

Alaska State Legislature



Interim:

35477 Suite 101-B Spur Highway
Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 260-5236 Phone
(907) 260-3044 Fax

Session:

State Capitol, Room 421
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-2693 Phone
(907) 465-3835 Fax

Representative Ken Lancaster District 8

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2002

CONTACT: Rep. Ken Lancaster, (907) 465-2693

Bridge Named to Honor Soldotna Soldier **HB 374 Would Memorialize Alaska's Gulf War Casualty**

(JUNEAU) – The House today passed a measure that would name the Sterling Highway bridge spanning the Kenai River at Soldotna in honor of David Douthit, who was the only Alaskan to give his life in military service during the 1991 Gulf War.

Rep. Ken Lancaster (R-Soldotna) introduced House Bill 374 to name the bridge David Douthit Veterans' Memorial Bridge, to preserve and honor the memory of an Alaskan who died far from his home, his state and his country, and whose ultimate sacrifice deserves to be memorialized.

“David Douthit was the only Alaskan killed during the Persian Gulf War,” Lancaster said. “He died for his country -- for our country -- on Feb. 27, 1991, serving on a Bradley fighting vehicle as a gunner. David was a good friend and neighbor of mine for many years in Soldotna, and this bill is supported by the local community and by the local veterans.”

Douthit was a sergeant in the U.S. Army. He is survived by his widow, Jessie, and their daughter, Rebecca, and by his parents, Nita and Harvey Douthit.

[HB 374](#) was passed unanimously by the House. The bill moves next to the Senate for consideration.

###

Broadcasters note: Comments are available on the Majority Actuality Line 1-800-478-6540, or on the Majority webpage at www.akrepublicans.org