



Tongass Historical Museum  
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Totem Heritage Center  
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March 30, 2015

Senator Gary Stevens  
State Capitol, Room 429  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens,

Thank you for your support in sponsoring Senate Bill 61, 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 SB 61 for these indispensable institutions across Alaska.

Sincerely,

Lacey Simpson, Director

Enclosure:  
Ketchikan City Council Resolution 15-2587