

SB

158

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
Senator Albert M. Kookesh

State Capitol, Room 7
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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Standing Committees:
Transportation
Community & Regional Affairs

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DISTRICT C

Alaina
Alakaket
Aniak
Angoon
Anvik
Arctic Village
Beaver
Behala
Bethel
Big Delta
Birch Creek
Boundary
Cape Pole
Central
Chalkyitsik
Charadlar Lake
Chenega Bay
Chicklevik
Chisana
Chitochina
Chitina
Chitwahahak
Circle
Coffman Cove
Cordova
Cuba Cove
Culberson
Copper Center
Craig
Crooked Creek
Delta Junction
Deliana
Delt Lake
Dev. Creek
Eagle
Eagle Village
Edna Bay
Ellamar
Ernestine
Excursion Inlet
Fareha
Farraville
Faulk
Flat
Fort Greely
Fort Yukon
Fortuna Lodge
Foster Bay
Gakona
Galena
Graveling
Gulkana
Gustavus
Haines
Hale Lake
Hogata
Hubert Bay
Hule Creek
Hoonah
Hughes
Huslia
Hydaburg

March 3, 2008

Representative Kyle Johansen, Chair
House Transportation Committee
State Capitol, Room 13

Re: SB 158 Naming the Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge

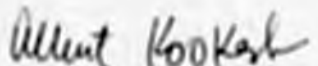
Chairman Johansen,

I respectfully request that SB 158 – *Naming Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge* be scheduled for a hearing at your earliest convenience. SB 158 will name a small bridge in her home town of Nenana, directly north of the Alaska Native Veterans' Bridge in honor of Shirley Demientieff. It was noted in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner that Shirley was the "bridge over troubled waters" for so many. The Memorial will serve as a reminder of her tireless work in bringing people together from all walks of life, for the good of all citizens in this great state of Alaska.

SB 158 unanimously passed the Senate, with Senators Davis, Thomas, Olson, Wilken, Ellis, Elton, Hoffman, Stedman, Bunde, Wagoner, Stevens, Therriault, Dyson and McGuire signing on as cosponsors.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me personally, or my staff, Dorothy Shockley at 3018. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,


Senator Albert Kookesh

Attach: Sponsor Statement
Background Information

Hyder
Kake
Kalga
Keegan
Katalla
Kennicott
Kenny Lake
Klawock
Klukwan
Koyukuk
Labrousse Bay
Lake Minchumina
Lime Village
Livengood
Long Island
Mankomen Lake
Manley Hot Springs
Marshall
McCarthy
McGrath
Medina
Metlakatla
Mentasta
Minto
Nabesno
Nauyas Bay
Nenana
Nikolai
Northway
Nulato
Ophir
Pilot Baker
Pik Inlet
Port Alena
Port Protection
Rampart
Red Devil
Ruby
Russian Mission
Shageluk
Skagway
Slana
Sleetmute
Stevens Village
Stony River
Strelitz
Taketna
Tanacross
Tanana
Tanahli
Tatlin
Telida
Tombro Springs
Twin Junction
Tuk
Tumina
Tuntutuliak
Umanuk
Venetie
Vine Creek
Waterfall
Whale Pass
Whisper
Yakutat

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: _____
 () Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): SB158-DOT-NRF-02-19-08 Dept. Affected: DOT&PF
 Title: Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge RDU: Facilities and Maintenance Operations
 Component: Northern Region Facilities
 Sponsor: Senator Kookesh
 Requester: Senate Finance Component Number: 2089

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies	7.5							
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	7.5	0.0	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	7.5							
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Intergovernmental Receipts								
TOTAL	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

It is estimated it will cost \$7.5 for the production and installation of two signs and two posts; one in each direction, designating the bridge as the Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge. These signs will not be mounted on the bridge but will be on new posts slightly in advance of the bridge.

Prepared by: Mary Brody, DOT&PF Phone: 465-4772
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date/Time: 2/19/08 8:00 AM
 Approved by: Nancy Siegle, Admin Director Date: 2/19/2008
DOT&PF



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Sponsor Statement

SB 158 "Naming Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge"

Senate Bill 158 would name the small bridge in Nenana directly north of the Alaska Native Veterans' Bridge in honor of Shirley Demientieff. Ms. Shirley was a bridge to so many and it is only fitting that this bridge bears her name.

Shirley a Nenana Native Daughter, passed away January 3, 2007 after a year long battle with lung cancer. Shirley was a well known community activist and native Leader. She is best known for her unbridled support for those in need.

It was noted in the January 8, 2007 edition of the *Fairbanks News-Miner*, that Shirley truly was the "bridge over troubled waters for so many. Shirley's gift was to reach out to anyone in need and help guide them to that bridge. In some cases, Shirley took it upon herself to build that bridge, which for some was the only way home." A dear friend stated "Shirley was all about bridges; between cultures, communities and those in need."

The Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge will serve as a reminder of her tireless work in bringing people together from all walks of life, for the good of all citizens in this great state of Alaska.

I ask you to support SB 158, and recognize and honor this truly compassionate woman's life.

Air photo



Google

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE

DRAFT



SPONSORS APPROVAL

In Memoriam

* SHIRLEY A. DEMIENTIEFF *

The members of the Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature join with family and friends of Shirley Demientieff in honoring her life and mourning her passing.

Shirley, the eldest of seven children, was born in 1951 to the late George and Elizabeth Demientieff of Nenana. She was an Athabascan who was very close to her grandmother Mary who taught her to take great pride in her heritage, culture, and traditions. Shirley will be greatly missed by her daughters Elizabeth "Lisa" and Leslie, her nephew/son Daniel, her grandchildren, and her vast extended family.

Shirley was a natural caregiver who turned no one away. She opened her house to the children of the Nenana, and when the house ran out of room, she set up a tent in her yard. For this, she is known to many as auntie, mom, grandma, foster mom, and friend. She will be remembered as a long serving family matriarch, caring for family and foster children. Shirley was known for acting out of love, love for people without condition. Her love for all inspired her to be a determined voice for the integrity of her people. She is remembered by many as the "bridge over troubled waters", as she guided many to that bridge of help, which for many was the only way home.

A life-long activist, Shirley is best known for her work on preventing suicide, alcoholism, and sexual abuse. She was devoted in taking a lead role to organize search teams when villagers were lost in Interior Alaska and will also be remembered as a diligent supporter for enfranchised people and would lead marches and raise money. Even after being diagnosed with a brain aneurism in 2000, Shirley continued to champion her causes. In 2005, she traveled the villages of the Koyukuk, Yukon, and Tanana rivers on a suicide prevention mission.

Shirley was also a leader in the native community. She served on the boards of Doyon Limited and its subsidiaries. She also served on the Shareholder Relations and Budget and Audit committees for Doyon. She was also the President and founder of Alaska Natives Standing Up for Justice and the Tanana Veley Search and Recovery. She also served on the Fairbanks Native Association Board of Directors and the Tanana Chiefs Conference Health Board.

Shirley A. Demientieff passed away on January 3, 2007, in Fairbanks but will continue to live on in the memories of each fortunate person that has crossed paths with her. The members of the Twenty-fifth Alaska State Legislature extend their condolences and join with Shirley's family and many friends to remember and honor her life.

ANN HARRIS
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

LYDA GREEN
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE



Daily News - Miner

*email Sen.
Stedman 1/18/08*

Senate panel eyes bill honoring Demientieff

By Stefan Milkowski
Published May 1, 2007

JUNEAU — A lot of attention has been focused lately on natural gas pipeline legislation and the state's budgets, but other bills are moving, too, including one honoring Shirley Demientieff, who died in January of lung cancer.

Demientieff was an Alaska Native leader and community activist who took on a wide range of issues, including suicide prevention.

"She is best known for her unbridled support for those in need," said Dorothy Shockley, an aide to Sen. Albert Kookesh, D-Angoon.

Kookesh introduced a bill last month that would name the small bridge in Nenana directly north of the Alaska Native Veterans' Honor Bridge the Shirley Demientieff Memorial Bridge.

The Senate Transportation Committee, which Kookesh chairs, held a hearing on the bill last week. Shockley introduced the bill for Kookesh.

"Ms. Shirley was a bridge to so many," she said, "and it is only fitting that this bridge bears her name."

The Rev. Scott Fisher of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Fairbanks testified in favor of the bill. He said he thought months ago that it would be good to have a statue of Demientieff or some other thing to remind the community that one person can make a difference. Naming the bridge after her, he said, seemed like a good idea and a way to acknowledge the impact she had in Nenana and across the Interior.

"Alaska is a place for stories, and hers is a story worth remembering," he said.

Tim Wallace of Doyon Ltd. and William Lord and Harry Fields of the Alaska Native Veterans Association also spoke in favor of the bill.

"I and a lot of other folks have always admired Shirley for all her work around here," Fields said. "I'm sure right now if there's any issues up in heaven that needs to be acted on, I'm sure Shirley's holding aside up there."

The bill, SB 158, was moved out of committee after the hearing. It is now before the Senate Finance Committee.

Hot potato moves forward

Sen. Gary Wilken, R-Fairbanks, saw some movement last week on SB 134, a bill he's sponsoring that would make it the state's policy to use earnings from the Alaska Permanent Fund along with other savings in years when the state faces deficits.