



Tongass Historical Museum
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Totem Heritage Center
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March 30, 2015

Representative Bob Herron
State Capitol, Room 406
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Herron,

Thank you for your support in sponsoring House Bill 52, which would establish a museum construction grant program.

A recent study of Alaskan museums and cultural centers shows that 27 museums are planning for major capital projects over the next five years. The Tongass Historical Museum in Ketchikan is among the many museums surveyed that is in need of major capital improvement and would surely benefit from enacting House Bill 52 and the companion Senate Bill 61.

Enclosed please find a resolution of the Ketchikan City Council supporting House Bill 52 and Senate Bill 61. As Ketchikan benefitted so greatly from the library construction grant program, the City Council is supportive of similar legislation for museums.

Museums and cultural centers are anchor institutions in communities of every size. They are focal points for learning and growth and are a critical part of the educational and economic infrastructure, spurring tourism and partnering with local educators. Thank you again for your sponsorship of HB 52 for these indispensable institutions across Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lacey Simpson, Director

Enclosure:

Ketchikan City Council Resolution 15-2587