

volunteers
Hello my name is Linda Lucky. I'm a docent at the Anchorage Museum of Art, History, and Science. I call the museum the Jewel in the Crown of Anchorage.

I am here today in support of HB166.

The matching grant program builds, renovates, and expands facilities that exhibit and preserve Alaska collections that are held in the public trust. It supports creative vision of the institution. Exhibition space, increase in facility size, collections storage expansion, and security improvements are listed among the top priorities.

I like that the program takes the politics out of applying for a grant. A support of this bill is an investment in a community's well being.

The Anchorage museum connects people through its programs. Through workshops, new experiences, exhibitions, and series of events, the museum expands our view of the world. One of our greatest shows was the one just after our first expansion was completed: STAR WARS! It was the perfect segue between the old and the new. It was fabulous because 1) it celebrated IMAGINATION which is at the core of all our disciplines, 2) it brought in people who had never been to the museum before, 3) it brought in families: parents and children, second generation of Star War fans, and 4) there were lots of hands-on activities to challenge the ~~guests~~ visitors' imagination.

The biggest thrill was going into outer space via a film aboard the replica of the Millennium Falcon cockpit!!

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I'd like to ~~close with~~ these words from the director and CEO of the Anchorage Museum, Julie Decker:

"We think museums matter more now than ever before. In an age where everything is online, visitation rates to museums around the world are rising. Museums are not storehouses of the past. They are an active record of where we come from, who we are, and where we are going. Museums activate curiosity about the world in which we see and come to know ourselves as part of a continuum of shared human identity."

I urge you today to support this bill. Thank you.