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February 16, 2011

The Honorable Bill Stoltze, Co-Chair House Finance Committee Alaska Capitol, Room 515 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Bill Thomas, Co-Chair House Finance Committee Alaska Capitol, Room 505 Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 65 (Edgmon, Herron, Foster, Joule)—Support

Dear Co-Chairs Stoltze and Thomas:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we encourage you and your colleagues on the House Finance Committee to support for HB 65, authored by your Committee colleagues Representatives Bryce Edgmon and Reggie Joule as well as by Representatives Bob Herron and Neal Foster and cosponsored by Representative Peggy Wilson. HB 65 will allow regional Native housing entities to apply for grants for senior housing from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation.

HB 65 does not expand funding for senior housing. It simply allows Native organizations with housing expertise and experience to compete for grants for senior housing. This makes sense and creates a fair competitive field for organizations that AARP would like to see involved in senior housing.

AARP recommends an "AYE" vote for HB 65.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Marie Darlin

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin, Coordinator AARP Capital City Task Force 415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506

Juneau, AK 99801 586-3637 (voice) 463-3580 (fax)

CC:

Vice-Chair Fairclough

Representative Costello Representative Edgmon

Representative Joule

Representative Neuman

Representative T. Wilson

Representative Doogan

Representative Gara

Representative Guttenberg

Representative Herron

Representative Foster