

**SB**

**94**

<TARGET><BILL>SB 94</BILL><SUBJECT>SB  
94</SUBJECT><COMM>SFIN27</COMM></TARGET>

# SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/25/11

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED  
IN TO OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Finance Committee** considered SENATE BILL NO. 94

SB 94-SECOND VERSE OF ALASKA'S STATE SONG

"An Act adding a second verse to the official Alaska state song."

and recommends:

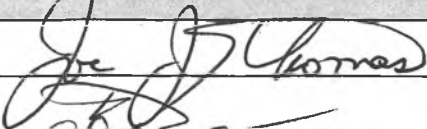
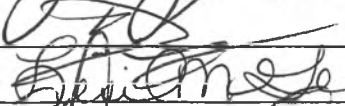
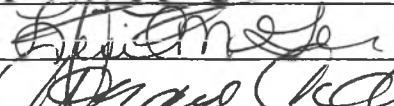
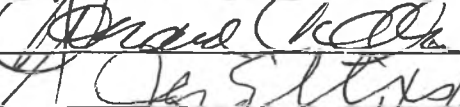
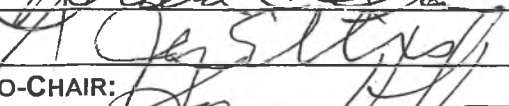
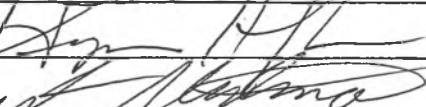
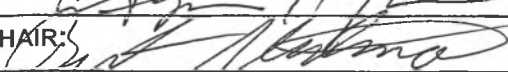
- be replaced with CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  New Title
- adopt previous CS \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)  Same Title  New Title
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Intent
- further referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LEG
CED	LAW
COR	LWF
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
SFIN			✓	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	Do PASS	Do NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Thomas	✓			
	Ken	✓			
	McBane	✓			
	Elson	✓			
	Ellis	✓			
CO-CHAIR: 		✓			
CO-CHAIR: 	STEDMAN	✓			

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version SB 94  
 () Publish Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants								
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>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>								
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

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

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

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: (907) 269-0144 • Fax: (907) 269-0148

Senator Bettye Davis  
VOTE FORM

Bill # SB 94 Second Verse of Alaska's State Song

	SIGN HERE ↓		SIGN HERE ↓
Sen. John Coghill	JC	Sen. Lesil McGuire	LM
Sen. Bettye Davis	BD	Sen. Linda Menard	LM
Sen. Fred Dyson	FD	Sen. Kevin Meyer	KM
Sen. Dennis Egan	DE	Sen. Donald Olson	DO
Sen. Johnny Ellis	JE	Sen. Joe Paskvan	JP
Sen. Hollis French	HF	Sen. Bert Stedman	
Sen. Cathy Giessel	CG	Sen. Gary Stevens	GS
Sen. Lyman Hoffman		Sen. Joe Thomas	
Sen. Charlie Huggins		Sen. Thomas Wagoner	TW
Sen. Albert Kookesh	AK	Sen. Bill Wielechowski	BW

Bill # SB 94 Second Verse of Alaska's State Song

"An Act adding a second verse to the official Alaska state song." BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA: Section 1. AS 44.09.040 is amended to read: Sec. 44.09.040. State song. The song "Alaska's Flag," with music composed by Elinor Dusenbury and words to the first verse by Marie Drake and words to the second verse by Carol Beery Davis, is the official song of the state. The words of the second verse are as follows:

**A native lad chose our Dipper's stars  
 for Alaska's flag that there be no bars  
 among our cultures. Be it known  
 through years our natives' past has grown  
 to share our treasures, hand in hand,  
 to keep Alaska our Great Land.  
 We love the northern midnight sky,  
 our mountains, lakes and the streams nearby;  
 Our Great North Star with its steady light  
 will guide our cultures clear and bright  
 with Nature's flag to Alaskans dear -  
 The simple flag of a last Frontier.**

A Resolution to Support the Second  
Stanza of the Alaska Flag Song

Resolution #87-01

WHEREAS, Denakkanaaga' Inc. represents all the Elders of the  
Athabaskan region, and

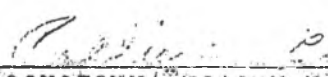
WHEREAS, the term "Natives" means anybody born to a certain  
country or state, and

WHEREAS, the second stanza would pay homage to Alaskan Natives,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denakkanaaga' Inc. support  
the proposal of adding the second stanza of the Alaska  
Flag Song to honor all Native Alaskans.

Certification

I hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed by the  
Denakkanaaga' Inc. Board of Directors on June 4, 1987, at  
Northway, Alaska.

  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Denakkanaaga' Inc.

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 Ellen 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**

HB 117



# Denakkanaaga

201 First Ave., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Phone (907) 452-8251 Ext. 289

August 31, 1984

The Honorable Fran Ulmer  
1700 Angus Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Ulmer:

Attached is a copy of Resolution 87-01 passed at the Denakkanaaga', Inc. Elders Conference, held June 2-4, 1987 in Northway, Alaska. There were about 300 elders and youth that attended this conference.

We believe this resolution speaks clearly how the Elders feel about the Second stanza of the "Alaska Flag Song".

We are asking for your support on behalf of the Athabascan Elders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Lee".

Don Lee  
Executive Director

DL/as  
Attachment