

# Westside Pulse – August, 2000

Dear Neighbors,

I am honored to have been selected by Gov. Knowles to represent the people of Senate District F (Sand Lake and West Anchorage) for the second term of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Alaska State Legislature. On August 7<sup>th</sup> I was sworn in to the Alaska State Senate to replace Senator Drue Pearce who resigned from this seat to accept a position with the U.S. Department of the Interior.

As State Senator, my first priority is to build a relationship with the people residing in District F so we can work together to improve West Anchorage. I encourage District F constituents to feel free to contact me to share your thoughts and views. My door is open and I welcome your suggestions.

On a personal note, I have resided in District F for nine years. My wife Elizabeth and I have four children, ranging in age from 1 month to 7 years old. I earned my Bachelor's of Science Degree in Economics from Arizona State University and recently completed studies for a Masters of Business Administration from the George Washington University.

My most recent work experience has been as President and CEO of the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games, held in Alaska this past winter. Prior to this position, I have owned and managed my own business, providing government relations and consulting services for many of Alaska's leading companies in transportation, oil services, commercial fishing, and for rural communities. Now that the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska have concluded, I am looking forward to returning to my consulting business.

Prior to my business experience in Anchorage, I spent 15 years in the Alaska fishing industry, beginning with in 1977 in the Bristol Bay salmon fishery. Later that year I was hired on a Bering Sea Crab vessel. I successfully worked my way to Captain and spent my last nine years in the industry as Captain of several Bering Sea crab vessels the most recent being the "American Viking".

In addition to my work experience, I have served on the Board of Directors of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute. Being a member of the executive committee of that organization and I helped develop long-range strategies to cope with the dramatic changes facing the fishing Industry. I currently serve as a Board Member

for the Aleut Enterprise Corporation and I am the President of the Board of Directors for the D.A.R.E. Alaska Program.

I believe through my work and personal experience, I have gained a broad overall knowledge of Alaska, its residents and the businesses that operate in the challenging environment of our state. I look forward to contributing to the legislative process to serve the best interests of this state and our District. Alaska faces several critical issues that need to be resolved and it is my belief that these issues can only come to resolution through teamwork, commitment, and a sincere dedication finding acceptable solutions.

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