

SB

94

<TARGET><BILL>SB 94</BILL><SUBJECT>SB
94</SUBJECT><COMM>HJUD27</COMM></TARGET>

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate
Health & Social
Services
Committee
Chair
•
Senate
Education Committee
Vice-Chair



Senator_Bettye_Davis@legis.state.ak.us
<http://www.aksenate.org>

Senate
Labor & Commerce
Committee
Member
•
Legislative Council
Member
•
Joint Armed
Services
Member

Memorandum

To: Representative Gatto
House Judiciary Committee

From: Senator Bettye Davis

Date: April 14, 2011

Re: Request for Hearing of SB 94



Enclosed is our committee packet for SB 94 an act adding a second verse to the official Alaska state song. I have included a sponsor statement, a copy of the bill, Zone Fiscal note and other supplemental information.

Please schedule a committee hearing before the House Community and Regional Affairs at your earliest convenience.

Please contact my staff member Pamela Marsch at 465-3822 with any questions or comments regarding this request.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bettye Davis".
Senator Bettye Davis

Session: (Jan. - May)
State Capitol, Suite 30, Juneau, AK 99801-1182 Phone: (907) 465-3822 • Fax: (907) 465-3756 • Toll free: (800) 770-3822

Interim: (May - Dec.)
716 West 4th Ave., Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-0144 • Fax: (907) 269-0148

Pamela Marsch

To: Sarah Munson
Subject: FW: Request for Hearing of SB 94
Attachments: SB 94 Sponsor Statement.pdf; SB 94.pdf; SB 94 Background Material Newspaper letter from Fran Ulmer.pdf; SB 94 Fiscal Note.PDF; SB 94 Request for Hearing House Judiciary.docx

Dear Sarah,

Here is the request for a hearing of SB 94 "Second verse of Alaska's State song" package in House Community and Regional Affairs. I have attached a copy of the bill, fiscal note, a request for hearing of SB 94 signed by the bill's primary sponsor, a sponsor statement and other supplemental information. This bill passed the Senate with eighteen Senators supporting the bill SB 94 "Second verse of Alaska's State song". I am hopeful this bill can move quickly in the house.

Thanks,

Pamela Marsch
Office of Senator Bettye Davis
716 W. 4th Avenue #400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 269-0144; (907) 269-0148 (Fax)

(While in Session)
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 465-3822; (907) 465-3756 (Fax)
Toll Free: 1-800-770-3822
Pamela_Marsch@legis.state.ak.us

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



SESSION ADDRESS
Alaska State Capitol,
Juneau, AK 99801

INTERIM ADDRESS
716 W. 4th Avenue,
Anchorage, AK 99501

Senator Bettye Davis

Memorandum

To: Representative Gatto
House Judiciary Committee

From: Senator Bettye Davis

Date: April 14, 2011

Re: Request for Hearing of SB 94

Enclosed is our committee packet for SB 94 an act adding a second verse to the official Alaska state song. I have included a sponsor statement, a copy of the bill, Zone Fiscal note and other supplemental information.

Please schedule a committee hearing before the House Community and Regional Affairs at your earliest convenience.

Please contact my staff member Pamela Marsch at 465-3822 with any questions or comments regarding this request.

Thank you,

Bettye Davis

Senator Bettye Davis

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate
Health & Social
Services
Committee
Chair
•
Senate
Education Committee
Vice-Chair



Senator_Betty_Davis@legis.state.ak.us
<http://www.aksenate.org>

Senate
Labor & Commerce
Committee
Member
•
Legislative Council
Member
•
Joint Armed
Services
Member

Senate Bill 94 Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 94 would add a second verse to The Alaska's Flag Song. The late Carol Beery Davis wrote a beautiful second verse, which gives recognition to Alaska Natives and to Benny Benson, who designed the Alaskan flag.

Similar bills have been introduced in the past. Last year The Alaska's Flag Song was performed with both verses as the Senate gavelled in on the first day of session. Also last year, the Senator from District G introduced SB 43. It passed the Senate, but stalled in the House.

This year is the year to join me in supporting a long overdue addition of the second verse to the Alaska Flag Song. By passing this bill you will be recognizing history, our progress as a state and our first people.

Session: (Jan. - May)

State Capitol, Suite 30, Juneau, AK 99801-1182 Phone: (907) 465-3822 • Fax: (907) 465-3756 • Toll free: (800) 770-3822

Interim: (May - Dec.)

716 West 4th Ave., Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-0144 • Fax: (907) 269-0148

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number 3
 Bill Version SB 94
 (S) Publish Date 4/1/11

Identifier (file name) _____ Dept. Affected All
 Title SB 94 - Second Verse of Alaska's State Song Appropriation _____
 Allocation _____
 Sponsor Senate Finance Committee
 Requester Senate Finance Committee OMB Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

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

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES							
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other (please identify)							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Darwin Peterson, Senate Finance Committee staff

Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee
Senator Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chair Senate Finance Committee

Phone 465-3873
 Date/Time 3/31/11 5:50 PM
 Date 3/31/2011

SB 94
BACKGROUND
MATERIAL

Why a second verse for 'Alaska Flag Song'?

Editor's Note: A copy of the following letter to Betty Kjars, secretary of Pioneers of Alaska Auxiliary No. 8 in Fairbanks, was submitted for publication.

Dear Betty:

I have received your letter dated March 27, in which you objected to the adoption of the second verse of the "Alaska Flag Song."

I would like to explain to you why I introduced HB 117 and why I hope you will change your decision to oppose the bill.

No one loves the flag song any more than I do. For many years, I have sung it for groups, meetings, conventions, commencements and even for Gov. Bill Egan's memorial service here in Juneau. I offer the second verse out of deep respect for the first verse and for its recognition of Alaska's history. I believe the second verse complements the first verse and gives recognition not to one ethnic group, but to all Alaskans and their ability to work together in a unified and harmonious way.

The addition of a second verse has been discussed for many years by various groups. At one time, funds were inserted into the House's version of the budget to hold a contest for selecting a second verse. Carol Beery Davis was asked to write another verse to the flag song to recognize the contribution of Native Alaskans, who were here long before you or I, or even the Pioneers. She did so, and offered it as a gift to the State of Alaska. I was asked to support its adoption and to introduce a bill to make it officially recognized by the state. I did so, and it has passed the House.

In order to understand the special significance of this verse, you must know about Carol Beery Davis, a former poet laureate of Alaska. She is a 68-year resident of Juneau. Her husband, Trevor, was born here 84 years ago, and is the only living member of the original selection committee for the design of Alaska's flag, which selected Benny Benson's North Star and Big Dipper (to whom the second verse refers in lines 1 and 2). Carol has written dozens of books about Alaska, including "The Alaska Flag Song" book which is credited with helping to make the song so well-known. I have enclosed a copy of this book. She knew personally both Elinor Dusenbury and Marie Drake, the two women who decided to write the song and offer it to the state, just as Carol

once, is still contributing to her loved state by offering this beautiful verse, a tribute to unity of all Alaskans:

"A Native lad chose the Dipper's stars

For Alaska's flag that there be no bars

Among our cultures..."

She is recognizing history and our progress as a state:

*"Be it known
through years, the Natives' past
has grown.*

To share life's treasures, hand in hand,

To keep Alaska our Great Land."

She is focusing our attention on the natural beauty of our land and reminds us of the treasures of its beauty:

"We love the northern, midnight sky,

The mountains, lakes, and streams nearby.

The great North Star with its steady light

Will guide all cultures, clear and bright,

With nature's flag to Alaskans dear.

The simple flag of a last frontier."

It is hard for me to understand why anyone who has read these words could object to them. It is impossible for me to understand how anyone who knows who Carol Beery Davis is and the contributions she has made to art, music and literature in Alaska could object to her offering this beautiful gift.

Why did this legislator propose HB 117? Out of respect for a beautiful Alaskan lady who has offered a beautiful verse to a beautiful song about a great state.

**Sincerely,
Rep. Fran Ulmer
Juneau**