

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION 2025-14:

HONORING ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

WHEREAS, historically, Alaska Natives faced overt discrimination in housing, theaters, hotels, restaurants, and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, civil rights activist Elizabeth Peratrovich, an Alaska Native of Tlingit heritage, was a leader in the civil rights movement in Alaska and worked for equal rights and freedoms for all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Peratrovich's courage, vision, and impassioned testimonies inspired the Alaska Territorial Legislature to pass a resolution entitled "an Act to provide for full and equal accommodations, facilities, and privileges to all citizens in places of public accommodations within the jurisdiction of the Territory of Alaska"; and

WHEREAS, when Governor Ernest Gruening signed the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 into law on February 16, 1945, it was the first anti-discrimination bill passed in Alaska and occurred two decades prior to the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, the Alaska State Legislature designated each February 16 as the annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in honor of her committed pursuit to overcoming discrimination in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's governor annually proclaims February 16, as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in Alaska and encourages all Alaskans to recognize and reflect upon the tremendous contributions Elizabeth Peratrovich made to Alaska and her people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Board of Education proclaims February 16, 2025, Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, and encourages staff and students to honor her historic contributions and commitment to the ideals of civil rights and nondiscrimination throughout the district and on an ongoing basis.

Passed and Approved: January 21, 2025


Melissa Burnett, President
Board of Education

ATTEST:


Carmella Richardson
Board of Education Executive Assistant

