

SB

77



The pedestrian / bicycle "*Centennial Bridge*"  
crosses the Chena River linking the north  
and south sides of the river in the heart  
of downtown Fairbanks, Alaska.

Place  
Stamp  
Here

GARY WILKEN

SENATOR  
West Fairbanks

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## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### Senate Bill 77

### William Ransom Wood Centennial Bridge

Senate Bill 77 names the Fairbanks Riverwalk Centennial Bridge in honor of a true visionary and leader for Alaska, Dr. William Ransom Wood.

Dr. Bill Wood arrived in Fairbanks, Alaska in 1960 with his wife Dorothy Jane, son Mark and daughter Karen, to serve as the fourth president of our University of Alaska. After thirteen years of leading the University and shaping it into a world-class institution, he retired from University service and, with his family, decided to remain in Fairbanks.

Though he retired, he never stopped serving his community. Dr. Wood was committed to making the place where he lived a better place than when he found it. He fulfilled that belief everyday of his 94 years. Even on his final days, he was offering words of wisdom and urging national, state, and local leaders to begin or to finish community projects.

Over the years, Dr. Wood was a leader to many; he was the Mayor of Fairbanks, Chair of Fairbanks Area Community Hospital Foundation, founder of Festival Fairbanks, founder of Fairbanks Industrial Development Corporation, and 1985 Alaskan of the Year. He was very active in Rotary International, serving as President, District 5010 Governor, and receiving Rotary's highest honor - the Service Above Self Award.

At the age of 94 years old, Dr. Wood, as executive director of Festival Fairbanks, desired to commemorate the centennial of Fairbanks with a pedestrian bridge over the Chena River to remember and respect the builders of the twentieth century. As Fairbanks celebrates its centennial this year, it is fitting that this bridge be known statewide as the *William Ransom Wood Centennial Bridge* in honor of a truly remarkable leader.

Thank you for joining me in support of this legislation.

THE  
FOLLOWING  
DOCUMENT(S)  
ARE  
POOR  
ORIGINAL  
COPIES

## The Alaskan Life of William R. Wood

- ✓ University of Alaska President - 1960-1973
- ✓ Mayor of Fairbanks - 1978-1980
- ✓ Founder of Fairbanks Industrial Development Corporation
- ✓ First Chairman of the Greater Fairbanks Community Hospital Foundation - 1967
- ✓ Airport Community Council Charter Member
- ✓ Co-Founder Alaska Science and Technology Foundation
- ✓ Founder of Festival Fairbanks whose mission is to support community projects.
- ✓ Festival Fairbanks Executive Director (a non-monetary position) from its inception in 1981 - 2001.
- ✓ Visionary & Creator of Golden Heart Plaza - 1984
- ✓ Opinion columnist for Fairbanks Daily News-Miner - 1981-2001
- ✓ 1985 Alaskan of the Year
- ✓ Rotary District 5010 (Yukon, Alaska, Eastern Russia) Governor - 1985-1986
- ✓ Rotary Service Above Self International Award - 2000
- ✓ Established Wood Nanook Varsity Talent Search and Grant Endowment with the University of Alaska Fairbanks - 1998
- ✓ Published a trilogy of poetry - *Not From Stone* (1983), *Legacy of Dreams* (1993), and *Nanook* (2000)

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1  
Bill Version: SB 77  
(S) Publish Date: 3/10/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: DOT&PF  
Title: An Act naming the William Ransom Wood BRU: Highways & Aviation  
Centennial Bridge in Fairbanks Component: Northern Highways & Aviation  
Sponsor: Wilken  
Requester: SSTA Component No.: 2068

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

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

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

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)						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0  
Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

**POSITIONS**

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Dennis R. Poshard Phone 465-3900  
Division: Special Assistant to Commissioner Date/Time 3/5/03 2:45 PM  
Approved by: Commissioner Mike Barton Date 3/5/2003  
Agency: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

SB 77, William R Wood Centennial Bridge

In case anyone asks about the cost:

\$2 million from Federal Highway Fund

\$900,000 Federal earmarked funds, from Senator Stevens

\$200,000 Alaska General Fund

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\$3.1 million TOTAL

