

**HB**

**145**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 145</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
145</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA29</COMM></TARGET>



# Representative Sam Kito III

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Alaska State Legislature

DATE: 25 March 2015

TO: Representative Bob Lynn  
Chair, House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Representative Sam Kito

RE: HB 145 – License Plates: Foreign Consul; Commemorative

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I respectfully request that the House State Affairs Committee schedule House Bill 145 – License Plates: Foreign Consul; Commemorative for a hearing.

Please find attached:

- House Bill 145, version A
- House Bill 145, version H (blank CS)
- Sponsor Statement
- Sectional Analysis
- Explanation of Changes, version A to version H
- Letters of Support
  - Borucki
  - Hickel
  - Jensen
  - Mallott
  - Strickler

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff, Tally Teal at 465-4875.

Sincerely,

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

Rep. Sam Kito III

29-LS0527/H  
Strasbaugh  
3/24/15

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 145( )**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY**

**Offered:**  
**Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE KITO**

**A BILL**  
**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to honorary foreign consul license plates; relating to special request**  
2 **gold rush license plates; relating to special request license plates commemorating the**  
3 **sesquicentennial of the Alaska Purchase; and providing for an effective date."**

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

5 **\* Section 1.** AS 28.10.181 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

6 (ii) Honorary foreign consul plates. Upon application by the owner of a motor  
7 vehicle, the department may issue registration plates for current honorary consuls of  
8 foreign countries. In the application and at each renewal period for the plates, the  
9 owner shall supply written proof that the owner is currently appointed as an honorary  
10 consul by the foreign country and a copy of the owner's current Consular  
11 Identification Card issued by the United States Department of State. The owner may  
12 display the honorary foreign consul plates on the vehicle only while the person retains  
13 the status of honorary consul of the foreign country and holds a current Consular  
14 Identification Card. Honorary foreign consul plates do not confer any diplomatic or

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other immunity or any other special privileges.

(jj) Special request gold rush plates. Upon application by the owner of a motor vehicle, the department may issue registration plates commemorating the gold rush, modeled after the gold rush centennial plate, but without the word "centennial." The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

(kk) Special request plates commemorating the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial. Upon application by the owner of a motor vehicle, the department may issue registration plates commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Alaska Purchase. In determining the design and color of the registration plate, the commissioner shall consult with the Alaska Historical Commission. The department may disapprove the issuance of registration plates under this subsection when the requested plates are a duplication of an existing registration.

\* Sec. 2. AS 28.10.421(d)(2) is amended to read:

(2) special request plates for

- (A) Alaska National Guard personnel ..... \$30;
- (B) veterans, retired veterans, or Lao veterans ..... \$30;
- (C) recipients of the Purple Heart ..... none;
- (D) owners of custom collector vehicles ..... \$50;
- (E) Iditarod race finishers ..... \$50;
- (F) honorary foreign consuls ..... **\$50;**
- (G) other special request plates ..... \$30;

plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b) of this section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and on the replacement of special request plates;

\* Sec. 3. AS 28.10.421(d) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(25) Alaska Purchase Commemorative Plates ..... \$50

plus the fee required for that vehicle under (b), (c), (h), or (i) of this section; the fee required by this paragraph shall be collected only on the first issuance and the replacement of special request plates; the commissioner of administration shall separately account for the fees received under this paragraph that the department

1 deposits in the general fund; notwithstanding (g) of this section, the annual estimated  
2 balance in the account that is in excess of the cost of issuing special request plates may  
3 be appropriated by the legislature for the support of the projects of the Alaska  
4 Historical Commission.

5 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 28.10.181(kk) and 28.10.421(d)(25) are repealed.

6 \* **Sec. 5.** Section 3 of this Act takes effect January 1, 2018.

7 \* **Sec. 6.** Except as provided in sec. 4 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2016.



# Representative Sam Kito III

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Alaska State Legislature

## **Sponsor Statement**

### **House Bill 145**

### **Special Request License Plates**

House Bill 145 introduces three new license plate options for Alaskans: Honorary Foreign Consul plates; Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial commemorative plates; and gold rush plates.

Honorary foreign consuls serve a key role in promoting economic relationships and discussions between countries, and assisting those with ties to foreign countries living or traveling in the US. Currently, 19 honorary consuls representing a variety of countries reside in Alaska. By passing HB 145, Alaska will join the twenty-one other states that offer special request license plates to their honorary consuls. Although these plates confer no diplomatic privileges, they will allow the state to recognize the important services that these volunteers provide.

As we approach the sesquicentennial, or 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, of the Alaska Purchase, we have a unique opportunity to recognize this significant moment in our history. The US purchased Alaska from Russia on 18 October 1867. Although heavily criticized for his decision, William Seward, then Secretary of State and champion of Alaska's purchase, was vindicated when gold was discovered just three decades later. Since then, Alaska has become an invaluable supplier of natural resources and has established the US as a key player in arctic policy. The Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial commemorative plates will provide an occasion to reflect on and celebrate this momentous event.

This bill will also bring back the popular "gold rush" license plate design. These license plates will be modeled after the gold rush centennial plates, but without the word "centennial".

Special request plates are a way of recognizing significant individuals or events, and adding the plates proposed in HB 145 will expand our ability to do this. Thank you for your support of House Bill 145.



# Representative Sam Kito III

Alaska State Legislature

## Sectional Analysis

### House Bill 145 Version H

### Special Request License Plates

**Section 1.** Amends AS 28.10.181 by adding three new subsections.

**Subsection ii.** Allows the department to issue honorary foreign consul plates. Requires written proof of current honorary consul status at the time of registration, and clarifies that plates may only be used while honorary consul status is maintained. States that no immunity or other special privileges are conferred by these plates.

**Subsection jj.** Allows the department to issue special request gold rush plates. Explains that these plates will be modeled after the gold rush centennial plates, but without the word "centennial."

**Subsection kk.** Allows the department to issue special request plates commemorating the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial. Requires that the department consult with the Alaska Historical Commission when designing the plates.

**Section 2.** Amends AS 28.10.421(d)(2) to include the plates added in Section 1 to the price schedule for special request plates.

**Section 3.** Adds a new paragraph to AS 28.10.421(d) that allows the legislature to appropriate funds in excess of the cost of issuing the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial special request plates to projects supported by the Alaska Historical Commission.

**Section 4.** Repeals AS 28.10.181(kk) and AS 28.10421(d)(2)(G), with the intent of a delayed effective date provided in Section 4. The statutes being repealed are those relating to the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial special request plates.

**Section 5.** Provides an effective date of 1 January 2018 for Section 3. This will make the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial special request plates available only during the years 2016 and 2017.

**Section 6.** Provides an effective date of 1 January 2016 for Sections 1 and 2.



# Representative Sam Kito III

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Alaska State Legislature

## Explanation of Changes

### Version A to Version H

#### House Bill 145

#### Special Request License Plates

#### Title Change:

Page 1, Line 2

Replace "Chilkoot Pass" with "gold rush"

This corrects a language discrepancy between the title and body of the bill. "Gold rush" is now used consistently throughout the bill.

#### Add a new section:

Page 2, Line 26-Page 3, Line 4

Section 3. Allows the legislature to appropriate the funds in excess of the cost of issuing the Alaska Purchase sesquicentennial special request plates to projects supported by the Alaska Historical Commission.

#### Renumbers following sections.



KONSULAT RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ POLSKIEJ  
CONSULATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

STAN BORUCKI - HONORARY CONSUL

March 20, 2015

Tally Teal  
Staff to Rep. Sam Kito III  
Alaska State Capitol Room 422  
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: House Bill 145, Honorary Consul License Plates

Dear Rep. Kito:

I want to express my appreciation to the State of Alaska Legislative House State Affairs Committee for introducing House Bill 145 regarding the reissuing of Consulate license plates for the Consuls in Alaska.

As you know, Honorary Consuls serve our State of Alaska without any compensation for their services from their respective governments.

Although primarily we serve the respective countries, we also greatly serve the people of the State of Alaska.

The only appreciation for our Honorary Consul services that the State of Alaska can do is to join the other approximately 40 states that already issue the Honorary Consul license plates.

These plates will give us some additional recognition and motivation to continue working hard for our respective countries and the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Stan Borucki  
Honorary Consul of Poland

SB/mjl



*The hotel*  
**Captain Cook**

WALTER J. HICKEL, JR.  
CHAIRMAN & CEO

939 WEST 5<sup>TH</sup> AVE., ANCHORAGE, AK 99501  
PHONE (907) 276-6000 FAX (907) 343-2211

March 23, 2015

[President@captaincook.com](mailto:President@captaincook.com)

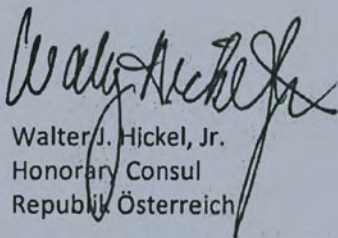
The Honorable Sam Kito III  
Alaska House of Representatives  
State Capital Room 422  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Kito,

My name is Walter J. Hickel, Jr. from Anchorage. I am the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Austria in Alaska. I am writing to voice my support in the passing of House Bill 145, in particular Subsection ii, the creation of *Honorary Foreign Consul Plates*. Honorary Consuls play an important role in promoting economic, cultural, and political relationships between Alaska and the countries which we have been selected to represent here in the Great Land. Currently there are 19 Honorary Consuls in Alaska. While I understand that these license plates offer no diplomatic privileges, I believe that they will allow Honorary Consuls to be recognized for their contributions to Alaska.

I am supporting House Bill 145 in the hopes that Alaska will become the twenty-second state in the Union to recognize the efforts that Honorary Consuls make to better relations between our great state and foreign nations around the world through Honorary Foreign Consul License Plates.

Sincerely,



Walter J. Hickel, Jr.  
Honorary Consul  
Republik Österreich

## Tally Teal

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**From:** Kimberly Gedicks <jensenlaw@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 19, 2015 3:20 PM  
**To:** Tally Teal  
**Subject:** Re: Consular Plate

Dear Representative Kito,

Thank you for sponsoring House Bill 145. As an honorary consul here in Alaska I wish to lend my support to your efforts.

There are currently 18 Alaskans who volunteer their services as Honorary Consuls for nations that conduct trade and other commerce with Alaska. Many of these countries have citizens that live and work in our great state. As honorary consuls we may assist these countries' citizens and representatives.

House Bill 145 may serve to recognize these volunteer honorary consuls for their efforts.

Sincerely

Michael J. Jensen  
Alaska Honorary Consul For Germany



Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott  
STATE OF ALASKA

March 20, 2015

Representative Sam Kito III  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
[Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov)

Dear Representative Kito:

The members of Alaska Historical Commission thank you for sponsoring legislation (House Bill 145) for a state license plate to call attention to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Purchase of Alaska. They think a license plate is a good idea and support the bill. The Purchase of Alaska was a significant event for Alaska. License plates command many people's attention and are a good vehicle (no pun intended!) to raise people's awareness of significant programs and historic events.

The members of the Alaska Historical Commission encourage the Alaska State Legislature to pass House Bill 145 and will ask Governor Walker to sign the bill into law. Thank you for recognizing the significance of the 1867 purchase of Alaska.

House Bill 145 calls on the Division of Motor Vehicles to consult with the Alaska Historical Commission on the design of the plate. Commission members understand that to be timely the license plate design must be ready by January 1, 2016, or it will be delayed by a year. Members discussed the bill at their meeting yesterday, and started making plans to meet that deadline. If any legislators have questions or concerns—or ideas about the design, please have them contact commission staff at 907.269.8714 / [oha@alaska.net](mailto:oha@alaska.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Byron Mallott".

Byron Mallott  
Lieutenant Governor  
Chair, Alaska Historical Commission

**Alaska Historical Commission**

Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott, Chair

Judy Bittner, SHPO	Jonathon Ross
Terrence Cole	Douglas Veltre
Michael Hawfield	Candy Waugaman
Wayne Jensen	

KONSULADO NG PILIPINAS



CONSULATE OF THE PHILIPPINES

ALASKA

March 18, 2015

Representative Sam Kito, III  
Alaska House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building, Room 422  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Kito,

RE: HB 145, "An Act relating to honorary foreign consul license plates;..."

The introduction of HB 145 was brought to my attention a few days ago. I am delighted to see this bill and truly honored that you are willing to recognize the honorary foreign consuls in Alaska.

Speaking for myself, the assistance I provide to Filipinos in Alaska is primarily voluntary work which I am happy to provide. I have hosted the Philippines Ambassador to the United States, the Philippines Consul General from San Francisco, Consulate staff workers, and the Mayor of the Municipality of Kalibo, Aklan in showing them our wonderful City and Borough of Juneau. The recognition to display an Honorary Consul license plate, similar to other States with honorary consuls, makes the position even more special and very much appreciated.

I fully support HB 145 and thank you for giving consideration to the honorary foreign consuls in Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Ruth G. Strickler".

Jennifer Ruth G. Strickler  
Philippines Honorary Consul  
to Alaska

251 South Franklin Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

Tel: (907) 703-9053; Fax: (907) 790-2924; E-mail: [jenstrickler2@aol.com](mailto:jenstrickler2@aol.com) ; Website: [www.philippinessanfrancisco.org](http://www.philippinessanfrancisco.org)



**Frank Nosek, Esq.**  
**Honorary Consul General of the Czech Republic for Alaska, USA**

***Honorární Generální Konzul České Republiky Aljaška, USA***

810 'N' Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Tel. (907) 274-2602  
Fax (907) 258-2001 USA  
Email [frank@noseklaw.com](mailto:frank@noseklaw.com)

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March 30, 2015

Representative Sam Kito III  
c/o Tally Teal  
Staff to Rep. Sam Kito III  
Alaska State Capitol Room 422  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: House Bill 145, Alaska Honorary Consul License Plates

Dear Representative Kito,

Since the fortunate introduction of HB 145, I have been in contact with all of the available Honorary Consuls in Anchorage, and can relay to you their support for this bill.

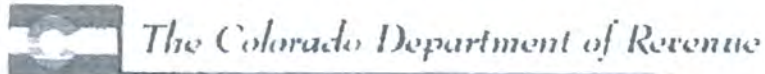
Courtesy in the diplomatic ranks depends upon recognition and mutual accommodation. These diplomatic recognitions and accommodations are routinely afforded to representatives of foreign countries fortunate enough to be able to afford the posting of career diplomats, but are not so routinely extended to Honorary Consuls and Honorary Consuls General representing those countries which cannot post a career consul in Alaska.

The Alaska Consular Corps applauds the recognition afforded by the specialized license plates provided in HB 145 as a first and very significant step by the State of Alaska to recognize and enhance the functions of Honorary Consuls and Honorary Consuls in Alaska.

Attached are copies of the Honorary Consul license plates of several of the numerous States which offer this type of recognition.

Thank you for your support of HB 145.

Frank Nosek, Honorary Consul General



## Honorary Consul Plate



### Colorado Revised Statute 42-3-134 (3) (b)

Issued to an individual who is recognized by the U.S. Department of State as an official representative of a foreign government. Issued to passenger and light truck vehicles.

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last modified 04-24-00

identifying the commission, board, or office to which the applicant has been elected or appointed.

***Honorary Consul***



This plate is allowed only for those who serve as an Honorary Consulate for various nations here in Utah. Consulate members must show their credentials in order to obtain the plate.

