## Darwin Peterson

From:

Weston Eiler

Sent:

Monday, January 26, 2009 5:45 PM

To:

Darwin Peterson

Cc:

Miles Baker

Subject: FW: Federal Stimulus Bill

Finance.

**From:** Carey, Dave [mailto:dcarey@borough.kenai.ak.us]

Sent: Monday, January 26, 2009 5:15 PM

To: Sen. Bert Stedman

Cc: Wilcox, Susan; Chumley, Hugh; Carey, Dave

Subject: Federal Stimulus Bill

## Monday, January 26, 2009 4:54 Pm

## **Dear Senator Stedman:**

I will be on a plane to Juneau when your Committee meets tomorrow morning.

As the Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and at the direction of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly, I most strongly support the efforts to have Alaska share in the Federal Economic Stimulus Plan. The Projects for the Kenai Peninsula Borough are for Fire Stations, Schools, Energy Conservation, Health & Safety and General Infrastructure. Alaska does not have the infrastructure in place that other, older states have. Also, we are at a significant disadvantage because of the size of our state with widely dispersed population. The Kenai Peninsula Borough is the size of the entire State of West Virginia and our population is spread out throughout. We do not even have roads to many of our communities.

Unemployment on the Kenai Peninsula Borough is quite high. In truth, it is even higher than the statistics from the State Department of Labor because many residents have stopped looking for employment during the winter months. Today, we are on a Volcanic Event Warning Status because of the seismic reading around Mt. Redoubt and the earthquakes that we have been having over the last few days.

Harbors, especially in Homer and Kachemak Bay, bridges to Seward,

bank erosion in Kenai; all are in need of assistance. Many of our residents have served in the military over the years. Per capita, the Kenai Peninsula Borough has one of the highest rates of veterans in the country. Additionally, we have had many serve in the recent Gulf Wars. David Douthit of Soldotna, the only Alaskan killed in the first Gulf War, and Mike Lasky of the Central Kenai Peninsula, killed in the latest Gulf War, both lost their lives fighting for this country and our values. Any and all efforts, to establish veteran's care and medical facilities need to be located on the Kenai Peninsula.

Thank-you for your time.

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Dave Carey, Mayor Kenai Peninsula borough