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MAR 14 2011

March 14, 2011

Senator Bert Stedman
Senator Lyman Hoffman
Senate Finance
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senators Stedman and Hoffman,

This is just a quick note to thank you both for your introduction of SB97. While we understand there may be changes and/or even pushback, we certainly appreciate your willingness to help municipalities as they realize the financial ramifications that high oil prices bring with regards to their ability to provide basic services.

I think you would agree that municipalities are much healthier than they were before Revenue Sharing was reinstated by the leadership of your committee (and specifically, the two of you). All of the municipalities acknowledge and realize that you have done much to improve their condition and quality of life.

The rising cost of fuel, however, makes every dollar worth far less than it was previously. Also, as municipalities often see mandatory property tax exemption bills introduced, other means of revenue must be identified to make up the difference.

Again, we appreciate your willingness to introduce this bill and promise to do all possible to see this bill succeed. We will be in contact with you and take your lead as to what you might need from us.

Thank you so much for your support for Alaska's municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kathie Wasserman
Executive Director