

**HB**

**154**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 154</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
154</SUBJECT><COMM>HEDC28</COMM></TARGET>

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**Session:**

**State Capitol Building  
Room 500  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2186  
Phone (907) 465-3004  
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004**



**Interim:**

**1292 Sadler Way, Ste. 308  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Phone: (907) 452-1088  
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004**

## **REPRESENTATIVE STEVE THOMPSON DISTRICT 3**

### MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Lynn Gattis  
House Education Committee

From: Representative Steve Thompson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "SMT".

Date: March 29, 2013

Re: Hearing Request for HB 154

*"An Act relating to natural and cultural history collections at the University of Alaska Museum of the North."*

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Please consider this memo as a request for the House Labor & Commerce Committee to hear HB15.4

The following documents for HB 154 are attached and will also be provided via email:

**HB 154      Museum of the North**

- HB 154 version\A
- CSHB Draft version\N
- Sponsor Statement
- Summary of Changes
- Supporting Document
  - Email Letter- Ronald K. Inouye-Public 03-25-2013

Thank you.

E-mail [Representative Steve Thompson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative_Steve_Thompson@akleg.gov)

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## REPRESENTATIVE STEVE THOMPSON

### CS for House Bill 154 Sponsor Statement

*"An Act relating to natural and cultural history repositories."*

HB 154 amends the statutes (AS 14.40) by adding a new section (14.40.072) that gives the University of Alaska the power to designate the University of Alaska Museum of the North at the Fairbanks campus as a repository of state natural and cultural history collections and gives the University of Alaska the power to designate other repositories as needed.

The University of Alaska Museum of the North qualifies for designation as a repository because the facility is a museum that is managed by an educational institution and is able to provide long-term professional, systematic, and accountable curatorial services.

The Alaska State Museums (Alaska State Museum and Sheldon Jackson Museum) and the University of Alaska Museum of the North are considered the de facto State natural and cultural history repositories—the places where specimens and objects are placed on deposit for long-term preservation and use. Designating the University of Alaska Museum of the North as an official state repository will help ensure that the collection of specimens and objects of natural and cultural history remain in the State and are available to researchers, students, and Alaska citizens. Additionally, the three museums share complementary strengths and their strategic geographic placement ensures the greatest possible access to collections by all Alaskans.

Specimens in the collections provide a permanent, physical record of Alaska's natural and cultural history and its environmental conditions. The Museum of the North supports internal research activity and is heavily involved in formal and informal education. A most important role is as a collection repository, providing specimens and objects for researchers throughout Alaska and the world.

E-mail [Representative Steve Thompson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative_Steve_Thompson@akleg.gov)

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## REPRESENTATIVE STEVE THOMPSON DISTRICT 3

### Summary of Changes

#### ***HB 154 "An Act relating to natural and cultural history collections at the University of Alaska Museum of the North."***

HB 154 amended AS 14.57.010(a) by adding the University of Alaska Museum of the North under Title 14. Education, Libraries, and Museums; Chapter 57. Museums; Article 1. The State Museum. This version of the bill established the Museum of the North as a branch museum and an official state repository of natural and cultural history collections.

#### ***CS for HB 154 "An Act relating to natural and cultural history repositories."***

The CS for HB 154 amends AS 14.40 by adding a new section (14.40.072) under Title 14. Chapter 40. The University of Alaska and the Community Colleges. Article 1. Establishment, Organization, and Programs of the University of Alaska. CSHB 154 version N adds a new section to AS 14.40 that authorizes the University of Alaska to designate the University of Alaska Museum of the North in Fairbanks as a repository of state natural and cultural history collections.

Subsections to this section address accepting and expending funds for specific purposes and qualifications for a facility to be designated as a repository.

#### **Summary of Changes between HB 154 and CSHB 154**

HB 154 adds a new section to the statutes under Education, Libraries, and Museums, State Museum in AS 14.57.010(a). The CS for HB 154 adds a new

section to the statutes under The University of Alaska and the Community Colleges in 14.40.072.

The change in statute placement ensures that the Museum of the North will not be classified as a branch museum under the Alaska State Museum (as in HB 154) but rather remain its own entity, be designated as a repository by the University of Alaska, and have the ability to accept and expend funds (as in CSHB 154).

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2013 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 154  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: HB154-EED-LAM-4-2-13  
Title: MUSEUM OF THE NORTH  
Sponsor: THOMPSON  
Requester: House Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development  
Appropriation: Alaska Library and Museums  
Allocation: Museum Operations  
OMB Component Number: 210

### Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2014	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2014 Request	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
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>

### Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<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>

### Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>Change in Revenues</b>							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2013) cost: 0.0

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2014) cost: 0.0

### ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed?

### Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial version.

Prepared By: Linda Thibodeau  
Division: Libraries, Archives & Museums  
Approved By: Mike Hanley  
Commissioner

Phone: (907)465-2911  
Date: 04/02/2013 02:00 PM  
Date: 04/03/13

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB154

**Analysis**

The change in statute will allow the University of Alaska Fairbanks Museum of the North to be included in the designation as a natural history and cultural repository, along with the Alaska State Museum and its branches. There are no funding or personnel additives associated with the change.

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

From: Aldona Jonaitis [mailto:[ajonaitis@alaska.edu](mailto:ajonaitis@alaska.edu)]

Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 2:29 PM

To: Lynette Bergh

Subject: Museum as official repository

I am fully supportive of the bill to be named an official repository for natural and cultural history collections. Many university museums around the country are so named by their states, and it is a best museum practice for an institution like ours to have that designation.

Aldona

Aldona Jonaitis

Interim Director

University of Alaska Museum of the North [www.uaf.edu/museum](http://www.uaf.edu/museum)

office: 907-474-6989

cell: 907-978-1903

**From:** Daniel D Gibson [mailto:avesalaska@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:27 AM  
**To:** Rep. Steve Thompson; Lynette Bergh  
**Subject:** UA Museum designation

Representative Steve Thompson--

As a result of my long (now almost-50-year) association with the University of Alaska Museum - during which time I have observed at close range its development from a museum with its collections scattered in different places about the Fairbanks campus (wherever there was space to house them, in 1965) to a stand-alone building on West Ridge housing it all (1979) and more-recently to the impressive physical expansion of the building and the concomitant flowering of its community, statewide, and international roles -- I strongly support the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154. I think this designation will officially recognize what the University of Alaska Museum of the North (UAMN) has been doing since its inception. These research collections are fundamental for our citizens, students, faculty, and international researchers to understand the state's human and natural history.

I applaud your bringing recognition to UAMN's statewide role and the significance of its collections.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Daniel D. Gibson, Ornithology Collection Manager (retired); research associate (ornithology)

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3705 Quartz Road  
PO Box 155  
Ester, Alaska 99725  
(907) 479-5291  
<[avesalaska@gmail.com](mailto:avesalaska@gmail.com)>

**From:** DavidSonne@aol.com [mailto:DavidSonne@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 4:46 AM  
**To:** Rep. Steve Thompson  
**Subject:** (no subject)

Dear Representative Thompson:

My wife and I have been supporters of the Museum of the north for several years. I applaud your recognition of the museum's statewide role and the significance of its collections and research. I would like to strongly support the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154. I believe this designation will officially recognize what the University of Alaska Museum of the North (UAMN) has been doing since its inception. These research collections are fundamental for our citizens, students, faculty, and international researchers to understand the state's human and natural history.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.  
David Sonneborn  
Anchorage

**From:** Carolyn & Don Gray [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 02, 2013 4:53 PM  
**To:** Rep. Steve Thompson  
**Cc:** Lynette Bergh  
**Subject:** HB 154 is a Good Bill--The UA Museum of the North should be an official repository of collections

Dear Representative Thompson (*Steve!*)

The University of Alaska Museum of the North has been a *de facto* State Repository for research collections for scores of years. HB 154 finally recognizes this officially. I support your efforts to pass this bill.

Realizing that less than two weeks remain in the session, I hope you are able advance this action in a timely manner.

It is a long time coming.

Thank you again for your efforts.

Best wishes,

Don

Don Gray  
Past Chair,  
Friends of the University of Alaska Museum of the North  
399 Hillside Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99712

907-457-5737 hm  
[REDACTED]

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

From: DR Lee [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, March 22, 2013 4:35 PM  
To: Rep. Steve Thompson  
Subject: State Repository Designation

Hi Steve,

I strongly support the committee substitute for House Bill 154. I believe the designation as State Repository will recognize the Alaska Museum of the North and the important work it has been doing since its inception.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our museum.

Sincerely, Dr. Lee (Aloia) O'Hare

Sent from my iPhone

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

From: Terry Chapin [mailto:terry.chapin@alaska.edu]

Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 8:33 AM

To: Rep. Steve Thompson

Cc: Lynette Bergh

Subject: Support for Committee Substitute for House Bill 154

Representative Steve Thompson--

As a University of Alaska faculty member who has worked extensively with Alaskan ecology and its connection to culture, I strongly support the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154, which would designate the University of Alaska Museum of the North (UAMN) as the repository for natural and cultural history collections. These research collections are fundamental for our citizens, students, faculty, and international researchers to understand the state's human and natural history. These collections also contribute to making the museum a prime tourist location that contributes to the state economy.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

F Stuart (Terry) Chapin

**From:** Kevin McCracken [mailto:kevin.g.mccracken@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 12:20 PM  
**To:** Rep. Steve Thompson; Lynette Bergh  
**Subject:** Support Letter for University of Alaska Museum State repository designation

Dear Representative Steve Thompson

I strongly support the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154. This designation will officially recognize what the University of Alaska Museum of the North (UAMN) has been doing since its inception. These research collections are fundamental for our citizens, students, faculty, and international researchers to understand the state's human and natural history.

As a UAF faculty member since 2001, I applaud your bringing recognition to UAMN's statewide role and the significance of its collections.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Kevin

\*\*\*\*\*

Kevin G. McCracken  
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Institute of Arctic Biology &  
Department of Biology and Wildlife  
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[www.iab.uaf.edu/~kevin\\_mccracken/](http://www.iab.uaf.edu/~kevin_mccracken/)

**From:** Bruce Wade [mailto:[alaskaflamingo@yahoo.com](mailto:alaskaflamingo@yahoo.com)]

**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:56 PM

**To:** Rep. Steve Thompson

**Cc:** Lynette Bergh

**Subject:** Museum of the North

On behalf of the Alaska WildBird Rehabilitation Center (AWBRC) in Houston, I would like to express my support of HB 154. Birds rescued at the AWBRC do not always survive their injuries. These birds are donated to the museum collection for further research and inclusion in their collection. We are proud to be able to contribute to this valuable project. Alaska should be honored to have such an internationally well-regarded research facility in our state.

Thank you,  
Nancy Wade  
President, Alaska WildBird Rehabilitation Center

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

From:

"RONALD K INOUE" [REDACTED]

To:

<[Representative.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov](mailto:Representative.Steve.Thompson@akleg.gov)>

Representative Steve Thompson--

The "Friends of the University of Alaska Museum of the North" strongly supports the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154. We believe this designation will officially recognize what the University of Alaska Museum of the North (UAMN) has been doing since its inception. These research collections are fundamental for our citizens, students, faculty, and international researchers to understand the state's human and natural history.

As a volunteer board which formed in 1979 to build a campus museum facility and provide UAMN support, we applaud your bringing recognition to UAMN's statewide role and the significance of its collections.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Ronald K. Inouye, President, Friends of the University of Alaska Museum of the North

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

From: Mat-Su Birders [mailto:msbirder@mtaonline.net]

Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:51 PM

To: Rep. Steve Thompson

Cc: Lynette Bergh

Subject: Committee Substitute HB 154

Dear Representative Thompson,

The Mat-Su Birders wild bird club strongly supports the Committee Substitute for House Bill 154 that designates the University of Alaska Museum of the North as a repository for natural and cultural history collections.. The University of Alaska Museum of the North's wild bird collection is an extremely important resource for biologists, naturalists, ornithologists, and birders from all of North America.

Our organization has donated several bird specimens to the Museum's collection and we rely on the Museum's collection records to substantiate which bird species have occurred in Alaska and to validate reports of where in Alaska bird species are currently occurring. It is vital that the Museum's collections remain in Alaska for use by Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Winckler, President

Mat-Su Birders <[www.matsubirders.org](http://www.matsubirders.org)>