



**UAF
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

201 Constitution Hall/P.O. Box 750126
Fairbanks, AK 99775-0126
907-474-7081
1-844-474-6706
uaf-alumni@alaska.edu
www.uaf.edu/alumni/

March 29, 2021

Senator Gary Stevens
State Capitol Room 103
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Stevens,

On behalf of the UAF Alumni Association Board of Directors, we would like to express our support for the passage of Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 8, urging the Alaska delegation in Congress, the United States Department of the Interior, and the Governor of Alaska to facilitate the completion of a land grant endowment to the University of Alaska.

The University of Alaska, a land grant institution, has one of the smallest land holdings of any school established under this program. Despite Alaska's status as the largest state in land mass, all but one (Delaware) of the other 49 states that received federal land grants for their universities received more land. The University of Hawaii, in lieu of land, received a substantial financial grant.

SJR 8 asks that the United States Congress and the federal administration pass and implement a plan, in cooperation with Alaska's Governor, to increase the grant by up to 360,000 acres. Given the University's efforts to generate revenue off its land, this would go far in establishing a much more stable financial environment for our state's premier institution for higher learning.

Thank you for your efforts to address this issue and raise the awareness of all Alaskans to the need of a strong University. To echo Interim UA President Pat Pitney, we look forward to finally being a land grant university with land.

Respectfully,

Cindy Wright, President
UAFAA, Board of Directors

