

Official Proclamation

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WHEREAS, Elizabeth Peratrovich was a civil rights activist who advocated on behalf of Alaskan Natives; and

WHEREAS, she was born in Petersburg, Alaska, and was a member of the Lukaaxh.adi Clan of the Raven moiety of the Tlingit Nations; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth was a graduate of Ketchikan High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1941 Elizabeth and Roy Peratrovich petitioned the territorial governor to prohibit public places from posting “no natives allowed” signs that were common in Alaska during that time; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Peratrovich worked to pass Alaska’s Anti-Discrimination Act, which would ensure that everyone would be given equal opportunity and protection from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the passage of this first anti-discrimination bill in Alaska occurred nearly 20-years before the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth continued her humanitarian work championing civil rights until her untimely death on December 1, 1958. Many consider her the face of civil rights in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 the Alaska State Legislature passed a bill designating February 16th of each year as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day in Alaska, to honor and celebrate Elizabeth’s proud influence on our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Bob Sivertsen, Mayor of the City of Ketchikan, Alaska, do hereby proclaim February 16, 2025 as

ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

and encourage all residents to recognize the great contribution Elizabeth Peratrovich made to the State of Alaska and its people by fighting for equality for all Alaskans, and to honor and celebrate her life, legacy and steadfast commitment to equality for all.

Signed this 6th day of February, 2025

Bob Sivertsen, Mayor

City of Ketchikan, Alaska