



March 26, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Native Student Council supports HB 216, adding all twenty Alaska Native languages as official languages of the State of Alaska.

Native Student Council is a student organization at the University of Alaska Anchorage that seeks to promote and educate Alaska Native cultures and issues in the community. As students of this organization we are not all Alaska Native but we all support and recognize how important language is. Each of our Native languages was developed over millennia in relation to the land and encapsulates invaluable ecological and cultural knowledge as diverse and rich as the landscape of Alaska.

We urge you to work to pass HB 216 which would acknowledge and honor the diversity of Alaska Native languages at a critical time of language endangerment and revitalization.

Sincerely,

Native Student Council