

Karen Perdue
[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, Alaska
99701

PROFESSIONAL/ BOARD EXPERIENCE

Foundation Health Partners- Trustee Executive Committee member of Fairbanks health system including leading Quality efforts and credentialing (current)

Latitude 64 North- Owner retail antiques business operating at retail outlet Blue Door Antiques and other venues (current)

University of Alaska Board of Regents- appointed in 2016. Chair the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and chairing an ad hoc committee on improving recruitment, retention and graduation (current)

President/CEO, Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association: 2010-2014 Represented the hospital and nursing home industry in Alaska with Governor, Cabinet, State Legislature and key stakeholders. Supervised Association staff and managed budget.

Lead Investigator, The Forgotten Alaskans: The Morningside Hospital Project: Reconstructed the history of the care of mentally ill in Alaska from 1898 to statehood including the history of the Morningside Hospital where as many as 6,000 of Alaska's mentally ill were served from 1901-1967. Project received awards from the National Association of Rural Mental Health and the Alaska Historical Society

Associate Vice President, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK Health Programs: 2001-2010 Responsible for developing health and social sciences capacity throughout the university system. Member of the university's executive administration playing key role in strategic planning for degree expansion and program development.

United States Representative, Arctic Council, Sustainable Development Working Group: 2001-2009 On behalf of the US State Department, represented USA at the Arctic Council, an eight nation government to government forum on arctic issues. Responsible for US representation on human and economic issues and other business conducted in the sustainable development dimension.

Eight Stars of Gold, Principal Investigator: Led a multi-year project to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Alaska Statehood. Included collecting historic materials for libraries and museums and creating a finding aid, producing two public television documentaries and many other activities. Two Emmy's for documentary.

Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK 1994-2001 Cabinet level appointment overseeing 2,200 employees and a budget of \$1.2 billion. Longest serving DHSS Commissioner since statehood. Led the state's efforts in welfare reform, health care expansions, child protection, juvenile justice, public health, mental health and initiatives in primary care and fetal alcohol syndrome.

Deputy Commissioner, Department of Health and Social Services, Juneau, AK 1985-1990. Provided overall direction for the state's public health, medical assistance (Medicaid) and public assistance programs, as well as the state's health planning efforts. Also responsible for the department's personnel management, independent audit, budget, and fiscal management services. Worked extensively with federal officials, congressional delegation.

Independent Consultant, Northern Research and Planning/Chena Consulting Fairbanks, AK Developed robust company providing health and social services system development, planning and evaluation services to non-profit and public agency clients. Projects focused on development of standards and other aspects of quality improvement and in development of community-based health systems for children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities and state legislative delegations, citizen groups and municipalities throughout Alaska.

Director, Division of Community Development, Department of Community and Regional Affairs, Juneau, AK 1982-1985 Directed five major statewide programs that promoted economic self-sufficiency with 80 employees in five separate offices across the state. Developed and implemented the Statewide Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). Restructured and implemented Alaska's Low-Income Weatherization Program. Formulated Lighting and Thermal Standards for energy-efficient residential construction. Administered Alaska's Day Care and Head Start Programs, and promoted involvement of the private sector in addressing child care needs of employees.

Congressional Aide US Senator Ted Stevens, Washington DC Congressional Aide in the Minority Whip Office of the US Senate and Press Aide. 1978-1982

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (1982-2025)

Trustee Foundation Health Partners, Fairbanks Alaska

Board of Regents University of Alaska, 2016-present

Alaska Women's Hall of Fame

American Hospital Association Trustee Governance Committee ♣ University of Alaska Press ♣ Commonwealth North Board of Directors ♣ National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services ♣ University of Washington School of Medicine Admissions Committee- Alaska, current ♣ Ted Stevens Foundation, Board member ♣ American Public Television Board, Lay member ♣ Providence Health Systems, Board member ♣ Alaska Society of Circumpolar Health, Board member ♣ Hospice of Tanana Valley, Board member, ♣ National Center for Excellence in FAS, Steering Board ♣ Alaska FAS Steering Committee ♣ Alaska Suicide Prevention Council ♣

Alaska Telemedicine Advisory Council ♣ Arctic Council, United States Representative, Sustainable Development ♣ Alaska Human Resource Investment Board, Board Member ♣ Alaska Council on Domestic Violence, Board Member ♣ Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, Board Member ♣ Alaska Public Health Association, President 1994, member ♣ Alaska Center for Rural Health, President of the Board, 1990-member ♣ American Public Human Services Association, Executive Board member 1994-2001

HONORS

Alaska Women's Hall of Fame 2022

Honorary Doctorate University of Alaska Fairbanks 2017

Commencement Speaker UAF Graduation 2017

Distinguished Citizen of the Year, Midnight Sun Boy Scouts

Woman of Distinction Farthest North Girl Scout Council, 2012

♣ Victor I Howery Lifetime Achievement Award for Rural Mental Health, National Rural Mental Health Association 2012 ♣ ♣ Award of Achievement , Alaska Historical Society, Forgotten Alaskans, 2011 ♣ Resolution of Appreciation, University of Alaska Board of Regents 2010 ♣ Esther Billman Award for Historic Achievement, Alaska Historical Society 2006 ♣ Telly Awards, Bronze Level- Vital Signs and Creating Alaska-the 49th Star, 2006, Mr Alaska, 2009 ♣ Friend of Nursing Award, March of Dimes Alaska 2006 ♣ Dot Truan Disabilities Family Advocacy Person of the Year Award, 2001 ♣ Alaska Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Person of the Year Award 2001 ♣ National Association of Social Workers, Alaska Chapter Appreciation Award 2001 ♣ Friend of Emergency Medical Services Award, Governors Council on EMS 2001 ♣ Honorary Alaska Public Health Nurse, Alaska Public Health Nurses Association 2001 ♣ Award of Appreciation, Municipality of Anchorage, Department of Health 2001 ♣ Outstanding Service Award, University of Alaska Anchorage Social Workers Club 2001 ♣ Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Award of Appreciation 2001 ♣ Good Nutrition for Alaskans Award, The Alaska Food Group 2001 ♣ Alaska Native Health Board, Award of Recognition 2001 ♣ Resolution of Recognition, Alaska State Legislature 2001 ♣ Alaska Juvenile Justice Award 2001 ♣ Early Intervention Appreciation Award 2001 ♣ Alaska Center for Rural Health Award 2001, 1999 ♣ Denali Kid Care Achievement Award 2000 ♣ Alaska Psychological Association, Contribution Award 1998 ♣ Alaska Public Health Association Meritorious Health Service Award 1998 ♣ Alaska Press Club , Best Reporting 70, Best Weekly Section 71, Best Non-Daily Personal:

Married to Charles Bettisworth—four children and six grandchildren

Collector of Alaska Historical Material

Graduate of Stanford University

General Information

Board/Commission and seat you are seeking:

UA Board of Regents, public seat

State Boards/Commissions on which you have served:

University of Alaska Board of Regents 2017-current, Denali Commission, Alaska Suicide Prevention Council, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, Alaska Workforce Investment Board

First Name Karen	Middle Name Ruth	Last Name Perdue
Mailing Address [REDACTED]	City Fairbanks	State & Zip AK 99701
Home/Message Phone 9075902278	Business Phone	Cell Phone 9075902278
Email Address Chenalady@gmail.com		Are you a registered voter? [REDACTED]
Date of Birth	Gender	Ethnicity [REDACTED]
Military Service		

Conflict of Interest

Full disclosure of personal financial data under AS 39.50.010 is required for certain boards and commissions. Are you willing to provide this information if required for the board or commission which you are applying?

Yes

Service in a public office is a public trust. The Ethics Act (AS 39.52.110) prohibits substantial and material conflicts of interest. Is it possible that you or any member of your family will benefit financially by decisions to be made by the board or commission for which you are applying? If you answer 'yes' to this question you MUST explain the potential financial benefit.

No

Please explain the potential financial benefit

Employment History

Employment work history including paid, unpaid, or voluntary.

Vice Chair of the University of Alaska Board of Regents 2017- to present. Have led the Academic and Student Affairs committee of the Board and currently leading the Adhoc Committee on Recruitment, Enrollment and Retention for the Board. Committee will provide the Board with strategic direction to better meet the needs of the state and improve enrollment at the University. During my leadership of academic affairs the University has eliminated over 50 programs and added others that better meet market demands.

Began working in state government in 1978 and served as an aide in the Hammond Administration , a director, deputy Commissioner and finally Commissioner of Department of Health and Social Services . Am longest serving DHSS Commissioner since statehood. 1994-2001.

Associate Vice President University of Alaska , focusing in academic planning esp in the health and social services programs. 2002-2010

President /CEO of Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association -represented all the state hospitals and nursing homes in federal and state legislative matters 2010-2015

Press Secretary and Aide to Senator Ted Stevens and later a member of the Ted Stevens Foundation Board.

Teamsters 959 Truck Driver--worked three seasons on the Trans Alaska pipeline to pay for college education

Owner, Latitude 64 North- a retail and appraisal company specializing in antiques and collectibles-current

Complete resume to 2017 is on file at the Boards and Commissions office

Education, Training, Experience & Qualifications

List both formal and informal education and training experiences:

Bachelor of Arts, Stanford University 1978

United States representative to Arctic Council, lead Sustainable Development-gained expertise in diplomatic protocol

Teamster driver Alaska Pipeline -transported goods and hazardous materials between camps on the North Slope.

Led multiple process improvement projects involving many people and systems, particularly in health care quality and process improvement.

List any professional licenses, certifications, or registrations and dates obtained that may be used as qualifying criteria:

I gained tremendous expertise in higher education in the last seven years as a Regent. I believe in a strong Constitutionally mandated Board of Regents that actively manages our University system. I also gained higher education experience by serving ten years as an Associate Vice President of the Statewide University system- a considerable level of expertise helpful to being an active Board member. 2001-2010. I also served as adjunct faculty.

List any community service, municipal government, and state positions held, and any awards received.

Alaska Womens Hall of Fame 2021

Honorary Doctorate in Laws, University of Alaska Fairbanks 2017

Distinguished Citizen, Farthest North Boy Scouts 2016

Woman of Distinction Honoree, Farthest North Girl Scouts 2012

Lifetime Achievement Award, National Rural Mental Health Association 2012- for work on documenting mental health history of Alaska.

YMCA Anchorage honoree, 2001

Alaska Historical Society Esther Billman Award for Historic Achievement 2006 and 2011 for work on mental health history and leading the University celebration of the 50th anniversary of statehood.

Telly awards for television production 2006 and 2009 -documentaries The 49th Star and Mr Alaska.

American Hospital Association , Committee on Governance 2022-present

Long time Board member of Foundation Health Partners- the Fairbanks health care system.

Providence Health Systems Board member- two terms

National and Alaska Fetal Alcohol Syndrome board/steering committee

Volunteer leader of the Lost Alaskans project- to reconstruct the patient records of the up to 6,000 Alaskans sent to Morningside Hospital over a sixty year history. The database went live this year and is a resource for families searching for geneological information.

Conviction Record

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor within the past five years or a felony within the past ten years?
No

Conviction Circumstances

Certification of Accuracy & Completeness

By submitting this online application, I swear the information I have entered on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I deliberately conceal or enter false information on the form my application may be rejected, I may be removed from the list of eligible candidates, or I may be removed from the position. I agree that the Office of the Governor may contact present or former employees or other persons who know me to obtain an additional information about my skills and abilities. I understand that the information on this application is public information and may be released through a legal request for such information.

Type "I certify"
"I certify"

Resume Addendum:
on file at Boards and Commissions

Press Release Wording



March 10, 2025

House Education Committee Members

RE: Letter of Support for Confirmation of Ms. Karen Perdue, UA Board of Regents

Respected Members of the House Education Committee,

Please allow me to provide this letter to you in support of Karen Perdue, who is currently serving on University of Alaska Board of Regent, under her prior eight year term. As you know she will continue to do so until a confirmation is completed to re-appoint her for another eight years, or another individual is appointed.

You may not know of my background on this particular arena so let me briefly provide that. I was appointed to UA Board of Regents in 2011 and served till end of my term in December 2018. I was Chair of the Board of Regents for two years. I am a big supporter of higher Education and a proud double alumna of University of Alaska, Fairbanks. In my professional life, I am the former President & CEO of Denali State Bank, a bank I help start in 1986 and later led as its Chief Executive Officer and President from 2002 to 2012, at which point, I retired.

During my years as UA Regent, I was regularly asked about what I did, even from University staff and others in the UA system. There is a lack of understanding about the role of a regent. Also, there are some misconceptions about it as well. Did I get free tuition for myself and my family? NO. Did I get compensation for every meeting? NO. Did I get privileges like free use of Student Recreation Center? NO. Did I get free parking? NO. You get the drift!

What I did get was an opportunity to engage, advocate, understand, and provide oversight to this great institution. In my eight years of service, the good times were behind us, meaning we were no longer building new buildings, adding programs, adding staff and faculty, but were looking at budget cuts, shutting down programs, looking at where we could cut expenses, reduce rural and smaller campuses, trim down athletics. It was heartbreaking work, why? Because at the end of every decision, there were people involved, their livelihood at stake, their future at risk. In my tenure we had possibly more meetings than any other prior eight year term. We had two Chancellors retire, UA President retire, and Title IX became a huge and time consuming issue. There was anxiety, uncertainty, and a lot of concern about good people leaving our University. Students, who are and always will be our primary focus, were affected by all these decisions.

My intention in recapping this is to perhaps take the liberty of outlining for you in a brief manner that the role a Regent plays for eight years is not a walk in the park. It's a lot of work, lot of time that is required and we get to work with really tough issues. The Regents

Letter of Support: Karen Perdue, UA Board of Regents

are faced with challenges that are known, like budgets, deferred maintenance on aging infrastructure; (no money), student enrollment, student and faculty successes, and then those that come out of nowhere and suddenly become a huge issue.

When faced with challenging issues, as the University has in the past few weeks, it's not something that Regents take lightly. Every decision made will make some people very unhappy. However, the Regents are advised when they begin their term that their focus needs to be across the board, not geographically limited to promote their regions, and should absolutely be in the best interest of the University as a whole. That's the lens we look through when making tough decisions. I will tell you from experience, it's not easy, and we as regents are recipients of anger, votes of no confidence, and general hostility. It's not a good feeling for anyone, especially when the Regents are doing the best they can for the institution as well as complying with what's been thrust on them. Demanding that all Regents resign, will not remove this issue of compliance, as there are consequences to non-compliance. As you see, the issues facing the Regents are many, fraught with emotions, anxiety which leads to anger. All directed towards a group of volunteers!

With all that said, if there is someone who serves their eight year term and then wants to throw their name in the hat again for another eight years, it's because they have the University's best interest at heart. We have already established that this is not a glamorous or compensated position. My hats off to those who are good at what they do and want to keep doing it.

Karen Perdue is one of those individuals. She has served very well in the last eight years, she is a thoughtful leader, very astute, understands education, and works well with faculty, students, staff and partners well with the governance groups. Her professional and public service background is impressive. The knowledge and understanding that she has gained in the last eight years should not be lost to a new person who will start at ground zero. Please consider my letter as a vote of confidence for Karen Perdue.

If you are so inclined to speak with me, please feel free to call me on my number. (907)347-6062

Respectfully,
Jyotsna "Jo" Heckman, Retired.

Jo Heckman

Former President & CEO Denali State Bank
Former UA Regent, 2011-2018
Former UA Regent Chair, 2015-2016
Former Director, UA Foundation Board
Former Member of UAF Chancellor Advisory Board

Letter of Support: Karen Perdue, UA Board of Regents

Date: 10 March 2025

To: Senate.Education@akleg.gov

I write in strong support of **Karen Perdue's candidacy for being confirmed by the Alaska Legislature to the University of Alaska's Board of Regents** following her appointment for a second term by Governor Dunleavy. Karen has superb qualifications and experience for serving in a second term, in particular for BOR oversight of issues related to educating and training UA students seeking careers in health and biomedical research due her service for eight years as Commissioner of Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services and 10 years as Associate Vice President of Health Programs at the University of Alaska. In the latter capacity Karen oversaw the growth of UA's nursing programs and that of our participation in WWAMI, the western states collective program for training physicians through affiliation with the University of Washington's School of Medicine. Karen's experience as an administrator both to the state legislature and for the university makes her unique in both knowledge of and practice for translating state priorities to positive change in how the university works.

Karen's interests in serving Alaska in her retirement include her role on the board of the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital Foundation and her many individual efforts of giving and outreach, local and statewide, as recognized by being honored as a Distinguished Citizen by both the Girl and Boy Scouts. Karen works effectively in the setting of the BOR as a respectful listener of opinions from students, faculty, and administrators, but also as an advocate for responsible improvement of BOR policies and regulations, the foundation for UA operations. With her experience with the UA, she serves as a resource to the entire BOR.

In my roles as a faculty member for 38 years at UAF, 30 years as Science Director for our Toolik Field Station, 20 years as the Director of the Institute of Arctic Biology, and 10 years as Director of Alaska INBRE (the NIH sponsored program for building in capacity biomedical and health research across Alaska), I carry the upmost respect and admiration for Karen Perdue's abilities and energy to constructively lead UA into the future. I urge you to confirm her appointment.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Barnes, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, Administrator Emeritus
University of Alaska
bmbarnes@alaska.edu

MICHAEL POWERS

1283 Viewpointe Dr. Fairbanks AK 99709 | 907-378-3620

Members of House Education Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Members of House Education Committee,

I am writing to offer my strongest recommendation for Karen Perdue as she re-applies for a position on the Board of Regents for the University of Alaska. I have had the privilege of knowing Karen for over 30 years, during which time I have witnessed her remarkable contributions to education services, public health initiatives and community advocacy across Alaska.

As the former State Health Commissioner, Karen was the chief architect of Alaska's most instrumental Medicaid reforms, demonstrating an exceptional ability to navigate complex policy landscapes and drive meaningful change. Her leadership in this role not only improved healthcare access for Alaskans but also demonstrated her commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our communities, from the urban Anchorage Bowl to some of our most far-flung rural communities.

In her capacity as a former Vice President of the University of Alaska, Karen was the principal force behind the launch of the University's nursing education program. This initiative has been critical in addressing health and social service shortfalls in our state over the past two decades, providing a desperately needed workforce development program that has had a lasting impact on the health of Alaskans.

As the former CEO of the Alaska Hospital Association, Karen skillfully and effectively led collaborative health program outreach efforts to support the missions of Alaska's community hospitals, federally qualified health clinics, tribal health organizations and rural and urban health organizations. Her ability to organize, facilitate, and bring-to-closure statewide policy initiatives has earned her universal respect. She has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with University Presidents Mark Hamilton, Jim Johnson and current UA President Pat Pitney, gaining a deep understanding of academic governance, curriculum development, faculty engagement, and student success initiatives.

Karen's extensive experience and demonstrated ability to engage stakeholders makes her an invaluable asset to the Board of Regents. All Alaskans stand to benefit from her renewed participation on the Board, as she brings a wealth of knowledge, a commitment to excellence, a passion for education, and an ability to execute strategic initiatives. Her perspective is unique, inspiring and difficult to replicate.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. I am confident that Karen Perdue will continue to be a transformative force on the Board of Regents, and I encourage you to support her candidacy. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.



Mike Powers (retired)

Former CEO & CFO, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital (1986-2015)
Former UA Board of Regents (2011-2015)
Former UAF Interim-Chancellor (2015-16)
Former Member: UA Foundation (2009-2011)
Former WICHE Commissioner (Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education)

Tel: 907-321-6110

5810 Thane Road

Juneau, AK 99801

March 10, 2025

House Education Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

By Email:house.education@akleg.gov

Dear Representatives:

I am writing this letter in support of Karen Perdue who will be up for confirmation for a Regent of the University of Alaska at the March 17 meeting of the House Education Committee.

Karen has had a distinguished career of public service to Alaska: (1) a seven-year stint as Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services for the Knowles Administration (2) as member of the University of Alaska Board of Regents for the last eight-years and (3) a Board member of Fairbanks Memorial Hospital for many years.

Despite different political persuasions, Governor Dunleavy has chosen to reappoint Karen because of her past key leadership as a member of the Board of Regents.

I urge you to support Karen's confirmation.

Sincerely,

Bill Corbus