

Introduced by: Dimmick  
Date: Oct. 13, 1981 to Committee  
Vote: Unanimous  
Action: Adopted

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 81-178

REQUESTING THE ALASKA STATE BOARD OF GEOGRAPHIC NAMES TO RECOGNIZE THE HISTORICAL BASIS AND THE SPELLING OF THE NAME KALIFORNSKY, AND TO CHANGE THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF KALIFONSKY BEACH ROAD TO REFLECT THE HISTORIC FACT.

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that Peter Kalifornsky was an early Alaskan settler of Russian descent who journeyed to Fort Ross, California, with the Russians early in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that Peter Kalifornsky later founded a village originally called Kalifornsky or, in Russian, "the Californian"; and

WHEREAS, this village is an abandoned Dena'ina (or Tanaina) Athabaskan village located on the east shore of Cook Inlet, Alaska, about two miles north of the Kasilof River mouth; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that the entry of the name on U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey maps and State of Alaska records does not reflect the historical record and is in error; and

WHEREAS, the name Kalifornsky is significant because it commemorates the Dena'ina and the Russian heritages of Cook Inlet, demonstrating that the Outer Inlet Dena'ina was also part of the maritime culture of the northwest coast; and

WHEREAS, the misspelled name Kalifonsky breaks the chain of the historic and linguistic facts; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that it is proper to lend its public support to the correction of the name to Kalifornsky;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the Assembly lends its public support to the renaming or correction of Kalifonsky Beach Road to Kalifornsky Beach Road and the recognition of the abandoned village at the mouth of the Kasilof River as Kalifornsky village on all maps, posters, street signs and other records depicting or referencing this area in the Borough.

Section 2. That this resolution shall be served upon the Honorable Jay S. Hammond, Governor of the State of Alaska; the Honorable Jalmar Kerttula, President of the State Senate; and the Honorable Joe L. Hayes, Speaker of the State House; the Honorable Donald E. Gilman, State Senator; the Honorables Bette Cato, Hugh Malone and Pat O'Connell, State Representatives; and the Alaska State Board of Geographic Names.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 19th DAY OF January 19, 1982



John B. Davis, Assembly President  
Donald L. McCloud, Vice President

ATTEST:

Francis Bryner  
Borough Clerk