



Bristol Bay Native Corporation

Enriching Our Native Way of Life

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April 4, 2012

Governor Sean Parnell
Alaska State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: APOC Appointment

Honorable Governor Parnell:

Bristol Bay Native Corporation is writing to express our concern over the appointment of Dr. David Eichler to the Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC). The APOC oversees the fairness and integrity of the public voting process.

Dr. Eichler's past comments in reference to rural dental health were insensitive and uneducated. We are concerned that his biases about Native people will carry over into his policy decisions, thereby undermining public and certainly Native people's confidence in the impartiality of APOC practices and decision making.

The rural dental therapy program which he so vigorously opposed is a cost effective and innovative program that has received intense scrutiny and accolades from around the country. It is a program that takes Alaska's unique geography and history into consideration.

It is our belief that the careless and uninformed remarks that Dr. Eichler made may be indicative of his core underlying beliefs about Native peoples. We do not support his nomination to the APOC.

Respectfully,

Jason Metrokin, President & CEO
Bristol Bay Native Corporation

cc: Senator Gary Stevens
Representative Bryce Edgemon
Representative Alan Austerman
Senator Lyman Hoffman