



Community and Regional Affairs

Since all government is local, we in the Community and Regional Affairs Committee strive to give fair hearings to those issues that deal with local and municipal governments or Native Corporations. It is our challenge to review and act on proposed legislation that finds a fair balance to what local governments want and need, with what is good for the state as a whole. Such as the Legislation listed below.

Legislation Passed By The Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

Senate Bill 62: Alaska Regional Economic Assistance

Would extend the termination date of the Alaska regional economic assistance program.

Senate Bill 63: Municipal Annexation and Detachment

Proposes new statutory language to clarify when a municipality may tax an area that was annexed. It also clarifies the question of property taxes in a detached area.

Passed Senate

Senate Bill 155: Predator Control

Make changes that will allow the Fish and Game Board as well as the Commissioner to better manage wildlife by balancing predator and game populations based on the best science available.

Passed Senate and House

Senate Bill 183: Municipal Economic Development

Would facilitate the development of economically attractive projects throughout Alaska's boroughs without regard to internal municipal boundaries.

Passed Senate

Senate Concurrent Resolution 12: Borough Incorporation: Unorganized Areas

Requests the Local Boundary Commission (LBC) to consider borough incorporation for four areas of the state: Upper Tanana Basin Model Borough, Copper River Basin Model Borough, Glacier Bay Model Borough, and Chatham Region Model Borough. These four areas of the state were recently identified in a February 2003 report by the LBC entitled "*Unorganized Areas of Alaska the Meet Borough Incorporation Standards,*" as meeting the existing standards for borough incorporation.

House Bill 58: Reinstatement of Native Corporations

Offers a one-time window for previously dissolved Native Village Corporations to apply for reinstatement and retain their legal standing and assets.

Passed Senate and House

House Bill 68: Office of Victim's Rights: Includes Municipalities

Clarifies that municipalities be specifically included in the definition of a justice agency to help the Office of Victims' Rights act on behalf of the victims it represents.

Passed Senate and House

House Concurrent Resolution 2: Extend Alaska Railroad to Fort Greely

Supports extension of the Alaska Railroad from the vicinity of Eielson AFB approximately 70 miles, to the Fort Greely anti-ballistic missile launch facility near Delta Junction. This extension supports the expansion of Alaska's transportation corridors, the critical national defense mission of the missile launch facility, and improved homeland security.

Passed Senate and House