



Tara Sweeney
Senior Vice President of External Affairs
Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
3900 C Street, Suite 801
Anchorage, AK 99503

January 27, 2012

Senator Donald C. Olson
State Capitol, Room 508
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Olson,

I congratulate you on your continued effort to preserve and restore the many indigenous languages in our great state, and stand behind your push to create the Alaska Native Language and Advisory Council.

As an Iñupiat Eskimo who grew up in Barrow, and later spent time in Noorvik, Unalakleet and Bethel, I've seen first-hand how Alaska Native languages can link a community to its culture and traditions, as well as help to bridge the gap between generations. The passage of Senate Bill 130 would help to ensure that these languages in Alaska would not only thrive, but also serve as a guide for future Alaskans.

I look forward to the passage of this important piece of legislation, and will monitor its progress throughout this legislative session.

Sincerely,
ARCTIC SLOPE REGIONAL CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tara Sweeney'.

Tara Sweeney

cc: Jana Harcharek, North Slope Borough School District