half-staff on that day. Gov. Tony Knowles has also ordered state flags lowered to half-staff on that day.

"The loss of any police officer is a tragedy, and as a nation, we mourn and remember these men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives." Clinton said in a proclamation marking Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Knowles noted that Palmer Police Officer James Rowland was killed a year earlier, on Saturday, May 15, 1999, while responding to a routine call in a grocery store parking lot. Rowland was the first police officer killed in the line of duty in the history of the Palmer Police Department and his name was added to the Alaska Police Officers Memorial in Anchorage today.

"While we can never repay the debt we owe to these fallen officers and their families, we can and must honor their memory by carrying on their crusade to make America, and Alaska, a better and safer place," Knowles said.

In honor of all peace officers who have fallen in the line of duty, President Clinton and Gov. Knowles have ordered national and state flags lowered to half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, Monday, May 15, 2000.

##

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**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
Press Releases

April 20, 2000

Release 00106

FLAGS LOWERED FOR STATE EMPLOYEES KILLED IN CAR CRASH
Martin Richard, Ladd Macaulay on Official State Business at Time of Accident

Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff today and tomorrow in memory of two state employees killed in an automobile accident while on official business. The accident yesterday afternoon took the lives of Martin Richard and Ladd Macaulay, both of Juneau. A third state employee, Steve McGee, also of Juneau, was injured in the accident.

"We reach out with our sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Martin Richard and Ladd Macaulay, two dedicated state employees who enriched the state through their public service, their commitment to their families, their love of Alaska, and numerous other personal contributions," Knowles said.

Martin Richard, 50, was a 21-year state employee who served as director of the Division of Investments since 1986. Ladd Macaulay, 57, was a loan officer for the Division who previously served as director of the DIPAC hatchery in Juneau. They and McGee had been inspecting hatcheries on the Kenai Peninsula and were returning to Anchorage in a rental car when a pick-up truck crossed the centerline of the Seward Highway at mile 37.5 and collided with them head on. Richard and Macaulay were pronounced dead at the scene.

"Our co-workers are like family, because we often spend more hours every day with them than those we are close to outside the workplace," said Deborah Sedwick, Commissioner of the Department of Community and Economic Development. "Let us honor the memory of Martin and Ladd by reminding ourselves that life is fragile and that we need to treasure those close to us and find time for the things we want to do in life."

McGee, 49, a biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, was injured and taken to hospital where he is listed in stable condition. The driver of the pick-up truck also survived and is hospitalized. State Troopers are investigating the possibility that the driver of the pick-up may have been under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident.

In recognition of their service to the people and the State of Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles has ordered state flags lowered to half-staff on Thursday and Friday, April 20 and 21, in memory of Martin Richard and Ladd Macaulay.

##

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Press Releases



February 2, 2000

Release 00032

FLAGS LOWERED FOR ALASKA AIRLINES CRASH VICTIMS

Gov. Tony Knowles today ordered state flags lowered to half-staff through the morning of Monday, February 7, in memory of the victims of Alaska Airlines Flight 261. The jetliner crashed Monday afternoon off the California coast with 83 passengers and 5 crewmembers aboard.

At least five Alaskans are known to have been aboard the flight, including Alaska business and Native leader Morris Thompson, his wife Thelma, and daughter Sheryl. Also on board were Malcolm Branson and Janice Stokes of Ketchikan, both employees of the Alaska Marine Highway System.

"This tragic accident touches the entire Alaska family deeply," Knowles said. "We offer our prayers and condolences to the families and friends of all those who were lost in this tragic accident and lower our flags as a symbol of our sorrow."

In the memory of all the victims of Flight 261, Gov. Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff through the morning of Monday, February 7.

##

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**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**
Press Releases

December 14, 1999

Release 99240

FLAGS LOWERED IN MEMORY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON
200th Anniversary of Death of Nation's First President

President William Clinton has ordered flags lowered to half-staff over federal buildings today in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the death of the nation's first President, George Washington. Gov. Tony Knowles has ordered state flags lowered as well.

Born in 1732 into a Virginia planter family, Washington learned the morals, manners, and body of knowledge requisite for an 18th century Virginia gentleman. He pursued interests in the military arts and western expansion. At 16, Washington helped survey the Shenandoah region and was later commissioned a lieutenant colonel, fighting the first skirmishes of what grew into the French and Indian War.

When the Second Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia in May, 1775, Washington, one of the Virginia delegates, was elected Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. On July 3, 1775, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, he took command of his ill-trained troops and embarked upon a war that was to last six grueling years.

He realized early that the best strategy was to avoid a general confrontation with the British and instead harass their troops. Ensuing battles saw him fall back slowly, then strike unexpectedly. Finally in 1781, with the aid of French allies, he forced the surrender of the British at Yorktown.

Washington longed to retire to his home at Mount Vernon but he soon realized that the new nation was not functioning well under its Articles of Confederation. He became a prime mover in the steps leading to the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787 and when the new Constitution was ratified, the Electoral College unanimously elected Washington as President. He served from 1789 until 1797.

Wearied of politics, Washington retired at the end of his second term and in his Farewell Address, he urged his countrymen to forswear excessive partisanship and geographical distinctions. He died of a throat infection on December 14, 1799.

President Clinton has ordered the nation's flag lowered to half-staff today in memory of George Washington. In accordance with state protocol, Gov. Tony Knowles has ordered Alaska flags lowered to half-staff today as well.

##

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 8, 1999 99-044

FLAGS LOWERED FOR JUSTICE HARRY A. BLACKMUN

President Bill Clinton ordered U.S. flags lowered through dusk Tuesday for retired Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun. Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags also to be flown at half-staff in honor of the late Justice.

Blackmun, author of the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion and more than 350 other Supreme Court rulings, died Thursday at age 90. He had retired in 1994 after serving more than 24 years on the nation's highest court.

In recognition of Justice Blackmun's service and contributions as a member of the Supreme Court, Gov. Knowles ordered Alaska flags lowered through Tuesday, March 9, 1999.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 12, 1999 99-027

FLAGS LOWERED MONDAY FOR OIL PIONEER BILL BISHOP

Anchorage Geologist Discovered Swanson River Oil Field

Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags in Anchorage lowered to half-staff on Monday, February 15, in memory of William C. "Bill" Bishop. Bishop died Wednesday in Anchorage from complications of pneumonia. He was 79.

Born May 13, 1919, in Dalhart, Texas, Bishop served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and earned a Bronze Star for valor. After the war, Bishop studied geology at UCLA and in 1950, began work for California-based Richfield Oil Company. His work for the company, later named ARCO, took him to Italy, Egypt and Alaska.

In 1956, as the story goes, Bishop led a Richfield Oil team exploring the Kenai Peninsula. Near Swanson River, he kicked the ground cover with his boots and declared, "Drill here." The well struck oil and became the first major oil discovery in Alaska. The Swanson River field would ultimately yield over 250 million barrels of crude. Bishop's boots were later bronzed and placed in the Alaska State Museum.

Bishop worked for ARCO until 1968. He later worked with the Alaska Division of the Western Oil and Gas Association, the Alaska State Bank and the Bristol Bay Native Corporation. He served a term as chairman of the State Chamber of Commerce and was inducted into the Alaska Business Hall of Fame in 1994.

Bishop is survived by his wife Margee; daughters Dawn Kleweno and Kathy Fredrickson and their families. Funeral services are planned for Monday, February 15, at All Saints Episcopal Church in Anchorage.

In recognition of his contributions to Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags in Anchorage lowered to half-staff on Monday, February 15, 1999, in memory of oil pioneer Bill Bishop.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 8, 1999 99-024

FLAGS LOWERED FOR JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN

President Bill Clinton ordered U.S. flags lowered through Tuesday for Jordan's King Hussein. Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags also be flown at half-staff in honor of the late Arab leader.

Hussein, 63, died Sunday after a long battle with cancer. He was buried today in the Hashemite family cemetery on the grounds of his royal palace in Amman. Clinton, three former U.S. presidents and other dignitaries went to Jordan to pay their final respects.

According to the monarch's wishes, Abdullah bin Al Hussein, 37, was sworn in as Jordan's new king just hours after his father died.

In recognition of Hussein's contributions as a peacemaker in the Middle East, Gov. Knowles ordered Alaska flags lowered through Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1999.

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Press Releases



September 18, 1998
Release 98245

FLAGS LOWERED MONDAY FOR SERGEANT DAVE CHURCHILL
Fish and Wildlife Protection Officer Dedicated Husband and Foster Parent

Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff on Monday, September 21, in memory of Sergeant Dave Churchill, a Fish and Wildlife Protection Officer who died Wednesday, September 16, while on duty on the Alaska Peninsula.

Churchill, 51, was hired by the Department of Public Safety in 1986 as an Alaska State Trooper. His career with the Department included numerous assignments from homicide investigations to big game poaching investigations. At the time of his death, Churchill was in the process of being promoted to Sergeant and was being transferred from Big Lake to King Salmon as Bristol Bay Region Supervisor.

Dave Churchill and his wife, Linda, who survives him, were dedicated foster parents who, according to a friend, helped raise several children.

Memorial services for Churchill are scheduled for Monday, September 21, 7 p.m., at the Assembly of God Church in Wasilla. In recognition of Dave Churchill's service to the State of Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff on Monday, September 21.

##

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Press Releases



August 28, 1998
Release 98225

**CIGARETTE SALES DECLINING IN ALASKA BUT TOBACCO TAX REVENUE INCREASES,
HEADS TO SCHOOL FUND**

President Bill Clinton has ordered the national flag lowered Monday in memory of Lewis F. Powell Jr. The retired Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States died Tuesday, August 25 at the age of 90.

Powell was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Nixon in 1971 and served for 15 years, retiring in 1987. Funeral services are planned for Monday, August 31, and as a mark of respect for his memory, the President ordered the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff on that day.

Gov. Tony Knowles has ordered Alaska State flags to be lowered on that day in Justice Powell's honor.

##

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NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 24, 1998 98-199

**FLAGS LOWERED SUNDAY IN MEMORY OF KOREAN WAR
ARMISTICE**

State and federal flags will be flown at half-staff on Sunday, July 26, 1998, in recognition of National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day. President Bill Clinton proclaimed the day in recognition of the sacrifices made by American men and women during the Korean War.

"Forty-three years ago, a negotiated cease-fire ended 3 years of open warfare on the Korean Peninsula," President Clinton said. "This cease-fire came after more than 54,000 American deaths and the capture of thousands of our brave soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines. For those who returned home, the armistice brought mixed emotions - too many of their comrades-in-arms remained prisoners of war or missing in action, and the importance of this Cold War conflict has yet to be understood.

"Today, as the United States and South Korea maintain a strong partnership and democracy sweeps the globe, we remember the extraordinary sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform during the Korean conflict, and we pay tribute to their courage and their commitment to freedom. As American service men and women support the cause of peace around the world, we honor the proud legacy of our Korean War veterans who gave of themselves so that others might live in liberty," the President said.

The Presidential proclamation, issued today, orders federal flags lowered to half-staff on Sunday, July 26, 1998, in memory of the Americans who died as a result of their service in Korea. Pursuant to the proclamation, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half-staff on Sunday, July 26, 1998, in memory of Alaskans who died during the conflict.

-30-

Note: As flags have been lowered today in memory of the police officers killed in the line of duty in the Nation's Capitol in Washington, D.C., it would be appropriate to lower flags this evening and raise them Monday morning.

FLAGS LOWERED FOR BARRY GOLDWATER

National and State Flags to Fly at Half Staff, Wednesday, June 3

President Bill Clinton has ordered the national flag lowered Wednesday in memory of Sen. Barry M. Goldwater. The former Senator from Arizona died Friday, May 29 at the age of 89.

Funeral services are planned for Wednesday, June 3, and as a mark of respect for his memory, the President ordered the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff on that day.

Gov. Tony Knowles has ordered Alaska State flags to be lowered on that day in the Senator's honor.

[Return](#) to the June listing of Press Releases.

Posted by: R. Orford, 6/3/98, Alaska State Library

FLAGS LOWERED FOR FORMER EGAN AIDE ALEX MILLER

Gov. Tony Knowles today ordered flags lowered to half staff through Sunday, Feb. 1, in honor of Anchorage resident Alex Miller. The longtime lobbyist and former legislative assistant to Gov. William Egan died of heart failure on Thursday in Anchorage. He was 75.

Miller was born on Oct. 11, 1922, in Juneau. He attended the University of Alaska and a Seattle business college. During World War II, he joined the Army Air Corps. He and his wife, Doris, married in 1948.

Miller was active in Democratic Party politics. In 1960, he was a member of the Alaska delegation to the Democratic National Convention. From 1970-73, he served as Gov. Egan's chief legislative assistant. During that time, Miller worked to get state employees collective bargaining rights. Later, he became an influential lobbyist working for various corporate interests in the Capitol.

Miller is survived by his wife of Anchorage and six children. Funeral arrangements are pending.

In recognition of Alex Miller's service to the State of Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered state flags lowered to half staff through sundown on Sunday, Feb. 1, 1998.

[Return](#) to the January listing of Press Releases.

Posted by: R. Orford, 1/30/98, Alaska State Library

SOUTHEAST FLAGS LOWERED FOR FISHING INDUSTRY LEADER

Gov. Tony Knowles today ordered state flags lowered to half staff in Sitka and Petersburg through Wednesday, Dec. 3, in memory of Thomas E. Thompson. The Sitka resident died Saturday, Nov. 29, of an apparent heart attack while working on his boat. He was 75.

Born to Norwegian immigrants in 1922 in Petersburg, Thompson went to work for Petersburg Cold Storage at the age of 15. Later, he joined his father in the fish-buying business.

Thompson studied business at Washington State College in Portland and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. In 1961, he took over as manager at the Petersburg Cold Storage. With three partners, he later started Petersburg Fisheries Inc.

In the late '60s, Thompson was named executive vice president of Icicle Seafoods, where he was instrumental in turning the business into one of the largest seafood companies in the state. In 1973, Thompson oversaw Petersburg Fisheries' acquisition of Sitka Sound Seafoods, a business he later purchased outright.

Thompson was retired at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine, of Sitka; his mother, Ann, of Petersburg; four children; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Survivors also include his sister, June Naze, of Soldotna. Services for Thompson were set for 1 p.m. today at Sitka Lutheran Church, and Friday morning at Petersburg Lutheran Church.

In recognition of Thomas Thompson contributions to the Southeast Alaska fishing industry, Gov. Tony Knowles ordered flags lowered to half staff through sundown on Wednesday, Dec. 3, 1997.

[Return](#) to the December listing of Press Releases.

Posted by: R. Orford, 12/10/97, Alaska State Library

Mike Ford

22-LS0781\A

HOUSE BILL NO. 200

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

BY THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/19/01
Referred: State Affairs

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act establishing July 3 as Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day."

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

3 * Section 1. AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 Sec. 44.12.090. Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day. Drunk Driving
5 Victims Remembrance Day is established on July 3 of each year to commemorate the
6 ~~individuals~~ ^{victims} who died as a result of a traffic ~~incident~~ ^{incident} involving ~~a~~ ^{et} drunk driver. The
7 governor shall issue a proclamation to commemorate the day, and ~~shall direct that the~~
8 ~~Alaska flag be flown at half-mast on that day.~~ The day may be observed by suitable
9 observances and exercises by civic groups and the public.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Representative Norman Rokeberg, Chairman
Representative Scott Ogan, Vice-Chairman
Representative John Coghill
Representative Jeannette James
Representative Kevin Meyer
Representative Ethan Berkowitz
Representative Albert Kookesh



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Heather M. Nobrega
Counsel to Committee

Sponsor Statement for HB 200

On July 3, 2000, an Anchorage man with six previous drunk driving convictions was allegedly driving drunk when he struck and killed Jessie Withrow. Jessie, a college student, was riding her bike down the sidewalk on Minnesota Drive when she was hit. Jessie's death is just one tragedy in a numerous string of drunk driving deaths that occurred throughout the state last year.

By establishing July 3rd as Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day, we create a day when drunk driving victims like Jessie, and others, can be remembered. July 3rd has been chosen by Mothers Against Drunk Driving because it was the day of Jessie's death, and because it is right before a major summer holiday when Alaskans are more susceptible to drinking and driving accidents.

Alaska will be the first state in the union to establish a day devoted to commemorating the individuals who died as a result of a traffic accident involving a drunk driver. Drinking and driving has reached epidemic proportions in our state. By establishing a Drunk Driving Victims Remembrance Day, we hope to bring awareness to this problem, and help prevent future victims of drunk driving.

The committee urges your support of this bill.

Pickup hits, kills bicyclist

#VN
5 July
2000

Police say man drunk had 6 previous DWIs

By LISA DEMER
Daily News reporter

An Anchorage man with six previous drunken driving convictions was driving drunk when he struck and killed a college student riding her bicycle on the sidewalk along Minnesota Drive late Monday, Anchorage police said.

Russell D. Carlson, 39, who had a 2-year-old child in the truck with him, was charged with manslaughter, child abuse, driving while intoxicated and driving while his license was revoked, according to police.

The bicyclist was Jessie Withrow, who grew up in Anchorage and



Jessie Withrow died Tuesday in Anchorage.

See Back Page, BICYCLIST

BICYCLIST: Student enjoyed friends, family, music

Continued from Page A-1

was a dean's list student at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. She was pronounced dead at Providence Alaska Medical Center on Tuesday afternoon.

Police Lt. Bob Griffiths said Carlson had six DWI convictions in Alaska. Details about those cases were not available Tuesday because of the July Fourth holiday.

The crash happened about 11:30 p.m. Carlson was driving a white full-size pickup, police spokesman Ron McGee said.

Witnesses told police that Carlson was weaving and driving fast while heading south on Minnesota. He ran into a Ford Explorer that had stopped for a red light on Northern Lights Boulevard; then went on the sidewalk and struck Withrow on

her bike, according to police. His truck then went into the parking lot of the Aurora Village Shopping Center and crashed into three parked cars, police said.

The 2-year-old child and another man in the truck were not hurt, police said. The relationship between Carlson and the child wasn't clear.

Family friends of the young woman who died described her as exceptionally bright and creative.

"Jessie was a very unusual child. It was like she was way grown up beyond her years. She was destined to do great things. The world is going to be a cheated place for the fact she was not able to achieve her potential," said Susan Peck, who has a daughter close to Withrow and who is a friend of Withrow's mother, Wendy.

Withrow wrote for Perfect World, the

teen-oriented pages in the Anchorage Daily News. She sang with her mother at the Renaissance Festival and the Anchorage Folk Festival. She served on the Anchorage Youth Court, helping kids who had gotten in trouble. In 1998, she graduated with honors from Steller Secondary School and won a scholarship to Bates College, a liberal arts school. She was home for summer break and would have been a junior, studying English.

"Her friends, her family and her music were the things she enjoyed the most," said another family friend, Ray Booker.

Carlson is being held at Cook Inlet Pre-Trial Facility on \$100,000 bail.

Reporter Lisa Demer can be reached at ldemer@adn.com and 257-4390.

Subject: [Fwd: Flags]

Date: Thu, 05 Apr 2001 10:48:35 -0800

From: Erika McConnell <Erika_McConnell@gov.state.ak.us>

Organization: Alaska Office of the Governor

To: Rynnieva W Moss <Rynnieva_Moss@legis.state.ak.us>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Flags

Date: Thu, 05 Apr 2001 09:10:49 -0900

From: Bob King <bob_king@gov.state.ak.us>

Organization: Alaska Office of the Governor

To: Erika B McConnell <erika_mcconnell@gov.state.ak.us>

I find only two days in which flags are lowered by state statute:

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Dec. 7

Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day, June 3

We also lower on:

Memorial Day, Nov. 11

Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15

We have also lowered flags by Presidential order on Korean War Armistice Day, July 26.

04/09/01 1020 (S) RETURN TO SECOND FOR AM 9 UNAN CONSENT
04/09/01 1021 (S) AM NO 9 OFFERED & WITHDRAWN
04/09/01 1021 (S) AUTOMATICALLY IN THIRD READING
04/09/01 1021 (S) PASSED Y11 N9
04/09/01 1022 (S) EFFECTIVE DATE(S) ADOPTED Y20 N-
04/09/01 1022 (S) HOFFMAN NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION

Similar Subject Match or Exact Subject Match

ASSESSMENTS

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

BOUNDARIES

EDUCATION

ELECTIONS

MUNICIPALITIES

TAXATION

UNORGANIZED BOROUGH

Bill Root: Display Bill Root

BASIS HAS BEEN RE-PROGRAMMED THIS YEAR



TO REPORT PROBLEMS WITH BASIS INQUIRY

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Return to Legislature Home Page