

February 27, 2018

Governor Bill Walker  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Bill Walker,

I'm writing in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 19 and to urge you to recognize the linguistic emergency that exists in the State of Alaska. As a member of the Haida Nation and a Haida Language Learner I cannot express enough the need for language revitalization for my tribe and the 19 other tribes that are at extreme risk of losing their languages.

As our elders continue to pass on, so does our language. With fewer and fewer fluent speakers left, what will our people do? How else will we carry on our traditions without this vital part of our culture?

It is our duty to work together to prioritize the survival and continuation of Alaska Native Languages. We must develop immersion and restoration programs within our state in order to build a platform for sustainability.

Háw'aa, Thank you,



Michelle Eakman  
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*"Wáayaat hl kíilang sk'at'áa. Kíilang sk'at'géik uu kilganggang."*  
*Learn your language now. It is important to learn your language.*