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Senator Drue Pearce District F

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Pearce Announces Move to D.C.

(JUNEAU) – Sen. Drue Pearce (R-Anchorage) announced today that she has sent the Senate President an official letter of resignation from the Alaska State Legislature effective Monday, June 18, 2001.

“It has been a privilege and an honor to serve Alaska for the last 17 years, to help ensure the people of our state are healthy and safe from harm, and that our children have outstanding schools,” said Pearce. “I have enjoyed working to encourage responsible resource development and to protect our environment, and I look forward to continuing to do so from inside the beltway.”

During her time in the Legislature, Pearce has achieved a number of firsts. She and Rep. Alyce Hanley were the first two female representatives to be elected to represent a district in Alaska. Pearce was also the first woman to serve twice as Senate President and twice as a Senate Finance Committee Co-Chair, and held all of the leadership positions in the Senate, including serving as Chair of the Senate Rules Committee. She also served as Chair of the Special Committee on Oil and Gas following the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and on the Joint Committee on Mergers during the BP/Arco merger last year. Pearce brings international experience to her new position as a former chair of the Energy Council and a member of the council’s executive committee for 11 years.

Pearce is leaving the Legislature for a position with the U.S. Department of Interior. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton will announce Pearce’s new position during a press conference on Saturday, June 16, at 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, 1689 C Street, in Anchorage.

Pearce’s legislative office in Anchorage will remain open through the interim, and her staff will be available to assist constituents with their concerns.

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