

February 6, 2017
P.O. Box 1461
Valdez, AK 99686

Senator Gary Stevens
Alaska State Capitol
Room 429
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Stevens,

I am writing to provide testimony for SB7, establishing a museum construction grant program.

I have worked with the Valdez Museum staff to provide a summer History and Art Camp for students, taught classes for adults, and displayed my own art in our museum. Having spent many weeks in and around the museum, I can tell you that the collections and programs have outgrown the available space. My friend, the Curator of Education and Public Programs, has an office in a dark space that used to be a closet. When we put on our History and Art Camp, we often must locate materials that have been stored in very strange and interesting places, simply because there is not enough room for storage. When we have a local art show, some pieces are displayed in the library because of lack of display area in the museum. Our museum needs a larger building in order to continue with the wonderful programs that they develop.

Thank you for sponsoring SB7, establishing a museum construction grant program so that museums may continue to provide their great educational programs in our Alaskan communities.

Sincerely,

Janice Whalen