

HB

130

<TARGET><BILL>HB 130</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
130</SUBJECT><COMM>HEDC29</COMM></TARGET>



Representative Sam Kito III

Alaska State Legislature

DATE: 11 March 2015

TO: Representative Wes Keller
Chair, House Education Committee

FROM: Representative Sam Kito

RE: HB130 - Naming State Library and Museum

I respectfully request that the House Education Committee schedule House Bill 130 - Naming State Library and Museum for a hearing.

Please find attached:

- House Bill 130, version A
- Sponsor statement
- Fiscal note
- Letters of Support
- Information on the history of Father Andrew Kashevaroff

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff, Bianca Carpeneti (x4767).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Kito".

Rep. Sam Kito III



REPRESENTATIVE SAM KITO III

SPONSOR STATEMENT HOUSE BILL 130

“An Act naming the state library, archives, and museum building in Juneau.”

House Bill 130 designates the new Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums building in Juneau as the Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff State Library, Archives, and Museum. The State of Alaska is building this new facility for the division to protect, preserve and share its collection of objects, books, documents, photos and records of state culture and history. The building, nicknamed SLAM, is scheduled to open in the spring of 2016. It is time to choose a more formal name for the facility.

It is fitting to name the building after Russian Orthodox priest Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff. Father Kashevaroff was an Alaskan scholar, the museum’s first curator and the library’s first librarian, a descendant of Russian explorers and Alaskan Natives, and a forerunner of the division’s efforts to share Alaska’s history and culture collaboratively across disciplines.

In November 1919, Father Kashevaroff—a man renowned for his knowledge of Russian history and Alaska Natives—began his twenty-year tenure as Librarian and Curator for the Alaska Historical Museum and Library. Father Kashevaroff was a vocal and energetic advocate for the Museum and Library, and today he is fondly remembered as its true founding Father. He was uniquely suited for the position: his Russian ancestors were navigators and colonists who came to Alaska in the 1700s and married Alutiiq or Creole women in and around Kodiak. Born there in 1863 during the Russian administration of Alaska, he dedicated his life to serving the Russian Orthodox Church while maintaining his interest in Alaska history and culture. He was considered a leading authority on Alaska, and became a popular lecturer and author. The combination of his Russian and Alaska Native heritage and his ability to live and work as an American afforded him special access to both cultures which helped him develop and lead a distinctly Alaskan institution.

Museum visitors found Father Kashevaroff a memorable character. Many elderly Alaskans fondly remember how he encouraged them as children to “hang out” in the old museum after school, to wander among the picturesque displays, and to listen to his adventurous stories. In the summers, he was on-call to open the museum at any hour of the day for visiting steamship passengers.

Naming the new state libraries, archives, and museums building in honor of this historic Alaskan will recognize and preserve the legacy of Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff in a most fitting manner.

Thank you for your support of House Bill 130.

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 130()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KITO, Muñoz

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act naming the state library, archives, and museum building in Juneau and the**
2 **public reading room in that building."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1.** AS 35.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 **Sec. 35.40.370. Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff State Library, Archives,**
6 **and Museum, and Representative Richard Foster Reading Room.** (a) The state
7 library, archives, and museum building in Juneau is named the Father Andrew P.
8 Kashevaroff State Library, Archives, and Museum Building.

9 (b) The public reading room in the state library, archives, and museum
10 building in Juneau is named the Representative Richard Foster Reading Room.

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 130(EDC)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KITO, Muñoz

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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9 (b) The public reading room in the state library, archives, and museum
10 building in Juneau is named the Representative Richard Foster Reading Room.

HOUSE BILL NO. 130

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KITO, Muñoz

Introduced: 3/2/15

Referred: Education

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act naming the state library, archives, and museum building in Juneau."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 35.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 35.40.370. Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff State Library, Archives,**
5 **and Museum.** The state library, archives, and museum building in Juneau is named
6 the Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff State Library, Archives, and Museum Building.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 130
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB130-DOT-EDC-3-4-15
Title: NAMING STATE LIBRARY & MUSEUM
Sponsor: KITO
Requester: House Education

Department: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
Appropriation: Design, Engineering and Construction
Allocation: Statewide Public Facilities
OMB Component Number: 2882

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

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? N/A

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Mike Lesmann, Spec Asst to the Comm II	Phone:	(907)465-4772
Division:	Commissioner's Office	Date:	03/04/2015 04:20 PM
Approved By:	Mary Siroky, Director	Date:	03/04/15
Agency:	Administrative Services Director		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 130

Analysis

This legislative proposal results in no fiscal impact to the Department, since the cost of signage for the SLAM building was included in the construction contract.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 130
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB130-EED-LO-3-26-15
Title: NAMING STATE LIBRARY & MUSEUM
Sponsor: KITO
Requester: House Education Committee

Department: Department of Education and Early Development
Appropriation: Alaska Library and Museums
Allocation: Library Operations
OMB Component Number: 208

Expenditures/Revenues

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

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

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:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Linda Thibodeau, Director	Phone:	(907)465-2911
Division:	Libraries, Archives & Museums	Date:	03/26/2015 11:00 AM
Approved By:	Mike Hanley	Date:	03/26/15
Agency:	Commissioner, Education & Early Development		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 130

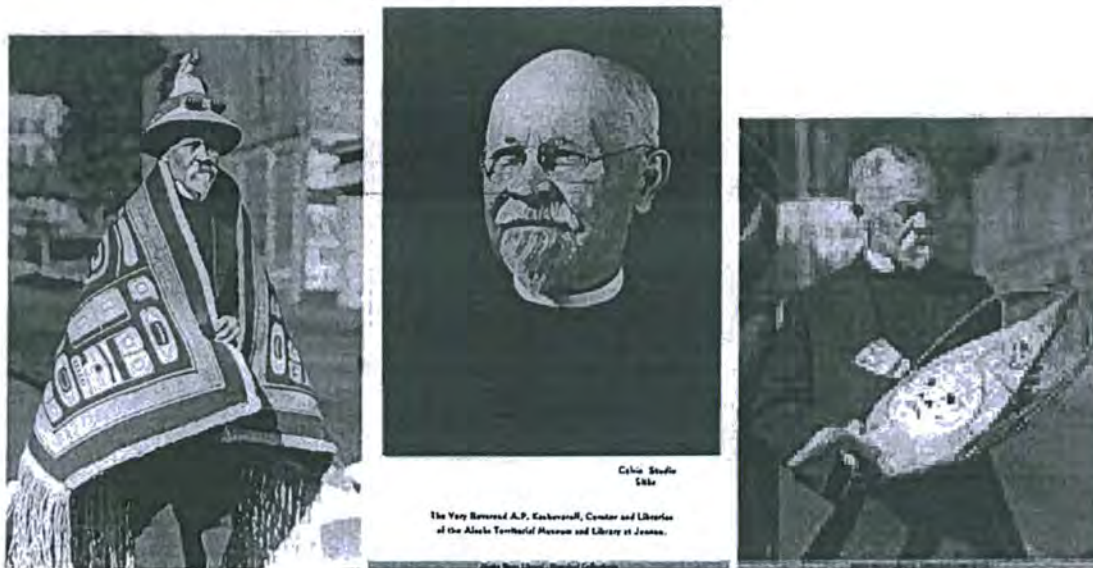
Analysis

This legislation names the new State Library, Archives and Museum (SLAM) building, which is currently under construction in Juneau, after Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff. Capital funding for the SLAM was appropriated in previous legislatures, including signage, therefore no new fiscal implications will occur as a result of this legislation.

Proposal to name the new Alaska State Library, Archives & Museum facility in Juneau
Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff Library, Archives & Museum

The Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums is building a modern new facility to safely protect, preserve and share its collection of objects, books, documents, photos and records of state culture and history. The building, nicknamed SLAM, is scheduled to open in the spring of 2016. It is time to choose a more formal name for the facility.

The Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums believes it is fitting to name the building after Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff. Kashevaroff was an Alaskan scholar, the museum's first curator and the library's first librarian, a descendant of Russian explorers and Alaskan Natives, and a forerunner of the division's efforts to share Alaska's history and culture collaboratively across disciplines. Father Kashevaroff's biography, below, demonstrates the scope of his commitment and contribution to Alaska's history and culture.



Andrew P. Kashevaroff

The Alaska Historical Museum and Library was established by an Act of Congress in 1900. For the first twenty years of its existence, the Museum and Library was a collection in Sitka, housed in a closet in the office of the Territorial Governor.

Thomas Riggs Jr, who became Alaska's governor in 1918, faced many challenges associated with managing an increasingly complex territory with a growing economy and population. In spite of numerous pressing distractions, Riggs completed moving the library and museum from Sitka to Juneau, opened the collections to the public for the first time, and became the founding president of the Alaska Historical Association, a support group for the institution.

Certainly, Riggs' greatest contribution was in recognizing that building the library and museum was a full-time job. Though personally interested in the library and museum, Riggs delegated responsibility to a full-time Librarian and Curator. In November 1919, a man renowned for his knowledge of Russian history and Alaska Natives—Russian Orthodox priest Andrew P. Kashevaroff - began his twenty-year tenure, which ended with his death in 1940.

Kashevaroff was a vocal and energetic advocate for the Museum and Library, and today, he is fondly remembered as its true "founding Father." He was uniquely suited for the position of Librarian and Curator. His Russian ancestors were navigators and colonists who came to Alaska in the 1700s and married Alutiiq or Creole women in and around Kodiak. Born there in 1863 during the Russian administration of Alaska, he dedicated his life to serving the Russian Orthodox Church, while maintaining his interest in Alaska history and culture. He was considered a leading authority on Alaska, and became a popular lecturer and author. His Russian and Alaska Native heritage, and his ability to live and work as an American, helped him develop and lead a distinctly Alaskan institution.

Kashevaroff began his working life in the late 1800s as an educator and priest in the service of the Russian Orthodox Church, and for several decades was posted to churches throughout southern Alaska: Kodiak, Nuchek, Angoon, Sitka, and Juneau. He was used to rigors of "bush" living, and at times relied on travel by kayak and dog sled. He had a lifelong interest in music and was a gifted violinist and choir leader. In 1893, he married Martha Bolshanin, a Kiks.adi Tlingit from Sitka, with whom he would have six children. His Tlingit friends affectionately called him *Aandanéi*.

Kashevaroff became priest of Juneau's St. Nicholas Cathedral in 1913. When the Russian Revolution disrupted the Church in 1917, his salary was suspended, but he was duty bound to continue his priestly work gratis. To support his family, he took on additional work as a music teacher, clerk of the weather bureau, and customs officer. Even after he was hired as a full-time Librarian and Curator, he continued his service to the church, and was eventually offered the prestigious rank of Bishop of Alaska, which he declined perhaps in part due to his interest in continuing his library and museum work (Pierce 1990:215-216).

Kashevaroff's family connections, skill in languages, and experience working within Russian and Alaska Native cultures afforded him special access to both cultures, a benefit to the library and museum. Long after Alaska had been pronounced "picked clean" by collectors for the large museums, he acquired hundreds of Russian objects and publications, and thousands of Alaska Native artifacts for the library and museum. In time, thousands of objects were accumulated, and Kashevaroff wrote: "...now the territory has a museum depicting the life, art, [and] craft of the native tribes in Alaska, through the specimens exhibited in the Museum. Mere words cannot portray the scope of the interesting specimens which have been gathered from all over Alaska. One has to see the varied collection to appreciate the value of the whole."

While Governor Riggs embraced the institution politically, Kashevaroff drummed up grass roots support in the form of funds as well as donated books and artifacts—and did so with the zeal of a missionary. He wrote dozens of letters to friends and acquaintances asking them to join the Alaska Historical Association and to send in their artifacts for the museum. Even after the museum first opened to the public in 1920, Kashevaroff continued his efforts: "We get the impression that Father Kashevaroff buttonholed everyone who attended the opening" said museum docent Bea Shepard (1996).

Alaskans overwhelmingly accepted Kashevaroff as the territory's leading historian. As a columnist for the Fairbanks News Miner put it in 1923:

Father Andrew P. Kashevaroff, Russian arch-priest, at present librarian for Alaska and

curator of the Historical Museum at Juneau, in which all Alaskans are or should be deeply interested.... He is the only man the *News-Miner* knows the name of who is competent to speak of "Alaska," for he knows it from start to finish, personally.

Taking a serious approach to the study of history and ethnology, Kashevaroff held himself and others to a high standard of professionalism and accuracy. His assistance was sought by both amateur and professional scholars who needed information on Alaska. Indeed, much of his time was spent helping others, leaving little time for his own work. His own research, focused on Tlingit culture, church history and on specific objects in the museum and library collections, remains largely unpublished, though he did edit a short *Descriptive Booklet* of the museum collection, and published a few articles.

Museum visitors found Kashevaroff a memorable character. Many elderly Alaskans fondly remember how he encouraged them as children to "hang out" in the old museum after school, to wander among the picturesque displays and listen to his adventurous stories. In the summers, he was on call to open the museum at any hour of the day for visiting steamship passengers, some of whom were prominent personalities themselves.

Humorist Will Rogers wrote:

Well, all I know is just what I run onto awhile back when I was messing around up in Alaska. That's a most interesting country. I was mentioning to you one time about being in the fine museum in Juneau, the capital of Alaska. There is a little Russian man in there, he was born in Alaska before it was sold to us, Father [Kashevaroff]. Well he has made a great study of Alaskan customs, relics, languages, its history and everything, and if ever a fellow fit in a museum it's him in this one.

Another visitor, a columnist for the *Milwaukie Sentinel* (5/21/60) recounted a 1930s visit:

Our favorite refuge from the rains was the Territorial Museum, whose most interesting 'exhibit' was its curator, Father A.P. Kashevaroff. There was an old-world charm about him that seemed incongruous in that lusty mining town. His dark, clerical garb accentuated his snow-white Van Dyke. He was small and retiring, but to talk with him for a minute was to feel the force of an extraordinary personality....

"Small he was, but in my memories of him...he was anything but retiring," remembers historian Robert DeArmond. Judging from his letters and numerous accounts of his activities published in Alaskan newspapers, he was a passionate and energetic force for both the church and the library and museum.



Sealaska Heritage Institute

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www.sealaskaheritage.org • www.alaskanativeartists.com • Fax (907) 586-9293

February 18, 2015

To whom it may concern:

The Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian people have been in Southeast Alaska since time immemorial. Our culture and history have helped shape Southeast Alaska into what it is today and it is important that Alaskan's Native and Non-natives remember and know of the rich history of this area. The Alaska State Library, Archives & Museum in Juneau will help preserve and protect important artifacts, objects and educational materials for generations to come.

Andrew P. Kashevaroff knew the importance of preserving and protecting Alaska's History and Culture and was an integral part of building the Alaska State Library. He worked throughout his life creating a museum and educational facility that still serves Alaskans today.

Sealaska Heritage Institute supports the choice of the Alaska State Library and Museum to name the new facility the Andrew P. Kashervaroff Library, Archives & Museum. It is only right that tribute be made to one of the first men in Alaska to realize the importance of Alaska Native and Alaska History and want to share his knowledge in the same way that the State Library, Archives & Museum continues to do so today.

Sincerely,

Rosita Worl, Ph.D.
President

March 10, 2015

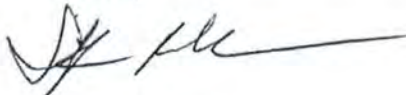
Linda Thibodeau, State Librarian and Director
Alaska Division of Libraries, Archives & Museums
Juneau, AK

Letter of Support to name the new Alaska State Library, Archives, and Museum facility in Juneau as the Father Kashevaroff Library, Archives, and Museum.

The naming of a new public building is a significant symbolic act serving as a cornerstone in placing the facility in its proper social and cultural context. As the new facility for the Alaska State Library, Archives and Museum is a place for all Alaskans it is fitting that the building is named after an individual who was uniquely familiar with many aspects of our local cultures. Father Kashevaroff was such an individual. Living as a descendant of Alaskan Natives and Russian explorers he worked as an educator, historian, priest, lecturer, musician, choir leader and author. A new building often is named after its principal founder or sponsor, and Father Kashevaroff had this role as well. Father Kashevaroff was the State Museum's first curator and the Library's first librarian. For more than twenty years, he acquired hundreds of Russian objects and publications and thousands of Native artifacts and worked to garner support for the Museum and the Library. Father Kashevaroff's family relations, his rural experiences, language skills, and cultural connections afforded him access to many groups all for the benefit of the Museum and the Library.

As a historical figure in Alaska, as its founding father, first librarian and first curator, and as a collector of artifacts and documents, Father Kashevaroff defined the future and mission of the State Library and Museum. It is appropriate that the new facility is named in honor of his legacy.

Sincerely,



Steve Rollins
Dean, UAA/APU Consortium Library